



HLA News



Friday 8th November 2024

Dear Families,

Welcome to the second half term of the year. All of the students have made a great start back, lots of wow moments even in the first week.

We are still moving forward with our planning for the 50 place extension. I am pleased to share that the planning application submitted to East Cambridgeshire District Council has been accepted. We will be meeting with the contractors and Local Authority soon to establish a start date for the works. So that there is minimal disruption to morning and afternoon drop off times the plan is to construct the new turning and drop off loop first. This will then be operational and they can start building the actual extension. When we have a date for this we will of course inform you.

Before the holidays SOHLA hosted a Halloween Bingo Event at Littleport Leisure Centre. This was a huge success and it was also great to see such brilliant costumes. The event raised nearly £1000 to contribute towards accessible play equipment for our playground. We are continuing to raise money and we have partnered with My Child's Art to raise further funds. Each student completed a piece of festive artwork at school and the company have uploaded this drawing to their website. The company enables you to purchase lots of lovely gifts featuring this design. Commission from all sales will be donated to our school. Get in there early as there is an early bird discount running for 2 weeks. All families should have had a flyer with the personalised school code on it so that you can go online to view and purchase. I have also attached one of the flyers to the end of this newsletter so that you can scan the QR code.

On our training day on Monday we had some great new playground equipment installed on to the upper and lower school playgrounds. We were successful in gaining a grant from the Living Well fund and have had 2 new Active Boards installed. These have a variety of games with lights that students can interact with. The company also provided us with a reacher for students who are wheelchair users to play too. I can see that there is going to be quite a lot of competition between students and staff alike to get the best score.

Work experience onsite for some of our Key Stage 4 students also started this week. We have had two additional members of the site team join who have been a huge help to Lindsay and Spencer. One student even came equipped with his own high visibility jacket which is personalised. Now I have the whole site team wanting similar jackets!

In order to help facilitate lots more communication with our students we are trialling the use of more iPad with communication software installed. Our communication teaching assistant Angela has been working with some individuals to help them become familiar with the technology. We have seen some amazing communication moments. Take a look at the interventions and therapies section of our website where you can see a video of a magical moment. We are hoping to invest in lots more Ipads so that we can integrate this more into every classroom and give more students access.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.

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.
- Take a look at the My Child's Art flyer to see your child's artwork on lots of Christmas gifts. The flyer is also on the page below.
- We try to promote healthy choices of food for students at lunchtimes. We understand that some of our learners have specific tastes and sensory needs but we ask for you to please work with us to help your child make healthy choices.
- 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 93.4%. This is a great increase compared to before half term – keep it up! 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:

Check Website Reliability

Before purchasing anything on a website ensure that it's safe. You can do this by checking if it has a small lock icon or "https" before the URL. The "s" in "https" stands for "secure" and the lock means it's confirmed as a safe site by your browser.

Emotion of the Week – Disgust



Try to talk to your child about disgust and how this makes them and their body feel. You can explore different words for the emotion and how to appropriately respond. Talk about how we can manage these feelings.

Mental Health Tip of the Week:

Try to spend your week living in the present moment. Do this by:



Not spending time gazing into your crystal ball (worrying about or trying to predict the future)



Not spending time looking into your rear view mirror (ruminating about the past)



Remembering to be in the here and now – engaging with each of your senses and connecting with the moment

"There is only one time that is important – NOW! It is the most important time because it is the only time we have any power."

Leo Tolstoy



Working with

Highfield Littleport Academy

fundraising for inclusive playground equipment for all our children to enjoy

Your child has uploaded a Christmas drawing to our website!

VIEW NOW

by logging into the parent order portal at www.mychildsart.co.uk/order



Order portals open NOW until the 31st December

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT FOR 2 WEEKS ONLY

Use code **Highfield11X24**

during checkout for 10% off your order!

One use only. Excludes VAT and P&P. Valid for 2 weeks from the portal opening date, not the date that you receive this leaflet. Not automatically applied and cannot be added once an order has been confirmed.



Username

Access Code

NB: Username and Access Code are case and space sensitive, so please be careful when entering the details into the portal.



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