



HLA News

Friday 12th January 2024



Dear Families,

Happy New Year everyone. I hope you all had a good break with your families and friends?

All of the students have returned to school ready to learn and very enthusiastic about our new topics. It is great to hear how students are now sharing what they are learning at home with parents. Don't forget that all parents have access to Evidence for Learning. On this app you can upload photos and comments from home for all of those wow moments, we love to hear about them. If you do not have access to Evidence for Learning please contact your child's class teacher and we can organise for your login to be reset. Please ensure that you have supplied the school with the correct email address as this is essential for it to work!

I am sure you would have seen the letter from Simon Bainbridge on Class Dojo with regards to my appointment to the Headteacher role here at Highfield Littleport. I am eager to continue the great work we have already started and now have greater autonomy in my role. Thank you to everyone who has sent congratulatory wishes it is much appreciated.

This half term we are excited to be working with the Babylon Art Gallery on an outdoor learning art project. Students will be completing lots of great work in school. Some groups of pupils will also be visiting Wicken Fen to do some work with a great stimulus for their artistic development. We hope to share all of the great work with parents and carers when it is completed.

As we start a new term we remind parents and carers to make a £7.50 contribution to class funds via Parent Pay. This contribution enables us to provide cooking and sensory ingredients, facilitate short trips into the community and provide classroom experiences to further enhance students learning. Without this we may have to narrow our curriculum offer which we are very reluctant to do. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

Here at school we are working very hard to positively improve the mental health and wellbeing of our students and staff. We are currently working towards a school wellbeing award and as part of this we have formed a working group called Healthy Minds Network. The group will be communicating with parents on the first week of every half term giving lots of hints, tips and valuable information. This week's newsletter hosts the first one...see below!

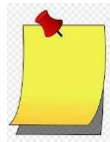
I hope you have a great weekend.

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.
- Don't forget to contribute £7.50 to class funds for this term via Parent Pay
- Please remember we are a NUT FREE school due to severe allergies
- 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 which uses valuable time!

School Attendance

This week's whole school attendance was 90.2%. An improvement on before the holidays but we can better this I am sure! We encourage you to continue working with us to improve school attendance. Please remember that any applications for absences during school term time will not be authorised.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Online Safety Tip of the Week:

Some content online may be scary but there's lots of useful information there too. Work with your child to navigate the internet and find child friendly sites.



Emotion of the Week:

This week's emotion is ANXIOUS. 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.



An Update from the Healthy Minds Network

Here at Highfield Littleport Academy we are hosting a mental health themed coffee morning on Friday 16th February between 9.30 and 11am. We will be joined by representatives of the Ely Mental Health Support Team who will be offering strategies on how to support our young people with anxiety.



Upcoming Wellbeing and Mental Health Awareness Dates

- **1st Feb - Time to Talk**

Time to Talk day is a day for us all to start a conversation about mental health. Talking about mental health is not easy but a conversation has the power to change lives.

For more information, please follow the link - [Time to Talk Day - Mind - Mind](#)

- **5th - 11th Children's Mental Health Week**

Children's Mental Health Week is a mental health awareness week that empowers, equips and gives a voice to all children and young people in the UK. We will share some more information soon on how we will be marking this in school.

For more information, please follow the link childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk

- **17th - Random Act of Kindness Day**

The Random Acts of Kindness Foundation says that acts of kindness can include "just about anything" and that no gesture is too small. Some experts have even found that being kind can be good for your mental health. Whether it is helping your neighbour or going the extra mile for a friend - let us know your random acts of kindness!

