

HIGHFIELD UPDATE Friday 19th March

It has been another happy week at Highfield with the only disappointment being the closure of 2BM at the weekend because of a positive case. I suppose a popped class bubble after just a week back in school does remind us that although the vaccination program is going really well and the R rate is falling, COVID is still out there and we may be affected from time to time.

The governing body met on Tuesday and they were incredibly pleased with how the school has supported children during the recent lockdown and now being back in school. They were thrilled to see the data around online learning. Mr. Feeley shared the attendance on lessons with them which averaged at 94% each week. He also told us that over 60,000 Seesaw pieces of work have been posted so far. Seesaw do keep writing to Miss Thackrah (our school co-ordinator for Seesaw) asking her to be a "Seesaw Pioneer" because of the amazing way she has enabled the school to use their platform (don't worry she isn't going to go and work for them!). The governing body also approved our 5 training days for 2021- 2022.

They are: Monday 6th September 2021, Friday 18th February 2022, Monday 25th July, Tuesday 26th July and Wednesday 27th July 2022.

Thank you everyone for completing the leadership matters survey. The survey closes on 21st March and after that I will be able to view the results and share them with you next week. We have had 227 parents complete the survey so far which is fantastic. Please find a minute to complete it if you can.

<http://platform.leadershipmatters.org.uk/tools/diagnostic-tools/lm-survey/questionnaire-intro/?id=ef78347b-02d7-4d7c-bc3e-2e14cad55160>

My job now is to, of course, follow all the guidance and keep safety a priority as we move through the stages of opening up the country again. My priority is also to ensure the children are happy in school and that we can begin to reintroduce some of the extra-curricular activities and events that bring the "magic" to primary school life. This week the Years 3 and 4 children enjoyed their Viking and Egyptian workshops (There is a full article with photographs coming out next week in the children's newspaper, "The Highfielder"). Mrs. Bowker has also found an educational travelling farm, "Ian's Mobile Farm," who will be coming onto the school field on 27th April for the Reception and Year 1 children to visit. We are booking coaches for all the year groups' summer trips and we are keeping our fingers crossed that by the end of June and beginning of July we can take all the children on a lovely summer trip. The teachers are writing their newsletters for each year group and these will be sent home before Easter so that you have the dates and information you need for the summer term. I have also put some dates on the school website calendar such as sports days, teddy bear picnics (this year with an ice-cream van treat) and steel pans. So I suppose what I am saying is that I will keep following the guidance as it is amended but that we will also endeavor to bring the "sparkly" bits back to Highfield as soon as the guidance allows.

Please support us by following the rules and guidance and help us continue to keep Highfield children, parents and staff safe.

We can do this!

Julie Colley