



HLA News

Friday 16th February 2024



Dear Families,

Here we are at the end of another half term. It has been packed with great learning and we are so proud of the progress that our students are making.

Extension update! Over the half term break the building contractors will be coming on to site to conduct initial ground tests. They have helpfully arranged this during the school holidays to avoid disruption to the students. We will be having regular progress meetings with the team so I will be updating you via our weekly newsletter.

This week we had the treat of another pantomime for some of our students. The feedback from the students was great. They enjoyed a performance of 'The Wizard of Oz'. The students used their English learning well and compared the pantomime version to the original story and used some brilliant comparative skills.

This week more of our learners engaged in the Babylon Arts project with some visiting artists working with the students. I am so impressed with the work that has been produced. There has been a high level of student engagement and adding the sensory element to the work has been hugely successful. The artists have been kind enough to leave us some of the resources that they used within the project so that the work can be continued. They are going to be installing a permanent piece of artwork joining together all of the students work which will be in our school hall. We cannot wait to share this with you when it is completed.

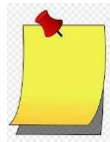
Some parents and carers have commented that they would like to be more involved in their children's learning at school and gain an insight into activities that happen at school. Today we hosted a coffee morning focussing on mental health with 5 parents in attendance. We would appreciate some feedback as to events that you feel would be helpful so that we can get more people involved. Next half term we have some opportunities where we will be inviting parents and carers into school to share learning with their child. We have International Maths Day on Thursday 14th March where some classes upstairs will be inviting parents and carers in to share some maths fun. We will be organising an event for students downstairs soon. We also have parents evening on Wednesday 13th March. Appointment letters have been sent out, please don't forget to return your slips with your preferred time slot and we will do our best to accommodate.

We hope you have a good half term break and look forward to welcoming the students back to school on Monday 26th February.

With all best wishes,

Yvonne Skillern

Headteacher



Important Information



- Letters to book a parent/carer consultation have been sent out. Please choose your preferred slot and return the slip to your child's class teacher. There is an option of face-to-face. Teams or a telephone call to make things easier. If your child has recently had an annual review or has one coming up in the next few weeks, you do not need to make a parents evening appointment.
- 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.
- We are having our first relaunched SOHLA meeting on Friday 1st March at 6.30pm via Teams. We hope as many parents can support our school as possible. We will post the link on Class Dojo.

School Attendance

This week's whole school attendance was 89.8%. This is down on last week's figure. 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:

Protect your online reputation

Use the services provided to manage your digital footprints and 'think before you post.' Content posted online can last forever and could be shared publicly by anyone.

Emotion of the Week:



This week's emotion is SURPRISED. 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:

Practise some self-care. Make sure you are doing all that you can to look after your own body and mind. This will help you function at your best.

Put yourself
and your
needs higher on
your agenda.