

Governor Summer Newsletter

Another school year is nearly at an end and we would like to take this opportunity to reflect on some of the fantastic learning that has taken place at Highfield this year. The governors have written a short paragraph about some of the wonderful things that they have seen.

This has been a very successful year for Early Years! During my visits I have noticed how settled and happy the children are. The full range of learning opportunities is on offer and it's easy to observe how the children access these through my observations of their activities in class and the wonderful displays of their work throughout the classes. I was also lucky enough to join them for a class visit to Temple Newsam Home Farm. The Farm has a barn built in 1694 and is the largest working rare breeds farm in Europe, and only one of 16 nationally approved by the Rare Breeds Survival Trust. We saw lots of interesting things but the highlight was probably the coach journey and the adorable Golden Guernsey goat kids, who were so tame that they even tried to eat someone's scarf!

Margaret Maiden

I was delighted to be appointed as a co-opted governor in February this year with special responsibility for SEND. I am looking forward to working with my fellow governors over the years ahead helping to ensure the high standards of achievement for all the children in school continues.

Jackie Bragg

A lot of my work this year has linked in to my wider role as ward councillor, looking at ways of improving the traffic and parking situation at school drop off and pick up times. I have had a number of site visits with the police, highways officers and local residents and parents, trying to find solutions to this intractable problem. I am hopeful that Highways might come up with some small engineering measures that will bring some improvement. As ever though, the best improvement comes from more of our children walking to school and for those parents who do drive to follow the example of the vast majority of our parents and park responsibly.

By way of light relief I enjoyed seeing my link class 3T (with their year 3 colleagues) performing Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat. They were all amazing and I'm looking forward to catching up with them when I visit in a few weeks time for the teddy bears' picnic.

Dan Cohen

I attended the annual health and safety walk with Mr Walsh this term. It was pleasing to see that the school takes H&S seriously with policies and risk assessments being kept up to date and reviewed appropriately. I got to walk through the classrooms and school grounds noting where work was required but also had been actioned. It was pleasing to see the incredible effort Mr Walsh had put into cleaning the pond area as this improved the access for children to the pond during their lessons. In the short time I was there I lost count of the number of newts that I saw!

Ashutosh Paul

I have recently watched the Year 3 ukulele assembly and the Year 4 aerobics session. I really love how each year group gets to shine in front of the whole school, with the rest of the school getting involved. They were both great examples of the rich curriculum, with children learning new skills in PE and the arts and having a chance to perform in front of a large group.

Lisa Henry

On Tuesday 8th May I popped into school to see how the Year 6 SATs were going. It was the reading paper. I was very impressed with how calm and focused everyone was. The children were made to feel at ease and to simply do their best! Great teaching and learning - but most importantly great children - on display! Well done everyone.

As Year 4 class governor my heart was particularly warmed when I heard about their celebrations on 22nd June. As the children in 4P love celebrating international days, when they realised 21st June was World Giraffe Day, World Music Day and World Make Your Own Music Day - some of Mr Potter's favourite things - they decided to change the day to Mr Potter day and celebrate together! The day comprised decorating the classroom, sharing 'best bits' about their year and generally having lots of fun with a great teacher and Year 4 team. A super collective example of pupil voice. What a lovely idea Year 4!

Nancy Lester

The governors would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Bailey for her outstanding contribution to the school. She has helped hundreds of children and parents in her many years at Highfield and will be missed by all.

Jo Wragg (Staff Governor)