



March 2018

Newsletter



Trinity Church Easter Concert

Tuesday 13th March 2018

Mrs Steeples and Miss Pickering took some members of the school choir to Trinity Church in Ossett to take part in an EOCT concert with other local schools. Our students had a fantastic day, and joined in enthusiastically in the concert, despite how freezing cold we all were!! We look forward to the next EOCT concert in the summer term in Ossett Town Hall, which will hopefully be warmer! A write up of the Spring concert was in the Wakefield Express on Friday 23rd March and can be viewed online by visiting - www.tiny.cc/easterconcert

Students involved - Summer Day, Kieran Barret-Pickles, Lucy Borthwick, James Playford, Brodie Watson, Harley Dyer



CELEBRATION

James Carney
james.carney@press.co.uk
@reporterjamesc

The sound of school children singing their hearts out filled a church during an Easter concert.

Around 150 pupils from eight primary schools took part in the performance at Holy Trinity Church in Ossett.

Kelly Burnett, organiser and coordinator for Education Ossett Community Trust, said: "It went really, really well.

"The children were brilliant. They had been there since 10am and the church was freezing but they absolutely loved it and we had brilliant vol-



unteers from Ossett Academy."

Highfield School, Holy Trinity Primary, Flushdyke Junior and Infant, Towngate Primary, Gawthorpe Community Academy, South Parade Primary, Southdale Junior, South Ossett Infant's Academy, and Dimple Wells Infant

schools all took part on the day. And the pupils missed out on a key rehearsal ahead of the concert due to the recent bad weather.

They only had one chance to practise all together before the final rehearsal on the morning of the concert but Kelly said they rose to the occasion. The church was full with up to 300 people as music coordinator Alison Boome led the festivities.

Another concert featuring all the schools from the town will be held at Ossett Town Hall in July.



01924 264240



www.highfield-school.co.uk



@highfieldSEN

Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

It's hard to believe that we are at the Easter holidays already. It has been a really busy term, during which it was a great pleasure to meet so many of you during the open house and, more recently, during the parent consultations.

I am delighted that so many of you are pleased with the quality of our provision but I am also grateful for those who contacted me separately with any concerns. We really appreciate your honest feedback on how we can improve the school and if you haven't provided any feedback yet but would like to do so please email mturner@highfield.wakefield.sch.uk

We are sorry to say farewell and give our best wishes to Sue Bell and Aaron King who are leaving Highfield on Thursday 29th March 2018. Sue has been a part of the team at Highfield for 15 years working as both a classroom assistant and in our admin office and is often on our reception to meet and greet you. We are sure you will join us in wishing Sue a long and happy retirement.

Mr King was working at Highfield on secondment, this has now concluded and he is moving on to a new venture, we may see Mr King in school in the future as a consultant.

This term we are focusing on the development of our provision for pupils with complex and profound difficulties and are working hard to improve the quality of teaching for all pupils now that we have invested in our medium term planning and our accuracy of our data systems. Happy Easter, enjoy the rest and we will see you in the Summer Term.

Thank you.

Mr P Marshall
Executive Headteacher

A Visit to Wakefield Royal Theatre

Friday 16th February 2018

Mr Jones, Mrs Empsall and Miss Pickering took some Year 10/11 students from the BTEC Performing Arts class to Wakefield Royal Theatre for a tour. Students were able to see backstage, walk onto the stage, sit in the best seats in the house and even go to the dizzying heights of the fly floor! We had an excellent trip and we were all very interested to hear about and ask questions about the running of the theatre. Ethan definitely loved being allowed to sit in one of the boxes!

Students who attended – Peggi Morrell, John Leach, Ethan Rhodes, Ellie Walker, Tyffany-Jayde Wood



World of Percussion

Wednesday 14th March 2018

Miss Pickering and Mrs Goodridge took seven students from the Year 10/11 Music class to Dewsbury Town Hall for a lunchtime concert to watch a World of Percussion concert by professional musicians from Opera North. This trip was part of preparations for the student's group performance unit that they are currently working towards. We got to listen to a range of tuned and un-tuned percussion instruments, including BoomWhackers which was definitely one of our favourites. They even performed a piece of music with no instruments whatsoever! Sat with members of the public, our students respected the performers, acted very maturely and listened throughout. We are so very proud of our students representing our school as young adults.

Students - Charlotte Davinson, Harrison Cook, Gary Ratcliffe, Chloe-Ann Charmain, Lewis Jackson, Kyle Barker, Matthew Boycott



Please Remember!

A reminder that from Monday 16th April 2018 dinner money has increased to £2.10 per day

Active Wakefield

Cycle Maps and Routes

Entry, easy, steady and challenging circular routes around Wakefield.

Visit - www.tiny.cc/wakefieldcycle

Room on the Broom Story Trial

A unique adventure trail at Anglers Country Park with activities that provide a fun outdoor experience for all the family!

Visit - www.tiny.cc/roombroom

Gnome Roam

Enjoy a scenic walk exploring the country park, find the sculptures and complete the activities and challenges as you go.

Visit - www.tiny.cc/gnomeroam

Blown Away

Launching at Pugneys Country Park Easter 2018.

World Book Day

WORLD
BOOK
DAY

Thursday 29th March

As we missed World Book Day on the 1st March due to the snow, we have decided to celebrate it on the last day of term, Thursday 29th March. Students (and staff!) can come to school wearing fancy dress and we will be collecting voluntary contributions of 50p for Book Aid International. We will also run a book swap event at the end of the morning for those who wish to participate.



A Big Well Done to 11SC

We would like to give a special mention to 11SC for their hard work every Wednesday afternoon in the library. 11SC have been working in the library as part of their ASDAN PSD qualification. Their jobs include checking in books on to the computer system, making sure the books are organised and keeping the resources and equipment tidy. Thank you for your hard work 11SC!



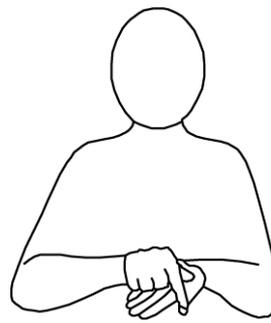
Signs of the Month



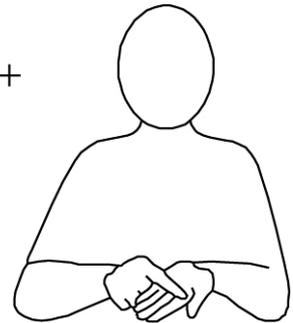
Mathematics



English



+



April

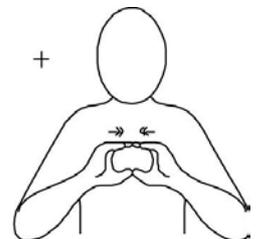
Finger spell 'A' then 'L'



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Easter Egg



Think you know is a website for children and adults. It has loads of fabulous resources to help youngsters learn to keep themselves safe online.

This is really important for children with SEN given that they are often more vulnerable and can have greater difficulty spotting risky situations.

Visit - www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Horticulture Day

Mr S Hoyle, Horticulture Department

Following on from the success in previous years we will be running a family horticulture day during the months of May and/or June. This will be a full morning of activities in the school garden with light refreshments provided.

If you decide to attend I hope that you can make it for the whole session but please don't be put off if you can only spend an hour or so, you will be most welcome. This day will give you the opportunity to spend some quality time with your children and other students in their school environment, where they can show you the types of tasks they perform during their horticulture lessons.

You don't need to do anything now. Once the day is set I will write to you inviting you to come to the session and you can let me know then, places will be available to family members. If demand exceeds availability I will add more dates through to the end of this school year.



Sports Relief 2018

Well done to everybody involved in Friday's Sports Relief fundraising event, where we managed to raise £98.42!

Hint & Tips: MindEd

From The Hut Staff

What is MindEd?

MindEd is a free website. It has info on loads of topics that parents find most bewildered by. There's lots of info that can be accessed in short blocks of time.

What kind of thing does it cover?

MindEd has free info on pretty much anything. Examples are:

- Anxiety
- Bereavement
- Sexual orientation
- Parenting in the digital world
- Eating disorders
- Transition to adult services

Who is it written by?

MindEd is written by experts for parents.

Who can use it?

MindEd is for you. It's also for your wider family. It's free for everyone and anyone.

Where can I get more information?

Look at www.minded.org.uk

What are the benefits?

Children benefit from parents having more confidence when supporting them.

Some of the topics are related to mental health. We know that mental health can affect our families and us. For example, anxiety isn't just something that children experience - it could be that another member of your family has anxiety and you want to find out more.



Post-16 News

SSt Pre Internship

On Friday 15th February the students of Sst Post 16 travelled to Pinderfields Hospital for the interview day to apply for the internship programme for September 2018. The students took part in a rigorous interview process, which was chaired by the head of inclusion of the Mid Yorkshire Trust, the tutors, the job coaches and the company that support the internship programme, HFT.

This was obviously a huge task for our students. They came to school fully prepared and looking very smart. After a very long day the students then went home and had to wait for the Hospital to contact them for feedback.

I am pleased to announce that all eight students, who applied were successful and have achieved a place on the Mid Yorkshire Trust programme in September.

I would also like to say a huge thank you to all the parents who have supported their child and myself to get them to this stage.

It really has been an amazing journey for these 8 students from September up to now. I am so pleased that Friday 15th February had a really positive outcome that they truly all deserved and will change their life experiences for the better!



Here are a few comments from Dojo as the hospital broke the news!

Hello Everyone

Just to let you know that everything went well from my perspective. The panel are now in discussion. You may get to find out tonight or it could be tomorrow.

If you do find out today, please dojo me or let the students dojo me. I don't mind what time it is.

Fingers crossed for everyone!

Sharon Stobbs

Hi Jordan got a phone call from Pinderfields. Her has been accepted, we are so happy. Thank you for helping him get the internship.

Ruth

Jordan Staed

Ryan has heard and he has a place, yay, over the moon and Ryan is so calm about it..

Ryan Bostock

Drew's got a place!!!!!!

Drew Tye

Hi Sharon just to let you know Liam has got a place

I never get good news but this is the best news ever really proud of him

Liam Callaghan

Oh my, I can't get anything done for thinking about all of them! Hannah's interview may have even finished by now! I need to say a HUGE and SUPER thank you to YOU Sharon. Without you, quite literally, Hannah wouldn't be where she is today...so THANK YOU! Fingers crossed for all of them! Don't they look smashing?!

Jordan Staed

Oh my, I can't get anything done for thinking about all of them! Hannah's interview may have even finished by now! I need to say a HUGE and SUPER thank you to YOU Sharon. Without you, quite literally, Hannah wouldn't be where she is today...so THANK YOU! Fingers crossed for all of them! Don't they look smashing?!

Hannah Edwards

Hi Sharon, just to let you know Danny has got a place, thank you for all your effort with him xx

Daniel Long

She's only gone and done it!!!!
Thank you for all your support xx

Briony Walker

Congratulations to you all!
8 students, 8 interviews, 8 YES's
How amazing is that. I really can't explain how I'm feeling right now. I'm so very very proud. Now this is why I love my job!
Thank you so much for your overwhelming support and comments, I'm Speechless.
Have a great evening everyone!

Sharon Stobbs

MY PROJECT SEARCH

Congratulations to the 8 students in the Highfield Pre-internship Programme who have been offered places for Sept 2018. They all completed a series of tasks and interviews at Pinderfields Hospital as part of the selection process.

Well done to Sharon and Vicky in Post 16 for all their work this year to give the students the best possible chance of success.



Congratulations also to 2017 intern Liam Newbigging, who started his full-time job in the Hospital Pharmacy Dept on February 26th. Liam used his first pay packet to take his Mum out for tea!

Liam has also passed his exam for the Level 2 Food Hygiene. His score of 27/30 was the top mark achieved in the group of hospital employees taking the exam

On May 18th, some of the MY Project SEARCH team will be travelling to London to give a presentation to health professionals at the National NHS Disability Summit. Flying the flag for Wakefield and Yorkshire in the capital city!



Behaviour Awards

Well done to all pupils who have received their behaviour awards.

BRONZE AWARD	
8/9SSk	
Alfie McKinny Jamie Conway Chloe Newsome William Slinn	
8/9 LG/MW	
Evie Lee Jake Wall Max Brown	
11SC	
Ethan Rhodes	
11SN	
Thea Smith	

SILVER AWARD	
7/8KW	
Dante Mwazi Harley Dyer Freddie Wilson Justin Greaves	
8/9SSk	
Louis Istrefaj Oliver Wagstaff Morgan McCluskey	
8/9 LG/MW	
Jack Johnson Broodie Watson Laura Moore Eve Mackell Aron McDonnell Thomas Lloyd	
9RPα	
Thomas Madin	
11SC	
Jack Armitage Mason Ashton Kyle Barker Matthew Boycott Lewis Jackson	
11SN	
Peggi Morrell	

Highfield School Term Calendar - April/May 2018

Week Beginning	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
16 th April	2.15 KS4 Assembly Return from Easter Holidays			2.15 KS3 Assembly	
32 nd April	2.15 KS4 Assembly			2.15 KS3 Assembly	
30 th April	2.15 KS4 Assembly			2.15 KS3 Assembly	
7 th May	MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY			2.15 KS3 Assembly	
14 th May	2.15 KS4 Assembly			2.15 KS3 Assembly	