

NOTICES:

Internet Safety Workshops Year 1 to Year 6:

Please don't forget to make your £1 donation for the externally run e-safety workshops the children will be participating in next month. We would prefer payment via Parent Pay, however £1 can also be brought in to school and given to your child's class teacher.

School Term Dates 2018-19

Term dates for the next academic year were published on 15th January.

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HILLINGDON NEWS



Issue 5, 2017-18

We would like to welcome all of our families back to school following the Christmas holiday; we hope you had a peaceful break and were able to spend quality time with your families. It has been wonderful to hear about the different experiences the children enjoyed during the festive period and these have contributed to some lively discussions during RE Week. The children have been working hard since their return; we hope you enjoy reading about everything that has been going on in school

Fairy Tale Week

Once upon a time, (in fact, not so long ago...) a school in Hillingdon was visited by many famous characters from Kingdoms far, far away to celebrate Fairy Tale week. On Thursday 18th January the school was filled with mini princesses, big bad wolves, mermaids and superheroes, to name a few.

Throughout the week, each year group have been focusing on a particular fairy tale, using a range of activities, including performance and discussion, to inspire and develop the children's reading and writing skills.

For example, year 2 have been looking closely at the story of 'Little Red Riding Hood.' They have been thinking carefully about the story and the detail of each of the individual characters, and learnt more about the role of the narrator in stories. They then put their practical knowledge to good use to rewrite the story in their own words.

Our older children got stuck into the traditional, and sometimes macabre, stories by the brothers Grimm.

Key Stage 1 also celebrated this special occasion by dressing up as their favourite Fairy Tale characters.



2M all dressed up as their favourite characters



To top the week off, whilst our fairy tale characters were enjoying their Disney-inspired lunch, they were visited by more characters from their favourite stories to help make the children's experience extra special.



A few of our Fairy Tale Visitors!

We think our Fairy Tale characters looked amazing, don't you?

RE Week

To kick off an exciting new term and new year, Hillingdon Primary held its Christmas-themed RE week during the first week back after the Christmas holiday.



Team Work in Year 5

Each year group was given a, 'BIG question,' to focus on throughout the week to challenge children to think more deeply about the Christian festival. The questions ranged from, 'What messages do Christians learn from the Christmas story?' to, 'Why do Christians give gifts at



Reverend Alan really got the children thinking about their 'big questions!'

Christmas?' and 'What is the significance of light at Christmas?'

We were very lucky to have Reverend Alan from St John's Church join us on the first Thursday back, to help each year group understand how the Christmas story related to their 'big question'.

The children had a fantastic time learning about this special time of

year and how it also relates to their own experiences and beliefs, making comparisons and developing an inclusive sense of openness, understanding and acceptance in our school community.

A very exciting compilation book has been created, with each year group showcasing their fabulous learning through writing, art and photos. This special book will be making its way to St John's Church very soon, so please pop down and take a look at our wonderful achievements!

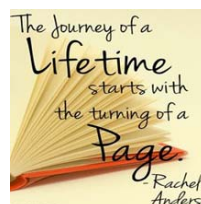


Our RE Book

Reception and Year 1 Phonics and Reading Workshops

Thank you to all the reception and Year 1 parents who attended the recent phonics and reading workshops.

Ms Kelly and Miss Maylor explained to parents how we teach phonics in the Early Years



and shared lots of ways of supporting the children at home with their decoding of new words and importantly,

fostering a love of reading.

The information Powerpoint from the session has been e-mailed

out to all reception and Year 1 parents and further information about the phonics screening check has also been shared with all Year 1 parents.

If you have any further questions about how we teach reading in school, or what else you can do to support your child at home; please do not hesitate to ask your child's class teacher or Ms Kelly.

Farewell to Mr Bigby

As you will be aware from Mrs Breslin's letter in December, our Site Manager Mr Mick Bigby is leaving the school at February half term to start a new phase of his life and new job in his newly-built home in Buckinghamshire.

Mick has been a member of our school community for a long time, first as a pupil of HPS and then as Site Manager for almost 26 years.

Our new building and all of Mick's hard work to make the build a success is a wonderful addition to the school and serves as a legacy for many years to come.

We plan to hold a HPS assembly and tea party on the final day of this half term when we will have an opportunity to thank Mick for all that he has done at HPS.

Mick is also leaving his family home and we wish him, his wife, Carole, and family much

happiness in the future.

We appreciate that many of you will also want to wish him well as he starts this exciting new chapter and therefore we will be coordinating a collection for a gift from the school community. If you would like to make a donation towards the collection, please send this in to Mrs Grey in the school office by Friday 2nd February.

Sports News

Sports Hall Athletics:

Last week saw the culmination of weeks of hard work and training, as our Athletics superstars travelled to Vyners School to take part in the Borough Final. A huge number of schools battled for one of the places in the Final and on Wednesday, 18 HPS children proudly put on the school kit and took their place against the other 4 finalists.



Our Sportshall Athletics Stars

The qualifying heat in December determined who would win a place in the Final. Hillingdon had surpassed all expectations and had taken first place, outperforming a number of highly regarded schools. The Final was a highly competitive tournament with very close results: every

millisecond and every millimetre counted! Our children performed brilliantly and were cheered on by a large group of very supportive parents. Although we did not win, we had a fantastic time and the children performed to the best of their ability. Well done All!

Netball

What a few weeks for the Netball team....! The children have continued their success from before Christmas and have entered the New Year with a BANG! The team have grown in confidence and have shown wonderful team spirit as they challenged and defeated each of their opponents.



Netball Team Spirit!

The team beat St Matthews 23-0, St Bernadette's 16-3 and most recently Oak Farm (our close rival!) 11-3. With four fixtures remaining and Cherry Lane hot on our heels, we are hoping to maintain this success and keep our sights on the trophy!

Sports Organising Crew

We are constantly looking for ways to improve PE and Sport at Hillingdon Primary School. Last week we launched the applications for the Sports Organising Crew; an opportunity for children to be involved in the decision making and development of PE and Sport.

HILLINGDON SPORTS ORGANISING CREW

What is a Sports Organising Crew?

The Sports Organising Crew (SOC) is a group of children who join together to develop, organise and promote school sport and physical activity through the school.

Why do we need a SOC at Hillingdon Primary School?

At HPS, sport and physical activity is growing every year. As we get bigger, we need more people to help and support. With your help, we can ensure that PE gets better and better and guarantee that every child at our school enjoys playing sports and keep themselves healthy.

APPLICATION FORM

(Return by Friday 19th January please)

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

- 1-Why would I be a good member of the SOC?
- 2-What new ideas would I bring to the PE team at Hillingdon Primary?
- 3-How can I use my knowledge and passion about sports to increase the participation of children in physical activity?
- 4-How could I encourage others to lead a healthy lifestyle within our school?

The Sportshall Organising Crew Application Form

We look forward to sharing with you the successful crew once the interview process is complete.

Success in German!

Well done to all of the 91 children in Years 3-6 who took part in the German competition last term.

Children had to watch a video clip online and then answer some questions about Christmas in Germany.

Their prizes arrived this week and they were all very pleased with their pencil cases, postcards, pencils and badges.

Special thanks to the Goethe Institut, London, who organised the competition.



A few of our Year 5 Competition Winners

Oak Farm Library Children's Book Club

For all our avid readers: Oak Farm Library will be launching a new Children's Book Club on Wednesday January 31st for young readers aged between 7 and 10.

Designed to boost reading skills and confidence with speaking and listening, the group will be reading the hilarious superhero tale, 'The Adventures of Long Arm,' by CBBC favourites Sam and Mark. As well as reading part of the story to each other every week, children will have the chance to

take part in activities such as designing their own superhero and even writing a letter to Sam and Mark themselves! The club will meet from 4pm to 5pm every Wednesday. Booking is essential, so if you would like your child to take part please get in touch with the library as soon as possible.

Harvest Festival: Message of Thanks

At the start of term we received a lovely email from Yiewsley and West Drayton Foodbank thanking the school for the food donation made last year.

We would like to take this opportunity to pass on this message of thanks to our parents and school community: without your generous donations to our harvest festival appeal we would not have been in a position to make the donation.

Thank you again!



Attendance Update

We hope all parents have had an opportunity to read the letter from Mrs Breslin dated 15th January regarding pupil attendance: please contact the school office if you did not receive a copy.

The letter included the term dates for the 2018-19 academic year and the return date for September 2019. We hope having this information early enables parents to plan their family holidays in advance. We would like to remind parents that holidays should not be booked during term time and

that all requests for exceptional leave must be made at the earliest opportunity as per the Pupil Attendance Policy (available on the school website.)



★ Attendance Stars	
KS1	KS2
1C - 96.67%	4M - 97.69%
2M - 96.57%	3Y - 97.36%
1D - 96.55%	6S - 97.31%

Class attendance since September 2018

As always, we would like to say a huge well done to our class Attendance Stars in KS1 and KS2 for having the highest rates of attendance so far this academic year. Keep it up!

Dates to Remember:

JANUARY:

w/b Monday 29/01: Assessment Week & Year 6 Practice SATs week

FEBRUARY:

- Friday 02/02:** Year 5 Special Assembly
- w/b Monday 05/02:** Nursery & Reception Shared Learning Sessions
- Monday 05/02:** Level Up KS2 Workshop
- Tuesday 06/02:** Safer Internet Day
- Wednesday 07/02:** Y5 Victorian Day
- Thursday 08/02:** Kidchella Disco
- w/b Monday 12/02:** Half term holiday

- Monday 12/02 & Tuesday 13/02:** Booster school for select Year 6 children
- Monday 19/02:** Training day (school closed to pupils)
- Tuesday 20/02:** Children return to school
- Monday 26/02:** Reception Teddy Bears & Pyjamas Party
- Monday 26/02:** Class 3Y Special Assembly
- Wednesday 28/02:** Tweet Town KS1 Workshop

Please see the latest Spring term dates sent to parents at the end of the autumn term for a full list of dates and event details.

February Half Term Events ...

We have received lots of information from local libraries about fun, free events taking place during the February half-term: see below for a taster of what's going on and visit the London Borough of Hillingdon's website for further information and booking details:

<http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/events>

... at Oak Farm Library ...

Total Insight Theatre presents: The Kind Kids

On February 12th, Total Insight Theatre will be visiting Oak Farm Library to present a special interactive drama workshop for children aged 5 to 9 called, 'The Kind Kids.' The activity will introduce visitors to Kieran and Katie, who need to learn just how important it is for us all to be kind to each other. 'The Kind Kids' will run from 11am to 12pm and booking is essential. Parents can secure their free place by getting in touch with Oak Farm Library.

February Half Term Shadow Puppet Workshop

On Thursday February 15th, families can join Oak Farm Library for a special Shadow Puppet Workshop in celebration of Chinese New Year. Suitable for children aged 6 to 10, visitors will be able to make their own shadow puppet and then use it to present a short puppet show. The activity will run from 2pm to 3pm and must be booked in advance either by phone or in person at the library.

... and Uxbridge Library



Harrow and Hillingdon Geological Society present
Rock Show 2018
 at
Uxbridge Main Library
 Friday 9th February - Thursday 22nd February 2018
 during library opening hours
 THE SOCIETY ALWAYS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS, WHATEVER THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE SUBJECT.

