



HLA News



Friday 8th March 2024

Dear Families,

What a busy and fun week this week! Lots of dressing up, visitors and learning of course.

Extension update - Not a lot to report this week. Internal surveys have taken place but there is nothing to report at the moment. The extension to our kitchen and dining room will be starting after Easter so students will be served their lunches in classrooms for the rest of the academic year. The estimated completion date is August 2024 so we will have a shiny new kitchen and dining room then.

On Thursday this week we celebrated World Book Day in style at school. We had three visiting authors and some great sensory stories so that all of our learners could take part. It was great to see all of the students dressed up as characters to mark the occasion. Our staff joined in with the activities too. Everyone looked great. We even had Crush the Turtle and Cat in the Hat directing the transport in the morning!



This week H3 have been out on a visit to the recycling centre to learn about what happens to our rubbish and recycling when we put it in the bin. The students were very engaged and well behaved and represented the school beautifully.

We had another visit from the artists from the Babylon Arts gallery this week to work with the students. They have been so engaging and have really stimulated our student's development. It was lovely to see some of our early years and Blue pathway students continuing work with art and nature during their Exploration Station time with such positivity.

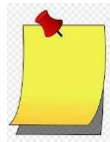
We held our first SOHLA meeting last week and already have plans for our first fundraising event. We have adopted a constitution and I have emailed all of the parents who expressed an interest in taking part. It would be great if you could reply to the email to confirm you are still happy to be involved. Thank you to the staff who have dedicated their time to get this back off the ground. The more people who join the merrier!

Just a few important notes to parents. I need to remind all visitors to site to remain calm and courteous to other site users. If there are persistent difficulties we have the right to restrict access to our school site and contact the police if necessary. Also on a safeguarding note, if you send your child to school with an Air Tag or similar device, please let us know the tag name/identity. This will help us spot any unidentified tags. These devices can often attempt to connect to mobile phones and we need to ensure for safeguarding reasons all devices are identifiable.

With all best wishes,

Yvonne Skillern

Headteacher



Important Information



- Parents evening will be held on Wednesday 13th March between 3.30 and 6.30. Appointments have already been allocated. If your child has recently had an annual review or has one coming up in the next few weeks, you will not need to attend for parents evening.
- 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.
- Don't forget to contribute £7.50 to class funds 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.
- Please remember we are a NUT FREE school due to severe allergies
- Tuesday 26th March are Y8 and Y9 catch up vaccinations – consents have already been arranged.
- This term ends on Thursday 28th March with students returning to school after the break on Tuesday 16th April.
- 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 88.3%. This is a decrease on last week but we recognise there have been significant difficulties with transport this week. 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.

Online Safety Tip of the Week:

Don't give in to pressure

Keep calm and keep in control; once you've pressed send you can't take it back.

Emotion of the Week:



This week's emotion is **THOUGHTFUL**. 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:

Write a list of everything that is making you feel overwhelmed. Get everything out of your head and on to paper