

NOTICES:

Parking Concerns:

We encourage all of our children to walk to school but understand this is not always possible. If you must drive to school, please park responsibly and safely: do not block residents drives or park in prohibited places as parking enforcement operate in this area. Please be particularly mindful if parking in Brambles Farm Drive and Nicholls Avenue, as these have been identified as areas of concern and we want to maintain a positive relationship with our neighbours.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Hong Kong comes to Hillingdon	2
Nursery News	2
Reception News	2
Year 1 Maths Masters	3
Year 2 News	3
Mentors and Playleaders	3
Year 3 News	4
Year 4 News	4
Year 5 News	4
Year 6 PGL	5
Fabulous Fundraisers	5
Sports News	6
Attendance	6
Culture Bite: Activities for Half Term	7
Dates to Remember	7

HILLINGDON NEWS



Issue 2, 2017-18

What a busy half term this has been and how quickly the weeks have flown past! We hope you enjoy reading about everything that has been going on in school; from our learning to fundraising, job applications and sporting successes. We had a fantastic assembly about Diwali today; the children looked wonderful in their brightly coloured clothes – all ready for the half term break! We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our children and their families a happy half term holiday, and to those celebrating the Festival of Lights, we wish you a very Happy Diwali too!

National Poetry Month:

October is National Poetry Month in the UK. To mark the occasion, we have been taking part in a number of poetry inspired activities.

At the start of the month, 5 children from years 5 and 6 travelled to Colham Manor School to participate in a Poetry workshop led by children's poet Kate Williams.



The day began with a dramatic role-play session: the children became trees in a wild wood! This inspired a bank of exciting vocabulary that was put to good use in their writing, which included a description of a secret wooded area and a recipe for a forest.

In school, KS1 have been learning the poem, 'Cats Sleep Anywhere,' by Eleanor Farjeon. The children can recite it by heart with actions too! If you haven't heard of the poem before, it's

available online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Whnki9IHcAU>, or even better, ask your child to recite it for you!



KS2 learnt the poem 'Scissors,' by Allan Ahlberg. The children used some funny actions to help them remember the words. Some of the children even volunteered to stand in front of everyone to lead us! To hear the poem being recited by Mr Ahlberg himself visit: <https://www.poetryarchive.org/poem/scissors>.



New Chromebooks!

The school is excited to announce that we have recently purchased 32 Chromebooks for children to use in classrooms. Chromebooks are great for using all the Google skills the children have been learning in their Computing

lessons with Mr Jacobs, as they are quick to start and easy to use and have been designed specially to work seamlessly with Google apps. The devices will allow teachers to incorporate technology into their classrooms, and have already been put to good use by teachers in Year 4.

Hong Kong Comes to Hillingdon!

On Tuesday 10th October, year 6 pupils had two special visitors from Hong Kong in their mathematics lessons. The visitors were primary maths specialists, working at the Ministry of

Education in Hong Kong and they were keen to see maths in action in U.K. schools. They saw all the children working very hard to master the skills and understanding of multiplication. We look forward to continuing this partnership with both Hong Kong and Brunel University.



Nursery News

The children are now much more settled and familiar with our setting. They are encouraged to choose what and where they want to learn.

Outside, they have been learning how to collaborate on building



towers and houses, or how to take turns when riding a bike. The children have been very busy

sweeping leaves in the garden and discussing the autumn season.

Inside, children have enjoyed making kites of various shapes and sizes. Whilst making the kites, they have learnt about shapes and how to use scissors and sticky tape. The children had lots of fun making their own play dough by mixing flour and other ingredients together. We have discussed how to cut the play dough in half and share it with our friends.

Every day, we start and finish our session in small groups led by an adult to give each child more individual attention and time to talk. We have been learning the days of the week by singing an

action song. We suggest that you ask your child if they can sing it to you. We also count the number



of children present in each group, encouraging the children to count one number for each child. Lastly, we discuss the weather, and talk about what we will need to wear when we go outside.

Reception News

In Reception we have been working extremely hard in a



range of different areas.

We have almost completed our first half term and all of the children have settled into their classroom extremely well. All of the Reception team are very

proud of them!

During our Read, Write, Inc sessions we have been learning our sounds! We work with our teachers to practice saying the sound and writing it. Some of the letters are a bit more tricky than others however we are very good at remembering them!

In maths we have been getting used to our new routine and sorting objects. To sort the objects we have been working in smaller groups with the teachers. We are also really enjoying our Maths Meetings where we sing songs to help us remember the days of the week and months of the year.

During our challenge time we

have been searching for shapes; taking part in an obstacle course;



writing a shopping list for our dream ice cream; and exploring objects inside mystery boxes. The mystery box challenge has been our favourite challenge by far!

Year 1 Maths Masters

Over the past few weeks Year 1 have been working hard using the Mathematics Mastery programme.



The children are using objects, pictures, numbers and symbols to represent ideas and make connections in different ways. This is helping to deepen their understanding of maths and will support their problem solving skills.

They have also been learning about number bonds and adding and subtracting, using a range of tools and practical resources to support them. All of this hard work is paying off as the children are beginning to develop their knowledge of maths vocabulary.

They are also enjoying their Science and topic work. Recently they have found out about different species of animals such as mammals, fish, reptiles and amphibians and all the differences between them.

The children have also been learning more about the local area in which they live and how that compares and fits into the wider world. Google maps was a great tool to help support their understanding!

Year 2 News

In our Year 2 English lessons we have been celebrating the birthday of our chosen character, Winnie the Witch. The children have been describing the delicious birthday cake they would make for her party, as well as creating instructions for the fun party games that Winnie and her friends would play during the celebrations! The children (and not to forget the teachers) had lots of fun acting out how to play these games to help Winnie have a memorable birthday.

During our maths lesson, we have been continuing to develop our knowledge and understanding of adding and subtracting sets of 2-digit numbers. As well as using dienes

and cubes to help us be accurate in our calculations, we have been working on using mental strategies to help us in assessment week.

In science, we have been imagining what we would need to survive on a desert island! We have had some very imaginative ideas and enlightening discussions to help the children to create a poster that shows the knowledge they have gained during the lessons. Whilst in our 'Great Fire of London' topic, the children have stepped into the shoes of Samuel Pepys to write a diary extract about the events that took place during this time.

Year 2 also had a wonderful visit to Oak Farm library and were able to borrow a fantastic

selection of books to enjoy at home. They discovered all about the services the library provide and the different types of books that are available for them to enjoy!



We hope that the children have a relaxing and well-earned break during the upcoming half-term holiday and continue to read throughout the week to ensure they come back ready for an exciting half-term leading up to Christmas!

Mentors & Playleaders



This term we have introduced some children's jobs within school: peer mentors, play leaders and dining hall assistants.

The aim of the new roles is to enable children to make a positive contribution to our school community and demonstrate

values of commitment, helpfulness and responsibility.

These jobs all take place during lunchtime: the new recruits are helping with the smooth running of the dining hall, organising activities in the KS1 playground, helping younger peers and acting as positive role models.

Interested children were asked to participate in a realistic job application process. Adverts

were displayed around school inviting interested children to apply and there was a real buzz in the playground as many children completed their job applications by the given date.

We hope to increase the job opportunities for children as the year progresses, so please tell your children to watch out for future job adverts around school.

Year 3 News

Year 3 are really enjoying learning about the Stone Age in our 'Picture This' lessons. Last week we researched the diet of people during this time, thinking about how they would have prepared, stored and cooked the food. This week we have been sketching our own cave animals, taking inspiration from the Chauvet cave paintings found in France that are over 30,000 years old!

In Literacy we have been reading Roald Dahl's George's Marvellous Medicine. We have been using amazing adjectives to

describe the characters as well as writing instructions to make our very own gruesome potions! We have also been getting theatrical, taking on the role of different characters and acting out parts of the story in groups.

In Maths we are continuing to focus on place value and using this knowledge to add and subtract 3 digit numbers. We are also looking at interpreting data this week, using pictograms, Venn diagrams and graphs.

At the start of term, the children came up with some really thought provoking questions about light and shadows, which we

have been investigating in our science lessons. So far, we have discovered where light comes from and explored making shadows using a range of opaque, transparent and translucent materials.



Year 4 News

Year 4 are continuing to enjoy their Brazil topic. They have utilised their ICT skills in English to make a web page all about Brazil. We have particularly been focusing on using different sentence lengths and exciting vocabulary to interest the reader.

In topic lessons, they have learnt about deforestation which has sparked some great debates about the positive and negative effects it brings. They are

beginning to think about whose responsibility it is and what we can all do to help.

We have been impressed with the quality of the children's art work when using chalk and pastels to sketch an animal they have researched and become an expert on in class. We hope they are sharing this knowledge with you at home too?

Until half term, we are learning about folk tales. We have read 'How Night Came', a Brazilian

folk tale. The children will also be creating their own folk tale so if you do go to the library, it would be great to read some more to get some ideas!



Year 5 News

Year five have had an exciting fortnight! In English lessons they have been studying a short film called The Piano about an old man's memories that come to life as he plays the piano. Using their



super drama skills, the children have generated descriptive vocabulary and fronted adverbials in preparation for a piece of writing based on the old man's experience

during the war.

In maths lessons they have continued to focus on deepening their understanding of place value and have greatly benefitted from the fantastic new maths resources in the classrooms.

Topic lessons have seen the children delving into the world of the Aztecs and pupils particularly enjoyed using Google Earth to explore Mexico City, the modern site of the Aztec city of Tenochtitlan. Their enthusiasm for the topic has been quite infectious with many children finding out extra facts at home to share with their class!



In science lessons the focus has been on materials and their properties. The children have enjoyed sorting different materials into groups according to their properties and deciding what the best material would be for a variety of different objects.

Year 6 PGL Week!

What a fabulous and amazing week! The children undertook lots of exciting activities including abseiling, rifle shooting, fencing, zip wire and the mud challenge! A big highlight for most of the children were the two trips to the spectacular beach at Westward



Ho! It was brilliant to be able to play in the sand and experience the waves on the body boards.

Throughout the week the children tested themselves and further

developed their skills of perseverance, resilience and independence (as well as their dancing moves at the disco!).



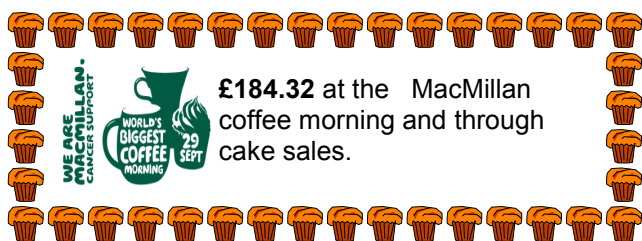
The children did themselves proud by fully participating in all the activities and engaging in the PGL ethos of having fun. Thank you to Mr James, Mrs Sands, Mrs Bell and Mrs Gill for accompanying the children and making the week such a special time.

At School: Since arriving back from PGL the children have quickly settled back into work mode. They have now completed their 'Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe' diary writing which will form a lovely wardrobe-inspired display in the Year 6 corridor. Using PGL and WW2 week as a stimulus, in literacy the children are planning and writing a persuasive text based on these events.

Last week the children participated in a mock SATs paper practice. This involved completing a SPAG paper, a reading comprehension paper, two maths fluency papers and one arithmetic paper. These tests will help establish whether there are any gaps in their knowledge and support the children with test technique.

Fabulous Fundraisers!!

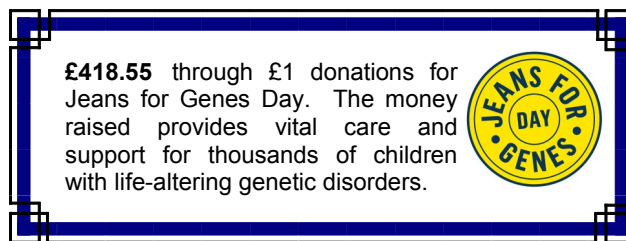
We would like to express a BIG thank you to all families who donated and took part in our Day of Giving and at the School Book Fair. Thanks to you we raised:



WE ARE
MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT



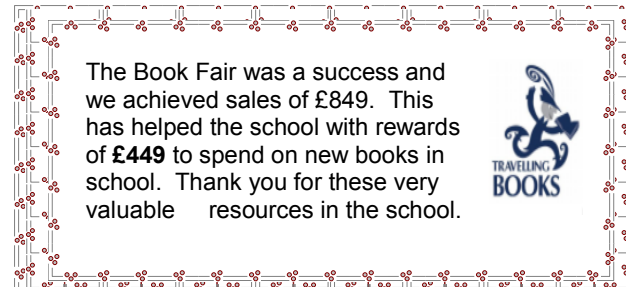
£184.32 at the MacMillan coffee morning and through cake sales.



£418.55 through £1 donations for Jeans for Genes Day. The money raised provides vital care and support for thousands of children with life-altering genetic disorders.



Thank you so much for your generous donations of food for Hillingdon Foodbank. The response had been great and we know that the food will really help all those in need.



The Book Fair was a success and we achieved sales of £849. This has helped the school with rewards of **£449** to spend on new books in school. Thank you for these very valuable resources in the school.



Our next fundraising event will be for Children in Need on 17th November: please keep an eye out for further information relating to this event.

Sports News

What a Successful Week for HPS and our Sports Stars!

Football: Last Wednesday, our football team faced Ryefield in a home game. From the kick off to the final whistle our boys pushed intensively, not giving their opponents any opportunity to take control of the game. This resulted in a very well deserved 4-1 win at the end. Our next opponent will be Cowley St. Laurence. Well done boys!



Cross Country: Run Hillingdon, Run!

Our cross country team headed to Vyners' playing fields to show why, for the last five years, Hillingdon has been in the top 5 schools in cross country. With a team formed of some veteran runners and many new faces, we hoped to qualify for the Borough Cross Country Competition.

A combination of experience and determination to do well lead our

boys to 5th place, with Marcello (6S) crossing the line in 2nd position! Our girls made everyone proud with a very well deserved 2nd place; only 7 points away from the winners.

After the medals and trophies were awarded, they announced the schools which were through to the final. And ... Hillingdon was one of them!

Knowing that only the best teams from each district were invited to the event, we were aware of the challenge ahead. 12 teams would be competing for a position on the podium.

Well, our superstars made everyone proud one more time. Our boys came 4th with Marcello finishing 3rd in one of the events, against the highest number of competitors in years - over a hundred children! Our girls came 3rd, showing great teamwork and crossing the finish line almost together. There were about 80 girls competing.



With these fantastic results, we say "goodbye" to the cross country season and look forward to next year.

Netball: If we thought that the week could not get better, we were wrong. Wearing our white kit on this occasion, our almost brand new netball team travelled to Whitehall to try to get the first 4 points of the season.



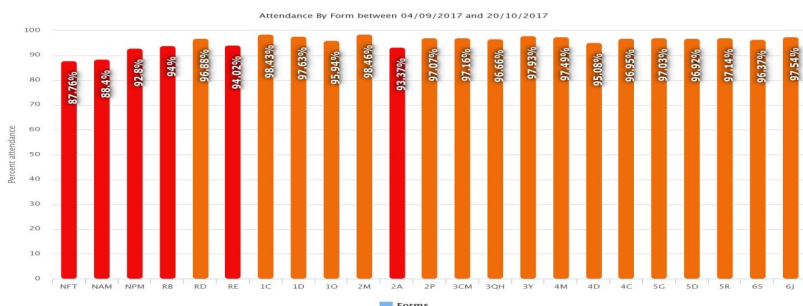
The team started very well, with a solid defence however, it was not going to be easy. By the end of the 3rd quarter, Hillingdon was 4-2 down, with a Whitehall team strong in attack. Our boys and girls demonstrated a great attitude and perseverance to overcome this situation and end the game with an 8-5 win. There is still a long way to go, but this is a great start. Well done team!

Attendance Matters

As a school we know that good attendance is extremely important to ensure children achieve their full potential.

Our Local Governing Body whole school attendance target is 96% and we celebrate great attendance during our celebration assemblies and through our newsletters.

We would like to say a huge well done to those classes who are currently above the Governors' target, as seen in the graph below, as well as our attendance stars this week.



Weekly Attendance Stars	
KS1	KS2
RB - 99.3%	5G - 98.8%
1C - 98.3%	6J - 98.1%



Fun Activities for Half Term

October is a huge month for Hillingdon libraries, with the service promoting and holding some fantastic activities for the 3rd annual Culture Bite.

In a month long celebration of art, literature and culture, there are lots of fun, free events taking place across the borough and in particular at libraries. Here are just some of the exciting family events taking place close to you - during the half term week:

Monday 23rd: Create your own limerick at Eastcote Library

Tuesday 24th: Where the Wild Things Are: Theatre Workshop at West Drayton Library

Wednesday 25th:

- Camel Caper with Shweta Aggarwal at Yiewsley Library

- Kitemaking at Northfields Library
- Krazy Kite with Shweta Aggarwal at Botwell Green Library
- Handa's Surprise: Creative Writing at Eastcote Library
- Drama and Improv for Kids at Oak Farm Library
- Bollywood Dancing at Ruislip Manor Library

Thursday 26th: Ancient Artefacts Workshops at Ickenham Library

Friday 27th:

- Halloween Creative Writing and Craft at Yeading Library
- Celebrating 20 Years of Harry Potter: Wizarding Fun at The Great Barn, Ruislip

Saturday 28th: Nutcracker family Dance Workshop at Uxbridge Library

Please note that you will need to

register to reserve a place at these events: further information and details of other activities can be found at:

<https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/32560/Culture-Bite-events-for-families>

Culture Bite concludes on Tuesday 31st October with the Grand Finale Event: an exclusive, adults only party held at the Civic Centre between 7.30 and 10pm. Party-goers are invited to mingle with some of their favourite authors and artists and enjoy wine and cakes with a local string quartet, esteemed illustrator Chris Riddell, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Culture, John Glen, poetry readings and much more! Book now at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/culturebite

Dates to Remember:

OCTOBER

31/10: Year 6 Online Deadline for Applying for Secondary School

NOVEMBER

1/11: School Photos

2/11: School Photos

3/11: Year 1 Autumn Walk

7/11: Open Day (Reception 2018)

8/11: Year 1 Autumn Walk

10/11: Year 1 Autumn Walk

w/b 13/11: Anti-bullying Week

w/b 13/11: Nursery & Reception shared learning sessions

13/11: 4D Special Assembly

14/11: Year 5 PGL Meeting

17/11: 4M Special Assembly

17/11: Children in Need Fundraising Event & Year 3 Cake Sale

w/b 20/11: Parent Consultation Week

w/b 20/11: H-Factor Auditions

Please see term dates sent to parents at the start of the year for a full list of dates.