

Volume 01
Issue 04
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2024

Highlands Weekly



Dear Families,

This week the children have marked Hello Yellow Day by wearing yellow to show how important mental health is to us at Highlands. Hello Yellow Day or World Mental Health Day is a very important day in our calendar where our community are proud to discuss mental health and be proud to show that we feel it is important to take care of our mental health. Here are some of the children singing Power in Me as part of the day. Thank you to all the parents that attended our "tea and talk" session where we discussed how important mental health is for parents too. The slides will be up on the website for everyone to see and get some top tips for looking after our mental health. If you have any concerns about the mental health of your child or for yourself please do come in and speak to us so we can direct you to the support and help you might need.



We thoroughly enjoyed taking part in World Mental Health Day and lighting up the whole school with our HelloYellow dress up day.

BLUE ZONE BREAKFAST CLUB

This morning you will have received important information about our upcoming Blue Zone Breakfast Club. We look forward to seeing lots of new faces enjoying a healthy kickstart to their school day. Please do not hesitate to contact Mrs S Kaur if you have any questions.

RRS HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENT

On Monday all families will receive a copy of our new RRS Home School Agreement drawn up by our RRS Ambassadors and RRS Lead Team. This will cover all agreed actions we will take as a community to protect the holistic health of our children: Nutrition, Exercise, Connections, Purpose and Social Media Safety. Please sign the agreement and hand back to your class leader over the course of next week.

BOOK SHOP

Please note that our termly Book Shop sale will take place on **Monday** after school. Please do take the opportunity to come and see the collection and further promote the love of reading with your children. This will be the only day that the Book Shop will be available.

PARENT CONSULTATION MEETINGS

Thank you for being so proactive and booking your parent consultation meetings on the website. We have had a few parents that have booked appointments up to 3 times and used up allocated slots for other families. Next week teachers will have a clipboard appointment list in the playground of available slots and will ensure every parent only has one appointment.

Article 2 (non-discrimination) The Convention applies to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, sex, religion, language, abilities or any other status, whatever they think or say, whatever their family background

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.

Curriculum in Action

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

Oak Class

This week in Oak, we started our new story 'The Colour Monster'. We have introduced four feelings this week; confused, happy, sad and angry. We have discussed what things make us happy and sad and how we feel when we experience these emotions. The children have particularly enjoyed The Feelings Song by the Singing Walrus. In Maths, we have practised counting backwards and counting in steps. In breakfast, the children enjoyed trying delicious pancakes!



Nursery

In the Nursery, we have had another amazing week. This week we read the 'I Like Myself' story and the children had the opportunity to learn what the title, the author and the illustrator of a book are. We learnt about 2D simple shapes and we used them to make a collage about themselves. The children have explored paint, to draw happy and sad faces using 2D shapes too. The children have been sharing their family's pictures with their friends and they have continued talking about their families. The children have been practising their fine motor skills making marks with silicone tipped brushes on coloured powder. Finally, on Thursday, we celebrated 'World Mental Health Day'; the children have enjoyed wearing yellow at the Nursery.



Reception

This week for Maths we started with Pattern Fish, learning a new pattern 'A, B, B, A, B, B', we learnt this **repeating pattern** through colours such as 'green, yellow, yellow' or shapes 'circle, line, line'. Also in Maths, we played different activities that drew attention to the purpose of counting to find out 'how many' objects there are. They used their prior learning of subitising to identify the number in a set and to then develop their counting skills to enable them to identify how many there are in a set that cannot be subitised. Our key vocabulary of the week was '**Partner**'. We continued reading 'Owl Babies' and then modelled role playing, being the baby owls waiting for Mummy Owl. As a class, we created a 'Talk Charter' with rules such as "Use kind words" and "No shouting when talking" and role played talking with our **partners**, modelling following the rules and discussing how we would feel if someone did shout at us or did not use kind words when talking to us, Nurah in RAH said "It would make me feel sad if you don't use kind words". This week, through reading the book "Smeds and the Smoos", we learnt a new RRS value "**Respect**" and discussed that some people look different, we may have different coloured skin, hair, eyes, and some of us might be tall or short. However, we should always respect one another, while showcasing our other learnt values, **kindness** and **friendship**.

Year 1

It has been a fun-filled week in Year 1 this week. We started reading our new story in English, "The Lion Inside". We made predictions about the story and found the rhyming words in the parts we have read so far. In Maths, we have been learning about the Part-Whole Model and understanding how the parts make a whole. We also wrote number sentences to represent our Part-Whole Models. In Art, we used a range of media such as oil pastels to make different types of marks and understand how to create textures in our drawings. In RE, we talked about the similarities and differences in Islam and Christianity.

Year 2

What a wonderful week we've had in Year 2! The children are growing more confident with their recorders in Music lessons, and this week they tackled the B minim note—such progress to be proud of! We were also fortunate to have a specialist teacher for an additional P.E. lesson, where the children practised their throwing and catching skills, all the while honing their ball control. In English, we've continued exploring "The Tin Forest" by Helen Ward, making inferences about the main character's feelings, and even writing an email to him to check on his well-being. Our Maths focus has been adding numbers within twenty, and the children have worked hard to find efficient methods for adding three addends (number) while spotting patterns in their calculations. In Science, we've delved into how animals adapt to their environments, with the Arctic fox capturing their interest due to its unique adaptations for surviving in icy conditions. History has taken us back to the Great Fire of London, and the children have been fascinated by its origins and the timeline of events, which they ordered this week. Children change their reading books weekly, so if you could read with them four times a week for just ten minutes a day, it would greatly enhance their learning. Here's to another exciting week of learning ahead.



Year 3

This week, the children have begun writing their narratives inspired by *The Tear Thief*. They are showcasing their unique writing styles, incorporating rich descriptions and imaginative plots. As they develop their characters and settings, we're seeing their skills in storytelling grow. Many are experimenting with dialogue and varying sentence lengths to enhance their narratives, making their stories engaging and expressive. It's a joy to witness their creativity come to life!

In Art this week, the children have begun drawing their interpretations of Mount Fuji, inspired by the renowned Japanese artist Hokusai. They are exploring various techniques, such as pastels, ink outlines, and the use of texture to bring their artwork to life. It's wonderful to see them experiment with different styles and colours, capturing the beauty of this iconic mountain. Their creativity is truly shining through, and we look forward to showcasing their masterpieces!

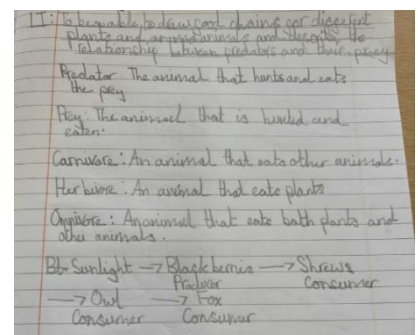
This week In History, we have been exploring the Palaeolithic period of the Stone Age. The children have engaged in a variety of activities to deepen their understanding. They have also worked on timelines to visualize the progression of early human life. Through these hands-on techniques, the children are gaining a richer appreciation of this fascinating period.

In RE this week, we have been learning about the story of Diwali and its significance. The children are excited to share what they've learned as we prepare for our upcoming sharing assembly. They are working hard together to showcase their understanding of the Festival of Light and Celebration. It's wonderful to see them working together, supporting one another, and combining their ideas to make their assembly a success. Their enthusiasm and teamwork truly reflect the spirit of Diwali!



Year 4

This week in Year 4, we have completed some amazing learning. In our Reciprocal Reading lessons, children have been excited to continue to read the 'True Story of the Three Little Pigs'. They have been working hard to use their inference skills to understand more about a character and their actions. In our Science lessons, the children have explored the functions of food chains, whilst understanding what key scientific terms mean. Children created their own food chains, understanding what the producer would be and who the consumers would be. In addition, in our Music lessons children have continued their practice of the cornet. It has been great to see children show



resilience and excitement in learning a musical instrument. This week, they focused on reading musical notes. Well done on another hard working week Year 4.

Year 5

Year 5 had a thrilling week, fully immersing themselves in a Vikings workshop led by the captivating storyteller, David from the Redbridge Drama Centre. Through his tales, the children were transported back in time, learning about the Vikings' way of life, their homes, and their incredible journeys. Year 5 also focused on the importance of mental health when celebrating 'World Mental Health Day' by children dressing up in yellow and engaging in activities that focused around their mental health whilst exploring ways to look after their wellbeing and ensure a healthy mind and body. Furthermore, in Maths children used their prior knowledge to master addition and subtraction using partitioning to solve calculations.



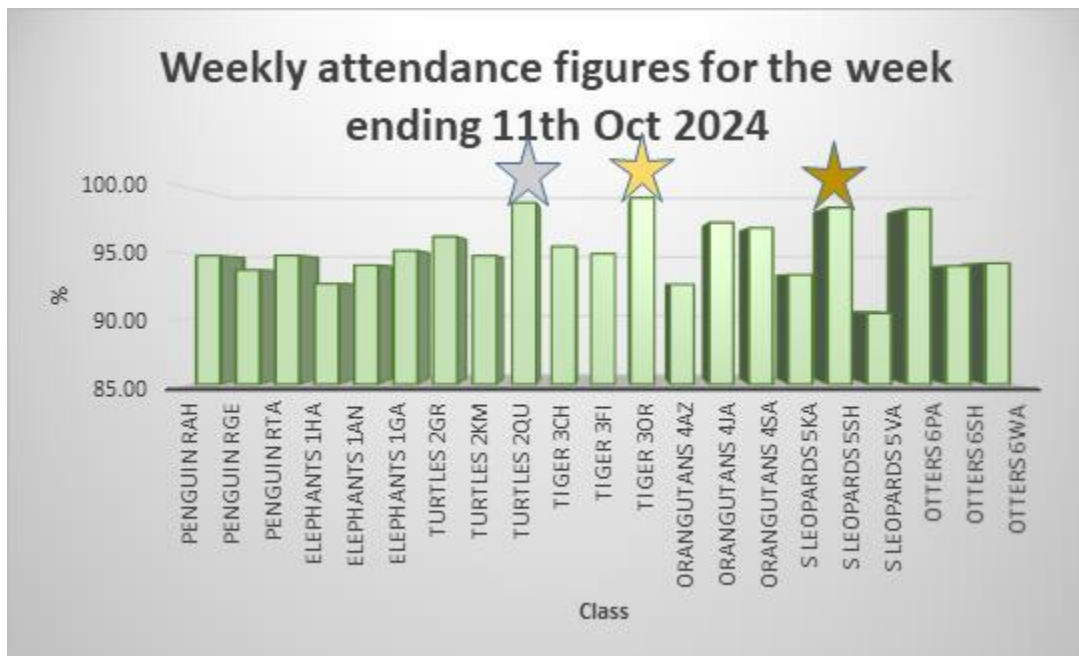
Year 6

This week we have engaged with lots of exciting learning. We continued reading "War Game" and learned about the historical event which took place in WW1 - the Christmas football match. We will now be looking to write a newspaper report about this historical event. In Maths, we have continued consolidating our learning with addition and subtraction. We are building on our understanding of inverse and how this can be used in reasoning. In Science, we conducted an exciting experiment to prove that light travels in straight lines (see images below). We had to make sure the holes in the card aligned in order to allow the light to travel through. In History, we continued our learning of WW1 by looking at the Treaty of Versailles and understanding how the war finally ended. In DT, we decided on the ingredients we would use to create our pizza and thought carefully how to organise each component when writing our method. We look forward to next week's learning!



Attendance

Total school attendance for this week is **94.91%** %



This week's winning classes are:-

Gold Award 3Or with 99.26%

Silver Award 2Qu with 98.89%

Bronze Award 5Sh with 98.52%

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.

