

Highfield Primary School Easter 2016 Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers

As we approach our Easter Weekend I would like to share with you some exciting news. Last week the governing body appointed Mr. Jonathan Feeley as our new Deputy Head Teacher. Jonathan is an outstanding classroom practitioner and senior leader. He is also a keen sportsman. He is delighted to be joining our outstanding team in September and will be visiting the school in the summer term to begin his transition.

This week we have enjoyed watching our Year 1 and 3 children in their spring productions. Year 1 treated us to a colourful ensemble of Spring festival songs and dances and Year 3 wowed us with their very own school written "Moses The Musical."

Mrs Fritz and her gardening club are busy every Wednesday in the school allotment. We now have some new mini greenhouses and we are beginning all out planting. Mrs Fritz would like some help from any budding gardeners who could offer an hour a week on a Wednesday afternoon to help her with the club. If you can spare the time please contact the school office who will explain how the volunteer process works.

The Magic Show on Saturday was well attended and raised £900 for school. Our next fund raising activity is the forthcoming Auction of Promises. Booklets will be sent home with the children on Monday 18th April. All bids will need to be returned to school by Friday 29th April. Thank you to everyone who has donated an activity or item for the auction. We have lots of super items to bid for including baking afternoons, Leeds Rhino tickets, hill walking and of course the chance to be Head teacher for the day!

We have been delighted with your response to our new parents evening parent mail sign up. Virtually every parent in school has signed up using the new system.

We have had several reports about near collisions between children on scooters or bikes and pedestrians on both of the paths into Highfield. To prevent an accident please make sure that your child does not ride their scooter or bike on the approach to the gates.

I am both a parent and a teacher and what has struck me recently is the huge amount of change schools are implementing this year. With my own 13 year old son, I'm trying to understand the EBacc ...and GCSEs that will be scored in numbers not letters. Here in primary school we face a range of new tests. New tests at the end of KS1 and KS2, based on a new curriculum we've been learning for a year and a half. New baseline tests for Reception children in September and a new scoring system for them all! I know Highfield parents very much support our school curriculum and its broad and balanced range of subjects. The children work very hard on their maths and English of course, but as a school we continue to offer our children a full range of social experiences, learning activities and wider curriculum opportunities. Here at Highfield we want children to do well in tests but what's more important is how they do in life!

Julie Colley

