6th November 2026

Highcliffe Headlines

Headteacher's message

A very warm welcome back to all our children, families and staff after half term. I hope you had a restful break and are ready for another exciting half term at Highcliffe St Mark Primary. This one is funpacked and full of HSMP sparkle and we have started with a bonfire night bang!

This week, I have enjoyed seeing some wonderful learning across the school, including the fantastic firework-themed writing in Year 2. We were also delighted to welcome two Headteachers and their English leadership teams to visit our school and see writing in action. They were highly complimentary about the quality of writing throughout the school, from the early mark making in Fledglings to the impressive outcomes in Year 6.

Today it was lovely to see so many children encouraging and supporting one another during our Pudsey Run. Thank you to all parents and carers for your generous donations in support of BBC Children in Need.

As we approach Remembrance Sunday and Remembrance Day, we are proud that some of our House Captains will be reading prayers they have written themselves during the church service at St Mark's Church. In school, we will mark Remembrance in an age-appropriate way and, where appropriate, children will join in observing the two-minute silence on 11th November as we take time to reflect on the importance of peace, service and sacrifice.

This half term promises to be another fantastic one!

Dates for your diary

11th to 18th November
PSHE Life Ed Tent

12th November
YR to Y6 Parent Consultations

13th November
Reception Autumn Discovery Day

New Dates

16th November
Odd Socks Day

18th & 20th November
FRIENDS Christmas Wreath Making

For more please see the calendar on our website.

Attendance Matters

Weekly Winner

Year 4 have last week's top attendance with **98.2%**

Whole School attendance so far this year is **96.1%**

Our target attendance is 97%+

House Points

Brave Step Challenge: Next week points will be awarded to house members for attempting things that they find challenging.

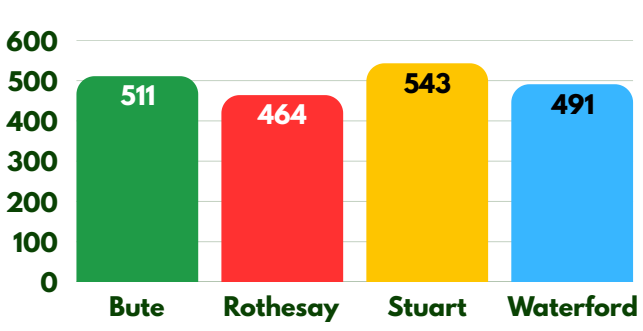


Photo Order Deadline

Photo proof cards have been sent home with the children this week. Please follow the instructions to order. The deadline for free delivery back to school is **Friday 27th Nov**. Please contact the school office if you did not receive your child's proof card.

Fire Safety

We have been asked to remind families to stay safe in firework and bonfire season. If you are attending displays or having a party, remember to:

Never go near a lit firework
Store fireworks in a closed box and keep out of reach of children
Only buy fireworks that are CE marked
Supervise children around fireworks
Light at arms length, using a taper
Light sparklers one at a time, and wear gloves
Check bonfires for hedgehogs before lighting
Keep a distance from a bonfire
Keep pets indoors

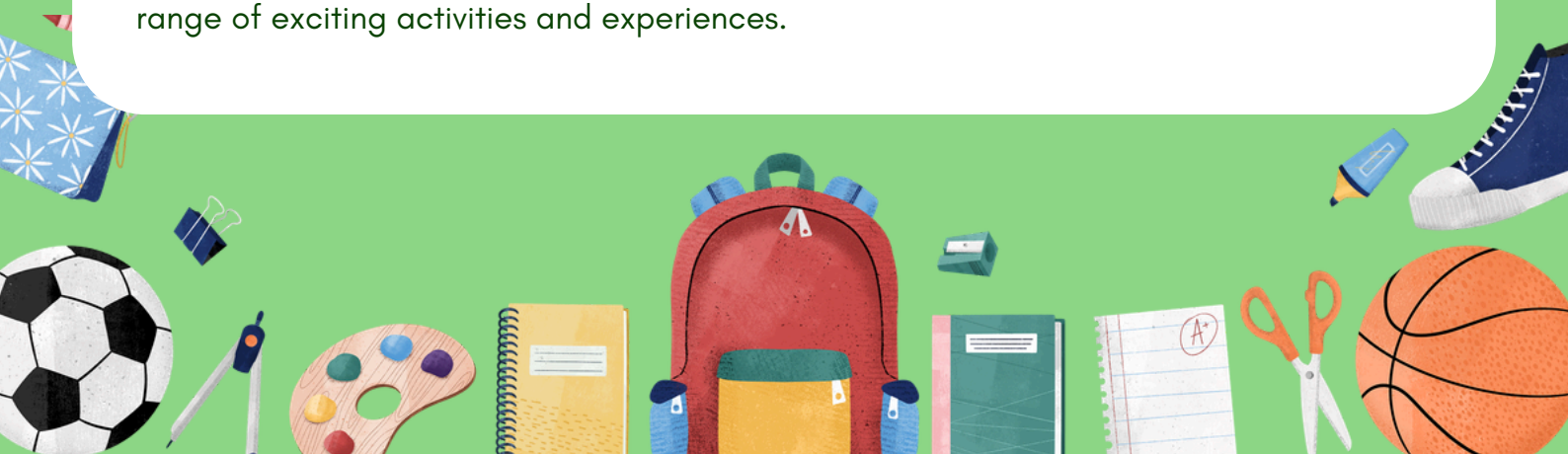
What have Year 3 been working on so far this year?

Recently, Year 3 have been working hard across a range of subjects. In English, we have been learning about the Ancient Egyptians and used our historical knowledge to write clear instructions explaining how to mummify a body. We focused on using time connectives, imperative verbs and well-organised steps.

In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of the formal written methods for addition and subtraction. The children have been practising these methods and applying them to solve a variety of problems with increasing confidence.

During our Computing Day, we created story graphs based on a class text. We identified key events in the story and explored how the characters' emotions changed throughout the story, presenting our ideas using digital tools.

We are very proud of the enthusiasm and effort Year 3 have shown in all of their learning. We are also looking forward to our Ancient Egyptian Day in a couple of weeks' time, where the children will have the opportunity to bring their learning to life through a range of exciting activities and experiences.



Anti-bullying week and Odd Socks Day

As a school, we are delighted to support this event and the valuable message it promotes. Events like these provide meaningful opportunities for our children to learn, grow, and come together as a community. To show our support, children are invited to come to school wearing odd socks on **Monday 16th November**. We are excited to see all the different, colourful and creative odd sock combinations on display!





Did your child miss their school photo?

Fraser Portraits are offering a retake session for children who have missed out or would like siblings or other family members to be included.



St Mark's Church Christmas Market

We're excited to support the local Christmas Market taking place tomorrow at St Mark's Church! Come along and enjoy a festive afternoon filled with seasonal fun, community spirit, and Christmas cheer. We are especially proud that several of our children will be performing and showcasing their talents throughout the event. We hope to see many of our families there supporting this wonderful community occasion.

