

Volume 29
Issue 17
Friday 16th
February 2024

Highlands Weekly



Dear Families,

We have had a wonderful half term that has culminated in a truly global dimension this week. Our Year 1 children showcased Lunar New Year in their Show and Share assembly and lit the school with awe, wonder and magic. The teamwork, knowledge and creativity the children demonstrated was a joy to see. Well done Year 1. Our festival assemblies continually build our sense of respect and valuing of the multicultural community we serve and the global world we live in.



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.

Going Global



Our Year 5 children had the opportunity to connect with scientists in Australia to learn about the wonder of the Great Barrier Reef. We connected with them via video conference and using the new OWL technology. Children shared how special this opportunity was;

"I learnt so many new facts from the Zoom session with Craig and Julie! I now know that the Great Barrier Reef is in Australia and there are over 3000

coral reefs in the GBR. The UK can also fit into the GBR 1.6 times! Along the GBR, there are 7 types of sea turtles, the leather back is the largest. Also, a fact that was really surprising to me was that only 1 out of 100 sea turtles make it to the sea after their 2-month hatching period. I really enjoyed the session because I am passionate about animals”.

“Using Zoom to connect to the Great Barrier Reef was a great idea because not everybody can travel to the GBR, so this opportunity allowed us to connect with the GBR and see everything for ourselves even though we were on the other side of the world!”

This week our Year 3 pupils also connected with our link school in France to support them with learning French.

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.



As our result of our commitment to a global education, we have been awarded the Global School Alliance Bronze Award and look forward to embedding our work to reach Silver status by the end of this year.

We wish our families a wonderful half term and look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 26th February 2024.

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.

Teacher Parent Consultations - Friday 1st March.

A reminder that Parent Teacher Consultation meetings are due to take place on Friday 1st March. To book an appointment with your child’s class teacher please use the link provided below:

www.parents-booking.co.uk/HPSILFORD

Please note that for children in our Nursery, you will be able to book an appointment with your child’s key person, when you drop or collect your child from next week.

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](#)

Health Update

We are continuing to notice an increase in the number of children across the school presenting with rashes. Please do always seek medical advice from your GP if your child develops a new rash. Please see the NHS guidance below to support you.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/rashes-babies-and-children/>

Please remember that if your child is absence from school due to illness you need to inform the school office every day that your child is absent. You can leave a message on the school absence line or email absence@highlandsprimary.net

Village Vouchers Booklets

We are excited to share with you all the Village Vouchers Booklet. This booklet offers exclusive discounts for local businesses including cafes and restaurants. If you would like to buy a voucher booklet for the small price of £4, please use our school's exclusive link below or scan the QR code.

wnstd.com/vv-hps



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.

Sports at Highlands -

On Wednesday this week, nine children from Years 4-6 participated in a Panathlon Swimming Gala at the London Aquatic Centre in the Olympic Park! The Gala took place in Diving Pool where the London 2012 Olympics took place! Competing against other schools the children took part in a range of events, some solo and some team based, testing their skills in and under the water! Well done to:

Musa 4Ja
Millie 4Va
Vidhi 4Va
Arham 5Pa
Lovepuneet 5Wa
Scarlett 5Wa
Sara 6Ka
Umar 6Sa
Zaki 6Sa



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 have been continuing our reading of Daddy Lion's Tea Party and planning our very own Oak Class Tea-Party which the children enjoyed. Children have been learning how to follow a set of instructions to make party food such as jam sandwiches and Rice Krispy cakes.



Nursery

The last week of this half term, the children have been very busy. They have learned about Valentine's Day; we have read the story 'Guess how much I love you' and talked about who loves us and how we can show our love to others. They have made a card for their families and they have baked biscuit for them to show them their love. The children have been practising their creative and cutting skills when they made heart collages. On Tuesday, we celebrated Pancake Day, the children tried pancakes with different flavours and they voted for their favourite; pancake with banana was the winner! On Wednesday, we went to the 'big school' to take our class photo. We hope it looks amazing. The children have retold the story 'Lima's red hot chilli' and have been practising our weekly wow words: first, next, then. We have been learning about measuring



when we made the biscuits and we have continued practising using bath jelly and cups during the week. We wish a restful and amazing break to all the families.



Reception

This week in Reception we have been learning all about dinosaurs. We have been researching new facts using the internet and non-fiction books. We learnt about the different types of dinosaurs that lived 65 million years ago and what the words 'habitat' and 'extinct' mean. To end the week and a fantastic term of learning we took part in an amazing dinosaur workshop. We had a special lesson with a dinosaur expert who taught us even more interesting facts. In the workshop we got the chance to become palaeontologists and dig for real dinosaur fossils. We then had to use pictures to try to figure out which fossils belonged to which dinosaur. We had so much fun!



Year 1

This week in Year 1, we had our show and share assembly about Chinese New Year. We would like to say a big well done to all of the Year 1 children for their amazing performances in assemblies on Friday. They have been working really hard over the last few weeks, learning their song and practising their lines. We would also like to say a big thank you to parents for supporting children with practising at home.

In Maths the children have been learning about number bonds to 20. They used their previous knowledge of number bonds to 10 to support them and they were able to talk about the patterns they found in the numbers.

In Art, the children were learning to apply their painting skills when working in the style of an artist. They looked at artwork by Clarice Cliff and created their own designs on plates using their knowledge of colours. They then used a straw to blow paint to create a tree to finish their piece.

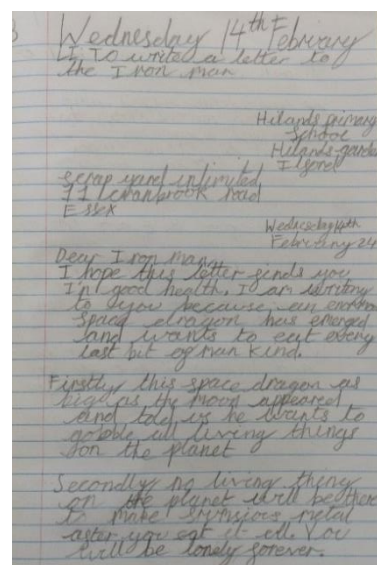
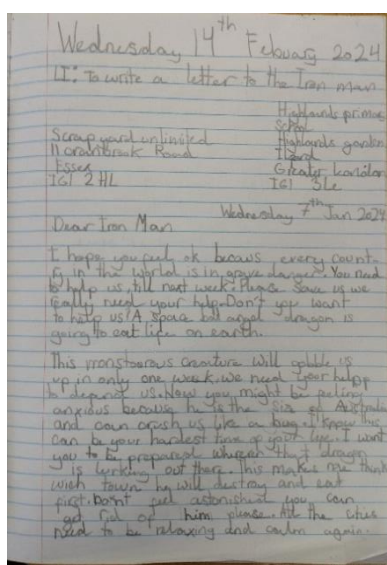
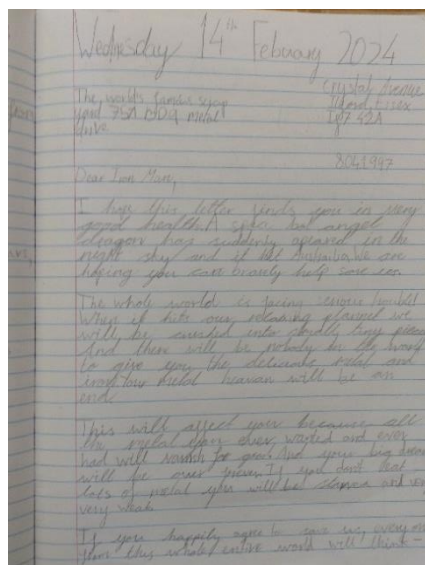


Year 2

This week in Music we have been playing our melodies on the glockenspiels. We used letter notation to create our motifs and performed them in front of the class. In English, we wrote book reviews for Bob's Best Ever Friend. We talked about our favourite part of the book and gave it a rating out of 5. In Science, we looked at different materials and took turns squeezing and twisting them to see how durable or fragile they were. On Wednesday we had the chance to see a string quartet concert. They retold the story of The Three Little Pigs with the instruments. We enjoyed our learning this week and we are looking forward to the half term break!

Year 3

We are excited to announce that our Year 3 children have completed their journey through "The Iron Man" by Ted Hughes, and we are thrilled to share the incredible accomplishments of our young readers and writers! Over the past few weeks, the children have been captivated by the thrilling adventures of the Iron Man as he navigates a world filled with mystery, danger, and friendship. Through group discussions, guided readings, and creative activities, they have delved deep into the themes of courage, empathy, and environmental stewardship woven throughout the story. Building on their enthusiasm for "The Iron Man," our children embarked on a persuasive writing project with a twist. They were tasked with writing a letter to the Iron Man himself, persuading him to join forces with them in a mission to save the planet from certain destruction. Armed with their newfound knowledge and passion for protecting the Earth, the children poured their hearts and souls into crafting persuasive arguments and heartfelt pleas.



Year 3 children have completed their final art project based on prehistoric cave paintings! Over the past few weeks, the children have immersed themselves in the fascinating world of ancient cave paintings and have worked diligently to create their own masterpieces using charcoal. At the beginning of this project, the children delved into the history of prehistoric art, learning about the significance of cave paintings and the techniques used by early humans to depict their surroundings. The children learned how to work with charcoal, a medium commonly used in prehistoric cave paintings. They explored different techniques for applying charcoal to paper, experimenting with shading, blending, and

texture to bring their artwork to life. Now, as we come nearer to the end of the half term we wish to celebrate the completion of this project, we are so proud of our Year 3 Children. Their commitment, creativity, and resilience have been truly remarkable!



Year 4

Year 4 are thrilled to have finished writing their diary entries this week, and have published them in to their creative writing books. They have worked really hard this term and thoroughly enjoyed reading the class text. In Math's, children have continued their learning on finding the perimeter of rectilinear shapes.

In History, children looked at the roman legacy and the impact of this on Modern Britain. They also chose a legacy and explained why they think it was the most significant. In RE, children compared various inspirational people they have learnt about this term and spoken about how they link together using the characteristics of what makes a person inspirational. During RHE, children learnt about what personal hygiene routines are and how they can stop bacteria, viruses and germs spreading. They then created a poster to

highlight their learning on personal hygiene.

We hope the children have restful half term break! 😊

Year 5

This week the children have continued to engage in learning across all areas of the curriculum. In English we have been writing, editing and publishing our narratives. The children had to ensure they used figurative language devices in their writing to engage their readers. It has been pleasing to see the children taking more responsibility for their work. They have incorporated the written or verbal feedback they have been given into their edits.

In Maths, we have started a new unit of place value, factions and decimals. We have focused on identifying tenths and hundredths in any given decimal. We also looked at converting a decimal to a fraction, linking our prior unit of learning.

In Art, the children have been working hard to complete their Tudors portraits. They have used the knowledge they've acquired in the weeks leading to this to complete it to a great standard. The children have really immersed themselves into this unit of work!

We'd like to thank you all for your commitment and dedication to your learning over this past half term. We are officially half way through the academic year! You should be proud of all you have achieved so far.

Have a joyful and restful break. We will see you on Monday 26th February 2024 for Spring 2.



Year 6

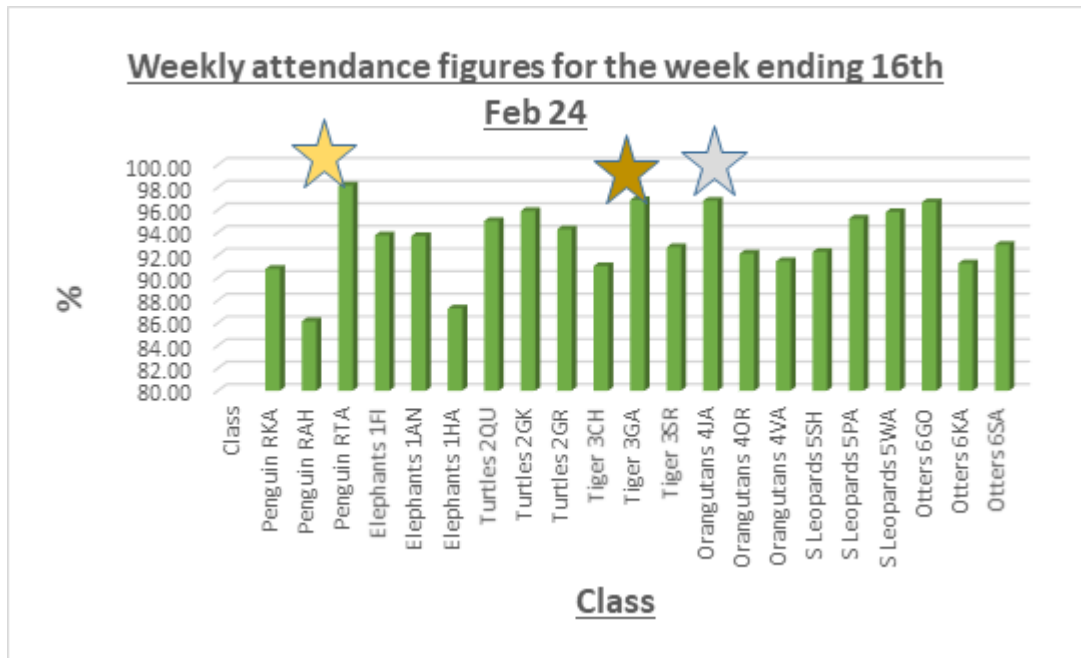
This week in Year 6, children have worked extremely hard with their Mock SATs. It has been great to see children focused and eager to revise and learn new concepts. They have conducted themselves maturely and were pleased to apply their learning to the SATs papers. In addition, within our History lessons this week, children consolidated their learning about World War 2 and the impact this war had on different groups of society. In this lesson, children focused more on the role of women during the war and how their roles in society changed. Moreover, in our RHE lessons, children explored the concept of respect and how important this was to show not only in school but also in their daily lives. In groups, children looked into scenarios that were demonstrating respect to others and what situations can arise where

respect is not always shown. Children reflected well in these lessons and understood what changes they could make to their daily routines.

Furthermore, in our Art lessons, children explored the work of artist David Hockney. They discovered more about the concepts of primary and secondary colours, whilst understanding how to add certain colours to create shadows. Year 6 worked extremely hard to produce a lovely piece of artwork; they ensured they were using the painting skills learnt in the previous lessons. Well done on working so hard this term!

Attendance

Total school attendance for this week is 92.47%



Welcome to the new Starter this week

Name	Class
Siara	1An

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to the children celebrating from
Monday 12th February 2024 to Sunday 25th February 2024



- | | |
|----------|--------------|
| Idris | Turtles 2Qu |
| Issa | Turtles 2Gr |
| Varshith | Turtles 2GK |
| Hamza | Penguins RAh |
| Armaan | Turtles 2Qu |

Muhammad Musa	Elephants 1Fi
Abdul-Rafay	GiantPandas NPM
Umar	Penguins RTa
Archana	Otters 6Ka
Sehrish	Orangutans 4Ja
Haleema	Sn Leopards 5Sh
Aleena	Orangutans 4Ja
Amelia	Elephants 1An
Emilian	Sn Leopards 5Sh
Zakariyya	Turtles 2Gr
Abdel-Hadi	Elephants 1Fi
Rayyan	Sn Leopards 5Sh
Ariya	GiantPandas N30
Amaya	GiantPandas N30
Aria	Turtles 2Qu
Musa	Penguins RKa
Nayel	Otters 6Go
Rehan	Orangutans 4Va