

Highfield Nursery School

Children's Centre



Newsletter

January 2024

Nursery School News

Dear Children, Parents & Carers

I hope you had a peaceful Christmas and a healthy start to the New Year.

I would like to warmly welcome you all back to nursery for the Spring term. Please remember that my door is always open and if you ever need to talk about your child or you are unsure about anything at nursery, please ask myself, or any of the Highfield team and we will be happy to help you.

We hope that you find Tapestry a useful tool to see what the children are doing at nursery. We also love when you post photos or video clips of what your child has been doing when they are not at nursery!

Please keep sharing and commenting on Tapestry posts. If you have not yet set up your link to Tapestry or need any help, please speak to Mollie in the main office.

Mrs Coleman

Curriculum

We have had an amazing start to the Spring term, starting with the traditional story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We will be making porridge playdough, exploring the 'Threeness of Three', our role play kitchen will be the 3 bears cottage and we are going to learn the Makaton signs for bear, Goldilocks, chair, bowl and bed. We enjoyed a wonderful Goldilocks puppet show on Wednesday 10th January.

Butterflies children have been exploring polar bears and penguins with many sensory experiences in the classroom.

The Spring term will continue with Winnie the Witch and Winnie in Winter and then moving on to focus on penguins and Antarctica. The children will be finding out about Antarctica and the life of penguins. We will read 'The Emperors Egg'.

Did you know an emperor penguin is 1.3m tall? The children will be making a life-sized emperor penguin and will measure their height against it and see if they are taller or smaller than an emperor penguin.

Whilst understanding about the emperor penguin's habitat, we will begin to talk about how our use of energy is contributing to the melting of the polar icecaps.

We will make more green handprints to use around the nursery and the children may bring some home - to remind them to turn out the lights when they are not using them.

We will also sing the Highfield Eco-Song:

(sung to Twinkle Twinkle Little Star):
Highfield is an Eco-School
Where we all play by the rules.
We reduce our litter and waste
To save the penguins we make haste.
We all turn out the lights
Before we head home for the night.

To finish off this half term we will continue to follow our Story Curriculum and explore the Lunar New Year

Appropriate Clothing

We would like to remind you to please provide warm coats, hats, gloves and scarves for your children. We like to spend a lot of time out in the garden and the meadow, even during the winter months. Please make sure ALL of your child's items are name labelled as we have about 90 coats, hats, scarves and pairs of gloves coming through the nursery each day. Children often find it difficult to organise their belongings when coming in from the garden, so we know hats, gloves and scarves can sometimes go astray. We do our best to reunite children with their belongings wherever we can and help the children learn the skills to organise their belongings into their bag, tray or pocket. Gloves on elastic or ribbon really helps children to keep track of their gloves.

Staff Achievement

Mrs Lewis has qualified as a teacher! She has worked really hard to achieve this and we are very proud of her. She will continue to lead the Dragonflies room.

Friends of Highfield

Thank you to all who contributed and came along to the Christmas Bazaar.

We raised a grand total of £1060! The afternoon was such a great success and that is down to your kind donations and getting involved on the day.



IMPORTANT Dates for your Diaries 2024

Monday 15 th January	Deadline for School Admissions
Thursday 25 th January	Children's Centre Advisory Board
Mon 19 th February - Fri 23 rd February	Half Term Holiday
Monday 26 th February	All Children Return
Thursday 28 th March	Last Day of Term
Thurs 29 th March – Thurs 11 th April	Easter Holidays
Friday 12 th April	PD Day
Monday 15 th April	All Children Return

Children's Centre News

Look out for our brand-new spring term programme full of fun for you and your child to get involved in. With groups from ages 0-5yrs there are a lot of services to benefit from. Follow our Facebook page to get regular updates about what's happening in the life of the Children's Centre.

'Highfield and Bramford Lane Children's Centre'

Little Talkers – Speech and Language Support

Castle Hill Community Centre, IP1 6DG – Dates and times to be confirmed
Please call 01473 742534 ext2 or email highfield.cc@suffolk.gov.uk for more information and to book you place. A group for parents to come along with their child and explore fun activities which will encourage speech, language and communication skills.





Toilet Training – Dates and times to be confirmed

We work together with families to encourage habits that children need when transitioning out of nappies or pull ups. Please look out for dates of our upcoming toilet training workshop where we can advise and give useful tips as well as answer any of the questions you might have.

Solihull Approach – Date to be confirmed – 11am-1pm - Castle Hill Community Centre, IP1 6DG

This parenting course will help you better understand your child's development and behaviour. We will explore issues together such as: having fun together, how children develop, explore feelings and much more. If you would like more information or to book, please speak to a member of the team.

Our next **Advisory Board** meeting is on the 25th January 2024 from 12:30pm, we would love to hear your views and for you to attend. This will be at Castle Hill Community Centre and we would love to hear your suggestions and feedback for the Children's Centre. Please email highfield.cc@suffolk.gov.uk if you would like more details.

February half term isn't far away. Keep a look out for our half term programme which we will send out via Family and post on our Facebook page.

E-Safety Zone

Happy New Year!

Christmas will have brought many of us new gadgets such as smart phones, tablets, games consoles & laptops. Why not make it your new year's resolution to take a few minutes out of your day and check out some great e-safety websites. Get useful tips and information to help keep you and your family safe.

kidsmart.org.uk

thinkuknow.co.uk

know-it-all-for-parents

Please also visit the following link for a guide on apps from Internet Matters: <http://www.internetmatters.org/advice/apps-guide/>

