

Issue 238
Friday 30 January 2026

Highlands Primary School



HIGHLANDS NEWS

Highlands Primary School takes seriously its responsibility to safeguard all children and adults and has rigorous procedures in place to do so

Welcome to the first edition of Highlands News for 2026. January seems to have gone on forever, but this week it has certainly been getting lighter earlier, so let's hope spring is just round the corner! At the end of last term we raised nearly £2,500.00 for Dove House, this was a tremendous achievement and I want to thank everyone again for their contributions to this total. Our attendance has dipped since the start of the Autumn term - please make sure your child attends school every day and is on time. Mrs Precious and Ms Eastham are always available if you are having problems with getting your child into school. Do not hesitate to contact them. We have been fortunate enough to be able to purchase every year 6 child a hoodie each and they arrived this week. The year 6 children look really smart in them; I hope you all agree they are a lovely colour! The spring term is much shorter than the Autumn term so just a reminder that it is two weeks to half term!

Diary Dates

Wk bg 2 February - FS1 and 2s home visits

Wednesday 4 February - Dance workshops for Year 2 and 3

Monday 9 & 10 February - Bikeability Year 5 - Group 3

Tuesday 10 February - Internet Safety Day

Friday 13 February - Break up for half term

Monday 23 February - Return to school

Wednesday 4 March - Parental Consultation Evening

Thursday 5 March - World book Day

Wk beginning 9 March - Letters confirming places for 2s and F1 children

Thursday 26 March - Egg decorating Competition- bring in an egg you have decorated at home

Friday 27 March - Easter Service and end of term assembly- details to be confirmed

Friday 27 March - Break up for Easter



Attendance Whole School - 94.17%

EG/CH 90.8% DS 90.8%

AG 94.7% CC 93.4% EE 93.9% JW 95%

ZE 93% HH 95.6% SC 95.7% BA 91.6%

ER 95.9% GS 97% HR 94.6% HS/SA 95.3% LM 94.2%

EVERY DAY COUNTS

Foundation Stage - Mrs Harris & Miss Greenham, Ms Schiele and the key worker groups in FS1

The children in EYFS have been enjoying retelling some traditional tale stories over the last few weeks. In F1 during phonics the children have been using their voices to make different sounds and the children in F2 have been changing their voices to show different characters speaking.

All corners of the unit have children retelling the stories of 'The Three Bears' and 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' using masks, spoons, puppets and wooden characters! We have also been impressed with the effort the F2 children are showing when writing. They are really trying hard to form the letters correctly and sit them on a line. Well done F2!



Mrs Green & Miss Clark

As always we have been very busy in year 1 and have thoroughly enjoyed exploring our new english unit and writing our own conquering the monster story using Percy the Parkkeeper's 'After the Storm' as inspiration. We surprisingly also heard from Percy in our first D&T lesson in which he asked us to make him a model swing or slide for his park. We explored how to make a strong and sturdy structures using triangles and then drew 2 designs. We cannot wait to make the final pieces! In computing we have been exploring algorithms. Did you know this is a set of instructions given to a computer? We then inputted our algorithm into the BeeBots to make them follow a route along a map. It was great fun!



Mr Wilson & Mrs Eskrett

This half term, Year 2 proudly completed our money unit in maths and have now moved on to learning all about multiplication. In writing, the children have produced a wonderful journey story inspired by our model text Katie in London, creating their own version titled 'Katie in Hull'.

In geography, we explored London and its famous landmarks, learning how iconic attractions shape the city's geography, culture and identity

As we continue our Year of National Reading, we would really appreciate your support in encouraging your children to read as much as possible at home.

Mrs Corcoran & Miss Appleyard

Happy New Year! It's been a great start to the new year already. In english, the children have written warning stories based on 'The Canal' and have really impressed us with the use of description for their settings. In maths, we are mastering multiplying and dividing. Please continue to practice on TTRockstars at home. In geography, we are learning about rivers. The children have been introduced to some technical vocabulary for the parts of a river and we've even made our own river model, which was great fun. We have just begun our art unit, where the children will be creating their own pieces inspired by David Hockney, using vivid, complementary colours. Science has been learning all about animals, including humans. We have grouped animals based on their characteristics using Carroll and Venn diagrams and then have classified using a classification key.



As always, please keep reading at home!

Mrs Smith, Mrs Saxby & Mr Murray

The spring term has certainly begun with energy and excitement, especially since the children are now wearing their new Highlands hoodies!



In D&T, the children have designed and built some fantastic prototypes of emergency shelters—if you ever found yourself in need of one, you definitely wouldn't be disappointed!

In science, we carried out a fascinating (and slightly gruesome!) dissection of a real lamb's heart. This hands-on investigation allowed us to see the structures of the heart up close and helped us appreciate just how incredible and complex the human circulatory system truly is.

Our writing sessions have been equally impressive, with everyone producing powerful narrative pieces about a best friend's betrayal and their determination to save the friendship. The creativity and emotion in their work has been wonderful to read.

Finally, in maths, we have continued to make excellent progress with our arithmetic. Every little bit of extra practice completed at home really does make a difference and will help support the children's confidence and success in the long run.

Mrs Ellis & Miss Harrison

This week, we have been working hard to design imaginative buildings that can withstand the force of an earthquake. We can't wait to see the final products. In geography, we have deepened our understanding of floods, earthquakes and volcanoes. Did you know tectonic plates cover the earth? We have enjoyed making a model volcano and watching it erupt. In maths, we have been improving our understanding of money. We have been working on recognising coins, making totals and solving simple problems.



Mrs Randall, Mrs Redburn & Miss Syson

Year 5 have had an action-packed half term and have made us so proud! The first of the Bikeability sessions have been a huge highlight – the children have learnt new cycling skills and have put them into practice on the roads outside of school. They've shown amazing resilience and tackled new challenges with confidence. Well done to everyone for giving it their best!

In english, the children have been busy writing their own conquering the monster stories inspired by Kensuke's Kingdom. The children have created some truly spectacular stories and have really 'set the scene' with their setting descriptions. PSHRE has been all about looking to the future. The class researched their dream jobs, explored the salaries and even mapped out the steps they can take to achieve their goals. It's great to see such ambition and planning at this age!

A reminder to keep practising times tables on TT Rockstars, it really does make a difference. A special shout out to Mrs Randall's class for winning the first competition of the term!

Let's keep up the hard work and aim even higher next time.

