

Volume 31
Issue 19
Friday 8th
March 2024

Highlands Weekly



Dear Families,

We have just completed a super week of action packed learning across the school, with so many events to mark and celebrate.

On Tuesday all children had the opportunity to listen to the Imaam from the local community, Mr Omar to hear about the upcoming holy month of Ramadan. We feel it is so important that our children get to meet and learn from community faith leaders. To all our families commencing the month of Ramadan we wish you a peaceful month ahead.



On Thursday children across the school celebrated World Book Day with wonderful creative costumes across the school. Children in KS2 also got to listen to Jacqueline Wilson and heard her experiences of being a world famous author. Have a look at our wonderful costumes from across the day. At Highlands we love

reading and know the power it unlocks in each and every one of us.



Today children had the opportunity to meet and listen to Sam Tarry MP for Ilford South. Mr Tarry was very impressed by the children at Highlands and their wish to be leaders of the future. He visited the International Women's day football event for girls, met the school Parliament and spoke to all children in assembly.



We marked International Women's Day with FA Football experiences for all girls and our girls in Year 5 got to join a zoom meeting to listen to inspiring women from a range of industries across the world. All of these wonderful opportunities promote our community of **empowered** learners.

Next week we look forward to marking British Science Week.

Article 29 (goals of education)

Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights. As well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

Article 17 (access to information from the media)

Every child has the right to reliable information from a variety of sources and governments should encourage the media to provide information that children can understand. Governments must help protect children from materials that could harm them.

Article 28 (Right to education)

Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free and different forms of secondary education must be available to every child. Discipline in schools must respect children's dignity and their rights. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.

Article 13 (freedom of expression) Every child must be free to express their thoughts and opinions and to access all kinds of information, as long as it is within the law.

School Dinners - Feeding Hungry Minds

Following some feedback received from pupils and parents, our kitchen team have been working closely with the ISS Area Manager to make some changes and improvements to the lunchtime experience for all children. Our Chair of Governors took part in a learning walk of the lunch hall during lunchtime to see what the experience was like for children. It was noted that some children were upset at lunchtime because their meal had been pre-ordered at home and they would have preferred a different menu option. Unfortunately, the kitchen staff are unable to offer children food that they have not ordered. With that in mind, we would like to encourage parents to engage with the online ordering system with their child at home so that the children can make an informed choice about the meal they are selecting. You can do this using the link below. Children can also continue to select their own meals in class each day.

[Feeding Hungry Minds](#)

Attendance Update

We would like to remind families of the NHS advice designed to support families to decide if your child is well enough to attend school. You can access this advice via the link below.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Please be aware that if your child is absent from school due to illness for 5 days or more we will ask families to provide medical evidence in order for us to be able to authorise the absence. If this is not provided then your child's absence may be recorded as unauthorised.

Highlands Choir

This week, The choir attended the Redbridge Primary School Choir competition at St Peter and Pauls Primary School. Seven schools took part and we heard a wide range of different songs sung by choirs of different ages and sizes. Despite being a bit nervous, we really enjoyed performing 'Let's go fly a kite' and 'Hey Mr Miller'.

'At the choir competition I enjoyed myself very much. When I sang in front of everyone, I was so happy. I hope we have another opportunity like this.' Laaibah 6Ka



Chess Tournament

On Wednesday, some of our children from across KS2 took part in a Chess Tournament. Around 60 children participated in total from 5 different schools competing in two categories: Under 11 and Under 9. The Highlands U9 group did particularly well coming 3rd in their category. The full results from the tournament can be found here:

U11: <https://chess-results.com/tnr904500.aspx?lan=1>

U9: <https://chess-results.com/tnr904499.aspx?lan=1>

Well done to the following children for taking part!

| Highlands U11 | Y |
|-----------------|----|
| 1. Ismaeel | Y6 |
| 2. Adam | Y5 |
| 3. Leila | Y5 |
| 4. Rashid | Y5 |
| Highlands U9 | |
| 1. Kavinmithran | Y3 |
| 2. Darshan | Y3 |
| 3. Rayyan | Y3 |
| 4. Anjali | Y4 |
| 5. Eliyah | Y4 |



Birthday Celebrations

We are aware that many families like to send in edible treats for their child's classmates to help them celebrate their birthdays. We would like to remind families that if you wish to do this then the treats that you provide need to be **individually wrapped** and **nut free** in line with our school's Nut Free policy. Any treats that are not individually wrapped will be returned to families, as we are unable to distribute these.

Injuries

If your child has any sort of injury outside of school hours, can you please let the school know about the injury and any medical advice that has been given. This will ensure we have all the relevant information to carry out a risk assessment with our leadership team.

Appointments during the school day

Thank you to our families that are letting us know in advance that their child has a medical appointment during the school day. Please can you ensure that you stick to the time of collection that you have indicated as children are waiting at Reception to be collected promptly. If you are running late for any reason let us know so we can send your child back to class until you arrive. This stops unnecessary interruptions to the classes throughout the day. If your child has an appointment during the school day, they should attend school either before or after their appointment. We also require proof of all appointments during the school day.

Parking and Road Safety around the school



Can we please remind families to be respectful to our local neighbours and **not** park in front of their driveways before school and at home time. Your actions reflect on our entire school community and we value the feelings and privacy of our local residents. We have also had a number of complaints about inconsiderate parking which blocks footpaths and is dangerous for pedestrians. Please be mindful of where you are parking to ensure the safety of all members of our school community. It has also been brought

to our attention that some members of the community are not demonstrating responsible usage of electric scooters and bicycles. Please remember that children should be wearing helmets if they are cycling or scooting to school and that parents and children should not be cycling on the footpaths.

Use of mobile phones on the school site

It has been observed that many parents and family members are on their mobile devices when collecting their children. Please could we urge you to take this time to connect with your child and talk about their day at school and perhaps catch up with your messages or phone calls once you are home. This moment in the day when we collect our children is a time where they wait to see the awe, wonder and sheer joy of their parents upon seeing them. This is especially important for our very youngest children. Of course, we understand there may be emergencies.

Online Safety

Please take the time to have a look at the following link that shares excellent advice for parents about how to keep your children safe online in the home.

<https://parentsafe.lgfl.net/>

Curriculum in Action

Take a look at our week of learning in action across the school.

Oak Class

This week in Oak we continued looking at our Sensory Story "Astro Girl" with the children doing a few different activities! We used Papier-mâché to make astronaut helmets and the children had a great time decorating them with different materials. We also carried out our own science experiment like Astro Girl and baked our own space cookies!

Thursday was World Book Day and the children enjoyed dressing up as characters from different books and creating their own bookmarks!



Nursery

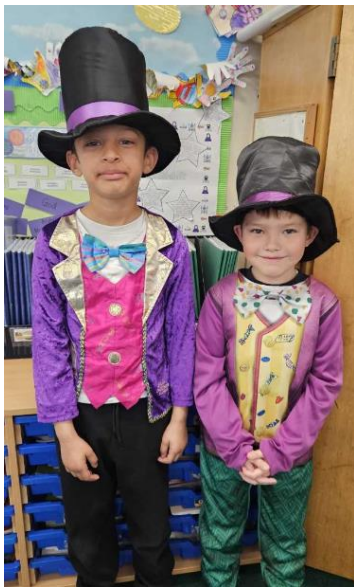
The children in the Nursery have been very busy this week. We have learned about Mother's Day, we have read the story 'My mum' and the children have talked about what they like about their mum. The children have made a special card for their mum and we have baked some biscuits to share with them. The children have learned about Ramadan; what it means, and how Muslims celebrate. The children have coloured many pictures about Ramadan for their 'special books'. This week we have read the story 'The three little pigs'. The children have had the opportunity to make puppets of the characters and they have been retelling the story using the puppets. We have recapped 2D Shapes and their properties. We have played 'I spy' with the first sound of their names, it was tricky but they had fun with this game. On Thursday, we celebrated World Book Day; the children dressed up and the parents came to read with the children, it was a lovely day. Finally, we have introduced the Right Respect value: Friendship; the children have been talking about how to be a good friend and they tried very hard to be good friends with everyone in the Nursery.

Reception

We have had such an exciting week in Reception. On Monday the farmer brought each class 10 eggs in an incubator! The children were amazed to watch chicks hatch out of them. They made their own egg diary documenting each day and they have taken such good care of them. We are lucky to have them for another week before they have to go back to the farm. The children can talk about each stages of the life cycle of a chick. The children have chosen their roles and have begun practising for their Show and Share assembly, which will take place at the end of the half term. Each group presented their posters that they made last week about the animal they had researched. We explored some eggs made of ice and had to melt them to discover the animal that was inside. In Phonics this week the children were taught the new digraphs: **or ur ow** and the tricky word: **My**. They learnt how to apply them in their writing when they wrote facts about

Year 2

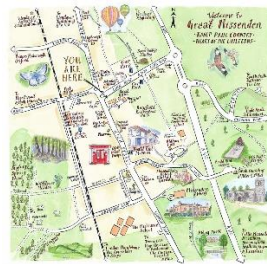
Year 2 have had a brilliant week this week! The children really enjoyed dressing up in celebration of World Book Day and really appreciated reading with their parents in the morning. Please ensure this tradition continues at home as much as possible to grow a love for reading! In English this week, we continued looking at our English text 'Fox' and used evidence from the writing and the pictures to write setting and character descriptions using powerful language. We used similes, alliteration and expanded noun phrases to make our writing exciting. In Maths, we have started looking at measurement using a ruler. The children really enjoyed using rulers and metre sticks to measure different objects in the classroom. We learnt the importance of holding our ruler underneath what we are measuring and remembering to start from zero. In Science, the children explored touching and sorting an assortment of bulbs and seeds and we planted our own class bean plants. In DT, we learnt about the different techniques for preparing food and used box graters, table knives, spoons and scissors to cut vegetables and fruit.



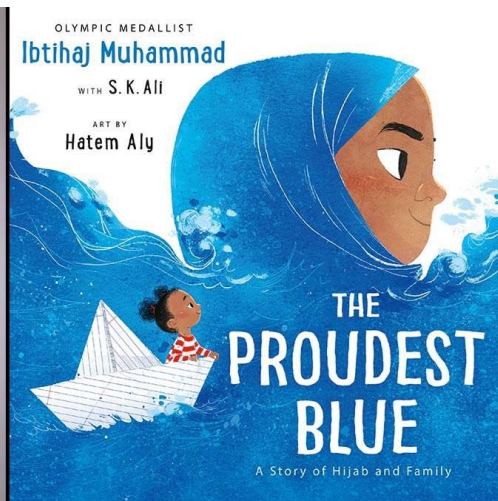
Year 3

In our Geography lessons this term, Year 3 children have been embarking on an exciting journey to explore the wonderful world around us. One of the focal points of our exploration has been discovering the charming village of Great Missenden and delving into the fascinating concepts of physical and human geography. Our young geographers have been honing their map-reading skills as they learn to locate Great Missenden on both local and world maps. Through engaging activities and interactive sessions, they have been discovering the significance of landmarks, rivers, and roads in identifying this picturesque village nestled in the heart of Buckinghamshire.

In our quest to understand the diverse features of our planet, we have been distinguishing between physical and human features. Through hands-on experiences and immersive learning activities, our children have been exploring the natural landscapes and man-made structures that characterize Great Missenden. From the rolling hills of the Chiltern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty to the quaint cottages and bustling streets, our children are gaining a deeper appreciation for the intricate balance between nature and human civilization



In our English lessons this term, our Year 3 students have been immersing themselves in the magical world of literature. *The Proudest Blue* is a beautiful tale that follows the story of Faizah as she accompanies her older sister, Asiya, on her first day of wearing a hijab. Through Faizah's eyes, the children have been captivated by the power of sisterhood, identity, and the significance of wearing the hijab. This poignant story has sparked meaningful discussions about diversity, inclusion, and the importance of embracing one's heritage and individuality. In addition to exploring the themes and messages within "The Proudest Blue," the children have also been learning about the remarkable achievements of the authors, Ibtihaj Muhammad and S.K. Ali. Ibtihaj Muhammad, a world-renowned athlete and Olympic medallist, made history as the first Muslim American woman to wear a hijab while competing for the United States in the Olympics. S.K. Ali, an award-winning author, known for her powerful storytelling that amplifies diverse voices and experiences.



Our Year 3 children have been making fantastic progress in their swimming skills, and we could not be prouder of their achievements. In our swimming sessions, the children have been learning with enthusiasm and determination. Whether they are learning the basics of floating and kicking or refining their strokes, every child has shown tremendous growth and improvement. Through patient guidance and supportive encouragement, our dedicated swimming instructors have been helping the children build confidence and develop essential water safety skills.



Year 4

Year 4 have participated in many exciting activities this week! They began their week with an interfaith assembly about Ramadan, learning about what Ramadan is and why it is a special month for Muslims. To end the week, all of the children really enjoyed participating in dressing up as their favourite character for world book day. All of the girls within the year group participated in the `LetGirlsPlayFootball` session in promoting equal access to play football for all girls.

In English, the children have begun to look at the different writing skills that are used within a fable; expanded noun phrases, verbs and adjectives. In the next couple of weeks, the children will be planning and writing their own fables. Building on last week, the children have been working really hard in Maths, looking at fractions as a part and whole. This week the children have also looked at mixed fractions, and fractions on a number line. In Science, we have started our new topic `Electricity.` The children looked at what electricity is and categorised appliances in a Venn diagram into mains and battery electricity using their scientific enquiry skills. All of the children are curious to find out more about information about electricity in our upcoming lessons!

We hope all of the children have a restful weekend! 😊



Year 5

This week, Year 5 have continued displaying fantastic learning behaviours. It has been a pleasure to see the children grow and begin to become proactive independent learners. In English, the children had to use formal and persuasive language whilst also considering the audience of their write to ensure they were writing respectfully. In Maths, we have looked at the place value of the thousandths. We have been identifying thousandths as a fraction and decimals, as well as looking at the relationship between tenths, hundredths, and thousandths. Finally, in Science, the children have been looking at 'States of Matter'. This week, they used everyday appliances to separate mixtures. They were given three separate mixtures; rice and water, salt and water and finally sand and water. The children had to decipher which equipment and separating strategy was the most appropriate for the mixture (see images below). For World Book Day, the children had the opportunity to partake in a Zoom with the UK's leading children book author, Jacqueline Wilson. In the session, they were given an exclusive preview of her new book as well as ask her some questions!

Have a restful weekend.

The Year 5 Team 😊

Thursday 7th March 2024

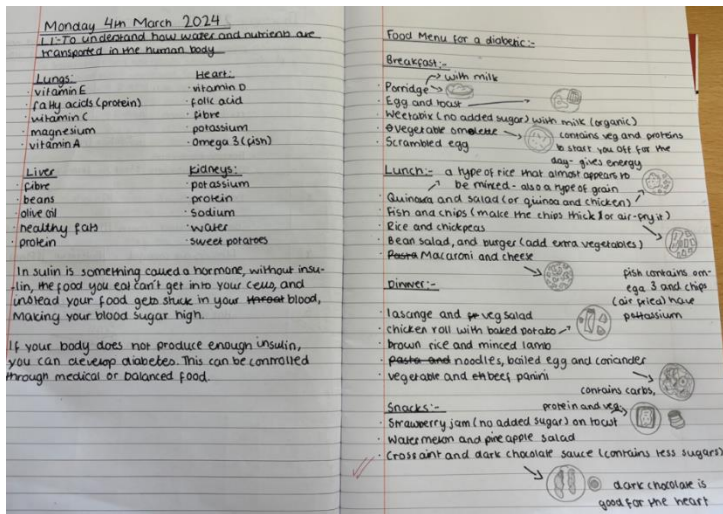
I can select equipment to separate two or more materials by sieving, filtering and/or evaporating.

| Mixture | Equipment used | Separating method | Observations |
|----------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| Rice and water | The equipment we use are a sieve or strainer. | We'll use sieving | I saw that the water went through the sieve but the rice didn't because the holes were too small for the rice, hence they were separated. |
| Sand and water | The equipment we use are a filter paper. | We'll use filtering | I noticed that the water went through the paper but the sand stayed, separating the sand from the water. |
| Salt and water | The equipment we use are a glass and a plastic cup. | We'll use evaporation | I observed that the salt was soluble but then the mixture evaporated and the liquid was gone, so they were separated. |

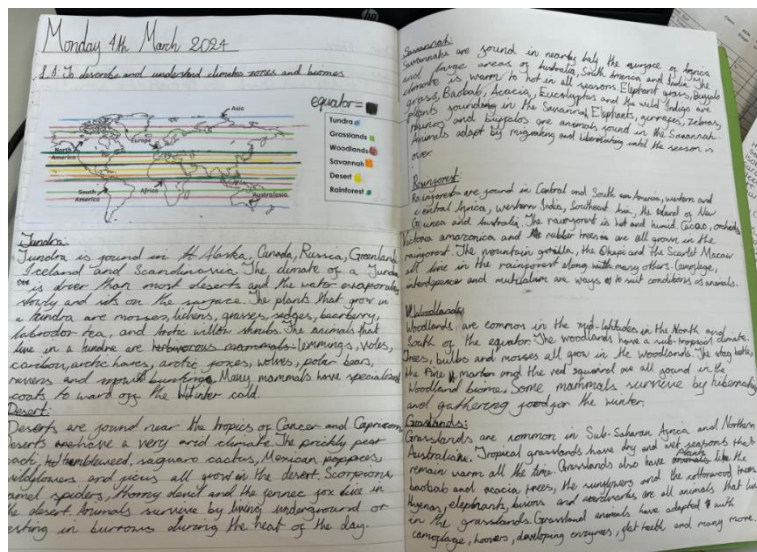


Year 6

This week in Year 6, children have completed some great learning. In our Science lessons, children were exploring the nutrients that are needed for our bodies. Children were extremely inquisitive in understanding the different nutrients that our body parts need and why this is essential to maintaining a healthy body. With this in mind, children explored further the impact of insulin on our bodies and created a menu for someone that is diabetic. They looked closely at the different foods they would need to eat whilst also taking into account the different nutrients they would need to receive.



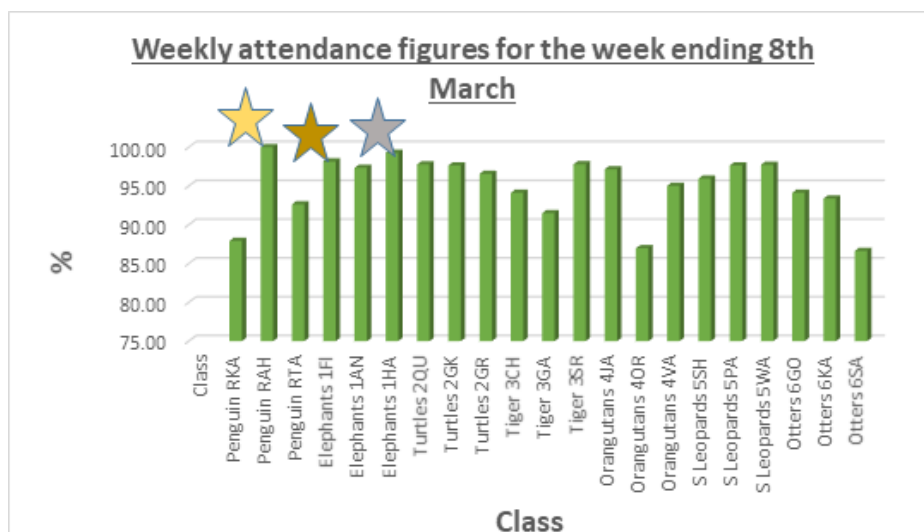
Moreover, in our Geography lessons, children have been learning about the different biomes across the world. Whilst exploring what these biomes were, children researched into how plants and animals are adapted to living in these particular biomes as well as understanding more about the climates. It was great to see children asking questions to deepen their understanding of the different biomes but also thinking about the threats that these biomes have towards them. Well done for another hard working week Year 6!



Attendance

Total school attendance for this week is 94.40%

RAh 100%



Welcome to the new Starter this week

| Name | Class |
|--------|-------|
| Mekail | 1An |
| Eyoas | 2Gk |
| | |

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to the children celebrating from
Monday 4th March 2024 to Sunday 10th March 2024



| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Fatima | Elephants. 1Ha |
| Musa | Elephants 1An |
| Izaan | Otters 6Ka |
| Mohammed Yahya | Otters 6Sa |
| Musa | GiantPandas N30 |
| Jasnoor | GiantPandas NAM |
| Anniyah | Elephants 1Fi |
| Safa | Penguins RTa |
| Hoorain | GiantPandas NPM |
| Kiyan | Orangutans 4Ja |
| Kiran | Sn Leopards 5Pa |
| Ridhwaan | Tigers 3Ga |
| Gurmannat | Turtles 2Gr |
| Rumaysah | Tigers 3Sr |