



HIGHFIELD MATTERS - SUMMER EDITION

July 2017

A message from the Principal:

In addition to the weekly Bulletin which is posted on our website, the Senior Leadership Team, together with a number of staff, have collaborated together to provide you with a bumper edition of the final termly letter home, capturing some of our more recent highlights. I hope you enjoy the read and photos enclosed within it.

As the final week is upon us it is timely for me, on behalf of the Local Governing Body and all our staff, to thank you all for your continued support to the academy and wish you well over the holiday period.

We also say farewell to colleagues this Friday as they seek pastures new I am sure you will join with me in wishing them well in their new ventures.

Welcome to our new Year 7

Our new year 7 pupils joined us for a special 'Transition Week' and took part in a wide variety of fun activities and lessons to give them a taster of life in a secondary school. .

Activities included a hands-on science lesson that saw pupils learning all about fire and fire safety, including how to use a fire blanket to safely smother flames.



It included a teambuilding day and group tasks that encouraged them to work together, breaking down barriers and enabling new friendships to form.

Sports activities and a theatre production allowed them to get active and creative.

Our new pupils also took part in fun literacy and maths challenges, as well as experiencing lessons in a number of subjects.

The week was the perfect opportunity for us to greet our new pupils and for them to meet their new teachers, make new friends and familiarise themselves with the academy. Sessions were also designed to help them to develop the skills they need to be successful and independent learners.

We had a great week and are looking forward to our new Year 7 joining us in September.



Being prepared for the new year...

Six weeks is a great time to relax, rest and build up ready for the next academic year. Please make sure to buy in the following items for the next academic year. Being equipped for each and every day is vital in order to be organised and aimed for your best in each and every lesson:

Required equipment for every lesson:

1. A bag!
2. Pencil case
3. Black and red pen.
4. Ruler
5. Rubber
6. Pencil



Preparation for the future is absolutely key and we believe that one way to prepare our pupils for their future careers and support the value of organisation!

Pupils will be given planners at the beginning of the academic year and it is also vital they bring this in for each and every day. The planner has valuable information and can act as a learning tool and is great to record all homework and coursework deadlines.

Keeping you informed

The academy will close at 12.30 p.m. on 21st July 2017. The opening hours from this date will be Monday to Friday from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

We will be closed on Bank Holidays. If you would like to contact us by email please use info@highfield.tetrust.org.

GCSE results can be collected at 10 a.m. from the academy on Thursday 24th August 2017.

The academy re-opens for all pupils at 8.40 a.m. on the 6th September 2017.

OUTWARD BOUND

Pupils from Highfield and South Shore recently joined forces on the Year 9 Outward Bound residential visit. A fantastic week of fun activities that enabled pupils to meet new friends and develop the skills needed to be successful and independent young adults in the future.

In the beautiful Ullswater setting our pupils eagerly enjoyed Gorge Walking, Camping, Lake – Swimming, Rafting and Mountaineering.



LEGO THERAPY AT HIGHFIELD

Lego therapy was devised by Dan LeGoff. It is a great way to learn how to work together. A group of our Year 7 pupils have been taking part in Lego Therapy in the Nurture Zone, and have developed their collaboration, turn taking, communication and problem solving skills.

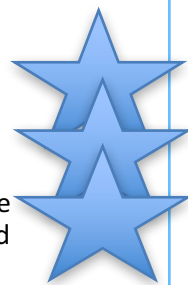


Congratulations to Conrad Evans and Keira Wilkie who have shown outstanding STAR qualities during the term whilst working with Mrs. Stewart in an English intervention called idl. Their attendance has been 100% to the intervention and their attitude towards their learning and progress has been excellent.

Bronze award winners...

A massive congratulations to 218 pupils within the Academy that have achieved Leadership Passport Bronze.

All the pupils have worked hard to achieve this and have had to go above and beyond normal learning time within the Academy in order to be successful. Well done.



Our Great Get Together

Over 100 local people visited Highfield to share an afternoon treat and enjoy traditional summer fair activities at the event organised in memory of the late MP Jo Cox.

Alongside the trusted tombola and raffle, those who came to the academy fair also enjoyed a bouncy castle, donkey rides, hook-a-duck, circus school fun, welly throwing and even a chance to soak the teachers!

Highfield pupils showcased their talents at an 'open mic' session during the afternoon, and local traders offered a wide variety of stalls for the community to enjoy.

Organised by the school's PTFA, the event was open to the local community as well as Highfield pupils and their families. Children from Highfield's partner primary schools were invited along, including those Year 6 pupils joining the Highfield family in September.

The event, arranged by our Parent, Teachers and Friends Association was enjoyed by all the community. The academy also welcomed a visit from Gordon Marsden MP who took time out of his busy schedule to join the Great Get Together.

The Great Get Together was an initiative led by the Jo Cox Foundation to help highlight the late MP's 'More In Common' message. It was an opportunity for people to get together with their neighbours to share food and celebrate all that we have in common. Proceeds from the sale will be donated to the charity.

The PTFA are always looking for help to continue to plan events for the academy pupils to enjoy.

If you would like to get involved please get in touch.



Annual Athletics/Town sports

Highfield's annual athletics was on the 5th July. It was a very competitive day with the sun beating down on all of us. Miss Maunder had organised the event for her final time and it was a fantastic day which reflects on how much she had done for the sport at Highfield. The pupils were competing very well and eagerly anticipating the final result. It was too close to call with teams 'Ambition' and 'Respect' trading places many times throughout the day. Finally after the results of the relay races where in 'Ambition' claimed victory with 'Respect' a close second.

Overall best performers within each year included-

Year 7

Megan Cassidy
Tyler Hallan

Year 8

Hollie Tarpey
Junior Nkwonta

Year 9

Avila Leahy
Ben Townsend

Year 10

Zoe Lyon
Henry Sandwell



Chardonnay Murphy in Year 9 also won sportsmanship award for giving it her all in many events and winning her 800 meter race.

Highfield PE would like to say a massive thank you to Miss Maunder for all her hard work over the years and especially for her commitment to Highfield Athletics.

The P.E department would also like to thank Miss Maunder who organised another fantastic Athletics event, Town Sports, as well as all the pupils that attended and the parents that gave their support.

Highfield had a team of 90 pupils competing against 7 schools in Blackpool. The pupils that represented should be very proud of themselves. They all worked very hard and conducted themselves superbly. The final standings were extremely close. 1 point separated Highfield and Montgomery... with Highfield finishing second and Montgomery finishing overall winners. We look forward to this event again next year and hopefully a change of fortunes.

A Prom to remember

After weeks of exams our Year 11 celebrated at the traditional Prom event.

Gathering at the academy prior to the event the young adults looked absolutely stunning.

A lovely 3 course meal was followed by awards, singing and dancing. A great night was had by all, it was a lovely way to end their final year.



Winning is as easy as 1, 2, 3 for Highfield Leadership Academy maths challenge team

Battling through rounds of mathematical problems added up to success when a team from Highfield Leadership Academy took part in the finals of the Year 7 Blackpool Maths Challenge.

On Monday 10 July pupils Charlie Standing, Morgan Faulkner, Timm Musk and Lee Black were crowned champions in the maths competition for secondary schools from across the town.

As 2016 winners, the Highfield hosted the finals of the contest which pitted Highfield Leadership Academy against teams from South Shore Academy, Lytham St Anne's High School, and Aspire Academy.

Success in the early rounds put the Highfield team through to the final rounds of tasks. It was here when the pupils' listening and advanced problem-solving skills were most rigorously tested.

Highfield Leadership Academy will be determined to hold on to their title for a third consecutive year, when a new Year 7 team take part in the contest in 2018.



Rotary Young Artist competition

For the second year running Highfield's GCSE art pupils picked up the top prizes, producing thought-provoking artworks for this prestigious competition at a very busy time in the academic year.

Our artists dominated the 14 to 17 years category of the Rotary District Level competition with Year 10 pupil

Amy Tomlinson named the winner with her painting

'Double Reflection'

and Year 10 pupil Codie Cooper

the runner-up with her painting 'Reflection Through a Horse's Eye'. Congratulations from all at Highfield.



A taste of Army life

Highfield pupils interested in a career in the services got a taste of army life recently. We hosted a visit from the British Army's National Recruiting Centre Outreach Team. They worked with our Personalised Learning Centre (PLC) pupils and Year 11 pupils who are interested in careers in the army.



Over the course of the day the pupils completed team building tasks, problem solving activities and memory games. They took part in a question and answer session on army life, discovered the range of roles available within the army and found out how to apply.

After the experience our PLC pupils stated that they had enjoyed the activities and gained a better understanding of how important team work actually is. They couldn't believe how many roles there were in the army and that the majority didn't have anything to do with combat.

Each pupil took away something new from the day, be it a mind-set (they discovered they can work in teams with others), new information (about the army and roles within it) or understanding (to think outside the box). Some pupils surprised themselves with how much more confident they felt working in activity situations, and some new friendships were formed among pupils who didn't know one another previously.

Following the session, some PLC pupils are considering the public service course at Blackpool & the Fylde College, having changed their perceptions of the army as a career

Our new website is here

If you haven't already visited our new website take a look at

www.highfieldleadershipacademy.com

We hope that you find it easy to use and full of the information you require, whether you are a current or prospective parent or a member of the wider community.

If you have any feedback, or suggestions for other information you would like to see on the site, please do not hesitate to contact us.

A final message from the Principal:

I have written an extended good bye message on my Bulletin this week but it is with a sad heart, but very happy memories I leave Highfield this summer, although as still part of the Tauheedul family, I will never be far away. Thank you for your kindness, your support, your generosity of spirit and your talent. I know Highfield will go on to be outstanding in the not too distant future. With very best wishes. **Lynette Norris**