



Hiltingbury Highlights

Issue 54

28th April 2021

Message from Miss Loosemore

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another busy week in school and the last week of the Big Pedal. We have all been really proud of the high number of children continuing to support this event. As you may be aware, Mr Wright is incredibly competitive and was very, very pleased to announce that currently we are 103rd out of 2,330 schools! Overall scores to follow. A fantastic achievement! Well done everyone!

Mrs Batten and I met with our Parent representative group at the end of last week and as ever they were really helpful in sharing their feedback to support the development of our e-safety policy. Today you will have received a letter from Miss McCarthy, our Computing Lead, sharing useful links and guidance for parents in supporting their children to be safe online. Our website will continue to be updated in light of any e-safety developments and we will continue to send out any updated information too.

As a school, our focus recently has been reviewing the curriculum for the children during this summer term ahead, to give them the best possible start to the new academic year in September. As a result of the lockdowns, schools cannot teach the whole of the curriculum in the depth they would have normally done and as a result we are currently prioritising the skills and knowledge that will be most supportive for an effective transition. We will then provide opportunities for the children to explore, practice and apply these skills over the next two terms. All year groups continue to be really pleased with the children's attitudes towards their learning which is fantastic.

Thinking ahead to the Autumn term, we are also planning our transition programme for the children. Over the Easter holidays our New Year 3 cohort received their welcome pack to the school and we are currently working with the Infant school to provide the best start for these children as we can. In other year groups we are also planning what transition will look like and as less restrictions continue to be in place we hope to be able to provide more opportunities for the children to meet their new Teachers before the end of the summer term. Last year we did have some parents email in to request certain teachers and this is something that we do not promote out of respect for everyone. I will share more details of our plans nearer the time.

We are so pleased that lots of children have signed up to our clubs starting next week. Thank you all for your support and we hope your children enjoy these new opportunities!

We hope you all enjoy a brilliant bank holiday weekend!

Best wishes,

Zoe Loosemore

Reminder of School Start Times

To help us improve attendance and help our children to have a smooth start to their day and improve attendance, here is a reminder of our school start times

All school gates in the morning will be locked by 8:55am, class registration will be taken immediately after.

Lessons begin at 9am prompt. Any pupil arriving into school via the office after 8:55am, will be marked in as late.

Good attendance and punctuality play a vital part in our children's education. If we can offer any additional support with this, please do let us know

We Care nominations:

AMBITION

WE CARE



Blu B (3D) - Blu has worked incredibly hard this week in all lessons. He has aimed high with all his learning and has really impressed Miss Downer with his positive, resilient attitude. Well done Blu, you should be super proud of yourself!

Rosie P (4S) Wiglaf, Beowulf's faithful warrior, was brilliantly performed by Rosie for the Year 4 performance. Rosie worked hard to learn her words and to speak with expression which really brought the character alive.

Oliver H (5M) has displayed a great attitude to school life this week, he has knuckled down with his work and challenged himself in all areas of the curriculum. In Maths, he has shown great perseverance with fraction work and in PE, he challenged himself to show what a great pike jump looked like to the rest of the class.

Chloe M (6L) Chloe continuously shows such a positive, resilient attitude towards her learning. She strives to be the best she can be and tackles any task with an ambitious mindset. I'm especially proud of her speech writing this week. You are a pleasure to teach and. I'm so proud of you Chloe.

ENTHUSIASM

WE CARE

Saran C (5C) - Since returning to school after lockdown, Saran has been giving everything a go with a wonderful positive mindset. She now has the self-belief to independently tackle problems before asking for help and this, in turn, is giving her even more confidence. All the adults have noticed the enthusiasm Saran has brought, particularly to her learning in fractions and it really is paying off. Keep up the hard work Saran and just think where it will take you!

Katie B (6W) Well done Katie for her fantastic breadth of knowledge in the beginnings of our Ancient Greece unit. She wowed us all with her understanding this civilisation from Greek life to Gods and Goddesses and even to life in Athens and Sparta.

Alessandro (6C) - congratulations on your positive attitude to reading. Mrs Thomas is so impressed that you are now a keen reader. Keep up the reading.

REFLECTION

WE CARE

Thomas G (4P) Thomas has been working incredibly hard on his writing, continually thinking about how to improve his sentences and this is now really paying off. His explanation of how the digestive system works is really clear and informative.

WORKING TOGETHER

WE CARE

Jacob C and Anton W (3P) Anton and Jacob have worked collaboratively on their 'Day the Crayons Quit' letter of complaint to Duncan. Their letter is jam packed full with persuasive devices and is an incredibly engaging read - super paired writing boys.

Annie P and Genevieve I (3DN) -Both girls have used fantastic working together skills this week on their 'Day the Crayons Quit' letter. They developed their use of persuasive devices fully, used excellent expression and created a fantastic sense of fun in their writing. Not only that, but they wrote their entire letter in a Northern accent which really made it stand out and they were able to keep this up consistently throughout their letter! Their attention to detail is to be highly commended!

ENQUIRING

WE CARE

Ritvik K (4CO) Ritvik gave some very insightful ideas as to why the river Nile was important to ancient Egyptian civilisation. He then used these reasons in the role of an ancient Egyptian estate agent, persuading somebody looking to move to Egypt on the best places to live along the Nile. If you're looking for good quality real estate with fertile soil and ample supply of fish, Ritvik will direct you on where to go!

CREATIVITY

WE CARE

Kevin T (5MR) This week Kevin has written a fabulous suspense narrative including many tricks of the trades and powerful vocabulary. He also impressed the class with his knowledge of commas. Kevin is a model pupil as he always is on task and is creative in his thinking. Well done.



Year Group Highlights

Year 3 - The Year 3 crayon box here,

We are writing to let you know that we have **LOVED** the Year 3 writing this week, because all the children have been **TOTALLY** creative and imaginative! You must, must, must ask them to tell you about their letter. In fact, we **INSIST** upon this! If you don't you will regret it!

We've been very impressed with the children's use of: emotional blackmail / tug on heartstrings (we knew they'd be masters at this aspect of being persuasive!); repetition for effect; being bossy and exaggeration.

Not only that, but the children have impressed us this week in maths, with our introduction to fractions - a topic that us crayons find incredibly hard - unless we are just being used to shade in fractions of shapes!! **Make the children** tell you about halves, quarters and thirds and the vocabulary of fractions - you will be **AMAZED!**

Don't ask your child about the destruction they caused in our science lessons this week! We've never seen such blatant disregard for the plant kingdom! We expect you'll soon be receiving letters from the **drowned, leafless** plants in due course!

Your overworked ~~teachers~~ crayons!



Year 4 - have enjoyed starting to write fact-filled explanations of how the digestive system works. Did you know the stomach can stretch to 27 times its original size?! It has been great to see them applying their writing skills to this cross curricular context. In maths we have continued learning about fractions - moving on now from unit fractions to non-unit fractions, always coming back to our key learning about a whole being divided into equal parts.

In our reading lessons, we have been learning how to skim and scan to find key information in a text. This would be a useful skill to practise with your children when listening to them read at home.

Finally, we are very excited that the Beowulf production is now ready to view on Google Classroom in time for the Bank Holiday. The children worked really hard to get this together and we are very proud of them. They wrote their own script, learnt their lines, made props and got fully into role. We would like to thank Mr Bidgood for all his help with the editing.

Year 5 - have had another exciting week this week!

In English, we have planned and written our own suspense stories, continuing the events of Alva in Riddle of the Runes! We have all loved working as authors and using our creativity skills to plan out what Alva wants (what is driving her actions) and the problems and obstacles she faces along the way! In Maths, we have been adding and subtracting fractions and it was lovely to hear the children asking at the beginning of the week 'will that be with the same or different denominators?' What a long way we have come in our journey and so lovely to see the children making those all-important links in their learning!

Continuing our Rivers unit, we used our skills as geographers to explore Digimaps, Google Earth and atlases to find out the route of the River Tees from source to mouth. We have explored the physical and human characteristics along the river's route and introduced some terminology to understand a river's journey. In other areas of the curriculum, we have begun our science unit on living things and their habitats and have continued our PDL lessons looking at puberty and the impact of these changes on our bodies. Somewhere in amongst all of this, we also squeezed in a very lovely visit to the library (a fabulous opportunity to choose new books to read!) and lots of opportunities to run the Daily Mile too! Well done Year 5 for another super week.

Year 6 - At the start of this week we finished writing our speeches linked to 'The Windrush Child.' We used a range of speech devices including the power of 3, rhetorical questions and repetition to persuade the government to change their policy and grant Leonard a British passport. Our teachers were really impressed with our work and we really enjoyed reading these too.

The highlight of the week has been the introduction to our Ancient Greek History and English unit. Sophie says that she has enjoyed reading and understanding why ancient civilisations wrote myths and Katie loved learning about the different gods and goddesses. We of course had lots of fun during our Ancient Greek day, taking part in a number of activities including some olympic games, theatrical plays and learning about the Greek alphabet. We are looking forward to writing our own myths next week and creating a mythical beast to include in this.

In maths, we have continued with our Algebra unit, Sargun says she particularly enjoyed learning about expressions. And we have continued to run the golden mile: Freddie says he finds this to be a real benefit to improving his fitness and the exercise is great for breaking up the afternoon and helping with concentration.

Another great week year 6 – enjoy the bank holiday weekend ;-)

DfE Updated Parent and Carer information about schools during the covid-19 outbreak

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-covid-19>

HSPTA



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Simply search **PTA events** in the app store, download the app and use code: **hspta** to link to our website.

SEARCHING FOR A NEW EVENT LEAD



An exciting opportunity has become available! We are searching for a new event lead to plan and organise a team of volunteers at one of our most enjoyable events of the year – Spooks and Sparks.

You will have the benefit of being able to shadow the 2 amazing women that have been in charge of running this event in previous years. They will guide you through the whole process from start to finish and full committee support will be available throughout. If you find this role of interest and want to sign

yourself up, or just ask for more information, please email events.hspta@gmail.com. Remember, this isn't necessarily a role for only one person and you don't have to sign up alone - it's much more fun to run an event with your friends!



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