



# HLA News



Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Families,

We have had a great week here at Highfield Littleport. It has been lovely to see how engaged everyone is in their learning.

This week the kitchen and dining room extension has really progressed. It has been quite a noisy week as they have been piling the foundations for the build. The students don't seem to have been bothered by it and commented more about the vibrations they could feel rather than the noise. The classroom extension is also gathering pace as we enter milestone 3 of the works. This is where we will be looking at the plans and data sheets to ensure it meets our needs. Planning permission will also be organised within this period. When we are able to share outline plans we will – exciting times!

As some of you may be aware the government have released updated guidance on school attendance and how to maintain high levels of this in settings. The guidance involves an increase in levels of fines, identifying ways parents can be supported to improve attendance and useful information to help judge if your child is too ill for school. We want to work with parents to improve attendance and avoid the formal routes if at all possible. Take a look at this link for some useful information about this: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> We have also been advised that reasons such as tiredness and sibling appointments will not be authorised reasons for absence. Please work with us and make every effort to send your child to school.

I have some exciting news to share. Following on from the guitar lessons that our students have been participating in we are going to form a rock band! We have looked at the equipment needed and are hopefully purchasing this soon. Students have been approached and they love the idea. We will update you as more develops.

Due to an update in our software systems from the start of the Summer term some school meals have not been charged for as yet. This may mean backdates charges for some. Please continue to top up your accounts as normal. We are working hard to resolve this and will keep you updated.

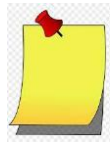
A reminder that SOHLA will be hosting Spring Bingo this evening at Littleport Leisure Centre. Doors open at 6.00pm with eyes down 6.30pm. The cost is £10 per book and children are welcome to attend too. There are some great prizes up for grabs. We hope you are able to make it and support us to raise valuable funds for the school. Our main fundraising goal is for some wheelchair accessible playground equipment so that all of our learners can interact and play outside.

Hope you all 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.
- Contributions have again been renewed **to pay £7.50 to class funds per child for this term** via Parent Pay. We try not to charge for each individual activity which would be more expensive to parents. If we do not get sufficient contributions we may have to review this arrangement.
- There is a school nursing clinic taking place at school on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June. For further information or to book an appointment please email [CCS-TR.SNSN@nhs.net](mailto:CCS-TR.SNSN@nhs.net) or call 01223 218061
- 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.

## School Attendance

This week's whole school attendance was 91.2%. This is a slight decline on last week. 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. We reserve the right to fine families who take unauthorised holidays during term time.

### Online Safety Tip of the Week:

#### Remind them of key online safety principles



There are too many to list, but remember human behaviour is the same online and offline. Remind your children to be a good friend, to ask for help if they are worried or if someone is mean, not to get undressed on camera and most important of all... if somebody tells them not to tell or ask for help because it's too late or they will get in trouble, **THAT'S A LIE!**

### Emotion of the Week:



This week's emotion is **TIRED**. 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:

Sometimes writing things down helps to reduce the burden and helps to prioritise tasks.

Take out an actual pen.  
Writing by hand is good for your brain, and for your mood.

