

NOTICES:

Reminders:

Half term holiday:

School is closed from Monday 17th to Friday 21st February. Pupils return to school on Monday 24th February.

School Uniform:

Half terms and holidays are often the time when parents pick up new school uniform for growing children. Please make sure that you refer to our [School Uniform Policy](#) (on the school website) before replacing uniform. We would also like to remind pupils that hair longer than shoulder-length should be tied up for school and nail varnish and make-up is not permitted.

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HILLINGDON NEWS



Spring Term 1 2019-20

We have enjoyed a wonderful start to 2020 here at Hillingdon Primary School. Pupils have been participating in a range of experiences to really bring their learning to life. Year 6 visited the Battle of Britain Bunker to enhance their understanding of the role local people and places played in World War II; Year 2 welcomed a special visitor from the past in the form of Florence Nightingale; and we have been using new technology to transport pupils to different times and places!

Early Years' pupils loved having the opportunity to share their learning with their parents and carers this month and it was fantastic to see so many adults in school for our shared learning sessions.

This newsletter also shines some light on a new group of pupil volunteers, our playground Buddies: read on to learn more!

Hillingdon Primary Buddies

Pupils at Hillingdon Primary take great pride in taking on special responsibilities within our school. For some time now our Digital Leaders, Language Ambassadors and Sports Organising Crew have been working with our specialist teachers to increase participation and create new experiences within our school community.

Last term saw the reintroduction of a new group of pupil volunteers, our School Buddies, who have already had a huge impact supporting other children during lunchtime. Read on to learn more about the Buddies from Shreeya, a Buddy Supervisor:

During the autumn term we discussed reinstating the buddy system. We held an assembly and then encouraged children from year 4 and 5 to apply for a position as a buddy! The response was huge! We decided to implement a two week rota so that as many children as possible could take part.



Our buddies are easily recognizable by their HPS caps and bright backpacks.

'We set up the buddy system because we would like to support the younger children and make sure they all have a friend,' said Jia.



Buddies busy working with children in the KS2 quiet area.

We asked the SMSA team how they felt about the buddies and if they were helpful.

'Buddies are great at playing with the children, they engage the children to work as a team and all be friends.' Mrs. Armstrong

'The children love to have others to play with them and help them through the times when they have a falling out with others or they are a bit upset. This also keeps the children calm, the children show great respect for the buddies.' Ms Hiblen.

The buddies themselves are doing a wonderful job, supporting children and staff.

Thank you!

Santa-copter!

At the end of last term pupils welcomed a very special visitor to the school: Santa Claus!

Wrapped up against the weather in wellies and coats, excited children and staff took to the school field to wait patiently for him to arrive. We knew that the reindeer would be resting, preserving all of their energy for Christmas Eve, and everyone was wondering how Santa Claus would arrive. Imagine everyone's surprise when the helicopter that we could all hear in the distance, landed in the school field and Santa Claus jumped out!!

Santa brought gifts for each class and everyone sang him festive songs to say thank you.



A number of children also got to shake his hand and wish him a Merry Christmas!

We would like to say a BIG thank you to RAF Northolt for bringing such a special visitor to our school!



VR Experience

Virtual Reality has come to Hillingdon Primary School!



One of the many benefits of being part of a multi-academy trust is the sharing of good practice and resources that may otherwise be too expensive to buy individually. At the start of this academic year, the Elliot Foundation purchased a set of VR headsets to be shared across all schools in the Academy Trust to enhance pupils' learning and access to technology.

learning and access to technology.

At the start of the Spring term, the VR headsets arrived at Hillingdon Primary School. Since then, pupils have been enjoying taking virtual trips to Egypt, Italy, under the sea and even into space! All virtual trips have been linked to history and geography topics that the children have been studying in class to help create memorable learning experiences.

Sing Education

Hillingdon Primary School is very fortunate to have music lessons led by the fantastic teachers from Sing Education.

In these fun and lively lessons, pupils are taught a wide range of musical genres and are introduced to styles from different countries around the world such as Ghana, Ireland and Jamaica. Whilst they sing these songs, accompanied by actions, they are developing the skills and knowledge to identify musical pulse, rhythm and pitch. Sing Education teachers also



Mr Dadey leading the school in our songs for Santa Claus

lead weekly song practices and school assemblies which allow

pupils to start their day with a smile, singing positive, upbeat songs.

Sing Education teacher Mr Dadey also helped lead the school singing 'Santa Claus is Coming to Town' to excitedly welcome Santa in the helicopter, and conducted the pupils in their beautiful singing in our successful Carol Service at St John's Church.

Please click on the link below if you are interested in learning more:

<http://www.sing-academy.co.uk/>

Nursery Shared Learning

Earlier this month our pupil's families came into Nursery to see how their children learn.

Nursery pupils enjoyed sharing their favourite activities and things to play with, as well as introducing their adults to their friends.

Thank you to everyone that was able to join us.



Reception Shared Learning

This half term, Reception classes also welcomed parents to shared learning sessions. Reception's area of learning was maths and they focused on introducing addition and subtraction.



Using a story structure, teachers



used physical objects to demonstrate these skills. Following the initial input, pupils worked with their parents or talk



partners to practise practical addition and subtraction activities. The children demonstrated great concentration and enjoyed showing their parents what they were learning. Parents quickly engaged with their children and created a lively learning environment.

Year 2 Step Back in Time

On Tuesday 14th January, all of Year 2 were very excited because the day had finally arrived for them to meet Florence Nightingale!

The children eagerly walked into the hall to be transported back in time! Florence was waiting, in her traditional and very smart nurses uniform. Pupils listened to her talk all about her life and were astounded to learn that she loved caring for animals and had even nursed a poorly owl back to full health.

Although Year 2 had learnt about Florence's life in class, seeing her stood there sharing pictures of her childhood home, pupil's learning really came to life.



Florence Nightingale with some artefacts from the past

Children particularly enjoyed pretending to be wounded soldiers, helping Florence to clean the hospital and having a go at putting bandages on each other.

Thank you so much Florence and Freshwater Theatre Company for coming to Hillingdon Primary School and really enhancing the children's learning. It was a fantastic day for all!

Battle of Britain Bunker Trip

Year 6 had a great experience during their trip to the Battle of Britain Bunker in Uxbridge. Pupils learnt all about the secret bunker and the important role it played during the Battle of Britain. They explored the original Operations' Room which is frozen in time on 15th September 1940 at 11:30am.

Year 6 also visited the museum where pupils were able to experience being a WAAF plotter, see genuine artefacts from the Battle of Britain and even try on some military uniforms!



Pupils enjoyed imagining themselves as a WAAF plotter.



Real-life blitz experiences were shared.

Some of the children were fortunate enough to meet a war veteran, who kindly shared his extraordinary experiences of The Battle of Britain and The Blitz as a child.

Sports' News

Basketball

On Thursday 30th January, two teams of basketballers travelled to Uxbridge College to take part in the borough basketball competition. Both teams played fantastically in the group stages, winning all of their games to finish top of their groups.



The basketball teams.

One team was knocked out in the quarter finals, whilst the other progressed all the way to the final! Unfortunately, this wasn't the year for Hillingdon Primary to be crowned champions, however pupils were proud to come away with silver medals. Both teams really gave their all during the competition!

Well done teams!!



Our basketballers in action.

Football and Netball

The football and netball teams have been continuing their league games throughout the Spring term.

The netball team are currently unbeaten after 4 games and have 4 more left to go; keep it up team!

The football team has 3 games left and the cup starts after half term. We'd like to wish them good luck!

Handball

On Saturday 1st February we attended the Handball competition at Oakwood school. The team played some great Handball, making it to the semi final. Overall they finished in 3rd place and received a bronze medal, Well done to all the players!



The handball team

Kidchella

We would like to say a big thank you to parents this term for your support with our fundraising activities. The children had a fantastic time at our annual Kidchella Disco on 4th February. It was great to see KS1 children all joining in and playing the games. DJ Stu from Discoz had everyone on their feet for both discos.

We raised a fantastic £1,450 which will be used to support the delivery of extracurricular activities such as workshops.



DJ Stu had everyone on their feet!

We now look forward to the Scholastic World Book Day Book Fair on 11th and 12th March 2020. This year we also plan to hold a Mother's Day Gift Sale, which will give children an opportunity to buy a small surprise gift for a loved one, and we will be arranging our annual Easter Egg raffle at the end of the Spring Term featuring lots of delicious chocolate eggs!

Details of all events will follow closer to the time.

Attendance Update

At the end of last term, Governors agreed a pupil attendance target of 97% for the academic year 2019-20: this is in line with the Elliot Foundation Academy Trust's target for every child.

We are pleased to see four of our classes already exceeding this target. Well done to our attendance stars in 5B, 4J, 3H and 2D, who are proving that despite the winter coughs, colds and viruses, excellent attendance is still achievable. Keep it up!

★ Attendance Stars	
KS1	KS2
2D - 97.19%	5B - 97.34%
1D - 96.18%	4J - 97.28%
1A - 96%	3H - 97.26%

Upcoming Dates

FEBRUARY:

- **Monday 17th to Friday 21st:** Half term week
- **Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th:** Year 6 booster school (selected children only)
- **Tuesday 25th:** New age curling competition
- **Thursday 27th:** Year 5 Victorian day
- **Saturday 29th:** District girls' netball rally

MARCH:

- **Monday 2nd:** Secondary school offer day
- **Thursday 5th:** World Book Day
- **Thursday 5th:** Reception Teddy Bears and Pyjama's Party
- **Friday 6th to Friday 13th:** British Science Week
- **Saturday 7th:** District mixed netball rally
- **Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th:** Scholastic book fair
- **Wednesday 11th:** Swimming gala
- **Friday 13th:** Sport Relief
- **Friday 13th:** Year 6 Junior Citizen event
- **Monday 16th:** Boys' netball rally
- **Tuesday 17th:** Year 4 special assembly
- **Tuesday 17th and Thursday 19th:** Mothers' Day gift sale
- **Wednesday 18th:** RFO special assembly

- **Thursday 19th:** Year 2 trip to Kew Gardens
- **Friday 20th:** RB special assembly
- **Friday 20th:** RM special assembly
- **Monday 23rd:** World Poetry Day
- **Week beginning Monday 23rd:** Parent consultation appointments
- **Week beginning Monday 30th:** RE Week
- **Week beginning Monday 30th:** Hillingdon Primary Talent Show auditions

APRIL:

- **Thursday 2nd:** Talent Show finale
- **Friday 3rd:** Easter egg raffle
- **Friday 3rd:** Last day of the spring term
- **Monday 6th, Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th:** Year 6 booster school (selected children)
- **Monday 20th:** Pupils return to school (first day of the summer term)
- **Tuesday 28th:** Year 3 Trip to the Look Out Centre

Please see the Spring Term dates for full event details.

Half Term Activity

The Harrow & Hillingdon Geological Society are putting on their annual Uxbridge Rock Show this February half term at Uxbridge Library.

The show includes some 100 rocks for handling as well as a display of fossils, minerals, gems, dinosaur poo, bones and footprints and glowing rocks, with friendly stewards on hand to answer questions.

The exhibition is free and open 7 days per week at normal library opening hours. It has items to interest everyone from toddlers upwards.



The poster features a central globe with various geological and paleontological terms overlaid. At the top, the Harrow & Hillingdon Geological Society logo is on the left, the text 'HARROW & HILLINGDON GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY presents.' is in the center, and a stylized 'A' logo is on the right. Below this, the main title '2020 UXBRIDGE ROCK SHOW' is in large, bold, blue letters. Underneath, the dates '12th-28th February 2020' are in a yellow-to-orange gradient. A 'Special Feature: Global Climate Change' is written in blue. Below that, 'Glowing rocks' is in bold black, flanked by a crystal icon on the left and a fossil icon on the right. The globe itself contains the following text: 'Dino Poo!' and 'Volcanoes' at the top; 'Hands-on rocks' in large bold letters across the middle; 'Gemstones' and 'Fossils' on the lower left and right respectively, each with a small icon; and 'Jurassic Coast' and 'Bristol Channel' at the bottom.

HARROW & HILLINGDON GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY presents.

2020 UXBRIDGE ROCK SHOW

12th-28th February 2020

Special Feature: Global Climate Change

Glowing rocks

Dino Poo! Volcanoes

Hands-on rocks

Gemstones Fossils

Jurassic Coast Bristol Channel

Uxbridge Central Library, High Street, Uxbridge.
Open: Normal Library opening hours Mon – Sun.