



Highfield Newsletter



Headteacher's Message

Athlete Amy Hunt's response to a sports advertising campaign featuring Sydney Sweeney has prompted valuable conversations about positive role models, body confidence and empowering girls through sport this week. However, rather than espouse my own views, I thought I would ask two of our newest members of staff to share their perspectives as female role models in our school.

Miss Dodsworth asked why an actress was employed if it was about sport? Why not a sportswoman who could project females as powerful, high-achieving examples? Do betting sites have to target those who objectify female athletes? As for the over-simplified language to portray women as incapable of intelligence. For Miss Millar, she was disappointed that another woman would act in a way that challenges years of progress in women's sport. In a short time, Miss Millar pointed out that woman's sport has progressed so far and no advert pay-check should be big enough to tempt women to undermine that. However, pushback following this advert has been inspiring!

In the background to this conversation, a bristling Miss Thackrah couldn't hold back any longer. "The problem is that so much of the conversation around Sydney Sweeney has been about what women look like, rather than who they are or what they've achieved. It reinforces the message to girls that, however successful they are, the way they look can still end up being what people focus on most. The fight for equality is not over!"

Miss Thackrah is right, the fight for equality is not over. But what was clear to me, is that we are fortunate to have such passionate, exceptional role models for boys and girls alike at Highfield.

Enjoy your weekend and thank you for your support.

Mr Feeley

News & Updates

Celebration Assembly

Congratulations and a huge well done to the children in Key Stage 1 who were recognised for their fantastic effort and attitude this week by making it into the **celebration book**. We are all proud of you for setting such a high standard! The children who we are celebrating this week are:

1B - Bailey, Josselyn, Kyro, Zaki

1W - Ehaan, Jude, Lily

2F - Ayza, Hamda, Moezz, Ruzgar

2H - Aadhya, Kris, Theodore

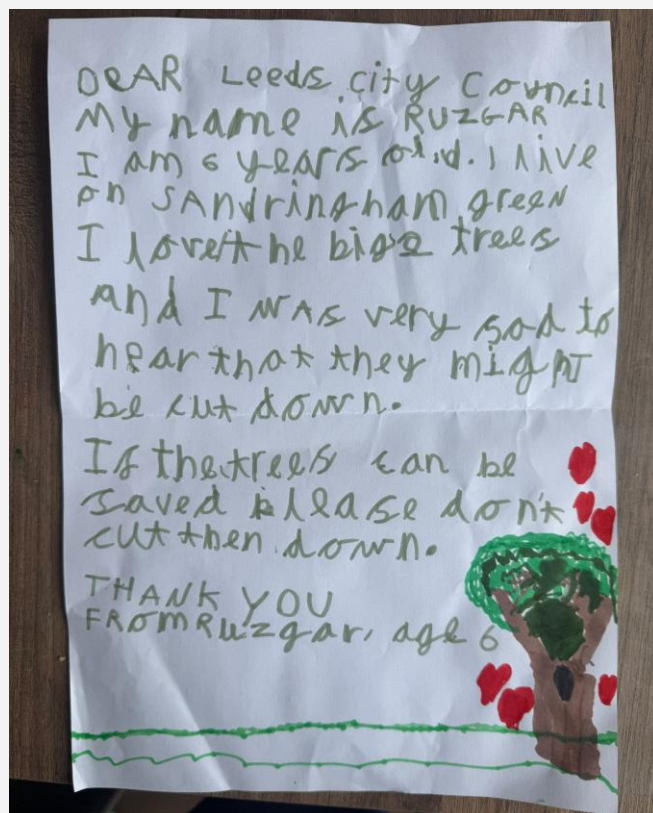
Best wishes Miss Overduin!

The arrival of a very special new addition to Miss Overduin's family is clearly not far away! We would like to send our warmest wishes before she finishes today.

Throughout her time at Highfield, we have known Miss Overduin to be such a fantastic teacher, but, more importantly, a wonderful person making a lasting difference to the lives of so many children and colleagues. It was Miss Overduin who led our successful Healthy Schools reaccreditation for which we were inspected only last week after years of hard work. What an effort! We are all grateful.

As she begins this exciting new chapter, we wish her good health, happiness and precious moments with her growing family. We know she will be every bit as wonderful a parent as she is a teacher and we look forward to meeting the newest member of the Highfield community very soon.

Growing a Greener Future



Dates for your Diary!

- **Mon 21st Sept:** Year 4 residentials begin, Year 1 Curriculum meeting for parents (3:30pm)
- **Tues 22nd Sept:** Year 2 Curriculum meeting for parents (3:30pm)
- **Thurs 24th Sept:** Year 3 Curriculum meeting for parents (3:30pm)
- **Fri 25th Sept:** KS2 celebration assembly

How about this for a beautiful, impassioned letter to save the Sandringham Green trees! Ruzgar in Year 2 wrote to Leeds City Council asking them to rethink their plans to bring down the beautiful ash trees that were due to be removed.

They listened. The Council wrote back granting the trees a reprieve and agreed to prune them instead. We are really proud of Ruzgar for such a thoughtful, powerful letter; a tree is on our Highfield crest and he has fought to keep them a part of our community.

Safeguarding. For child protection concerns you can contact any of our Designated Child Protection Officers: Mr Feeley, Mrs Dalgliesh, Mr Brassil, Mrs Bowker and Mrs Calvert. There is some useful information on the LSCB website about online safety with some useful tips for parents: <http://www.leedslscb.org.uk/Parents-Carers-Wider-Family/Keeping-children-safe-online>. If you are worried that a child is at risk of harm please contact Leeds Children's Social Work Services on 0113 222 4403.