



HIGHGATE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher's Newsletter June 2022

Dear parents

It's the height of summer at Highgate Primary with the allotment bursting with colour, sports days, camping trips and seaside visits, not to mention tomorrow's Summer Fair!

Sports Days



It's been wonderful seeing everyone having so much fun at our sports days this week. Well done Rob and Alpha for brilliant organisation, our Year 6 marshals who ran the events so well; and all of the children for the effort they put in to every event and how they supported one another.



Sustainability Week



Thank you to everyone from the Green Council, the PSA and the whole school community who worked so hard to make our Sustainability week a great success. The week included a speaker from Greenpeace, the launch of our school recycling bins and debates around the children's own Sustainability Pledges. The Sustainability Market on Thursday featured pre-loved clothes, a plant sale, a visit from the Fair-Well trading float, as well as a chance to see our new worm farm and find out more about sustainability and the Green Council.

Cricket

A big shout out to our Year 4 and Year 5 cricketers who performed brilliantly in their respective tournaments, with Year 4 coming away with a bronze medal, finishing an impressive 3rd place in Haringey.





Highgate Festival



The Highgate Primary School Choir, alongside distinguished opera singers and Highgate Primary mums, Mary Bevan and Catherine Hopper, were proud to take part in The Highgate Festival with an uplifting concert in our school hall. Thank you to Hilla, our school choir and Mart and Catherine for such a special evening.

Nursery



What a busy month we have had in Nursery! The children have spent plenty of time outside making the most of the summer weather. Everyone is thoroughly enjoying our 'Animals' topic; exploring wild animals, farm animals and pets. It is also wonderful to see so much industrious mark making emerging from some of our older children, who are most definitely ready for the exciting challenges that await them in Reception next term.

Reception



The children in Reception have had a wonderful June which has seen them launch into their final topic of the year: Growing Up. We have cucumber plants in the classrooms and beanstalks in our thoughts as the children created their own versions of the Jack and the Beanstalk traditional tale. Each child has attempted some blood-red giant Fee Fi Fo Fum writing, which follows a week of tiny, sparkly elf writing when they wrote thank you notes from the Elves to the Shoemaker! All this, plus trips to the woods to make elf houses under the trees.



Year



Year 1 have enjoyed a creepy, crawly month, learning all about insects and the other mini-beasts that live in our local habitats and making fascinating discoveries on the allotment during our regular Forest School sessions. Back in the classroom, the children learnt

about insect life-cycles by watching their own, very hungry caterpillars metamorphose into butterflies, ready to be released back into the wild. This important lesson about how to look after wild creatures has been reinforced through our work on 'The Bog Baby', a wonderful book that tells the story of two children finding a magical creature in the woods. All this, plus some fantastic acting, singing and costumes in our latest class assemblies. Well done, everyone!

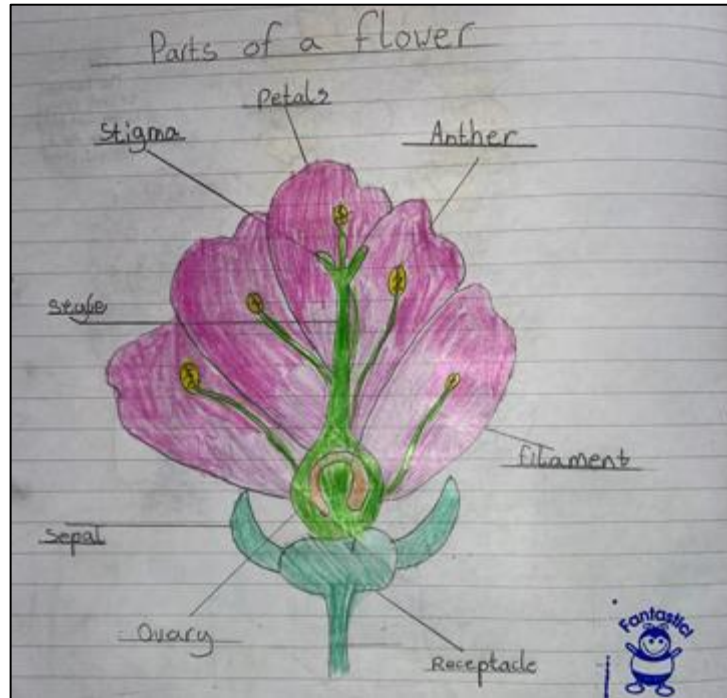
Year 2



Year 2 are loving our new topic, Beside the Seaside! They began by making sandwiches for a beach picnic and illustrating what would be in their seaside suitcase. They've discovered all about the human and physical geography of Westcliff-On-Sea and what seaside holidays were like from Georgian times to today. The highlight so far has been the trip to Chalkwell beach. We had an amazing time paddling in the sea, getting stuck in the mud, hunting for crabs, making sandcastles and eating a traditional ice cream!



Year 3



This half term Year 3 are preparing to perform Kate Stilitz's fantastic ode to summer: 'Meadowsong'. If you pop into the gym over the next few days you see it transforming into a summer meadow in time for our performance. However, the topic is bursting with amazing science too. The study of fungus mycelium, compound eyes of pollinating insects and flower dissection being just some of the topics covered so far. The topic will conclude with making Dhal and visiting Kew Gardens to take part in some plant hunting workshops. A cohort of David Attenboroughs in the making?

Year 4



Year 4 had a fantastic start to the new half term with their trip to Tolmers. They loved sharing tents, getting up at 4.05am, running wild in the fields and on the beach, and toasting marshmallows around the campfire. The teachers looked much older than normal, despite the fresh air and outdoor living.



Since returning to school, the children have plunged into their new topic, Active Planet. The children are loving producing their own PowerPoint presentations about famous volcanoes, investigating igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks, and learning all about the destruction of the Roman town of Pompeii in 79AD.

Year 5



Year 5 have been hard at work sewing in the art studio with Andrea, participating in the amazing, whole school quilt. They have also enjoyed researching and writing a fact file about the English region: the East of England. One of the counties in the east of England is Suffolk, which they can't wait to visit later this half term.



Year 6



Year 6 have been busily preparing for their end of year production, The Wizard of Oz. As well as acting, singing and dancing, they've been learning about the history of the theatre and making their own mini theatre boxes. English and Maths have continued as normal and in computing, the children have developed impressive programming skills whilst exploring Python 3. Earlier in the month, the children visited Bounds Green Scout Park for an interesting morning taking part in various scenarios run by the police, fire and TFL. With a show, disco and secondary school transition visits to come, Year 6 is in for a very busy last few weeks.

School Gardening Clubs



From keeping the green walkway green, planting plenty of seeds and plants, as well as weeding, the children from our gardening clubs have been incredibly productive. Flo, our fabulous gardener, certainly has some super little helpers.

Summer Fair!



We are looking forward to seeing you all tomorrow for our Summer Fair. The sun will shine and it promises to be filled with fun, laughter and merriment.

Important Dates

Please add these dates to the family calendar...

Saturday 2 nd July	Summer Fair
Tuesday 19 th July 4.00 – 6.30 pm	Open Evening
Wednesday 20 th July 6.00 – 8.00 pm	Year 6 Wizard of Oz
Thursday 21 st July 1.30pm	Last Day of Summer Term

See you at the fair!

With best wishes

William

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Headteacher



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