



HLA News

Friday 19th January 2024



Dear Families,

Welcome to the end of another productive week at Highfield Littleport.

It has become evident that some of our students have been accessing inappropriately aged material in the form of games and films at home. Accessing content that is not age appropriate can pose an important safeguarding concern. I have attached an age ratings guide at the end of the newsletter to help parents refer to age ratings and make appropriate choices for their children. We ask you to work with us to help ensure that students safeguarding needs are met both at home and at school.

You will have seen this week that each student has been sent a letter detailing his or her attendance information for the Autumn term. We will now be sending home this information on a termly basis. This will help you be aware of their individual attendance figures and work with us to ensure your child attends school on a regular basis. Remember every moment matters.

I wanted to update you about our planned extension due to open in September 2025. After a detailed scoring process, a contractor has been appointed. They have lots of experience in working with SEN settings and built the extension at Highfield Ely so we know we will be in good hands. There is an initial project meeting next week so after this I will be able to update you with regards to how the project will progress.

This week I spent some time in KS4 with H4 who were going through some preparations ready for their speaking and listening assessments in the Summer. We watched some of the presentations from previous years and I was impressed at how reflective and forward thinking all of the students were.

This week I have also been observing some of the interactions at playtime. It was lovely to see the great communication and interaction skills developing with some of our younger students. Adults were facilitating play and bringing lots of curriculum learning into the activities. It is clear that learning happens everywhere!

This week some of our students went on a visit to Wicken Fen. This is part of our continued development of the arts, in collaboration with the Babylon Arts Gallery. The project will engage participants in nature, all students will be part of the project with a selection in Key Stage 3 using off site experiences. The students are supported by artists to create sensory responses to their experiences with nature, which will come together as part of an exhibition at the gallery. The students engaged fantastically and had many positive sensory experiences. I am looking forward to seeing the work that they produce.

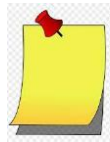
Have a lovely weekend. We look forward to seeing the students back at school on Monday.

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!
- We have a school nursing clinic on 29th January. Please email ccs-tr.snsn@nhs.net or call 01223 218061 to book a slot.

School Attendance

This week's whole school attendance was 92.3%. This is a 2% increase on last week – well done! 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.

Online Safety Tip of the Week:

There is a lot of content online that is not age appropriate. You can use parental controls and look at age ratings to decide what content is appropriate for your child to access.



Emotion of the Week:

This week's emotion is HAPPY. 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.

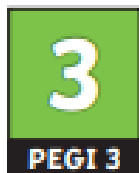
Mental Health Tip of the Week:



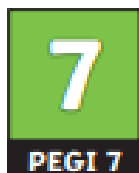
Understanding PEGI Age Ratings

PEGI ratings offer a traffic light system of age ratings for computer games. The purpose of the age ratings is not to show how difficult a game is but to indicate that the games are appropriate for players of a certain age.

The age ratings for green PEGI 3 and PEGI 7 games are advisory. The age ratings for the orange PEGI 12 and PEGI 16, as well as the red PEGI 18, are legally enforceable. This means that shops cannot sell or hire games with an orange or red rating to people who are not the right age. Online and downloaded games are not technically included but many major providers voluntarily add the limits to their games.



Suitable for all age groups. These games should not include any sounds or pictures which will frighten young children. There should be no bad language. Mild forms of violence can only be used in a comical or childlike setting.



Games may contain scenes or sounds that could frighten young children. They can also contain mild forms of violence but this must not look realistic and must not be too detailed.



Games may show violence in a slightly more graphic way towards fantasy characters. Violence towards human-like characters is still unrealistic. There may be gambling and suggestive activities or language included. Bad language must be mild.



Games can feature more realistic violence. Games may include tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs and stronger bad language.



This is an adult classification. These games can show all of the content from the PEGI 16 rating but also contain realistic and extreme violence, as well as other events that are only suitable for adults.

