



Newsletter

Highwood Primary School Issue no.31

March 2018

'Where Individuals Matter'

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been another busy and exciting half term! As you will read inside the children have been working hard across the curriculum and have supplemented their learning with some fantastic experiences with visitors in to school and trips out. They have enjoyed great sporting opportunities and events that bring the whole school together, such as sharing our love of reading with World Book Day. The children continue to make us proud, demonstrating every day that our Learning Behaviours and Values underpin our school life.

School reports were issued at the start of this half term, giving the teachers and children the opportunity to identify their next steps and start progressing on them straightaway. The children have completed their target wheels so that they can see their progress through the rest of the year and can present that to you in their Learning Reviews at the end of the summer term.

Our school expansion is reaching an exciting stage with the new building growing quickly. We look forward to seeing the building develop and be ready for us to use in September.

The half marathon unfortunately was cancelled due to the snow, however, I have now completed the route to put all that training to good use! Thank you to everyone that has sponsored me, helping to raise almost £1,000 so far for the Naomi House Children's Hospice. Donations can still be accepted through the Just Giving website, or the school office.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/matt-hickey1>

Enjoy reading the class updates on the term, and I wish you all a restful Easter break.

Matt Hickey
Head Teacher
@headhighwood



Foundation 1 News

Mrs Richards, Miss Nunn, Mrs Alleyne, Mrs Vanka, Miss Chaudhary, Miss Fisher

WHY DO CHANGES HAPPEN?

We have had a very busy second half of term in F1 and have had lots of fun engaging in new experiences and exploring further into our topic of 'why do changes happen?'. The children have really developed their independence skills towards the end of term and are trying really hard to do things for themselves as well as helping each other to do things they find difficult.

The highlight of this half of the term has been our visit from Miller's Ark, the travelling farm. The children were very excited during the build up to this event and it did not disappoint. The children got to have a fascinating hands-on experience with some animals they may have never come across before. They explored what the different animals ate and what their names were as babies. They were able to feed the goats and hold the chickens and guinea pigs.



The children have also been exploring different stories about familiar farm animals which has enabled them to delve deeper into this term's topic. One story we have been learning about is 'The Little Red Hen'. The children experienced the process of making and baking bread rolls (just like the hen does in the story), learning how the dough changes consistencies through the different stages. This story also enabled us to learn more about what it means to be a good friend.

We have been lucky enough this half of term in F1 to be given some tadpoles to take care of and watch grow. We have been learning all about the life cycle of a frog and have watched our frog spawn hatch and turn into tadpoles which was very exciting! We are looking forward to exploring into the life cycles of some different creatures/ animals next term!



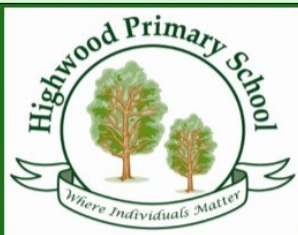
This half of term we also celebrated 'World Book Day'. The children all looked fantastic in their costumes of their favourite story characters and had lots of fun focusing on the story of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. We made our own porridge, learned about the language of size and acted out the story using masks and props.

We are ending this term on the topic of Easter. We enjoyed a fantastic visit from Mrs Galpin from REinspired who came in and taught the children about the story of Easter and provided some lovely Easter activities for the children to enjoy. We will be doing lots of Easter craft and making our own chocolate Easter nests... Yum!



Thank you to all the parents that have supported us during this term.

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter to see what we are up to each week! @HighwoodPrimFS



Foundation 2 News

Mrs Parker & Mrs Robinson

Welcome to the Foundation Stage Newsletter for this term! We have been really busy continuing with our topic "Why is the sky blue?" and with all our other learning - take a look!

We started our term off with 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. The children learnt the story and used the opportunity of climbing the beanstalk, to look at whether the 'Sky is blue' from up there. The children did some great writing of the story and many of the children now know the story by heart.



In maths we have revisited number, looked at shapes and capacity as well as measuring. The children had fun ordering beanstalks by height. They have also planted beans that we hope will grow well in the next few weeks and the children will learn about what a plant needs to grow.



For World Book Day the children got to dress up as their favourite book character. They looked amazing. Everyone had the opportunity to listen to some of the teachers favourite stories. F2's focus book was 'Where the Wild things are.'

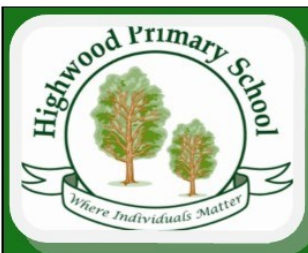


We had a lovely day at the Winchester Science Museum, thank you so much to the parents who helped to make it such a fun day. The children had the opportunity to try lots of hands on science experiments and activities, including pretending they were wearing a spacesuit. The visit to the planetarium show, where we got to look at the stars and learn about constellations and some of the other planets, was fun as well as interesting.



Thank you to all the parents that have supported us this half term and we look forward to seeing you after the Easter break. Enjoy the holidays.


Follow us on twitter @HighwoodPrimFS



Year 1 News - Spring 2

Miss Abbott,

Miss Amor & Miss Walker

It's been a busy, but fun, term and as always the children have worked super hard. They are making great progress and really developing their skills and all the school learning behaviours. Have a lovely Easter break. 

Will we play with the same toys when we are older?

English

We have been learning how to retell fairy-tales in our Literacy lessons and guided reading sessions.

We focused on the story of 'Jack and the beanstalk' and began by reading and re-ordering the story.

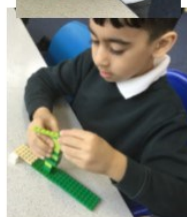


Next it was time for some drama as the children re-enacted parts of the story and used freeze frames to explore the characters and feelings.

We also used Lego to build models



of different scenes in the story. We then used a story map to breakdown the story and then retell it in sections. When



the children were confident we started writing the story using storyboards to help us plan our writing. We then used our creative skills to change parts of the story

as the children wrote their own version called 'Sophie and the Sunflower'. The children used adjectives, wow words and time connectives in their writing.



Maths

This term we have focused on multiplication and the children have learnt how to represent a multiplication in different ways. Using different equipment such as multi-link cubes, bead-strings, Numicon, coins and sorting hoops, the children showed multiplication as groups of, lots of and arrays.



LEGOLAND

Our highlight this term has to be the fantastic trip to Legoland Windsor. We started the day with a tour around Miniland followed by 'Around the world in 80 bricks' workshop where the children had to build natural or manmade landmarks from all seven continents! After lunch we got to explore the park and the rides. It was a super fun day out!



Follow us on Twitter to find out more about what Year 1 are up to. [@HighwoodPrimYr1](https://twitter.com/HighwoodPrimYr1)



Year 2 News

Mrs Eatwell, Mrs Kearney, Mrs Wildey

'If we all live on the same planet, why are our cultures the same as some, but different to others?'

Our learning has continued to focus on our topic 'If we all live on the same planet, why are our cultures the same as some, but different to others?'

SPLAT

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our SPLAT event this term. It was lovely to see parents reading to their children and taking real enjoyment in this. I am pleased to say that our Highwood Sharing Stories Project seems to have been a massive success so far, with all of the books being taken in the first week - thank you! We hope you are enjoying the selection of books. Any feedback would be greatly appreciated.



Maths

This term Year 2 have explored many different areas of the maths curriculum, including shape, fractions, odds and evens, arithmetic and time. They particularly enjoyed learning about time in recent weeks and seem to have grasped the concept of telling and writing the time with ease! During our work on statistics the children created tally charts, pictograms and block graphs to show their favourite character, animal and more!



Literacy

Year 2 have blown us away with some of their Literacy work this term! They really embraced our key texts which we used to learn all about India. They wrote some fantastic pieces to persuade the

villagers not to let the vicious tiger out of the

cage! More recently, we have been focusing on a non-fiction text, 'The Tiger and the Wise Man.'

The children loved the simplicity of the story and many realised that complex language does not always make a good book. They explored the character and his emotions and even wrote in role from the Wise Man's point of view. Through this text, they produced some of their best work yet!



Science

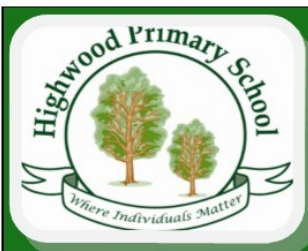
This term we have learnt all about animals and their habitats. The children have learnt about a range of habitats and the sorts of animals that live in them. We have also learnt all about the differences between things that are living, non-living and have never been alive. They can now explain the difference between different types of habitats and the animals which live in them. We have looked at basic food chains. The children can now explain that all plants are producers and those that eat them are consumers.



Follow us!



@HighwoodPrimYr2



Year 3 News

**Mrs Hartgrove, Mrs Turnbull
& Mrs Render**

A very busy half-term has seen us continue with our question, 'What would happen if we ran out of water?' I was also impressed with how well they did in the Year 3 and 4 production.

LITERACY

In literacy this term we have been writing persuasive letters. After looking at what it means to be persuasive we wrote letters to our local council-
lor asking her to help reduce the amount of plastic we use.

We had a great SPLAT afternoon linked to writing where the children were able to show off their creative writing skills.

On World Book day we dressed up in fantastic costumes and then explored the picture book 'The Stone Lion.'



MATHS

In maths we have been using our times table knowledge to help multiply and divide numbers bigger than the times tables. We have been thinking about using different methods to solve problems. Then we used our number knowledge to help solve word problems.



SCIENCE

In science we have been looking at plants and what each of the different parts are for. We have designed and carried out our own experiments.



We also had visits from some engi-

neers. They explained what they do for a living and showed us some interesting experiments that they do.

TOPIC

We continued with our topic on water and looked at cities around the world that are running out of water. We then looked at the River Nile and the important role it played in the lives of the ancient Egyptians.



PRODUCTION

The children took part in our year 3 and 4 production of 'Highwood through the ages: a musical medley.' They worked really hard and did some fantastic singing, dancing and acting.

© Mandy Barrow

Follow us on Twitter: [@HighwoodPrimYear3](https://twitter.com/HighwoodPrimYear3)





Year 4 News Spring 2 Mr Allaway and Mrs Tindall.



We have continued to explore our question 'Has the invention of flight had a positive impact on the world?' and an interesting visit from a flying explorer, Christy Huffington-Brouge!

English—Adventure stories

After a disastrous mix up with luggage, year 4 ended up with a case belonging to an explorer named Christy. The children decided that



the most responsible option of course was not to return it to the delivery company, but to root through the contents looking for clues! After some deduction, the children were able to make contact with Christy and invited her in to collect her belongings. This chance meeting has led to some exciting writing, with the children creating adventure stories that Christy can add to her upcoming novel.

Maths - Fractions and problem solving

In maths we have been spending a lot of time exploring fractions. The children were able to work together to teach each other how to find fractions and solve problems involving them. We learned about area and perimeter, creating our own 2D creatures for our mathematical zoo and solving complex problems.



Music

In music the children have been learning to play the Cornet with Mr Ransom from Berkshire Maestros, this will be continuing next term. It has been fantastic to see the children so excited to use the instruments and they are



slowly moving from just noise to tuneful performances.

Topic—Engineering

The children were very lucky this term to have visits from three different engineers. They explored what an engineer does in their job and learned what they need in order to become one in the future. They were then able to use this knowledge to help our explorer friend with another problem she had, how to help disabled people explore the Amazon jungle. The children created designs for devices that would support people with a range of disabilities and wrote letters to persuade people to develop their products. They then entered this into a competition for the Primary Engineers Programme so fingers crossed!



Highwood through the ages

The main event this half term which involved both Years 3 and 4, was that of the musical production. The children performed on three occasions, once as a dress rehearsal to the school, then an afternoon performance on the Wednesday and an evening one on the Thursday.

The children worked extremely hard to learn their words, all of the narrator roles had lots of lines to learn, but they pulled it off in true Highwood style and made everyone very proud. Every member of year 4 played an integral part in the production and they couldn't have done any better.

Next term we will be starting a new topic, 'Why would someone build a castle here?' The children are already very excited about the residential trip to Swanage and Corfe Castle.

Follow us on twitter @HighwoodPrimYr4



Year 5 News

Mr Anderson, Mrs Raines, Mrs Anil
& Mrs Shakeel.

What's the Fascination with Fairgrounds?

Part 2.

SPLAT

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our SPLAT event this term. It was great fun to see such great creativity and teamwork when we created stories using pictures as a stimulus - I was impressed by what was produced.



Science

In our learning about forces, we have been designing our own investigations to test air resistance. We designed 3 different parachutes, each with a different variation and then tested them to see which was the most effective. Some people tested the material, some tested the length of the string, some tested the size of the parachute - there were all sorts of different investigations. It was rather tricky to keep it a true fair test, ensuring that each parachute only had one difference - a true test of our science and maths skills! We enjoyed testing them from the wall bars in the hall! Come and ask what makes the most effective parachute.

PRIMARY
ENGINEER®



Later in the term, we were then visited by some engineers who came to talk to us about their jobs and to tell us more about engineering. They gave really interesting talks and we were able to ask them questions. We then had an opportunity to work with Vicky from AWE. Then, we created our own new inventions to be sent off to a Young Engineers competition. We can't wait to see if any of our entries are winners - keep your fingers crossed!



Carters Visit

As part of our topic focus on Fairgrounds, we have been working extremely hard in making our own Fairground models. We started by looking at different mechanisms and



how they are used. We then had to decide on which fairground ride we would like to make. To help us decide we were extremely lucky to have a visit from Georgina from 'Carters Steam Fair'. She talked about the vintage rides and how they worked and a little bit about what life is like working on a travelling fairground.



The children then started to design their ideas before finally getting to make their rides. Many of the rides move and have working motors of which the children are extremely proud.

World book day.

The children and staff all dressed up for the day. We worked in our own classrooms, we chose 'Leon and the place between' as our book to inspire us. A beautifully illustrated book full of magic and adventure.



We then had a whole school assembly, where the children had to guess the teachers' books and there was a chance to admire the many book day characters everyone had dressed up as.



Children could then choose two books they wanted to hear read, they then went with the teacher reading that particular text. A very successful day, thank you to Mr Allaway and Mrs Smith.



KF felt like a true Rockstar during our visit from The Rock project. He performed admirably.

Have a great Easter holiday from all of us in Year Five. Don't forget to logon to Time Table Rockstars and Mathletics.

Follow us!

@HighwoodPrimYr5





Year 6 News

Mr Pearce, Mrs Haden and Mrs. Chaudhary

Does Change Always Lead to Progress?

This half-term, we have been focussing very much on the Industrial Revolution and the changes that it brought about - both the positive and the negative. In response to the question "Does Change Always Lead to Progress?", we have considered, researched and discussed, the impact of the advances in science and technology that occurred during the Victorian era. We have reflected on both that which improved life for people in Britain and that which made life harder.

English

In English, we have learned to explain how things work. We began by looking at the grammatical features of explanation writing and how these supported helping others to understand concepts before applying them to our own work. Together, we imagined how a robotic dog might function and the features and uses that it would have before writing a detailed explanation of how certain parts worked.

Maths

In maths we have continued to practise our arithmetic and have improved the speed and accuracy of our calculations. We continued our work on fractions before moving on to looking at finding equivalences between percentages, fractions and decimals and how to convert one to the other.

Topic—The Industrial Revolution

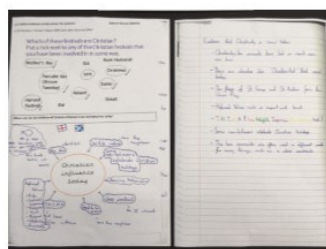
We conducted research into the working lives of Victorian children of the working classes and the hardships that they faced in having to earn a wage. After investigating the roles children had as apprentices in cotton mills, we began planning a letter to Queen Victoria herself to put an end to the miserable business of the 5:30am - 8pm working day of the Victorian mill apprentice.

In Art, we created our own art work inspired by the industrial landscape paintings of L.S. Lowry. We copied his colour pallet and tried to create a sense of perspective, light and shadow.



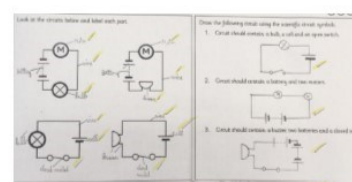
R.E

In R.E, we discussed the question "Is Christianity still a 'strong' religion 2000 years after Christ?" and we discovered how elements of Christianity are present in our everyday and annual lives. Furthermore, we looked at Christian charities and the current work that they do. Further to this, we looked at the Ten Commandments and how they are present both in aspects of our Highwood Values, our laws and how they have links to other religions.



Science

In science, we have begun to find out about electricity and how circuit diagrams are drawn. We investigated the idea of resistance and why wire length affects the brightness of a bulb in a circuit. Towards the end of the term, we have been looking at the properties of light and what the concept of reflection is before attempting to apply what we learned about writing explanation texts to an explanation piece about how a periscope works.



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Speech and Language Resource News

Mrs Godfrey & Mr Bevan

Mrs Payne, Mrs Wright, Mrs Jenkins and Mrs Weir

It's been a busy and fast-paced term here in the Resource and it's been wonderful to see how much progress the children have made already this year! I hope you found the mid-year reports helpful in understanding how your children are doing so far, and also what they need to work on next. "SeeSaw" continues to be an excellent way of seeing how your child is doing day-to-day so if you haven't joined yet I strongly recommend that you do! I'll be sending fresh invites to families who haven't yet signed up next term. Have a lovely Easter break!

Willow News

Literacy— Where would your journey take you?

After an chilly bus trip to the Berkshire Museum of Aviation, the children have been designing and writing about their own 'Magnificent Flying Machines'. The children constructed their own success criteria for writing including using conjunctions, adjectives, punctuation and finger spaces. We have also been working hard in phonics and spelling on using letter names to spell common words and forming all of the capital letters. In phonawareness, we have been working with Mrs Walker on remembering the number of words in different sentences and clapping the number of syllables in words.



Maths— Number and Calculation



Look at us recalling addition and subtraction facts to 20 by working out how many cubes are in the bag and how many are left!

This half term we have been revisiting some aspects of number that we covered in the Autumn Term with a focus on mental and written methods. At first, it was a brave step to do subtraction without Numicon, but with lots of perseverance, the children are now using number lines, counting backwards using fingers and written methods for subtraction including 2-digit numbers! They have also been working hard on mental recall of number bonds and beginning to use multiplication and division with the 10 times table to solve word problems.

Maple News

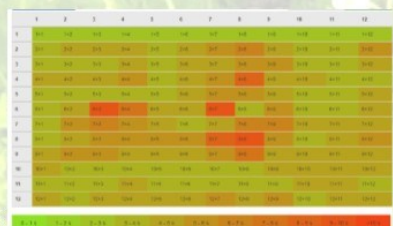
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The children also wrote letters to the tour guide "Ken" to thank him for welcoming us so warmly to the museum as well as showing us so many interesting parts of the museum. The boys have also created posters to advertise their wonderful flying machines!

Maths— Multiplication and Division

This half of term has really showed how far the children have come with their times tables work. All of



the children have improved their recall speeds and our group average is now below 3 seconds per answer! Brilliant progress! Look out for your child's updated 'Heat map' to see how they're doing.

The children have worked so hard to become better at problem solving and I've been really pleased with the change in their confidence when it comes to trying to answer more worded problems.

Follow us on twitter @HighwoodPrimR



Hot Off The Press...

Here is a sneak preview of our curriculum for the term ahead. It is sure to be jammed packed with exciting and engaging learning opportunities.

Foundation Stage



Wow can you believe we have reached the summer term already? We have had so much fun already but the summer term will be the best! Our topic for this term will be 'How to be a superhero'. We will begin by looking at every day heroes including the police, fire service and doctors. In literacy will be looking at lots of non-fiction books and our role play area will be a doctors surgery. In science we will be looking at how to keep our bodies healthy including what we eat. Our maths work will focus on consolidating our number knowledge including doubling and halving and number facts. After half term we will be looking at fictional superheroes. If you have any books or toys that we could use please send them in.



Year 1



We are just about to head into the final term of Year 1. The year has gone so fast and it has been fantastic to see how much the children have progressed. The whole of the summer term will be focused on 'Where do families and people go on days out?' Our literacy will focus on different books about outings to the seaside and the park, including the book 'When the crayons came home' by Drew Daywalt and Oliver Jeffers. In maths we will continue to learn about time and then learn about money. In science we will be learning about plants and weather. We are hoping to make a garden with flowers and vegetables, which we will hopefully eat (the veggies!) by the end of Summer 2 with a nice outdoor picnic.



Year 2











It is hard to believe that we are about to be in the final term of the year! The start of this term will be largely based around SATs practice and ensuring that the children are fully prepared for the papers they will sit in May. We will do some practice papers beforehand to ensure that the children know exactly how to sit and behave during the tests. You can help at home by reading with your children and doing their number bonds with them everyday for ten minutes each. This will prepare them for the reading and arithmetic tests. In between SATs we will be asking the question 'What is the difference between a cake and a biscuit?', with a particular focus on Huntley and Palmers. This learning will allow us to focus on instruction writing, comparative writing and writing to persuade. During this topic we will also be learning about measures and at the end of the year we will use what we have learnt to do some baking! In Science the children will begin to learn about plants. We will plant our own seeds and keep a record of their progress.



Hot Off The Press...

Here is a sneak preview of our curriculum for the term ahead. It is sure to be jammed packed with exciting and engaging learning opportunities.

 <p>Year 3</p> 	<p>The Stone Age is our summer topic, as we think about why Stonehenge was built? We will use maps to locate the famous stone circle and even enjoy a visit to the incredible site later in the summer term. As we find out more about the Stone Age we will discover how the ancient people lived and found food as well as how they chose settlements in order to survive. Linking to our science topic, the children will investigate and find out more about different rocks and soils as well as understanding light and shadow. In literacy we will be looking at traditional tales and fairy stories. In maths we will continue to strengthen our number knowledge as well as looking at graphs and statistics. We will also be looking at telling the time. In art we will be thinking about sketching and learning about cave paintings.</p>
 <p>Year 4</p>	<p>In the last term of year 4 we will be exploring the question, 'why would someone build a castle here?'. In writing we will be creating discussion texts where the children will be able debate the merits and problems of building castles in different locations. We will then be writing fantasy stories set in or around mythical castles. We will be exploring what life was like for people living inside castles and which castles still house people to this day. In science we will be looking at how electricity works and how different materials change state. The children will be continuing with their cornet lessons, which they seem to be enjoying and they are beginning to show real progress. The big focus of the term though will be our residential trip to Swanage where the children will be able to experience a castle first hand, explore different locations and take part in fun activities with their friends!</p>
 <p>Year 5</p> 	<p>Our final topic of the year will comprise of many different subjects that will aim to answer the question: 'Are heroes and villains so different?' We will study the play <i>Macbeth</i> by William Shakespeare, looking at how different characters are portrayed. We will create our own heroes and villains based on the story and write our own stories around them. We will also look at the poem '<i>The Highway Man</i>' and debate whether he was a hero or a villain. In history, we will learn about the Ancient Greeks, looking at the roles villains and heroes played in Greek mythology. Towards the end of the topic we will also look at how ancient Greece has influenced the western world. In science, we will learn about living things and their habitat and we will study the life cycles and reproduction of some plants and mammals. We will also start to learn about some of the changes that occur as humans develop to old age.</p>
 <p>Year 6</p> 	<p>The beginning of the summer term will see us knuckle down, focus as we prepare the best we can for SATs week (14th—17th May). Our first weeks back will be mainly focussed on revision of maths, grammar and spelling, as well as practising reading comprehension techniques. We will make a start on our topic, "What is the Secret to Success?" by looking at what it means to be successful, and how we can take responsibility for leading a healthy and happy life. We will study the lives of successful entrepreneurs and we will start to think about what projects we could do to become more enterprising and how to write a "pitch" or promotional text. In Science, we will look at how our bodies work and how we can live a healthy lifestyle by eating a balanced diet and exercising.</p>
<p>PE</p> 	<p>This Summer term the children from FS2-Yr6 will be covering 10 different types of run, jump and throws within our suite of athletics lessons. These will focus on the very basics for KS1 in throwing and jumping through to year 6 working with technical support in pace, power, stamina & mentoring an athlete. We will also be working on "striking, catching & throwing" in cricket, from the basics in KS1 right through to full Kwik Cricket matches and the opportunity to represent Highwood in the Wokingham Schools Cricket league 2018. I am very much looking forward to teaching the children and hoping for much more pleasant weather to teach in!</p>



PE/Sports News

Sports coach: Mr Edwards

Welcome to the last newsletter of the Spring term. As usual I will endeavour to continue to keep the children and parents informed about our recent achievements in sports tournaments, what we have been learning in PE, PE Kit required, after school clubs and of course the future sports dates.

PE Lessons:

This half term the children have been learning about the games of Basketball, Tennis & Tri-Golf. This has been working very much with their hand eye co-ordination, teamwork and targets.

Year 3 have also had an extra session taking part in Dance with professional dancer Miss King. They have been working on a fabulous routine to 'Under The Sea' linking with this term's topic. This is still proving to be a fantastic hit with the children of all ages, boys and girls, so we are pleased to still be able to offer this opportunity to the children of Highwood.

We are also working hard in FS2 & Yr 1 continuing the gymnastics development. Year 6 have been learning to play badminton using the new equipment bought with the money raised last year with our team GB athlete.

This half term's sporting stars in these lessons have been, Srija in FS2R, Anastasia yr 1, Oliver yr 2, Joseph yr 3, Kevin yr 4, Theo yr 5 & Andreea yr 6.

Lunch & After School Clubs:

This term we have had many more clubs thanks to our teachers Mr Anderson, Miss Hartgrove & Mr Allaway plus Miss Rowse coming in especially:-

Mondays: KS2 Tag Rugby practice after school

Tuesdays: Year 1 & 2s Multisports lunch club. KS2 Badminton Club and Boys Football Practice after school.

Wednesdays: KS2 Netball Practice

Thursdays: Lunchtime Interhouse Competitions. KS2 Girls Football Training, KS1 Multisports & Yrs 1 - 6 Gymnastics after school.

Matches & Tournaments:

WPSFA 5/6 Football.

Highwood have continued their progress within division 3 of the Wokingham League. This half term we have played our final match against South Lake Primary and narrowly lost 3-2 having fought back from being 3-0 down. The children also had a great opportunity to play football in the "Development Cup" which was designed for children who don't get the chance to play for the "A Teams" in the league games. This was held at the Madjeski 4G Pitches and was a fantastic day with the children gaining lots of vital experience.

The girls also got the opportunity to play in the Wokingham Schools tournament on a bitterly cold evening at the Goals Soccer Centre. They played really well coming away with a win, a draw and a couple of losses. We look forward to letting them reign supreme at the Carnival Football next term.





PE/Sports News

Sports coach: Mr Edwards

NAK (New Age Kurling)

We have also had our "NAK" (New Age Kurling) Team representing Highwood winning both level 1 and 2 to take them through to county finals in the summer. We are all very proud of their efforts.

KS1 & KS2 Team Gymnastics Competition.

This year our gymnasts had new routines and skills to learn for their competition. The rules had changed so only novice gymnasts were allowed to take part so it made it a much more level playing field. The competitions were very, very close with both of our teams missing out on a medal by less than .5 of a mark. This is great news and highlights the areas we will need to improve for next years tournament.



6 Nations Tag Rugby League.

This half term we have been involved in the next round of the Tag Rugby competition.

The first round was played at Beechwood Primary where we came away unbeaten having drawn one game and won all others. Our game was improving all of the time.

We competed in the Playoff finals at Beechwood.

Next Half Term

PE Lessons:- Athletics & Cricket

Competitions:-

Yr 3/4 Tennis Red

Woodley Schools Sports Week (Dance, Cricket, Multi Skills, Tennis, Swimming Gala, Athletics & Disability Games.

Wokingham Cricket League

Invitational Games (Athletics)

Rounders & Tennis

Mr Edwards Message For The Term.

This half term seems to have been even shorter! We have crammed a lot in this term and this will be no different going forward.

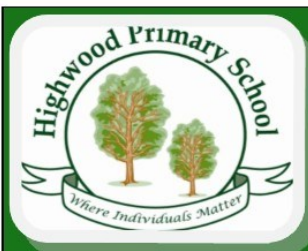
Again I am encouraging participation in activities outside of school whatever sporting activity that may be. If you have any photos of the children taking part, please email them in as I would like to start a new section in the newsletter for children representing sports outside of school.

I would also like to encourage all parents to please follow both myself and the classroom teachers on Twitter as this is a great tool to keep up all year with what your child is learning including pictures and videos. My Twitter address is @HighwoodPrimPE

Reminders:

Please ensure your child's PE kit is kept in school every day.

I thank you again for taking the time to read my newsletter and I look forward to seeing you all after the Easter break. Mr Edwards.



MFL—Spring

Miss Abbott

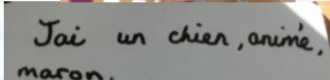
All the children are developing their linguistic skills and over the term they have acquired lots of new vocabulary. Our MFL Masters are continuing to shine and all the children should be super proud of all their hard work. Joyeux Paques et Feliz Pascua! Miss A 🌍



This term, Year 5 and 6 have been learning the names for pets in French. Through playing games such as 'pairs', 'snap' and 'match up the words', the children became familiar with the key vocabulary. Using their knowledge of noun & adjective agreement, we started describing our pets using words such as 'grand, petit, anime (lively) and feroce (fierce).

Both classes were

treated to a fantastic day of French Theatre this term when a company of actors came to do workshops and then perform a play. 'Le Chanson du Retour' involved a girl who was pulled into her computer



game and had to make her way through each level with some help from her friends! Through songs, games and drama the children had a fantastic day and surprised themselves with how much they could actually understand!



Year 1 and 2 have been consolidating their knowledge of colours and numbers by playing games such as lotto and colour by numbers. In Year 3 and 4 we have been learning the words for parts of the body in Spanish. The children particularly enjoyed playing 'body bingo' and have been developing their written Spanish by matching up key vocabulary and then writing their own sentences with noun and adjective agreement! Bueno!



El tienes cinco, narices, blancos.
El tienes ocho, cabezas, azules.



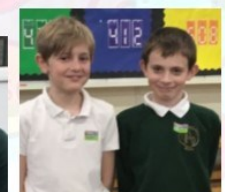
Follow our brand new Twitter page to find out more about what Highwood are learning in MFL.

[@HighwoodPrimMFL](https://twitter.com/HighwoodPrimMFL)

MFL

MASTERS

Another great term for our MFL Masters who have worked extra hard to demonstrate their linguistic skills.





FRIENDS OF HIGHWOOD



At time of writing this we are excitedly awaiting the Easter Trail. It is lovely to have so many children booked on and we are hoping that it will be as sunny as the last few years. I'm sure all our families will have a lovely time and the chocolate bunnies will be loved too!



Keep your fingers crossed for warm sunny weather!



This term, in school, your children have started an art project funded by FOH to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the school. We are looking forward to seeing the leaves on the trees which the children are decorating on display in the new building when it is finished.



We have several ideas for events in the summer term and will advertise these when they are confirmed. However, the ever popular ice-lolly sale will be happening on Fridays after school, weather permitting. Look out for us in the gazebo. Ice lollies will be only 50p – what a bargain!



We hope you have a good Easter and look forward to seeing you at our events next term.

The Friends of Highwood team



Expansion Update

Work continues on our new building and it is looking more recognisable as a building now. Work is now taking place on the roof in order to make it water-tight so that internal decoration can start. We will keep our fingers crossed for good weather over the next few months to keep on schedule.



PHOTOS

WORLD BOOK DAY





Reminders



PARKING

There is no parking on the school site unless you have been authorised to do so.

Please be considerate to our neighbours in Carrick Gardens and Kingfisher Drive by not parking on pavements, grass verges, across driveways and single yellow lines. We have received a number of complaints from local residents about inconsiderate parking, near misses and aggressive parents. All reported incidents have been passed to the police.

ABSENCE

Please contact the school by 9.30am either by text on 0786 000 5083 or by phone on 0118 9265493 if your child is not well. You can also notify us on the school news app

If your child is going to be late in and requires a dinner please ensure this is ordered by 9.30am.

ATTENDANCE

All requests for leave of absence must be made on the absence form available from the school office. Routine appointments should be made outside of school time.

Please see the latest Attendance Policy on the school website regarding Penalty Notices.

MEDICINES

Only prescribed medicine in the prescribed container may be administered by school staff. A form must be completed at the school office.



EARRINGS

Please note that only stud earrings are allowed and earrings must be removed for PE.



Diary Dates



SUMMER TERM

Thursday 29 th March 2018	Last Day of term – school closes at 1.30pm
Friday 30 th March to Friday 13 th April 2018	EASTER HOLIDAYS
Monday 16 th April 2018	Start of Summer term
Monday 7 th May 2018	BANK HOLIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday 14 th May to Thursday 17 th May 2018	Year 6 SATs week Walk to School week
Monday 21 st to Friday 25 th May 2018	Woodley Schools Sports Week
Monday 28 th May 2018 to Friday 1 st June 2018	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Monday 4 th June 2018	Start of second half of term
Wednesday 6 th June 2018	Woodley Carnival – boys football tournament - afternoon
Thursday 7 th June 2018	Woodley Carnival – girls football tournament - evening
Tuesday 12 th June 2018	KS1 SPLAT – 1:30pm
Wednesday 13 th June 2018	Foundation SPLAT – 1:30pm Class and Year 6 Leavers photos
Tuesday 19 th June 2018	KS2 SPLAT – 1:30pm
Tuesday 26 th June 2018	KS2 Sports Day - morning
Thursday 28 th June 2018	F2/KS1 Sports Day - morning
Wednesday 4 th July 2018	Year 4 go to Swanage
Thursday 5 th July 2018	Year 4 in Swanage
Friday 6 th July 2018	Year 4 return from Swanage
Wednesday 11 th July 2018	Year 5 & Year 6 Production - evening
Thursday 12 th July 2018	Year 5 & Year 6 Production - evening
Wednesday 18 th July 2018	Year 6 Leavers event – 6:30pm
Thursday 19 th July 2018	Family Picnic
Friday 20 th July 2018	Last Day of Term – school closes at 1:30 – no after school club
Monday 23 rd & Tuesday 24 th July 2018	INSET DAYS – SCHOOL CLOSED
Wednesday 25 th July to Friday 31 st August 2018	SUMMER HOLIDAYS
Monday 3 rd September 2018	INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
Tuesday 4 th September 2018	Start of the Autumn Term