



HLA News



Friday 4th October 2024

Dear Families,

We have had a busy week here at Highfield Littleport with lots of learning and new experiences.

It is great to see the students continuing to use the dining hall at school. The students are also developing their independence and self-care skills which is fantastic. Students are becoming more independent at scraping their plates and clearing up after themselves. It would be great to hear about how our students apply these skills at home too. Don't forget you can add these moments on to the Evidence for Learning platform. Our large extension is still subject to planning regulations. The contractors are busy looking at the structural implications of joining the build to the school and they are being very thorough and professional throughout this.

Thank you to all of the parents and carers who participated within our parent and teacher consultations this week. It was lovely to see parents back on site again and constructively planning with teachers for student's next steps in learning.

Parents and carers would have seen my letter yesterday with regards to online safety and the use of WhatsApp groups. Fortunately we swiftly identified this risk before any actions had materialised and there was no harm to any students. At school we have enhanced filtering and monitoring software so access of this kind is not possible. I need to remind you all that monitoring chat groups and online activity is of the upmost importance when students are at home. We can support safe internet use at school through our ongoing education programme and this week's tip of the week gives information about a great resource pack provided by the NSPCC to use with your children at home. I want to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for their cooperation and support throughout this week.

I have some lovely news to share this week about our teacher Emily Alsop. She is expecting a baby in the next few weeks and will be beginning her maternity leave after October half term. Her class will be left in safe hands with our very own Amanda who already teaches in this class for 1 day per week. We wish her well and look forward to lots of cuddles from baby when it arrives.

This week our learners have been doing some great investigative work in Science. S1 were exploring pulleys and levers by using ropes and some of the playground equipment. Lots of fun as well as learning in the process. Owls class have been working on their attention and focus, it is lovely to see how independent and engaged they are. They have been doing some great work on personal safety with kitchen appliances and embedding this learning with songs. Great practical learning.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

With all best wishes,

Yvonne Skillern

Headteacher



Important Information



- Please remember any communication with class staff can be made by Class Dojo, email and telephone.
- All absences need to be reported via the Arbor system please. If you are not registered please check your email for a link to connect. It is important that you do this because all of the attendance, emergency contact information and payments are managed using this system. They are working on advance notice of absences, in the meantime if you could use Class Dojo for this that would be appreciated.
- Please remember we are a **NUT FREE** school due to severe allergies. This includes chocolate spread containing hazelnuts and other products.
- Don't forget to contribute £10 per term to class funds via Arbor. This is to fund cooking, sensory and additional art activities for your child.

School Attendance

This week's whole school attendance was 88.4%. This is the same as last week, let's try for an increase in this figure next week. Please consider the guidance <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/?scrllybrkr=8bf974e3>. **According to new direction from the trust families who take unauthorised holidays during term time will be face a penalty notice.**

Online Safety Tip of the Week:



Parent's guide

A simple guide on how to start having the first conversations around online safety with your child.



Activity booklet

Featuring 5 engaging activities designed to teach them about online safety including a colouring page, a maze, dot-to-dot, and more!



Certificate and family agreement

Once they've completed the activity booklet, you can fill out the family agreement together to reflect on what has been learnt, and award them with the online safety certificate.

The NSPCC provide some great free resource packs to support with teaching your child how to stay safe online when at home.

It is essential that parents are aware of what children's online activity is and educate them as to safe ways of behaving online.

Emotion of the Week:



This week's emotion is **ANGRY**. Please try to talk through how this emotion makes the mind and body feel with your child. Discuss what things make them feel this way and what they can do to manage this emotion.

Mental Health Tip of the Week:

Take Two Minutes To Focus On The World Around You