

Volume 02  
Issue 1  
**8th November**  
**2024**

# Highlands Weekly



Dear Families,

## World Science Day

We have had a super return back to school after the half term, and what a busy week it has been. We had our World Science Day today and children across the school inspired us with their creative outfits and taking part in numerous scientific enquiry activities across the school. We would also like to share that the school has recently been recredited with the Primary Science Quality Mark to demonstrate our continual pursuit for excellence in the STEM subjects.



## RRS Citizens Award

Many congratulations to the children who achieved the first RRS Citizens Award of the academic year. These children have consistently demonstrated our school values in action and are true role models for their peers.



## Blue Zone Breakfast Club

We are so excited to start our new Blue Zone breakfast club and children across the school have been enjoying their nutritious breakfasts. Today they tucked into overnight oats with fruits.



## Reading Gladiators

It has been great to see our new early morning reading groups getting started across the wider school. Children have shared how much they have enjoyed their new Book Club and text. Well done to Year 1 who have also started their morning phonics groups.

## Events Next Week

### Armistice Day

Children will take part in a whole school assembly and take part in a 2 minutes' silence at 11am.

### Anti Bullying Week

Odd Socks Day forms part of Anti-Bullying Week, it is coordinated by the Anti-Bullying Alliance, which is based at leading children's charity the National Children's Bureau.

Anti-Bullying Week 2024 is happening from Monday 11th to Friday 15th November and has the theme 'Choose Respect'. As a Rights Respecting school 'Respect' is also one of our 7 core values here at Highlands Primary.

On Tuesday 12th November children, families and staff are all invited to wear odd socks.

This year Odd Socks Day is taking place on the Tuesday of Anti-Bullying Week, to avoid a clash with Armistice Day. Odd Socks Day is a chance for schools to celebrate Anti-Bullying Week in a positive way by asking pupils and staff to wear odd socks to school. There is no pressure to wear the latest fashion or buy expensive costumes. All you need to do to take part is wear odd socks, it could not be simpler!

### Children In Need

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November we will be raising money by donating £1 and dressing up in SPOTS & DOTS (non-uniform day) for Children in Need.

### Winter Fair

We are delighted to announce that our annual Winter Fair will take place on **Wednesday 18th December** after school. Watch this space for further information.



### REMINDER

Please ensure that your child comes to school in the correct Highlands Primary School P.E kit, i.e. the correct coloured house T-Shirt, black tracksuit/tracksuit bottoms, hair should be tied up or tied back, earrings and other jewellery should be removed (where possible) and suitable footwear for Physical Activity (not heeled or studded footwear).

**Article of the Week: Article 24- (health and health services) Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment and education on health and well-being so that children can stay healthy.**

## 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

This week at Highlands 17 children across Years 4-6 represented Highlands Primary School in a Tag Rugby Competition at Eton Manor Rugby Club.

For a lot of the squad it was their first experience of Tag Rugby but despite this the two teams learned the nuances of the game very quickly and made it through to the knockout stages of the competition. A decisive match between the two teams saw the Year 4&5 team progress through to the final, where they were sadly defeated!

The teams finished 2nd and 3rd in the knockout phase of the tournament and one of our own players, Suede, was selected as Boys Player of the Tournament! Well done to:

Amelia N 4Ja  
Yusra 4Sa  
Zubayr 5Ka  
Victoria 5Ka  
Kiyana 5Ka  
Rida 5Sh  
Arish 5Sh  
Anjali 5Va

Suede 5Va  
Rashid 6Sh  
Kiran 6Sh  
Maria 6Sh  
Sarah 6Pa  
Mason 6Pa  
Sara 6Wa  
Safwan 6Wa



## Curriculum in Action

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

### Oak Class

Welcome back to our families, we hope you all had an enjoyable half term. This week in Oak, we started our new story 'Room on the Broom' by Julia Donaldson. We have introduced the main characters and had a great time dressing up as the Witch in the story. We made tasty witches' hats using biscuits, ice cream cones and melted chocolate. We also started looking at verbs and acted out different verbs.



### Nursery

In the first week back after the half term, the children enjoyed meeting their friends again and they have explored the new role-play area: a hospital. We have started to read the 'Dear Zoo' story. We have started with our Phonics learning. The children have been practising good listening skills, and they were listening to different sounds and guessing what made each sound. We have recapped 'King One' in Ten Town and the children have had the opportunity to paint Numberblock number 1 using red paint and a cube. We have learned about Bonfire Night, after which the children explored with paint and glitter to make their own fireworks. Harseerut, in Butterflies group, said: 'when it's night time fireworks come. It's big and it have so many colours. Far away in the sky.' Aadam, in Bumblebees group added: 'because they're noisy. They look like a rainbow.' In addition, Dinara, in the same group, said: 'they are too loud I saw red firework.' Muhammad, in Butterflies group, said: 'fireworks, in the night time the people makes it, only big people can do it.' On Friday, we celebrated World Science Day, the children dressed up and we made an experiment in the Nursery.



### Reception

We have had a fantastic first week back after the holidays, the children have done an excellent job of settling back into the routines. This week, a highlight has been watching the children enjoy immersing themselves in our new topic 'My Community'. We explored different cultures and learned how some people celebrate Diwali and Bonfire night. The children were able to notice similarities and differences between their own celebrations. They developed an understanding of colour mixing and created some wonderful firework art! Over the next half term we will learn more about people who help us in our community. The children have already enjoyed role play using our 'Fire Engine' in the garden and Superhero Headquarters! In Maths we explored different shapes, met number 6 in Ten Town and identified quantities of more and less.



The children showed a great deal of perseverance in Phonics where they are beginning to sound out words to read and write and we are so proud of their progress so far!



## Year 1

In Year 1 we have started a new story as part of our English lessons "Lost in the Toy Museum" by David Lucas. After the lights went out in the Museum all the toys woke up and we talked about what the toys might do. We linked this to our History learning about old toys and new toys. We discussed the materials old toys were made of in comparison to new toys. In Maths, we added numbers together and talked about how to add using a variety of resources such as number lines and cubes. In Reciprocal Reading, we started our new story "Biscuit Bear" by Mini Grey and wrote a prediction about what we think will happen based on what we had read. In Geography, we talked about our local area and went for a walk and talked about what is near and far from school. We looked at Google Maps before we left and talked about our planned route and why routes are important. We had a wonderful Science Day full of amazing costumes and fun Science experiments .



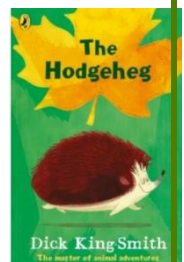
Well done to the Stars Of The Week this week: Hiba 1An, Rei 1Ha and Sabeeha 1Ga

## Year 2

This week in Music, we have been practising notes A and C on our recorders. We have been playing along to samba music from Brazil. In Maths, we have been calculating the difference between objects that have more and fewer items. For Science Day we looked at what a scientist is and how they impact different things across the world. In English we have started our new book about The Great Fire of London. We are using our knowledge from History lessons to support us when writing about the past. In History we looked at what happened after The Great Fire of London and compared it with how life was before the fire in 1666. We have engaged with lots of learning in our first week back and are looking forward to the rest of the half term!

## Year 3

This week in English, we began our new book, *The Hodgehog* by Dick King-Smith. The children kicked off the story by making predictions based on the front cover. Many guessed that the book might be about a hedgehog who faces a big challenge, while others speculated that it could be a funny adventure. As we start reading, the children are excited to see if their predictions match the story and are eager to find out what happens next in Max the hedgehog's journey!



In Maths, we have been focusing on adding and subtracting across the hundreds. The children have found the concept of exchanging particularly interesting and challenging, as it requires careful thinking and attention to detail. Despite the difficulty, they have shown great resilience and have been developing new strategies to solve problems, such as breaking down numbers and using place value. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they tackle calculations that are more complex.

This week in RHE, the children have been learning about personal hygiene and the importance of looking after their teeth. We started by discussing the key habits that help keep our bodies clean and healthy, such as regular handwashing, bathing, and wearing clean clothes. The children shared their own routines and learned how these small actions play a big part in staying healthy. We then focused on dental hygiene, discussing why it is important to brush our teeth twice a day and visit the dentist regularly. The children learned about the impact of sugary foods on teeth and how brushing removes plaque and helps prevent cavities. Through our class activities, they have discovered the correct technique for brushing and flossing.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the parents for your incredible support in helping the children dress up for our **Word Science Day!** The costumes were truly amazing, and it was wonderful to see the creativity and enthusiasm that the children brought to this fun and educational event.



#### Year 4

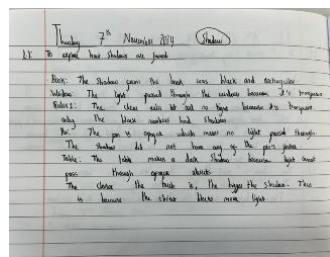
This week in year 4, children have been excited to start reading their new English text 'The Giant's Necklace'. They have looked at the contextual setting of the text, that being Cornwall, and have found out some facts about this area. Children also made some great predictions using evidence from the blurb on what they think the text will be about. In addition, in our Geography lesson this week, children explored different types of farming and the different goods that are grown in the UK. They discovered the importance of climate and soil on harvesting crops. Moreover, it was great to see children so excited for World Science Day. Children participated in different investigations and learnt more about key scientists. Well done for another hard working week year 4!

#### Year 5

In Maths, we have been applying our understanding of inverse to work out the missing number. This has helped us understand the fact family used when adding and subtracting. In English we are continuing with our story, 'The Boy At The Back Of The Class'. This week the children looked back at their big writes by reading back their work and editing appropriately by using a range of punctuation, ambitious vocabulary and fronted adverbials to enhance their writing. Meanwhile, in Science, children have been immersed in an exciting learning experience by being part of the celebrations in honour of 'World Science Day'. Children had the opportunity to dress up as scientists whilst exploring a range of experiments. This day helped them use the scientific enquiry skills to solve problems and answer scientific questions.

## Year 6

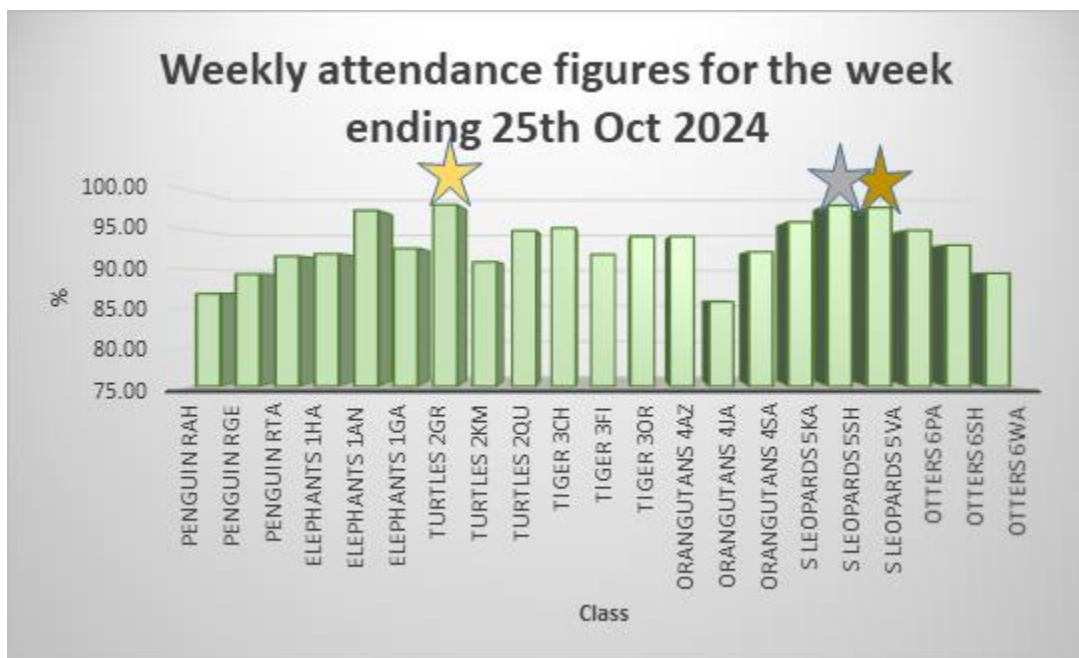
This week Year 6 have come back ready and eager to continue their learning! In English, we finished our text 'War Game' written by Michael Foreman. The children were sad to learn how the story ended for our main protagonists but thoroughly enjoyed the text. They have produced a diary entry, newspaper report and will now begin preparing to write a non-chronological report about WW1. In Maths, we have begun looking at multiplication and division calculation strategies. To celebrate Science Day, we carried out an experiment in Science which investigated how shadows are formed. We also looked at stereotypes within Science, the 10 Science skills as well as the enquiry types. In PE we started our unit on dance; this term we will be exploring the dance style called 'Capoeira' which derives from Brazilian martial arts. Finally, in Geography we continued learning about Brazil this week by focusing on the urban and rural areas within Brazil. Well done for another great week of learning. Have a lovely weekend!



## Attendance

This week's attendance figures (4.11.24-8.11.24) are as follows:-

**Total school attendance for this week is 92.86% 🌟**



This week's winning classes are:-

**Gold Award** 2Gr with 98.15%

**Silver Award** 5Sh with 98.08%

**Bronze Award** 5Va with 97.79%

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.

