

Volume 39
Issue 27
Friday 12th July
June 2024

Highlands Weekly



Dear Families,

We have had a very busy week with auditions for our Talent Show assembly. The way in which the children have responded to this across the school has been amazing to see. We are a school that is bursting with such a variety of talents across the school and every single child that has auditioned should be very proud. We look forward to sharing the Talent Show assembly with all families in the newsletter next week.

We were very disappointed to have to cancel our Sports Day this week. This has been rescheduled to Tuesday next week and we hope to have a day of celebrating sport across the school.

Next week we are back to back with celebration events including; Year 6 Graduation, Year Reception Graduation and Year 4 Show and Share. We look forward to seeing many of you at the school next week celebrating your children's learning. We would also like to share how proud we are of our Year 6 children who achieved excellent results in the SATs assessments this year.

Congratulations to 4Ja who are our Lunchtime Superstar Class of the 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.

Dates for Your Diary

Monday 15th July
Monday 15th July p.m.
Tuesday 16th July

Year 6 Graduation
Year 3 Picnic in the Park
Rescheduled Sports Day – please see last week's newsletter for timings which remain the same

Tuesday 16th July
Wednesday 17th July
Thursday 18th July
Friday 19th July
Friday 19th July
Monday 22nd July
Tuesday 23rd July

Year 5 trip to Cineworld a.m.
Year Reception Graduation
Year 4 Show & Share
Year 1 Summer Picnic
Highlands Got Talent
Year 6 Graduation Party 4-6 p.m.
LAST DAY OF TERM 1.30 p.m. close, Nursery closed all day

Zoom Meeting with author Dan Freedman



On Friday afternoon, 5Wa took part in a video conference with children's author Dan Freedman. Dan is the bestselling author of the Jamie Johnson football novels, which have been adapted for TV by the BBC. We asked Dan questions and he gave us good advice about writing. We then took part in a football chant competition. Each school performed a chant and we were very pleased to win a prize - a signed football.

'We were on a zoom meeting with Dan Freedman and other schools. I asked Dan Freedman a question. I really enjoyed it because there was a contest of the best football chant and we got a signed football from Dan Freedman.' Oliver

'I really enjoyed the zoom meeting because I liked how we sang our chant and heard the other schools. I would like to do another zoom because it was really great to meet a famous author.' Inaya

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.

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.

Sports at Highlands

On Thursday this week (11th July) a number of children across Years 5 & 6 attended an OAA Competition and Celebration Event at Redbridge Primary School. The day was split into two parts; in the morning session the children took part in the OAA (Outdoor and Adventurous Activity) competition as part of our participation in the Gants Hill Sports Network. The children won the OAA competition on the day, helping the school finish 4th in the Gants Hill Sports Network League for the academic year 2023-2024! Well done to:

Amelia 6Go
Saifaan 6Go
Ismaeel 6Ka
Sara 6Ka



Well done too to all of the children who competed in our events throughout the year!

The afternoon session was the Celebration Event where schools across the Gants Hill Sports Network had groups of children perform a dance to the rest of the children in attendance. Highlands Primary School had two group performances and one solo performance, all of which were brilliantly performed and very well received! Well done to:

Safwa 5Sh
Maria 5Pa
Hannah 5Pa
Umaimah 5Pa
Leila 5Pa
Aaminah 5Pa
Angela 5Wa
Abshari 5Wa
Tanisha 5Wa
Maryam 5Wa

Curriculum in Action

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

Oak Class

In Oak class this week we went on our very exciting trip to Colchester Zoo! The children had an amazing time looking at all the different animals in the zoo. We saw many different animals including penguins, giraffes, elephants, iguanas and rhinos. We even took part in a workshop where we focused on the textures of different animals.



Nursery

This week was a busy and exciting week in the Nursery. On Wednesday the children met their new teachers and had the opportunity to play in their new classroom. During the week they went to their classroom a few times and they will go next week too, to support them with the transition to Reception. The children have retold the 'Colour Monster Goes To School' story and we have read other transition books too. They have continued to practise for Sports Day as it was cancelled on Tuesday; we hope it will be possible to have this event next Tuesday instead. We have also postponed the 'Beach Day' until next week, again due to the weather. Finally, the children have been practising their phonics and they have played some hiding Maths games.

Reception

We have had an amazing week in Reception. We have continued our learning about healthy eating and have been having lots of conversations about going to Year 1. We got a chance to visit our new classrooms again to play and explore. On Thursday we had our Fabulous Finish trip of the year to Hertfordshire Zoo! We had so much fun searching for animals and finding out about them. Some of the animals we saw included bears, leopards, lions, snakes and alligators. We also got to ride on a train through the Jurassic World searching for Dinosaurs then explored the Dinosaur Park on foot- it was amazing to see them move and hear the noises they made. It was a fantastic day!





Year 1

This week in Year 1, we had such a great time visiting Colchester Zoo. The children really enjoyed looking at all the different animals. They took part in a hands-on session, learning all about life cycles. We were really impressed with how sensible and well behaved the children were! They walked around nicely and really showed everyone their Rights Respecting values.



This week in Science, the children were learning about taking care of animals. They learnt about what vets do and how they take care of different animals. The children then had the opportunity to role play being a vet. They really enjoyed taking on the role of being a vet, treating their pet patients!

The children took part in an Under The Sea fashion show! They presented their costumes to the whole of Year 1, it was really nice to see the effort the children put into their costumes.

Reminder: Year 1 Summer Picnic

Friday 19th July – Wanstead Park 11:00am-1:00pm

[We would like to invite you to an end of Year 1 picnic. Please can parents who would like to attend meet us at Wanstead Park at 11am.](#) We ask that only two adults attend per child. Please can all food be nut free. If it rains the picnic will still go ahead but we will hold it at school. A message will be sent the day before to confirm.

Year 2

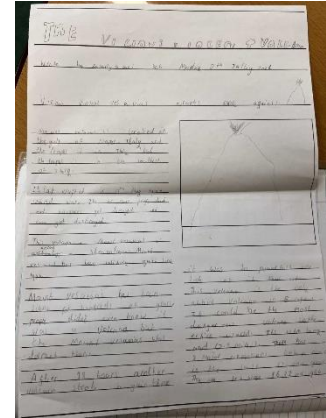
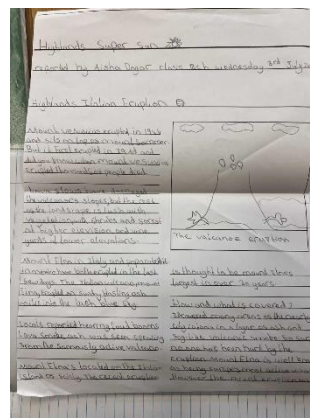
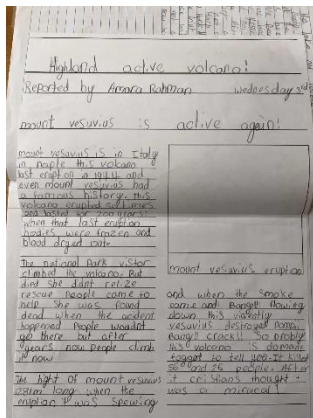
In Year 2 in Maths we have been recapping addition and subtraction of 2 digit numbers. We used dienes to help us solve different calculations. In English we have been writing our own alternative narrative to The Boy Who Grew Dragons. We have used all of our skills that we have learnt over the year to make our narratives interesting to the reader. In Geography we created our own tourist leaflet to promote holidays to Kingston, Jamaica. We included where the island is situated, fun things to do and interesting landmarks to see. Well done for all your hard work this week, Year 2!

Year 3

This week in English, our Year 3 classes have finished writing their newspaper articles. We have been hard at work writing our very own newspaper articles about volcanoes. The children researched different aspects of these fascinating natural wonders, from their formation and types to famous eruptions throughout history. After gathering all the facts, we put our writing skills to the test by crafting engaging and informative articles. The finished pieces showcase the creativity and hard work of our young writers. Well done, Year 3!

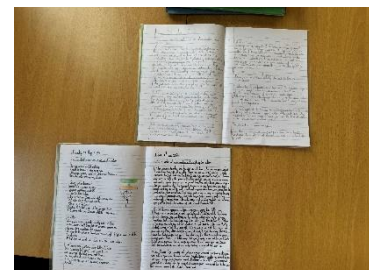
In Science this week, Year 3 explored the captivating world of fossils! We learned about the fascinating process of fossil formation, discovering how plants and animals from millions of years ago are preserved in rock. To bring this ancient process to life, we even created our own fossils. Using clay and natural objects like leaves and shells, the children made impressions and watched as their very own "fossils" took shape. This hands-on experience deepened the children's understanding of Earth's history and the incredible stories that fossils tell.

In Maths this week, our Year 3 students have been exploring the world of 2D and 3D shapes. We learned about the different characteristics that define these shapes, such as edges, vertices, and faces. Through hands-on activities and engaging lessons, the children identified and compared various shapes, enhancing their understanding of Geometry. It has been a fun and educational week, as we discovered the fascinating properties of shapes all around us!



Year 4

Year 4 have had a great week! In English, they have been up-leveling and editing their narratives and have begun to publish them into their creative writing books. The children have really enjoyed reading Malamander this term, and have produced fantastic pieces of writing. They should all be proud of themselves! In Maths, the children have been identifying triangles and polygons by looking at their properties and identifying whether they have lines of symmetry.



In Art, the children have finished carving and evaluating their soap bars using various tools, for example skewer sticks, spoons and butter knives, to create patterns and textures. This week in RE the children have looked at what 'rules' are, the importance of them and created their own rules that they and twenty people would have to follow if they were stranded on an island. The children included values and qualities they believe are important, such as communication, safety, teamwork and patience.

All of the children have been working extremely hard practising their Show and Share assemblies to share next week to showcase their learning on Judaism. We are looking forward to sharing them next week!

Year 5



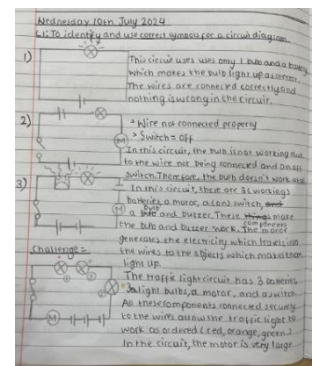
This week we are writing a narrative poem based on the fairy tale Rapunzel. We summarised the story and created a map of the key events. We planned what we could include in each stanza. We then used a thesaurus to help us write descriptive phrases. We had to choose vocabulary carefully to ensure we selected the most appropriate similes. We then used our phrases to write the poem. We are looking forward to performing our poems next week.

In Maths we have extended our knowledge of the number system to negative numbers. We have identified where negative numbers are used in real life. We have compared and ordered negative numbers – we learned that -3 is smaller than 1 . We also found the difference between different positive and negative numbers.

In RE we have looked at how the Quran is used as a source of wisdom and authority in Islam. We compared this with how Christians refer to the Bible for guidance and inspiration. On Wednesday afternoon we enjoyed a concert performed by the Redbridge Music Service Brass Ensemble. We were treated to a range of instruments, including the French horn and trumpet. We learned that the larger the instrument, the lower the pitch. The ensemble played music that created different moods.

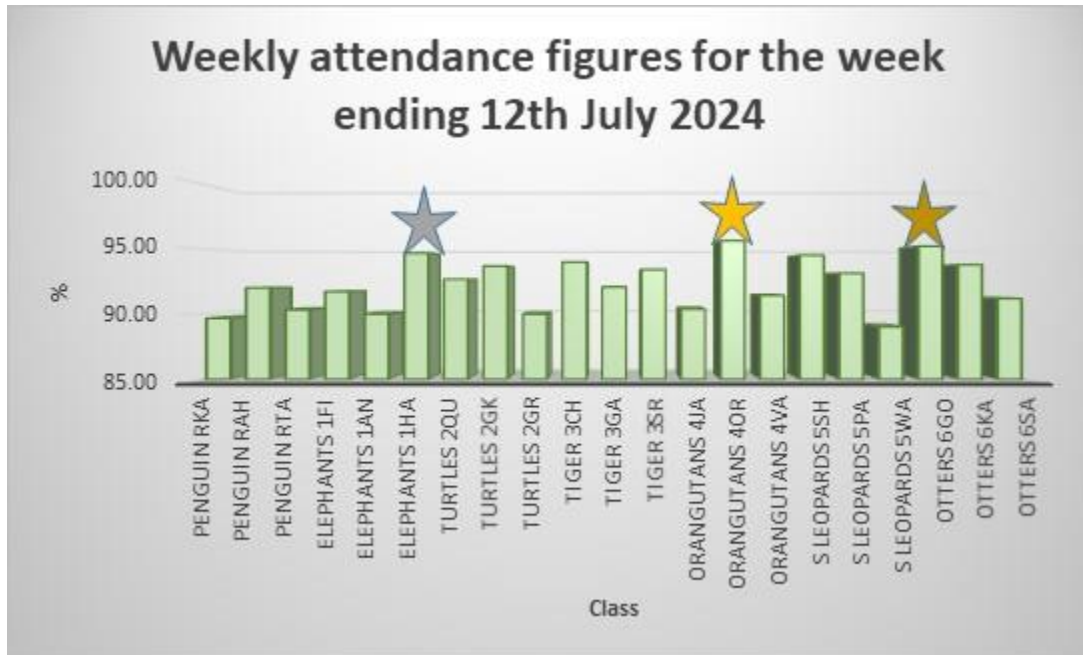
Year 6

This week in Year 6, children have been completing some great learning. During our Science lessons, children have been using symbols to create electrical circuits. The focus of this learning has supported their understanding of the different symbols used when creating a circuit. In addition, it allowed them to investigate how different supply voltages affect the brightness of a lamp. Furthermore, this week children have been practising their Graduation Assembly, ready for next week's Graduation. Well done Year 6!



Attendance

Total school attendance for this week is 92.18 %



Well done to all 3 classes

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to the children this week – they will have received their birthday card from the Highlands Family.

