



HLA News



Friday 7th June 2024

Dear Families,

Welcome back to the second half of the Summer term, it is crazy to think where the time has gone. This year is flying by!

This week the kitchen and dining room extension has stalled unfortunately. The builders have hit a slight problem with the piling and the project has been delayed by a few weeks. It is hopeful that it will be able to get back on schedule by utilising some work at the weekend and making use of the lighter evenings. The main extension planning has also hit an important milestone. Attached to this newsletter is information about the online consultation for the project. You will see there are some exciting plans there. We want to gather everyone's views about the development and the online consultation will be active between 14th and 28th June. We encourage you to log on and contribute. Once we have lots of large scale plans for parents, carers and staff to view we will let you know.

I am pleased to share that as part of our plans to increase capacity in the leadership we made two successful appointments before half term. We have recruited Sam who has 18 year's experience in a special school in Suffolk and Hannah who is currently our PE leader and Owls Class teacher. I am sure you will join me in wishing them many congratulations and they look forward to working more closely with you. Their leadership responsibilities are being finalised and we will share this with you in due course.

Due to the expansion of our school we currently have an advert for a part time caretaker (25 hours per week) to expand the capacity in our site team. If you are proactive, have a trade or a bit of a handyperson please take a look at the My New Term website or look via this link <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/140882/EDV-2024-HLA-90172> to apply. Hours in the main will either be early or late shifts – click on the link and apply now!

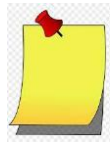
This week we hosted our Art exhibition which was in collaboration with Babylon Arts gallery. All of the art work was inspired by nature through student's experiences outside and at Wicken Fen. It was lovely to see so many parents and carers coming to school to share activities with their children and admire the student's excellent work. I want to take this opportunity to thank Jo our Art Coordinator, Laura in the office, our Key Stage 4 students and the artists from the Babylon Gallery for facilitating such great opportunities for our learners to express their creativity. Every student was involved from the youngest to the oldest student in the school.

Don't forget to keep an eye on the important information below as this half term is a busy one! Have a lovely weekend.

With all best wishes,

Yvonne Skillern

Headteacher



Important Information



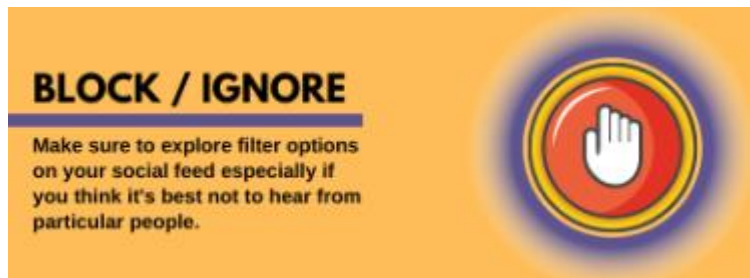
- Please remember to complete and return your parent/carer comments sheets prior to your child's Annual Review meeting. We need to ensure we capture everyone's views.
- There is a school nursing clinic taking place at school on Monday 17th June. For further information or to book an appointment please email CCS-TR.SNSN@nhs.net or call 01223 218061
- Please remember we are a NUT FREE school due to severe allergies. This includes sun creams and other products.
- 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.
- Wednesday 12th June (all day returning by the end of school) – Sparrows, Eagles, H3, S1 & S1 at Wicksteed Park
- Wednesday 12th June (all day) – Key Stage 4 out at the Frank Bruno Special Sports Day

School Attendance

This week's whole school attendance was 93.4%. This is an increase on last week. Please remember that any applications for absences during school term time will not be authorised. **According to direction from the trust families who take unauthorised holidays during term time will be face a penalty notice issued by the Local Authority.**

Online Safety Tip of the Week:

If someone online does something that upsets you or that you do not like remember to keep yourself safe. Use the block function, unfollow and ignore.



Emotion of the Week:



This week's emotion is DISAPPOINTED. 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:

Below the extension planning consultation flyer on the following page is the Healthy Minds Network newsletter. In this edition there are upcoming notable dates. There are also lots of areas for support particularly with exam stresses and the Summer holidays coming up.

Highfield Academy, Littleport Online Public Consultation

On the New SEND Teaching Wing Extension

Viewable between 14th June to 28th June 2024



Cambridgeshire County Council is pleased to announce the development of proposals for the expansion of Highfield Academy, Littleport, to include a new teaching wing extension. The teaching wing will provide an additional 50 places, taking the total capacity to 194 places, extending the critical need for Special Educational Needs and Disability pupil places in the county.

The Local Authority acknowledges the excellent relationship that already exists between the school and the local community that it serves. The Local Authority and the project team would therefore like to invite comments from parents, carers, residents and members of the community on the draft proposals as part of the ongoing development of the scheme, ahead of the submission of a formal planning application, which is currently scheduled for Summer 2024. The public consultation is scheduled to run from June 14th to June 28th inclusive.



Subject to a satisfactory planning process, it is intended that the construction work will commence in Winter 2024, with a view to occupying the new buildings from the Autumn term 2025.

The online event can be viewed at the Cambridgeshire County Councils website by the following website address: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/highfieldacademy-littleport-extension or alternatively on the Highfield Academy website.

Please submit your comments by emailing feedback.hla@rgcarter.co.uk up until 28th June 2024.

Please note that Cambridgeshire County Council, the Local Planning Authority, will also carry out consultation on the proposed development whilst the planning application is being considered.





An Update from the Healthy Minds Network

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Healthy Minds Network are continuing work towards the Wellbeing Award. This half term's newsletter is to provide you with information on upcoming awareness days and signposting for useful mental health advice and support with the summer holidays fast approaching.

1st - 30th June Pride Awareness Month

Stonewall, the LGBTQ+ charity, are working to protect LGBTQ-inclusive education so that younger generations do not need to feel unsafe or excluded. Follow the link below to their website.

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



10th -14th June Healthy Eating Week



The British Nutrition Foundation 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](#)

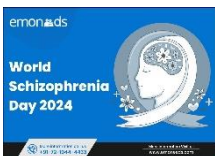
1st July International Joke Day

International Joke Day is not just a day for you to prove to everyone how funny you are. It is the perfect day for you to share laughs and to put a smile on people's faces, including your own. Whether you prefer to share jokes or you like to listen to them, this is a day that is all about smiling, laughing, and having fun, and who wouldn't want to be a part of a day like this?

For more information, visit [International Joke Day \(July 1st\) | Days Of The Year](#)



24th July Schizophrenia Awareness Day



National Schizophrenia Awareness day shines a light on the everyday challenges the millions of people living with a diagnosis of Schizophrenia face and how we can tackle the stigma and discrimination around it. Schizophrenia is a very complex condition that can affect how a person thinks, feels, and experiences the world around them.

For further details, visit [National Schizophrenia Awareness Day \(rethink.org\)](#)

30th July International Day of Friendship

World Friendship Day, also known as International Day of Friendship, takes place on 30th July. It has become popular to reserve a day for celebrating friendships and to exchange gifts between friends.

For further information, visit [World Friendship Day / International Day Of Friendship 2024 - Awareness Days Events Calendar 2024](#)



Here are some useful links below should you or a young person need support with mental health.

NSPCC

The NSPCC have a fantastic website which is full of tips, links and further organisations that can help. Follow the link to find out more information.

[Mental health and parenting | NSPCC](#)



Mind CPSL is a mental health and wellbeing support group for families and parents in the local area. Each year they support lots of local people through counselling, peer support groups and 'good mood cafes' providing safe spaces for individuals to discuss their wellbeing.

[CPSL Mind](#)



If your child is struggling with their mental health and they need some help, you may be feeling really worried as a parent - and also like you're not sure where to start. Remember that you and your child are not alone. On this page you can find the services, professionals and organisations that can help you, and information about how to access them.

[Getting support from mental health services | YoungMinds](#)



Place 2 Be offers advice and resources for parents and carers regarding young people's mental health.

For further advice, visit [place 2 be - Google Search](#)

