



HLA News

Friday 3rd May 2024



Dear Families,

We have had a great week here at Highfield Littleport, lots of exciting things to share this week!

This week the kitchen and dining room extension is still going well. The concrete from the piling has now cured and the contractors are working on securing the foundations. The classroom extension is also gathering pace as we enter milestone 3 of the works. This week an ecology survey has taken place. There are a few minor considerations but nothing that will halt the work. We have also had a visit from the traffic planners who are working with us to survey the area. He recognised some of the challenges we have with traffic movement on site and is feeding back to the planners. As a school we have also raised the difficulties with the planners and are hopeful that they are able to come up with some practical solutions.

This week our second school minibus was finally delivered after a very long wait! This will ensure that we can continue to offer students wide experiences by accessing the community more often. The students were very excited when it was delivered and all had to take a turn to have a look at it. Our systems seem to have been rectified with the school meals so charges should now resume as normal. You will notice there may be some charges backdated. Could you please ensure that all debts are cleared in a timely manner? Apologies for any inconvenience that this may have caused.

As some of you may be aware the government have released updated guidance on school attendance and how to maintain high levels of this in settings. We want to work with parents to improve attendance and avoid the formal routes if at all possible. Take a look at this link for some useful information about this: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> If we do not receive appropriate proof of appointments or have reason to believe an absence is not genuine we reserve the right not to authorise it.

The SOHLA Bingo event was a great success. We raised £1043 with the bingo, raffle and snacks being sold. A heartfelt thank you to all that helped, bought tickets, attended or donated raffle prizes. Also thanks to Littleport Leisure Centre for allowing us to host the event there. We are now planning our next fundraising event – some staff even suggested a skydive. I am happy to sponsor but not sure about taking part in that one...!

Our Relationships and Sex Education policy is currently in draft form. We have a responsibility to parents to consult on this and incorporate people’s views into the policy. The policy can be viewed on our website on the policies tab. Please do complete the survey in this link https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=sjVTvSU_-EG2K3MIU2WGPXc-5vavDqxOr5q3yRUR151UQzJVRfVITkFJT1A3TjVKNDRMWkFMRFdJRC4u we want your feedback to inform our practice.

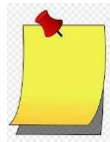
This week we have been busy collating all of the fantastic artwork that was created as part of the Babylon Arts project. Letters were sent home with invitations to come to see and engage with our art exhibition here at school on Thursday 6th June. Please do return your slips indicating if you are able to attend the allocated time slot. We will be issuing tickets shortly.

Don’t forget this weekend is a bit of an extended one due to the bank holiday on Monday. We look forward to welcoming students back to school on Tuesday 7th May.

With all best wishes,

Yvonne Skillern

Headteacher



Important Information

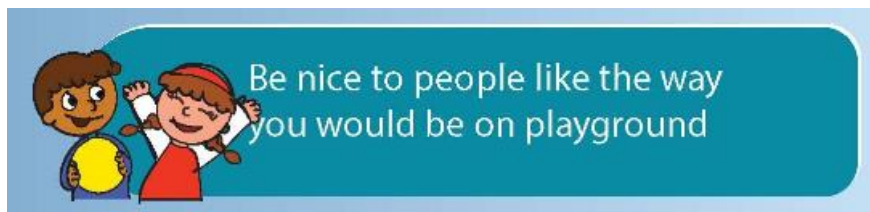


- Please remember to complete and return your parent/carer comments sheets prior to your child's Annual Review meeting. We need to ensure we capture everyone's views.
- Contributions have again been renewed **to pay £7.50 to class funds per child for this term** via Parent Pay. We try not to charge for each individual activity which would be more expensive to parents. If we do not get sufficient contributions we may have to review this arrangement.
- There is a school nursing clinic taking place at school on Monday 17th June. For further information or to book an appointment please email CCS-TR.SNSN@nhs.net or call 01223 218061
- Please remember we are a NUT FREE school due to severe allergies
- Please ensure you **call the office before 9.15am to report your child absent**. If we do not have a call or message we have to make contact with you.

School Attendance

This week's whole school attendance was 91.6%. We aim for individual attendance to be at 92% or above. This is classed as good attendance. We encourage you to continue working with us to improve school attendance and punctuality. Please remember that any applications for absences during school term time will not be authorised. We reserve the right to fine families who take unauthorised holidays during term time.

Online Safety Tip of the Week:



Emotion of the Week:



This week's emotion is FEAR. Try to talk about how your child might be feeling, what their body feels like when they experience this emotion and what they can do to understand and react to them.

Mental Health Tip of the Week:

Take a look at our Healthy Minds Network newsletter on the following page.



SOCIAL

Try something new and creative, call a friend/family member, send a card/note, organize lunch/dinner over video chat with friends or family



Update from the Healthy Minds Network

Dear Parents/ Carers

Healthy Minds Network continue working towards the Wellbeing Award. This half term's newsletter is to provide you with information on upcoming awareness days.



1st May – 31st May – National Walking Month

May is National Walking Month. So why not help celebrate by organising your own walk this May and raise money for mental health charity.

For further ideas and suggestions on how you can do this follow the link www.awarenessdays.com

13th-19th May Mental Health Awareness Week 'Get Moving'

The theme, as set by the Mental Health Foundation, is "Movement: moving for our mental health."

This year, why not move your way by finding something that moves your body and mind. Scan the QR code for information.



1st – 30th June Pride Awareness Month



We're working to protect LGBTQ-inclusive education, so another generation of young people doesn't have to grow up feeling unsafe and excluded. Follow the link below for more information.

[LGBT+ History Month 2024 | Stonewall](#)

10th -14th June Healthy Eating Week

We are encouraging everyone, including early years settings, schools, workplaces and community groups, to 'Give it a go' this Healthy Eating Week. Whether that's having one extra portion of fruit or vegetables a day, being a bit more active, experimenting with a new recipe, or using up leftovers - Healthy Eating Week 2024 is all about giving it a go!

For ideas and resources, visit [British Nutrition Foundation Healthy Eating Week - Food A Fact Of Life](#)



FRIENDLY REMINDER:



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It's perfectly okay if the only exercise you get today is flipping the pages of a book or stirring your tea or smiling with friends. Wellbeing means your **WHOLE** body. Make sure your soul is getting as much exercise as your glutes.

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