

Learn, Care, Grow together



Highampton Community Primary School
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Principal: Mrs Deirdre A. Petersen MEd

Friday 6th June 2021

Dear parents/ carers,

Now that we are well settled into the Summer term, the attitudes to learning and caring for one another that can be seen across our school is most impressive. Living our school vision - **Learn, Care, Grow Together** - is really at the heart of what we do. Last week, we reintroduced 'Celebration Assembly' and the children were so enthusiastic about receiving awards and praise for both learning effort and acts of kindness. Pupils suggested bringing back the 'Ruby Heart' award for care and consideration which exemplifies the kind hearts we are surrounded by at Highampton.

Safeguarding/ Wellbeing

As we all await the further relaxing of lockdown and safety measures, it is an exciting time for everyone! In school, control measures are in place as before the Easter break and these will continue until review following 17th May. We want to continue to keep staff, parents and pupils safe so please continue to keep a safe distance outside and remind your child(ren) about the importance of thorough handwashing in reducing risk. Many thanks.

Dealing with anxiety can be tricky as a parent. Our children have been through so much since the beginning of the pandemic. There is help available and you are not alone if you are finding things tough. Here are a couple of key resources that you may find helpful in dealing with anxiety in children:

[HappyMaps | Support for Your Child's Mental Health](#)

[Parenting and Family Support - Family Lives \(Parentline Plus\)](#)

Talking to your child(ren) about how they feel always brings benefits. There are lots of resources and tips on [Primary School | HappyMaps](#) that you may find useful too. Please do talk to someone in school if you need extra support. We may be able to help your child in school or signpost your family to extra support.

Parent forum

Huge thanks to the parents, staff and governors who attended our Parent Forum this week. It was really heart-warming to feel the positive energy around working collaboratively to improve our school for the benefit of the children in our care. Topics

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discussed included the development of our outdoor spaces, connections with our Pre-School, transition for the new intake in September and how we will best use funding and fund-raising to update our resources to compliment the curriculum. Our focus co-operative value of SOLIDARITY was put into action with such motivation and offers of help to improve our school grounds.

Pupil news

PUPIL VOICE

Isla: 'I read some alien words yesterday and got some wrong, but today I got all my words right!'

Archie: 'I can do stuff for my mummy and sister when she is stuck. I helped Ellarose when she was upset - I read her a book.'

'Great Fire of London looked cool! It came from the roof and sparkled from house to house. It started in the bakery.'

Kiera: 'Maths decimals were hard, but I learnt from my mistakes.'

In Class1 we have been exploring The Great Fire of London, the children had great fun being time travellers, travelling back in time to 1666 the night the Great Fire started! We used drama to act out reactions to the sights, sounds and smells of that fateful night!

In Class2 we have been writing poetry and as a class have produced a shared poem entitled "Still I Rise", using similes, metaphors and upskilling our vocabulary.

School/ Community news

Our website is still under construction - please be patient whilst we design a simplified, more user-friendly site. Do ask at the office if you cannot find information needed.

We are growing and developing our links with Highampton Pre-School. It is exciting to be welcoming our new pupils for September soon for their transition sessions. Our Early Years provision is also undergoing a revamp - our recently arrived mud kitchen will be a great asset to the outside area.

Staffing news

From next week, I will be working more remotely (than on site) due to surgery and recovery time. Our Trust will be able to provide onsite leadership capacity through our Executive Principals - Phil Whittle, Lisa Paton and Elizabeth Underwood. Although you may not see me in person for a few weeks, I will be working behind the scenes and undertaking work with staff and pupils virtually - we have come a long way since the lockdown! Thank you for supporting our increased leadership capacity model and we hope that you and your children will benefit from this positively. We are really privileged to have our newly appointed CEO, Dan Morrow, on site a couple of days a week in addition to our Executive leaders. Please make all our leaders feel extremely welcome at Highampton Primary.

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Dan Morrow
CEO, DMAT



Lisa Paton
Executive Principal



Elizabeth Underwood
Executive Principal



Phil Whittle
Executive Principal

Reminders

- Home reading: We can teach the skills of reading and understanding text in school but we need your help in practising reading at home! Reading for pleasure is always promoted but we do expect your child to read aloud to an adult AT LEAST 3 -5 times a week. This will make accessing learning in school so much more accessible.
- School uniform: Smart uniform is essential every day. On PE days for Class 2, please wear a school sweatshirt and trainers with leggings/ shorts/ track bottoms and trainers. Expectations include looking smart, sensible shoes and school jumpers. It makes such a difference when the children make the effort to look smart. Thank you for your support in this matter.
- Attendance: We strive to get all pupils into school every day and to motivate and engage them in all aspects of school life. If your child is unable to attend, it is important that you call into school before 9am to let us know. This week, our attendance is 94.4% for the whole school. Next week our target is 97%. Let's smash the target!
- After School Clubs: Now up and running, please make your booking on school gateway. Gardening Club is starting on May 11th with Mrs Rees.

As we head into an early Summer weekend, I wish you all a relaxing family time. I must thank you all for the few weeks spent at Highampton which have been just wonderful to be part of.

Warmest regards,

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CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

STAR OF THE WEEK (w/e 30th April)

Class 1: Archie: for great listening and for being a helpful friend

Class 2: Riley B for working really hard on his writing target and for applying this in home learning too.

Learner of the Week: Ellarose: fantastic concentration and learning in Phonics, reading, writing and science.



Celebration Assembly

GALLERY



Class 2 PE with Miss Floyd and Miss Scullion



Our school building

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The amazing view from our school!



Class 1 have been sharing their fabulous reading and showing their great listening skills



This week we have explored our outside areas, searching for groups of objects flowers and mini beasts

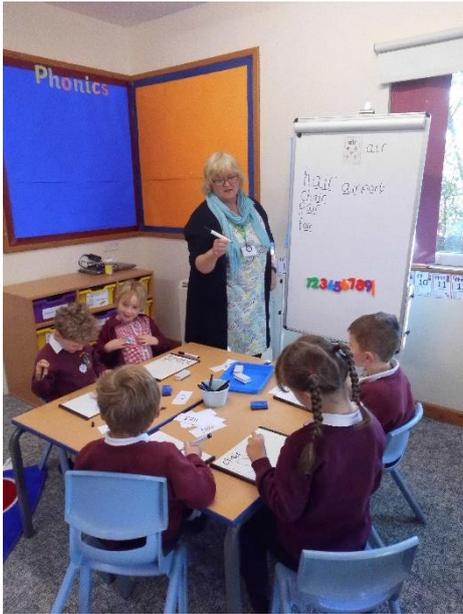


Drama in Class 2



Acting out the Great Fire of London

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Phonics in Class 1



In our music lessons with Mrs Jolliffe we are exploring rhythm and pulse. We are enjoying the bamboo tamboos



Music Lessons with Mrs Jolliffe in Class 2

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Dates for your Diary

19 th May	Youth Leadership Training for Y4/5
31 st May - 4 th June	Half Term Break
7 th June	All children return to school
17 th June	Swimming Starts for 6 weeks
15/16 th July	Residential Expedition
20 th July	Sports Day
TBC	Outdoor Performance of Hansel & Gretel
23 rd July	Last Day of Term