



# HLA News

Friday 13th October 2023



Dear Families,

We have nearly completed a half term back at school, time flies when you are having fun and learning too!

On Tuesday this week the school was a mass of lovely bright colours and in particular lots of yellow. Our students helped us to mark the world mental health day. Our students completed lots of mindfulness activities and thought about our emotions and how they affect our mental health. Students engaged positively and showed a good awareness of mental health issues. We raised a total of £55.54 by wearing yellow on the day which will be donated to the Young Minds charity. Great work everyone.

This week we will be continuing to support parents and carers about the transition from Highfield at the end of Year 11. On Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October between 9 and 11 we will be holding a coffee morning. This is a valuable opportunity to speak to staff and gain support to complete applications to post 16 placements. Jill will be on hand with her expert knowledge to help parents and carers through the process. On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October after school we will be holding a joint Moving On event with Highfield Ely. This will be held at **Highfield Ely Academy**. There will be a variety of post 16 providers present where those from Y9 and upwards can gain information about next steps. This is especially important as Highfield Littleport do not yet have any 6<sup>th</sup> form provision.

It has been lovely to join in with some of our new shared sessions that are taking place between Wrens and Owls classes. In order to build social interaction skills and collaborative learning both classes take part in an 'exploration station' session each day. We have observed lots of new connections being made and some lovely emerging communication between peers.

We are working to further enhance our school and our next project is to improve our new shared EYFS and Blue pathway area. Currently there's lots of concrete and the area needs lots of development to make it more engaging. Take a look at the last page of this newsletter for some ideas of projects. If you are feeling creative and can make some of these resources please get in touch. We also aspire to add some grass to the area so if you know any local builders who can remove some tarmac and lay turf we want to hear from you.

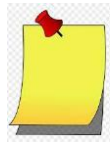
We still desperately need your support to keep our parent and carer group SOHLA running. We do not have any parents who can lead this due to them moving on or having other commitments. We will be hosting a Teams Meeting for interested parents to come and find out more information of ways that they can support our school. This will be held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 1.30pm via Teams so that people do not need to travel. Here is the link [https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_NjkzYmMzYjktN2Y2Zi00NmYwLTg3MTItYTVmOTZmMDM0YWWRk%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22bd5335b2-3f25-41f8-b62b-73085365863d%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22671b02ac-b32a-4e33-bad3-e59906d016ff%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NjkzYmMzYjktN2Y2Zi00NmYwLTg3MTItYTVmOTZmMDM0YWWRk%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22bd5335b2-3f25-41f8-b62b-73085365863d%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22671b02ac-b32a-4e33-bad3-e59906d016ff%22%7d)

If you cannot make the meeting but want to be involved please do email [office@highfieldlittleport.org](mailto:office@highfieldlittleport.org) If we do not have people coming forward the group will cease and we will not be able to provide those extra special treats and improve provision that we desperately need.

With all best wishes,

Yvonne Skillern

Head of School



## Important Information



- Could all outstanding data collection sheets please be completed and returned to school asap.
- Don't forget to contribute £7.50 per term if you are able towards our extra-curricular activities. This can be done via Parent Pay as we are a cashless school.
- We have the catch up Flu Vaccination Clinic being held at school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December.
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October is our Transition Coffee morning, particularly important for our Y11 cohort who will be moving on at the end of the year. Lots of help with college applications and options!
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October – child measurement programme at school for students in Reception and Year 6.

## School Attendance

This week's whole school attendance was **92.2%**. This is a good increase on last week, let's beat it next week! Please remember absences won't be authorised during term time.

### Online Safety Tip of the Week:

### Passwords

- ◆ Keep your password secure and change it regularly
- ◆ Don't use your name or anything easy to guess
- ◆ Don't share it with ANYONE, even your friends
- ◆ Use a mixture of capitals, numbers and special characters
- ◆ If in doubt CHANGE IT!

### Emotion of the Week:



Our emotion of the week is **EXCITED**. We will be working with the students to recognise this emotion, how it feels and what induces it. We will also be teaching strategies to manage emotions appropriately.

### Mental Health Tip of the Week:

**Get out of your comfort zone.**

Trying something new can give you a sense of accomplishment.

## Our Playground Needs Your Help!



We need some help from creative parents and carers and those handy with power tools! Are you able to create anything like the pictures above? Resources need to be finished well and stand up to the test of our children.

We also have lots of concrete on our playground and would like to lay some turf so that our students have different surfaces to explore with their senses. If you are a builder who could help us out with some removal of tarmac and laying a small area of turf we need to hear from you.

Please contact [office@highfieldlittleport.org](mailto:office@highfieldlittleport.org) and mark the email for the attention of Hannah or Jo if you are able to support us with resources or services.