



HILLINGDON NEWS

Welcome to the first of our weekly newsletters. These will be emailed on a Monday, with the aim of sharing news, celebrating success and keeping you up to date with key events and dates. We were welcomed back to school with balmy September sunshine, followed by magnificent storms and ginormous hail stones- what a week! It has been a joy to welcome back all of our children and families and to hear all about your summer adventures. We hope you all enjoyed a wonderful summer break and are looking forward to lots of exciting events happening in the term ahead. A special welcome to all of our new children starting this term – we hope you will all settle in quickly and feel a part of the Hillingdon family as soon as possible.

This week saw us share a special Eid assembly (further details below). Over the year we hope to share in many cultural celebrations; if you have any suggestions please pass to the school office.

Meet the Teachers



Our specialist teachers thoroughly enjoyed meeting parents. Lots of interesting and thought provoking questions were asked. If you have further questions regarding PE, German or Computing lessons then catch our lovely specialist teachers on the playground!

This week we welcomed many of you into the school to meet your child's new teacher and see their classroom. It was fantastic to see so many parents attending and taking a real interest in their child's learning. The curriculum overviews and targets for the coming term were shared, as well as a round-up of last year's news.

We appreciate that many of our parents work and couldn't make the event, so all information was sent home with the children.

I can - I will End of Story!

Both KS1 and 2 enjoyed assemblies based around the mantra "I can and I will". We discussed the importance of believing in ourselves and not letting anything get in our way. We want to encourage our children to reach for the stars... no more should we hear "I can't", rather "I can't yet!" We have taken inspiration from our fabulous Paralympians and are aiming to put this determination into all aspects of school life.

Save our Planet!

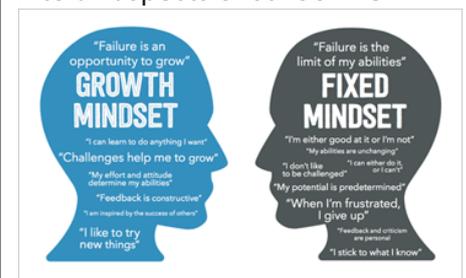
Watch this space... Our year 5 students have embarked on a special project looking at what it means to lead a sustainable lifestyle. Over the next term, expect to hear updates as we look at case studies both internationally and closer to home. Our aim is to raise awareness and look at how we can make Hillingdon more 'green'.



Eid Mubarak!



Monday saw the international celebration of Eid al Adha; we hope all of the families observing this celebration enjoyed their day. As a school we wanted to mark this special day and on Friday we held a special assembly all about Eid. Mrs Serrano was helped by a generous group of Year 5 and 6 children who



all shared how they celebrated and what Eid meant to them. We created a video documenting their responses which was shown as part of the assembly. A big thank you to all involved, it was lovely to learn about the festival and for all of our students to understand the significance of the day.

Reminder All KS2 children must be in the playground by 8.50am when the whistle is blown. Arriving after this time will mean your child is marked in late. A punctual start to the day has a positive impact on your child's capacity to learn. Children must be in school every single day unless they are ill, have unavoidable medical appointments or other exceptional circumstances. Please do not book holidays in term time (all holiday dates up to 31 August 2017 are on the school website).

Look what we've been up to...

For reception children the start of the term is a really important time for them to settle into life at HPS. We have been settling into school routines, making new friends/ learning each other's names and following the class rules. Our teachers are really proud of us and the start we have made, particularly all of the work we have produced for our topic this term: 'All about me'

This week Year 1 have started their new Mathematics Mastery programme. They have been learning to think deeply about their Maths and use practical resources/concrete manipulatives to support them. They have been representing number using cubes and counters and thinking about more and fewer.

Year 2 thoroughly enjoyed celebrating Roald Dahl's birthday. They worked hard creating pieces of writing all about their favourite RD character, as well creating interesting art work representing the character.

Year 3 have thoroughly enjoyed learning about Rio and the Paralympics! They have discussed how the athletes have inspired them to fulfil their potential and achieve their dreams. To support their geography skills the children have also been learning about Rio and how the city compares to London. This also inspired them to make fabulous carnival masks with a Brazilian theme!

Year 4 children participated in a fun and energetic Samba workshop in support of our new Brazil topic. This workshop was held to enable the children to capture the vibrant

atmosphere of the Rio Carnival and the recent Rio Olympics and Paralympics. The children were enthusiastic throughout and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Year 5 have been taking on the role of "teacher" and have thoroughly enjoyed teaching their peers. It was an excellent activity that made them realise both their talents and individual skills, but also how difficult it is to teach if someone is not listening!

Year 6 had great fun celebrating Roald Dahl's 100th birthday this week. They explored his autobiographical novel, 'Boy', through drama and then wrote diary entries from the perspectives of the different characters. In the afternoon they created some fantastic art work based on the sweet shop in the novel. What a great day!



Yr6 prepare for PGL

Our much anticipated PGL trip is nearly here! A group of very excited Year 6 children came with their families to our information evening. It was a lovely meeting where questions could be asked and information shared. We know you will have a wonderful time; I think a lot of the parents left the meeting wishing they were going too!

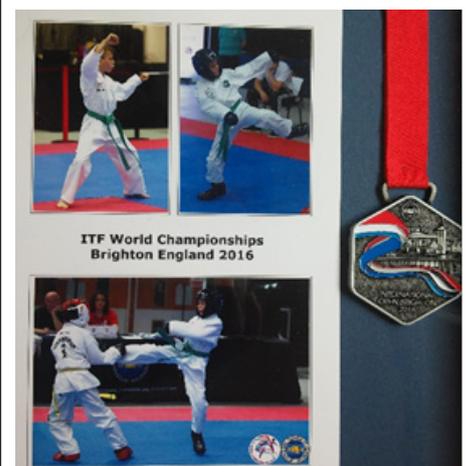


Gymnastics a go go!

With the return of Mrs Cole from maternity leave, we are excited to announce the return of gymnastics- both in PE lessons and as an extra-curricular club. Beginner's gymnastics will begin this week as per the letter sent home. Additionally, Mrs Cole will be running a gymnastics squad. She has already assessed many of the children as part of her lesson, but if your son/daughter has yet to have a gymnastics lesson, she is inviting children to try out on Wednesday lunch time in the community room. Children are welcome to drop in between 12 and 1pm once they have eaten their lunch. Good luck!

Taekwondo Success at the World Championships

We are very proud of Josh M in Year 6 who competed at the ITF World Championships. He overcame stiff competition to scoop a silver medal- a huge achievement! He is now in training for the British Championships; we can't wait to hear more.



Ripping Celebrations for Roald!

Roald Dahl day was an enormous success. Many children were dressed as their favourite characters from his beloved books. Others chose to wear yellow - his favourite colour. We had some wonderful dream jars across the school, where children had thought really carefully about what their dream was.

We were also delighted to hear from the library service that we had more children taking part in the summer reading challenge than last year and a new record for

the number of children completing the challenge - well done to all the children who attempted or completed the challenge.

A £10 book token was awarded to the class who had the most children complete the challenge. There were 3 winning classes in KS2: 5T, 5G and 4J and the winners in KS1 were 2M with a huge 17 children completing. Well done all. Thank you to parents for supporting both the day and the reading challenge. The library is a wonderful resource and we hope you enjoyed visiting the different events organised over the summer.



Culture Boxes

Mrs Devons would like to say a big thank you for all the wonderful things you have sent in to go in our culture boxes. It has been very exciting seeing where everybody has been, in the UK and elsewhere, and the effort that some families have put in to thinking about which things are important. Mrs Devons is starting to put the boxes together and has noticed that we have very little from some areas of the world, such as Africa or America. Please feel free to keep sending things in, especially if you have things from other cultures at home, that you would be happy to donate. If you have family abroad, keep stamps from any parcels or letters for us, as they often tell you a lot about a country. This is an ongoing project that can be added to at any time. Remember, if it is not obvious, please add a note as to where the items are from.

Proud to Represent HPS

Our PE team have been busy scouting for football, netball and basketball talent to build up our school teams. Many of our children are keen to represent the school in the different matches and we have been overwhelmed with their determination and enthusiasm shown throughout the trials. The PE team have worked hard to choose fairly during PE sessions and lunch time activities. For any children who have not made it this time; there will be plenty of other opportunities throughout the year!

Harvest Time

Advance notice that our Harvest assembly will be held on Friday 23rd September. We will be collecting food items to donate to Hillingdon Food bank, who provide support to local families in crisis. Any donations for this worthy cause would be greatly appreciated- please ensure items are non-perishable.

PSHE Pledge Trees-MANNERS

Learning something new often takes time and requires the ability to wait and keep working at it. It is important that we allow ourselves the space and time to learn. We aim to learn to be patient with ourselves and with others. Nature is a great teacher of patience – we just need to look at the sunflowers we grew over the summer, to remind us that growth can't be rushed and takes time. This term we are focusing on MANNERS. Each child has made a pledge for the term ahead. "I pledge to always smile and say thank you".

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Following on from the success of last year's clubs, we will be soon sending out a letter with information about the clubs on offer this term. We aim to offer a varied and inclusive programme, but as you can imagine with a growing school, we can only cater for so many children. If you don't manage to get a place this term you will be given priority for next term.