



HIGHFIELDS SCHOOL
LONDON ROAD
BALDERTON
NEWARK-ON-TRENT
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
NG24 3AL

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8th January 2010

Dear Parents

A warm welcome back after the festive holiday to the new Term, I hope you all had a good and restful Christmas and wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year.

Come the New Year and new Term I shall be having a purge on presentation of all work both in School and at home. Therefore I would be grateful if you could ensure your son or daughter starts the new Term with all the essential equipment needed, especially a ruler, and encourage them to think about their presentation of work at home.

Important Dates for Your Diary

As yet, I have very few dates for the forthcoming Spring Term, but here are the ones I do have:

Saturday 16 th January	Nottingham High School for Girls entrance examinations.
Monday 18 th January	Lincoln Minster Sport scholarship examinations.
Tuesday 19 th January	Lincoln Minster Music scholarship examinations.
Wednesday 20 th January	Lincoln Minster Art scholarship examinations.
Thursday 21 st January	Lincoln Minster Academic scholarship examinations.
Saturday 23 rd January	Nottingham High School entrance examinations.
Friday 12 th February	Break up for Half Term.
Monday 22 nd February	Children return to School.
Thursday 25 th March	Easter Service, St Giles' Church, Balderton, 2.30pm.
Friday 26 th March	Term ends at 3.30pm.

Listed below are the topics we intend to cover during this Spring Term:

English

Reading	Class reader – Mrs Frisby & The Rats of Nimh. Researching an author.
Comprehension	A variety of texts, logs, diaries - how the author handles the passage of time, structure of texts, media reports, analysing success of texts, authors' reasons for paragraph and structure.
Speaking & Listening	Debate. Presenting oral information. Rhetoric.

Grammar	Commas, colons and semi colons, active and passive sentences, complex sentences, conditional clauses, hypothesis and possibilities, word origins and roots, idioms and puns.
Written	Fiction: Stories from personal experiences, making decisions, points of view, reports, plot structure – develop suspense, fantasy stories, and play scripts. Non Fiction: Current affairs, interviews, moral issues, formal letters, public information and Journalism.
Poetry	Poetical forms, use of figurative language.

Mathematics

Number	Place value, ordering, rounding, negative numbers, brackets. Division giving remainders as decimal.
Measure, Shape	Properties of regular shapes, 2D & 3D shapes, nets. Rotational and reflective symmetry through 45 and 90 degrees. Angles: draw measure and calculate in polygons. Triangles: name, draw and measure. Volume and Area.
Data	Imperial measurements and relationship to metric system, mass. Graphs: block, line, travel graphs, time and distance. Recognise difference between discrete and continuous data.

Science

The Science units covered this Term are irreversible and reversible reactions which look at changes to materials which may be reversible, irreversible or changes that make new and useful materials, as well as recognise the hazards of burning. More about dissolving which looks at solutions, solutes and solvents and the various methods of separation.

Forces in Action – which looks at a variety of forces: magnetic, gravity and changes in motion which occur when forces act on an object.

Humanities – (Mrs Needham)

The children will be studying Britain since 1948, looking at changes in housing, dress, music, living conditions etc. They will be working in groups to research a particular decade and present this to the class.

Art

The children will continue to work on William Morris as well as look at the work of Henry Moore and we will use clay in the style of this well-known artist, working with a local potter, Mr Bramley.

DT

This will continue the work on the Victorian Samples, design and make a chair suitable for a small toy, and continue to work on making their pinboards.

ICT

The children will begin to look at spreadsheets in more detail and the use of formulae within them.

PHSE

Local Democracy.

Homework

Your child will bring home a homework diary each day which will outline the work for the day. Below is a homework timetable. This diary can also be used as a source of communication between school and home.

Monday	Science/Mathematics
Tuesday	English
Wednesday	Mathematics/Science
Thursday	Mathematics and English
Friday	English/Science

However, should your son or daughter not finish their work in class they may be required to finish this off at home as well to ensure they keep up and make progress.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Fraser
Form Six Teacher