

HIGHFIELD UPDATE JUNE 12th 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been another successful and happy week at Highfield. I am very pleased that I have been able to open a part time bubble for our Year 6 children who are currently at home. Those who can return to school and want to take up a place will be attending school two days a week on a rota basis. We can't wait to see them in their "Platinum" bubble next week. There is, of course, lots of talk in the news about when children might all return to school and it is important to remember that, for a few children, it is not possible to return. I have had several conversations with parents this week whose children are shielding and cannot return to school due to their underlying health issues. Highfield never wants to forget any child and we are doing our best to keep in close contact with and support those children and their families

The government announced this week that schools cannot open to all children before the summer. This was something we already knew was impossible due to the lack of space and teachers. The million dollar question, of course, is what will school look like in September? The government says it wants all children to be able to return in September but I'm afraid your guess is as good as mine as to how this can be done with the current social distancing rules. I am hoping the government will make an announcement soon so that we can have time to put in place the necessary changes. I will let you know as soon as I know what is happening. I have written to our new starters this week and sent them information about Highfield and our school prospectus. It must be a difficult time for a new parent not knowing how school will look or when your child will be starting. The government has also started talking about "catch up operations". Again, like you, I only hear the sound bites and have no information about what these plans entail.

Leeds City Council contacted every head teacher this week to see how we were doing. I asked some questions about the R number in Leeds and was told it was low. This is promising news. I also asked whether there had been any COVID cases in Leeds schools since we reopened and was told there had not been. I also asked for an update with regards to the tracking and tracing in Leeds and I am awaiting that information. If there is a confirmed case on COVID in school every parent will be sent a letter informing them of whether or not their child needs to self-isolate at home for 14 days to see if they develop symptoms. Children who have been in the same school or school club bubble will have to self-isolate for 14 days. The rest of the children in school can still attend school as normal.

SEESAW UPDATE

Hi there, Seesaw learners!

From today in addition to our normal Seesaw lessons, we are posting a weekly science lesson for Years 2 – 6 and a weekly reading comprehension lesson for KS2 children.

Seesaw has been busy again this week. Some of you have gone back to school but most of you are still learning at home, on Seesaw (some of you are doing both – Emily Colbourne in Year 3!) This week, Reception have been reading Handa's Surprise (one of my favourites!) Year 1 have been reading The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch and drawing and labelling pictures – they looked very tasty! Year 2 have been continuing the castle theme from last week and reading The Knight and the Dragon – a story I'd never heard before but it has fantastic pictures and Year 2's sentences were great. Year 3 have been learning about gravity. Not only was there writing and drawing to do, they even got to listen to music! Year 4 have been writing all about the tooth fairy. They wrote excellent stories and thought carefully about their audience. After defeating the Gathrax last week, this week Year 5 learned all about The Battle of Marathon and their storyboards were tremendous. Year 6 have been writing playscripts. I hope that they acted them out at home afterwards!

Last week, I shared some thoughts on Black Lives Matter and every single response was excellent.

Well done to all of you.

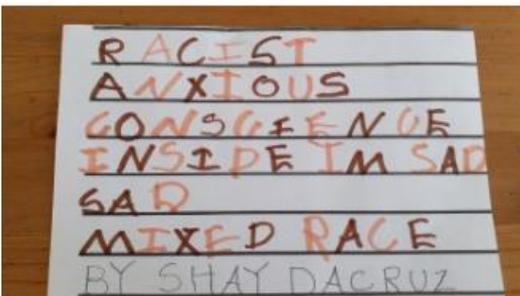
Special Mentions:

Nirmala Paul for her amazing video Maya Angelou poem which brought tears to my eyes.



Arnika Ghanbari in Reception for a great poster showing how happy we are when we all stand together.

Elodie Grayshon in Year 1 (and her brother, Coby in Year 3) for a whole project including a superb poster.



Shay Da Cruz in Year 2 who wrote an acrostic poem and read it so beautifully in a voice recording on Seesaw



Hareyn Thakur in Year 3 who created a poster with a beautiful rainbow using the computer.

Yusuf Qureshi in Year 4 for his acrostic poem. There were also some thoughtful comments in this year group from children like Amira, Toby, Humayd, Joshua, Eshwar and Dexter.

Dear Mrs Colley,
 I want to write an acrostic poem an hope you like it.

R ude
 A rrogant
 S elfish
 C ondescending
 I gnorant
 S elf-involved
 M elicious

My poem describes someone who is rascist.

Harriet Clarke in Year 5 for an excellent piece of writing which could be turned into a Highfield lesson on racism.

Black

Lives

Matter

For many years people have been treated differently for the colour of their skin which isn't right because if you have two eggs one light and one dark crack it open and whats on the inside yolk in both of them and the yolk is exactly the same so whats different about humans, humans are light and dark skinned but on the inside we are all the same #BLM.

#BLM we should all be treated the same
 By Harriet Clarke



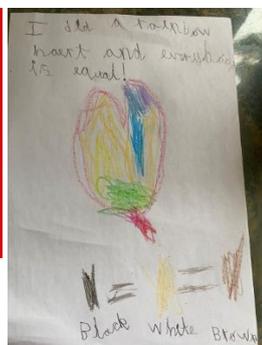
Grace Black in Year 6 for her excellent poster.

Highfield Home Learners – well done for continuing to learn so much and work so hard. I'm so proud of my Highfield children.

It needs to stop

show racism the red card

#blacklivesmatter



Poem about black lives matter

God gave us one nose, two eyes, ears and a mouth,
 He made us all the same so we can live with routh.

White, black or brown,
 these are only colours after all not any Golden Crown.

No one deserves to die,
 no one needs a sly.

We need to make world a better place,
 which we can all embrace.

