



# HIGHBURY NEWS...

## Keeping Parents in Touch



Hello,

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back to school and the hot days we experienced in September seem a distant memory now as the weather has turned a little colder!

We have had a great seven weeks with so many different activities and learning opportunities for the children. Year 5 made some great discoveries at the Science Museum in Winchester, Year 4 had a fabulous day at the Mary Rose Museum, Year 1 enjoyed their visit to Marwell Zoo and Year 6 have started their swimming lessons which have been a great success. The other year groups have been enjoying some fantastic learning opportunities too.

We were thrilled with the opening of our Memorial Garden to remember our friend and colleague, Mrs Taylor. The older pupils performed beautifully and Mrs Taylor's family were very touched by the tribute.

Thank you so much for your kind donations with the bulbs, we were overwhelmed with your generosity and will be organising a planting event soon. We have our Outdoor Classroom fully installed on the field now and this will provide many rich and varied learning experiences come rain or shine. Thank you to the PTA for their fantastic contribution in enabling us to have this great learning environment.

I hope you all have a fantastic half term holiday with your families. Take care and enjoy some relaxation if you can.

Mrs Watson

**Respect, Resilience, Confidence, Kindness, Inclusive, Aspiration**

### Harvest Festival



It was wonderful to invite our visitor from the Community Peace Food Hub to our Harvest celebrations this week. All the children contributed by singing songs and we were extremely grateful for the kind donations. Your generosity will go towards supporting families who are struggling at this time. Thank you.



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**PROUD TO  
BE POMPEY**

POA  
and  
C&S

Thank you for joining with us to raise money to support the Lord Mayor's chosen charities. It was great to see the school awash with blue and we were lucky to receive a visit from the Lord and Lady Mayoress in the afternoon.

They were very impressed by the children's attitudes and enjoyed engaging in conversations with many pupils.

## Learning News, Curriculum Highlights...

This term the children have settled back into nursery and we are so delighted at how well the new children to Highbury have settled in. Our theme has been looking at All About Me! The nursery have been on outings to the park and foxes forest for autumn walks collecting autumn materials and bugs. The children have been looking at a different book each week with themed activities to encourage children listening, attention and recall. The children have enjoyed the outside autumn environment playing with real fruit and vegetables looking at harvest.

This half term it has been wonderful to welcome all of the YR children to Bumblebee and Butterfly class, they have settled in very well. We have enjoyed getting to know the children and they enjoyed sharing about themselves and their families. The children have been busy learning new letter sounds in Phonics, including practicing letter formation and name writing. In Maths we have been mastering the numbers 1-5 and the children have learnt to 'subitise' - recognising amounts straight away, and have also enjoyed building their own number block characters. We learnt about 'people who help us' through imaginative role play and special visits. The children have loved engaging with a new 'book hook' each week, sharing the stories together and using props to help us retell the story. The children have thoroughly embraced 'Autumn'. We've been on Autumnal walks looking for signs of Autumn and collecting natural materials to use for creative crafts. This week the children have got stuck into pumpkin carving, sensory play with pulp/seeds and spooky spider gloop! The children also attended their first assembly with Mrs Watson as part of our Harvest Festival where they sang the Dingle Dangle Scarecrow song. What a fantastic half term with Butterflies and Bumblebees!

This term in **Year 1** we have had lots of fun exploring our theme 'What has changed?'. The children have enjoyed learning all about changes in our world, including climate change, and they have worked hard to create posters informing people of how they can help protect our world. In Computing, we have been busy learning how to log on to a computer and access different websites. Our Art lessons have involved creating amazing autumnal pictures using the leaves from our very own woods. We have enjoyed getting stuck in to our RE learning all about the Christian celebration of the Harvest Festival and singing our song 'Big Red Combine Harvester'. Year 1 had the most incredible trip to Marwell to help us learn more about our Science topic 'All About Animals' where we were lucky enough to see lots of carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. A huge thank you to our amazing parent helpers, the trip wouldn't have been possible without you.



This half term, **Year 2** have enjoyed settling into their new classes. We have worked extremely hard on our writing, producing some amazing fact files about our class animals. We have also been reading traditional tales, but also those with a twist! The children have loved having debates about who the real villain is in lots of classic fairy tales and seeing things from a new perspective. Year 2 have had great fun learning about balanced diets and used their new knowledge to design and make their own sandwiches while focussing on appearance, taste and health. In maths, we have been learning all about place value and are now starting to use what we have learnt to add and subtract two digit numbers. We all are very excited to return after half term so that we can learn all about The Great Fire of London.

This term, **Year 3** have enjoyed delving deep into our Rocks and Fossils topic. We became geologists with mini professors for a rocks and fossils workshop, and through our science lessons have been exploring what rocks and fossils are, their different types, and how they are formed. In English we learnt all about writing a dinosaur fact file and read about lots of different prehistoric species, culminating in the children writing a fact file about their own imagined dinosaur. Also, the children learnt all about the life of famous palaeontologist, Mary Anning, and wrote a biography about all of her achievements. In Art, the children practised their sketching skills and worked towards making a chalk masterpiece of a dinosaur's eye. We have loved reading a Julia Donaldson favourite, the dinosaur's diary, which will give us a great model for our next piece of writing!

## Learning News, Curriculum Highlights...

This term, **Year 4** have enjoyed learning about the Tudors, especially the Mary Rose as we were fortunate enough to visit the museum at the Historic Dockyard, which was a great day enjoyed by all. We have immersed ourselves in learning about the Tudors, writing some brilliant diaries and newspaper articles about life throughout the Tudor era. We have also started designing and making Tudor houses, which we will finish after half term. We have become scientists with mini-professors, where we learnt all about sound, how it travels and why the amplitude changes. We have also been learning to play the ukulele in Music, which has allowed us to develop our rhythm and understanding of tempo. The children have also loved their Guided Reading lessons, where they have been reading 'The Accidental Prime Minister', following Joe's journey to spread fun wherever he goes. We are looking forward to learning all about electricity next half term.

WOW! What a fantastically busy half-term we have had in **Year 5**. We have thoroughly enjoyed our Space theme and definitely gone 'above and beyond' in all of our learning. Our futuristic Art pictures have dazzled our teachers and our super science skills, (all about our galaxy) have been as equally impressive. In English, we have created our own amazing story endings for Major Tom, in Space oddity, and showcased all the very best of our writing skills. Our non-chronological report writing has been excellent and we have successfully used all of the features of a fact-file about space, to create some amazing reports. Our Mathematical journey has been as equally busy and we have worked hard at place value, ordering, partitioning, comparing and rounding numbers. We have also demonstrated some fantastic mental strategies and conquered addition and subtraction of numbers with 4-digits or more. Our excellent trip to the Science centre was a super success and our amazing behaviour was commented on by the centre staff. After all of that amazing learning, we are ready for a fabulous and restful half-term break!

**Year 6** have had a fantastic start to the year, they have settled really well and are enjoying the responsibility of being the top of the school. They have enjoyed leaning lots about the Amazon Rainforests through our theme and writing a diary extract about their adventures there. In maths we have been work on place value and additive problem solving. In science we have been learning all about how to classify living things and why fungi are so important to the circle of life. The children have been excellent role models during their swimming lessons at the Mountbatten Centre and have really impressed us with their swimming skills and determination to succeed. Have a great half -term holiday and we will look forward to more great learning next half term



### Pupil Parliament

This year we have 12 brand new Pupil Parliament representatives, from classes in year 2, all the way up to year 6! These children applied for the position, by either writing letters or making speeches to their class, and then faced a democratic class vote. The children were awarded their badges during assembly last Friday and will meet to discuss any changes they would like to make this year. Miss Poolton is excited to work with the children and the new changes ahead.



## Celebrating Wonderful Achievements...

Blue Peter Music Badge - Matilda B

Blue Peter Environment Badge - Bethany W

Elite International Open Karate Championship - Otto S - 2 silver medals

Polish Karate Open - Riley H

Karate grading - Evie E

Dancing medals and trophies - Renae W, Dexi D, Eden C, Minnie C, Kyla F, Sydney W

Football medal and trophies - Reuben J, Isaac S, Ronnie P, Adomah B

Gymnastics medals, trophies and certificates - Berry W, Niamh B, Minnie C, Eden C, Alanna D (Advanced gym squad), Amalie B (try outs for Gym Squad)

Summer Reading Challenge - Isabella S, Rupert S, Susanna T, Alexa B, Joseph O, Faye T, Lois C, Emily U, Lucas W, Josie C, Taloulah T, Henry L, Theo F, Matilda B

Girls Brigade - Josie C

Netball - Genevieve R

Running medal - Taloulah T

Swimming - Ronnie P, Evie E, Reece A, Emily W

Stage and Screen Award - Hannah B, Beau H, Ava B

Drama Club - Student of the week - Willow M

Dance Gymnastics - Beau H

Brownies - Freya A, Millie W, Aurora G

Lego Land Driving Licence - Lois C

Cheer Squad - Berry W

Junior Great South Run - Ronnie P, Gabby B, Maxwell B, Evie E, Mia K - raised over £3200 for Southampton Children's Hospital

Great South Run - Mrs Felstead



What super  
stars you all  
are - well done!



Thank you for attending Parents Evening, we hope you enjoyed the opportunity to speak with your child's class teacher to share their learning. If you were unable to attend, please let us know and we can arrange an alternative appointment for you.



## Phonics Workshops

We will be hosting a Phonics/Reading workshop for our parents of Reception children during the next half term. Keep a look out for further details.





## Diary Dates

Please be sure to make a note of these important dates in the school calendar. Thank you.



### **October 2023**

30.10.23 - Back to school

### **November 2023**

01.11.23 - Open Day tour - 2:30pm

05.11.23 - Photo ordering deadline

06.11.23 - Year 2 Mini Professors Workshop

09.11.23 - Open Day tour - 5.30pm

13.11.23 - Year 6 - Evolution and DNA Workshop

16.11.23 - Children in Need

16.11.23 - Disco

### **17.11.23 - School INSET**

20.11.23 - Year 3 Mini Professors Workshop

20.11.23 - Year R Height & Weight

22.11.23 - Christmas Shopping evening

### **30.11.23 - Ash Class Assembly**

30.11.23 - Christmas Jumper swap event - 3.30pm

### **December 2023**

01.12.23 - Theatre Arts Workshop - KS1

01.12.23 - Dress down day - chocolate donation

### **05.12.23 - Butterflies Nativity**

### **06.12.23 - Bumblebees Nativity**

08.12.23 - Christmas Jumper Day

08.12.23 - Rock Steady Concert to parents

08.12.23 - PTA - Christmas Fayre

11.12.23 - Nursery and Reception Mini Professor Workshop

### **12.12.23 - Key Stage 1 Nativity - St Philips**

### **13.12.23 - Key Stage 1 Nativity - St Philip**

### **13.12.23 - Christmas Dinners**

### **13.12.23 - Christmas Carol Service - 5pm**



As part of the development of our school we are wanting to create a sensory garden for the children. We are asking if you are able to help clear an area in school on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November and we would greatly appreciate your contributions. In addition, if you have skills or time to help us with the creation of our garden we would love to hear from you. Please contact the school office and we will be in contact with you. Thank you in helping to create a wonderful space for our children.



Save  
the  
Date!

### **INSET DAYS**

**17/11/23, 2/1/24, 15/4/24, 3/6/24,  
8/7/24**

**CONTACT US**

[admin@highbury-prim.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:admin@highbury-prim.portsmouth.sch.uk)

**02392 375404**

### Polite Reminder...

At Highbury we expect a high level of attendance and punctuality.

Thank you all for supporting your children on their return to school. It is so important that they attend school every day to ensure good routines are established, friendships are built and overall enjoyment of school life.

Requests for absences from school, other than sickness should be made to the Headteacher on a 'Leave of Absence form'. **Absence will not be authorised for family holidays except in extenuating circumstances.** As we work in partnership to enable your child to have the best learning opportunities, I ask that you support us by not taking your child out of school for family holidays.

**Portsmouth SEND Local Offer**

# Local Offer Live!

 **Cosham Community Centre**

 **Thursday 9 November**

 **10:30am – 2:30pm**

For more information, visit [portsmouthlocaloffer.org/live](http://portsmouthlocaloffer.org/live)

**No ticket needed. Just turn up!**

**SPECIAL EVENT!**





Teach Portsmouth has joined forces with training providers to encourage more people to become teachers.

If you or someone you know wants to join the profession, come along to Teach Portsmouth's love to teach event on Tuesday 7 November from 3pm - 5:30pm at Central Library (third floor).

The information event is designed for those who are thinking about teacher training but not sure where to begin.

**Watch short presentations on routes into teaching and funding**

**Hear from early career teachers who will share their experiences**

**Meet local training providers and ask questions**

For more information on the event and to get your free ticket, visit [www.teachportsmouth.co.uk/lovetoteach](http://www.teachportsmouth.co.uk/lovetoteach)

For more information about Portsmouth SCITT, visit [www.portsmouthscitt.co.uk](http://www.portsmouthscitt.co.uk)



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