



Highfield Newsletter



Headteacher's Message

This week our pupils enjoyed a fantastic **Mad Science assembly** with an **Olympics theme**. They explored how **air resistance affects performance** for athletes and even discovered that the famous "**Mexican Wave**" actually started in American college sports crowds! The highlight? A caffeine-fuelled Miss Ladley winning a lightning-fast reaction competition. It was a brilliant reminder that science is fun, practical and relevant. Science captures the imagination naturally – whether it's **space adventures** (my Star Wars toys are currently on loan to year 1), **dinosaurs**, or things that go "boom." When we connect these interests to real-world contexts, children not only stay engaged but also begin to understand the theory behind the wonder. Story-telling is also such an important part of teaching.

This approach aligns perfectly with our recently published **Sustainability Plan**, written by Mrs Busch and published on our website. The plan sets out how Highfield will embed environmental responsibility into our curriculum and daily life, ensuring pupils learn about the science behind sustainability and why it matters for their future.

Government data shows a **positive trend in STEM subject uptake** at GCSE, A-Level, and degree level – great news given the UK's STEM skills shortage. Computing is leading the way with a **156% increase in qualifications achieved by women since 2020**, thanks to more girls taking Computing A-levels. Physics remains the slowest-growing subject, particularly among girls, but progress is happening. Every government talks about preparing children for the "jobs of the future." At Highfield, we believe our pupils will be at the forefront of shaping tomorrow's world.

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 One 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:

2H - Arjun, Emily, Fox

2F - Adam, Kellan, Shylah

1B - Evelyn, Rowan, Taran

1W - Camilla, Mia, Mohammed, Suniaya

RH - Nancy, Neha, Oliver, Oskar

RGS - Millie, Pixie, Sehaj, William

Hitting the Right Note!

A massive well done to Rayann in Year 3 who last week came second in the Class 9 Piano Solos (Year 9 and under) at the Wharfedale Festival of Performing Arts. This takes effort, concentration and dedication, but Rayann has it in abundance. Top job!



Dates for your Diary!

- **Weds 26th Nov:** Year 4V class assembly
- **Thurs 27th Nov:** Pedagogy Evening for parents
- **Fri 28th Nov:** Training Day

Picture News



In picture news this week, the children were considering the impact of technology and whether it can be *too* helpful. When we consider the impact of AI, we think about the amazing time-saving benefits but is that lost thinking time to the detriment of our brain power? Will we forget how to think for ourselves? Linked to the picture above, will trainers, which do the job of our feet, impair our physical development? Deep-thinking required!

Next week the children will consider why McDonalds have changed their Happy Meal box from red to white. What is the reasoning there?



ASSEMBLY RESOURCE

Read through the information below all about Project Amplify. Talk about who you think it will help.

What is Project Amplify?

Project Amplify is a new type of shoe, made by Nike, to help people walk or run with less effort and to give the wearer an extra boost.

Nike has said more than 400 athletes covered 2.4 million steps in more than nine different versions of Project Amplify around a track in its Nike Sport Research Lab.

It's not the only company developing this kind of technology. A company called ReWalk Robotics is creating robotic shoes that help people who cannot walk.

Project Amplify started with a single question: What if we could find a way to help athletes move faster and farther with less energy and a lot more fun?

Michael Donaghu, Vice President of Create The Future, Emerging Sport and Innovation at Nike.

Nike Unveils Project Amplify, the World's First Powered Footwear System for Running and Walking

"We've always believed movement is medicine, and Project Amplify is the next chapter in that story. It's a bold leap forward, crossing a new threshold of putting power directly into your stride."

Michael Donaghu
VP of Create The Future, Emerging Sport and Innovation

Source: Nike Media

How does it work?

The shoe has a small motor and battery inside it that can be recharged.

It works a bit like a power boost, helping people walk or run with extra energy. Nike says it's almost like having an extra pair of muscles!

Do you believe the shoes should be allowed to be used anytime, by anyone?



Safeguarding. For child protection concerns you can contact any of our Designated Child Protection Officers: Mr Feeley, Mrs Dalglish, 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.

PEDAGOGY!?

Pedagogy is the art and science of teaching and learning.
How does what we know about learning and memory in-
form our practice as teachers?

Want to find out more about pedagogy and take a peek
into our

practice as teachers at Highfield?

Make a date in your diary for Mr.Brassil's

PEDAGOGY FOR PARENTS evening on **Thursday the 27th**
November 2025 at 6p.m. in the school hall. In the session

I will be uncovering some of the principles we use at
Highfield to ensure that our teaching, and the learning
that happens as a result, is outstanding. A peek behind
the primary school curtain!

PEDAGOGY FOR PARENTS EVENING

THURSDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 2025

6P.M.



A festive poster for the Highfield Primary Christmas Fair. It features a light beige background with various Christmas-themed illustrations: a gingerbread man, a green sock with white stars, a red and white striped candy, a reindeer, a snowman, a sleigh with a reindeer, and a gift box. The text is centered and reads:

**HIGHFIELD PRIMARY
CHRISTMAS FAIR**

**Wednesday 3rd
December** **2.15pm - 4.30pm**

Local businesses will be selling their Christmas
gifts in the large hall- please shop local and
support!

Tombolas and lots of games for the
children and even a cafe!

A poster for the Wetherby Whaler Festive Challenge. It features a blue background with a white snow-like border at the top. The central image shows Santa Claus sitting in a sleigh, surrounded by five children. To the right of the children is a green, furry Grinch-like character. Below the image is a yellow banner with the text:

WETHERBY WHALER

FESTIVE CHALLENGE

BOXING DAY | KICK OFF 11:30AM

BUY TICKETS - TICKETS.THERHINOS.CO.UK

On the left side of the yellow banner is the Leeds Rhinos logo, and on the right side is the Wakefield Trinity logo.