



Hiltingbury Highlights

Issue 83

16th February 2022

Message from Miss Loosemore

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has not been the end to the last day of term that we were hoping for but we are glad that everyone is safe at home.

Our school community value of 'Honesty' has been a focus for us this half term and the children have been reflecting on being truthful to themselves about how they are feeling and being honest towards others. We continue to recognise that the children are finding some feelings they have difficult to understand and manage. Mrs Clarke, our ELSA, does a fantastic job in supporting many children on a one to one basis across the school and we are pleased to share that we are able to increase the provision we offer in school through the use of the 'Thrive' approach. Mrs Boden, who has been training to become a Thrive practitioner, has qualified and we will be able to offer more emotional and social support to children through this additional small group and individual intervention. This approach supports children through play, creativity and the arts to help them become more resilient and able to thrive in all they do. Our curriculum also provides the chance for children to develop relationships and reflect on their feelings with support from their class teachers. We are proud to be able to offer all of this provision and children's wellbeing is a whole school priority. A huge strength of our school is how supportive and caring all staff are, everyone genuinely wants to make a difference. Please see our school website for more information and if you have any concerns about your child please do get in contact with your child's class teacher.

As part of our work with our pupil voice group, our Wellbeing Ambassadors, and feedback from children across the school, we have planned to introduce a wellbeing hub at lunchtimes for the children to attend. The children will have the opportunity to go during lunchtime and talk to our mentors or carry out some calming activities. We will also be introducing more playtime equipment for the children to play together and continue to develop their social skills.

We have been reviewing our COVID measures for after half term. As a result, as long as the number of positive cases remain low, we will be re-introducing the following whole school activities;

- Face coverings for staff within communal areas around school will be optional from Monday 28th February
- Whole school assemblies in the School hall – returning week beginning 7th March 2022
- Parent and Carer helpers to support with trips and curriculum activities - returning week beginning 7th March 2022
- Eating in the school hall – returning week beginning 14th March 2022
- Whole school face to face events in school reintroduced across the term - please see our events calendar

Our preventative measures of hand washing, ventilation and gate entry and exit will remain in place along with the children playing in zones on the playground at lunch and breaktime.

Spring 2 looks to be a busy half term with the excitement of being able to offer opportunities for parents and carers to join us in school. Please see below the calendar of events which can also be found on our school website.

We wish you all the best half term and we look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 1st March

Zoe Loosemore

Year Group Highlights

Year 3 - Dear Year 3 parents, it's the end of another term, we can't quite believe it! Units of work are coming to an end. The children completed their french facades art plans and it was time to create their paper collages. Designs of the Eiffel Tower or Arc de Triomphe were the most popular and children selected their coloured paper strips which were rolled, twisted, frayed and cut to create their facades. We hope you have enjoyed their art work.

Our Geography unit La Plagne has explored the stem sentence La Plagne a world away from our local area. We have looked at similarities and differences between these two places. We have explored physical and human features, land use and climate. The children will be assessed on the knowledge gained after the half term break.

Monday 28th February is an inset day and we look forward to welcoming the children back on March 1st where we will be celebrating our community value Respectfulness.

Whatever you are up to, enjoy your half term break and let's hope for a little sunshine.

The Year 3 team

Year 4 What a way to finish off the half term in year 4 land! It has been as action-packed as ever with an incredible array of learning.

This week, we were warmly welcomed on our trip to the Hindu Mandir in Southampton where we discovered all about Hindu worship. The children saw deities and items and experienced a service in the Mandir. It was also a wonderful opportunity for those children, for whom this is an important part of their life, to share their experience and expertise with their classmates. A huge thank you to all who helped to make this happen.

Meanwhile, we have been exploring under the sea with our most recent text in English, 'Fox and the Deep Sea Quest'. This is a beautiful book where the curious Fox goes diving in search of a mysterious, glowing deep-sea plant. We will be imagining our own underwater quest and will hopefully discover something equally as incredible!

Speaking of being underwater, a massive congratulations goes out to all of our children who represented year 4 at the swimming gala.

In science, we have been applying our skills of classification to sort the different types of liquorice allsorts into their subspecies thanks to their distinguishing features. This afternoon we have had a focus on how to support one another, thinking about our aims to keep strong, and who we perceive as our support network. This would be a fascinating conversation to have at home over a restful half term.

Year 5 - What a brilliant last week of term! There are so many highlights to share. In English, the children really enjoyed writing the final, missing pages of the Watertower revealing what actually happened to Bubba inside the tower. They have challenged themselves to vary their sentence lengths for effect, choosing shorter sentences to create moments of drama and impact and employing longer sentences with subordinate clauses or parenthesis to slow down the action and build up the tension. Language to create mood has also been used effectively this week with the children debating the words and phrases to create the best atmosphere. In Maths, we have continued our multiplication journey, developing our understanding of short multiplication with three and four digit by one digit calculations. We have also explored how to solve TO x TO calculations using an expanded method. Our week has certainly involved a lot of ambition and it has been lovely to see the children all rising to the challenge! In Science, we have enjoyed planning investigations about variables which might affect the rate of dissolving. The ideas generated were super and it was brilliant to hear the children employing their scientific vocabulary to explain and justify their thinking. Why not ask your children what a solute and a solvent is, and the terms used to describe solids which do and do not dissolve in water! In other areas of the curriculum, we have enjoyed completing our journey reading Yusra Swims. Everyone really enjoyed researching more about Yusra's life and using this detail to plan and write a newspaper article celebrating her achievements. What a fabulous half term it has been! We hope everyone has a super rest over the holiday and don't forget to keep reading!

Year 6 - This week has been jam-packed with many different lessons. We have started our new English topic of the highwayman poem, by Alfred Noyes, we've been doing lots of inferring and predictions on what the poem could be about. In maths we are studying co-ordinates and translating shapes and reflecting shapes which we have really enjoyed but has been hard work because you can make silly mistakes. Preparing for our SATs, we did a practice maths reasoning paper for 45 minutes and our results are improving. During this week, we have recapped the French language and how to tell the time which has been quite difficult to memorise all the numbers up to 60. The highlight of this week for all of us has to be going to Thornden to watch their brilliant school production of the well known film Grease! All the students agree that it was amazing because of the: singing, acting, dancing, lights, sets and costumes! Carrying on with the exciting topic of Nepal we have focused on the temperature graphs from around the county. Also, how Global Warming and Climate change have affected the heat throughout the months. Today we have a whole day based on online safety across all the school and we are doing some fun activities to help remember the rules of online safety.

By Eliza & Laïla

Highlight Wellbeing

For our first Highlight Wellbeing week, we would like to suggest some time to talk with your child. Focus and listen to their answers without interruption or judgement, as you 'interview' them like a chat show host! Cosy up with a drink and a biscuit, and see what they say to the following questions

- What is your very favourite meal/drink/pud? (maybe you could have these choices one day during half term?)
- What has made you laugh recently?
- What do you usually do during a school break time?
- What is your favourite animal and why?
- If you were told you could spend a day doing ANYTHING you wanted, what would your choice be?
- What makes you feel sad?
- Where do you feel most safe?
- If you had a magic wand and could change one thing in your life what would it be?
- What are you most proud of about being YOU?
- Is there a game/craft activity/exercise together/movie that you would enjoy doing together over the break?



If your child would like to, they could then interview you back!



Self-Care Bingo

Practicing self-care results in better mental and physical health and wellbeing as well as boosting self-esteem. Download the Thrive Self-Care Bingo and see how many activities you can tick off and enjoy over half term!

Thrive link:

<https://wp.cdn.thriveftc.com/prod/uploads/2022/02/Thrive-Self-care-Bingo-1.pdf>

Thrive is a leading provider of tools and training to help adults support the social and emotional development of the children and young people they are working with. We work with schools, multi-academy trusts (MATs), local authorities, health and social care professionals and parents and carers.

Second hand uniform sale



Remember you can browse our second-hand uniform via our online store, just follow this link - [Second hand uniform shop](#)

Please note that we are constantly updating the sizes available for purchase as new donations come in, so please check back in later if we don't currently have what you are looking for!

ON THE LOOK OUT FOR VOLUNTEERS!



At the end of this school year, the HSPTA Chair and Vice-Chair will both have come to the end of their 3-year term. We are therefore looking for enthusiastic individuals that would like to step up and take over these positions within the charity for the next academic year. We are starting the search now to give interested parents the opportunity to shadow the current Chair's, so that they will feel comfortable

and knowledgeable enough to take over when the time comes. To register your interest, or request more information about the roles, please email committee.hspta@gmail.com

Did you know...?

You can donate via our website to boost our fundraising and choose to gift aid your donation, at no extra cost to yourself, so that we can claim another 25% on top! For more information, or to donate, please click the following link: [Donate to the PTA with Gift Aid](#)

Thank you



Dates & Events

| Date | Event |
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| Monday 28 th February | INSET day – school closed to children due to whole school staff training day |
| Tuesday 1 st March | Whole school community launch of ‘Respect’ value through outdoor learning activities |
| Friday 4 th March | World Book Day – We would love your son/daughter to come to school dressed in their own clothes comfy for reading. Book fayre arrives in school 04.03.22 until 10.03.22. Books can be purchased straight away through our google form; https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScD-b2ExggUzUKUpCn4jkjuRxqpg5fzO68HQvBwWhD56Gw-uQ/viewform |
| Monday 7 th March | Launch of whole school Performance poetry competition in assembly |
| Monday 7 th March | Year 6 mock SATS week |
| Tuesday 8 th March | Open classroom whole school event – Parents and Carers are invited to come into school between 3.20-4.30pm to see their children’s work in their classrooms |
| Thursday 10 th March | SHINE charity whole school event – to support this charity event we ask all children, parents and staff to wear a hat for hydrocephalus awareness week along with their normal school uniform. Donations can be made via a link we will share with you. |
| Friday 11 th March | Year 3 trip to Paultons Park |
| Tuesday 15 th March | Choir after school club starts at 3.20pm-4.00pm led by Mrs Nurdin and Miss Chambers |
| Wednesday 16 th March | School nursing visit - Height and weight year 6 |
| Thursday 17 th March | Fairthorne residential parent information meeting at 3.30pm in school. A remote link will also be offered to parents who cannot attend in school |
| Friday 18 th March | Whole school Red Nose day |
| Monday 21 st March | Whole school Performance poetry - class rounds |
| Monday 21 st March – Friday 1 st April | Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel event – we hope as many children and parents support this initiative by walking, scootering or cycling to school. |

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| <p>Week beginning Monday 21st March Year groups open afternoons at 2.15pm Monday 21st March year 5 Wednesday 23rd March year 4 Thursday 24th March year 6 Monday 28th March Year 3</p> | <p>Parents and Carers are welcome to join their children for their reading lesson this week so we can share an insight into our new reading curriculum.</p> |
| Tuesday 22nd March | Parent representative meeting at 2pm in school |
| Tuesday 22nd March | Year 4 trip to St Martins |
| Thursday 24th March | Year 5 St Boniface church members to visit school |
| Monday 28th March | Whole school Performance poetry - Year group finals |
| Monday 28th March at 2.15pm | Year 3 - Parents and Carers are welcome to join their children for their reading lesson this week so we can share an insight into our new reading curriculum. |
| Tuesday 29th March- Friday 1st April | Peripatetic music Parents Evenings - there will be no music lessons during this week. |
| Tuesday 29th March | Class Photos & Y6 Whole Group Photo |
| Thursday 31st March | Parent coffee morning in school led by our ELSA and Thrive Practitioner to support parents with supporting their children's wellbeing |
| Friday 1st April | <p>HSPTA Easter egg hunt</p> <p>No after school sports clubs are running this day due to the Easter egg hunt</p> |
| Monday 4th April | No extra curricular sports and choir clubs this week |
| Monday 4th April | Whole school Performance poetry - final in school |
| Monday 4 th April | HSPTA Sunflower Competition sales start |
| Monday 4th April | Reading parent information evening in school at 5pm – How to support your child with their reading at home |

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| Wednesday 6th April at 2pm | Year 4 Beowulf production for parents to watch in school |
| Thursday 7th at 2.45pm | Listen to Me concert 4S in school for parents to enjoy |
| Friday 8th April | Whole school Times tables Rock stars day – the children will enjoy a day having fun with learning their times tables. |

*Weekly celebration links will continue to be sent to parents to see their child be presented with their learning certificates in assembly

* Please remember our library is open after school each week from 3.20pm-4.00pm

*Sports competitions will be shared as the events come up across the school term

*From all the staff at Hiltingbury Junior School
We wish you all a safe and happy half term break*

