



HLA News



Friday 6th September 2024

Dear Families existing and new,

Here we are back to start the new school year! It has been lovely seeing the students coming back to school and welcoming our new students. I have been particularly proud of some of our older learners who have demonstrated our kindness learning value. They have been very welcoming and really buddied up with new students to make them feel at home.

I do not want to tempt fate but we have been informed by the builders that the kitchen and dining hall should be finished in about a week. It really does look great and will be a much nicer space for our learners to eat and socialise in. Fingers are firmly crossed it will be completed in time! Until it is completed we will continue to be provided with meals from Highfield Ely.

With regards to our 50 place extension plans are coming together for this too. We have been busy over the Summer break checking each of the room data sheets. Who would have thought we would need to choose the location of all the plug sockets?! That was an interesting meeting! I have also been gaining designs for the new sensory room that will be based in the extension. It will be fantastic to have such great facilities for our learners. The planning application is also currently live and we will have an update as to its progress at the end of September.

Due to our new kitchen provider if your child has any medical or dietary requirements it is parents responsibility to inform the catering provider. There is a link on our website to register this information with them or you can do this by clicking the link below:

<https://orders.lunchhound.co.uk/medicaldiets/request>

We also have a new school management system, Arbor. All parents need to register with this so that contacts and students information is readily available and up to date. This will also be used to communicate about absence and be the portal for payment for school meals. This replaces Parent Pay. We will be keeping the Class Dojo service for now as parents really benefit from the ability to message and see pictures of students learning.

Over the Summer we had a great deal of work completed to make the play spaces much more engaging for our learners. Take a look on the final page for some photos! New playground markings on all playgrounds, a fence to encompass our horticulture area and a new climbing frame on the lower school playground have all been completed. We have also been successful in installing a wheelchair accessible roundabout with fencing. This wasn't possible without the support of our SOHLA fundraising team – thank you so much. If you are a parent or carer who would like to help organise events to support our school please email sohlafundraising@highfieldlittleport.org we would love to hear from you. It doesn't take much commitment but the benefits for our learners is huge!

Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing all of the students on Monday.

With all best wishes,

Yvonne Skillern

Headteacher



Important Information



- Please ensure that you connect to both Arbor and Evidence for Learning so that you are kept up to date with all school activities. Everyone has been sent a password so please make sure you connect. If you need an invite please do let us know.
- Please remember we are a **NUT FREE** school due to severe allergies. This includes sun creams and other products.

School Attendance

This week's whole school attendance was 94.3%. Please remember any school term time holidays will not be authorised. **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:



Remember supervision is key. Make sure you know what your child is accessing online. There are lots of fun and educational sites but also some not so nice content. Make sure you are aware of what is happening.

Emotion of the Week:

Every week we feature an emotion of the week and give you an opportunity to think about how we can support our learners to manage and express these emotions. The first one will be featured next week.

Mental Health Tip of the Week:



There are a variety of different organisations who can support with mental health. We can signpost and support if needed. We recognise coming back to school can be an anxious time – you do not have to be alone.



Some of our lovely new play facilities!