



# Hiltingbury Highlights

Issue 82

11<sup>th</sup> February 2022

## Message from Miss Loosemore

Dear Parents and Carers,

We really hope that you all enjoyed Parents Evening this week as much as we did. It was an opportunity for us to talk in depth with you all about your child's progress and highlights, which we always enjoy sharing. If you do have further questions please remember that you can always email or call our school office to pass on a message or arrange a meeting with your child's Teacher.

Today was our annual online safety event led by our Cyber Ambassadors and our Computing Leader, Miss McCarthy. Our year 6 Cyber Ambassadors, said that 'the day has been a huge success. Everyone has learnt more about online safety and identity. Our new school acronym 'SHINE' we hope will encourage and help all children remember how to stay safe online'.

### Remember to SHINE online!



We had a really productive and informative parent representative meeting last week. Please do read the minutes below from the meeting, to gain an insight into our discussions and a huge thank you to Jess for writing these. If you are still interested in joining the team, but are yet to do so please contact our office team for more information.

Our whole school phonic interventions in years 3 and 4 have been running for quite a few weeks now and we met with the Teaching Assistants and Miss Downer, our Phonics Leader to review our new scheme 'Read, Write, Inc'. It was really great to hear about the children's progress and how they are becoming more confident in applying their phonics knowledge in these sessions and also when reading in class. We will be holding a parent reading information next half term which we hope to share information about our new reading curriculum too.

Well done to our Athletes who represented the school on Wednesday evening. Mr Wright enjoyed taking a competitive team who really applied themselves. Year 6 also enjoyed their trip to Thornden this week in being able to watch the production of 'Grease'. The year 6 Teachers were really proud to see some old Hiltingbury pupils taking part and our year 6 cohort came back really inspired to think about their own year 6 production in the summer term.

We hope you all have a great weekend.

Best wishes,

*Zoe Loosemore*

### Congratulations Ben W & Holly P



We are delighted to share with you that following their success at the schools cross country event before Christmas. Ben and Holly have been selected to run for North Eastleigh and Winchester at the Hampshire U12 Cross Country Championships in March.

We are so proud of you both!

**Link to our school website  
calendar for dates and  
events**

[Website Calendar Link](#)



## We Care nominations:



Joel D (4S) Joel is on a journey to love and improve his writing. With the help of some handwriting paper, Joel has made a huge improvement to his handwriting already. I hope he feels proud of his progress and will continue to share his great ideas which he is recording in some super sentences. Well done Joel :-)

Adam (6B) Adam has been working unbelievably hard to improve his writing to achieve the highest quality. He has taken on all feedback and been so determined to accomplish an outstanding piece of writing. Super work Adam!

Joe L (6C) Well done Joe - you have captured that reading bug again and have kept a fantastic reading log recently with detailed comments about characters.

Abbie T (4CO) Abbie has stunned us with her writing recently, particularly with her discursive piece about whether Michael from the book Kensuke's Kingdom should sail around the world. Statements such as 'sailing around the world is an education in itself' were very convincing. Abbie has shown ambition in other areas recently too and we are very proud of her.

Anusha G (5M) Anusha thoroughly deserves this award this week as she has definitely pushed herself out of her comfort zone. From the stream study trip of conquering the river, to learning formal multiplication in maths. It has been really nice to see a big smile on your face and a sense of achievement. Well done!



Zheng Zheng L (5MR) - Throughout the year Zheng Zheng pushes himself to learn new vocabulary, expand his sentence types and use both for fabulous effect. I have continually been impressed with Zheng Zheng's inquiry into new words and experimenting with them in his writing. His current writing about the water tower is filled with wondrous vocabulary. Well done.



Abdullah(5C) - Abdullah has really impressed all adults in our class this week with his fantastic contributions, especially in our RE unit about belonging. He was excited to share his knowledge of the Islamic religion with the class and enriched the learning of his peers - even by sharing arabic language on the board. Fantastic!

Ellie (4P) Ellie really impressed me this week with her enthusiasm, confidence and skills in football. During our mini games, she was constantly finding the ball and doing some great passes to her team mates. Well done, Ellie!



Kay C (3D) and Yasmin S (3D) - Kay and Yasmin have both really impressed me with their exceptional working together skills this week whilst writing their myth. They have carefully considered each other's ideas whilst giving their own suggestions. As a result, Kay and Yasmin have written a fantastic myth all about a leopard and a meerkat. Well done!

Gursimer B (3P) Han Z (3P) Gursimer and Han have had a lovely week working together in Guided Reading where they brilliantly showed off their paired reading skills and dictionary work. In English they have excelled at paired writing by sharing their creativity and language skills in their myth writing about how a zebra got its stripes. Great work girls!.

Grayson K and Sienna V (3DN) Grayson and Sienna have used excellent working together skills while writing their myth this week! So much so that we were pleased to be able to use their work as an example of 'What a Good One Looks Like' with the rest of the class! They have carefully composed their sentences while paired writing, and worked together to edit and improve their sentences and their word choices - well done both of you!

Isabel R (5C) - Isabel always models super working together skills, but no more so than this week when working with her partner to write a suspense narrative and in science organising her group to ensure everyone was involved and had a role. In all respects, she is kind, supportive and patient helping her group or partner to focus on the learning and achieve their best.

Hera B (6W) Hera deserves this week's WE CARE award for her creative approach to all aspects of learning. With her creative language choices, she, this week, wrote a brilliant first person recount from the viewpoint of Mount Everest expressing her fury at the fact that climbers were ascending up her side. Her creativity didn't stop there though; for Online Safety Day, she made a superbly creative fortune teller exploring the theme of staying safe online.

## Year Group Highlights

**Year 3** This week we have finished our paired writing activity of our Myths. This has been valuable for the children as they have thought of their sentences together, rehearsed them together and then improved them together. It has been lovely to see the children learn from each other and work together as a team. Next week in English we will be exploring diaries using the witty text Killer Cat to inspire the children's writing.

In Maths we have been working on comparing statements and revisiting the symbols greater than, less than and equals. The children had to apply their multiplication and division knowledge to the statements and then insert the correct symbol. We have also continued our Multiplication and division looking at using related facts how knowing  $3 \times 5$  can help us to solve  $3 \times 50$ . Next week TTRS is revising  $x2$   $x3$   $x5$   $x10$

Following on from our Time to Talk day last week Our wellbeing postcards initiative was launched this week and teachers will be looking to award these to children who are showing their kind, caring side to others and those that are looking out for their peers. Next Friday afternoon will be a dedicated time for school mental health and wellbeing. Don't forget that next Friday is also HSPTA Break the Rules Day. Dates for your diary February 28th Inset Day, March 4th World Book Day and March 11th we are off to Paultons Park (more details to follow)

Have a wonderful weekend everyone. The Year 3 Team.

**Year 4** You might notice your child is particularly keen to go on Times Tables Rock Stars this week. This may partly because we have been spending some time working on times tables in class recently, but also we currently have a Battle of the Bands going on between 4CO, 4P and 4S. Every correct answer wins points for the class. The tournament runs until Monday, so get playing!

In English we have just read the book that is going to be the stimulus for our new writing unit: Fox and the Deep Sea Quest. The children were intrigued by the front cover, which shows a scuba diving fox and we are sure this will elicit some wonderful writing next week.

In other topics, we have been learning about desert biomes, drawing mythical creatures, creating sorting keys in science, learning French, playing football and reading about how Malala spread the word about the injustices in her home country. Phew! We will need a good rest in half term!

**Year 5** This week kicked off with 5M setting off on their stream study trip. All classes have had a great time on their trips and a huge thank you to you at home for your support and to all the adults who attended too. This week the children will continue their fieldwork investigations in class, seeking to answer the question 'How does a stream change as it moves downstream?' Do ask the children what they discovered about velocity and depth of the stream through our investigations and follow-up in class.

In English this week we have continued our work based on the story of the Watertower by Gary Crew. Our unit culminates with the children writing a suspense narrative to tell the story of the 'missing pages' of the book and reveal what actually happened to Bubba! This will require all of the children's ambition and creativity to vary their sentence length for impact and to draw upon a range of suspense tools to really build tension for the reader. We cannot wait to read their final outcomes!

In other areas of the curriculum, we have been building our understanding of the solubility of materials and the correct terminology to describe this; recognising a range of mental methods to multiply in Maths and, in ART, employing our sketching skills to portray different stages of the river.

It was lovely to see so many of you at Parents Evening this week too and thank you for your support at home in helping the children with their reading, times tables and spellings.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.



**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*

**Coming Soon**

## **Highlight Wellbeing**

Coming soon.....

To support the wellbeing of the children at HJS, we will be starting a section here in the Hiltingbury Highlights focussing on the wellbeing of the children, and family life.

Each week ther will be either a handy resource to use, or a clip to watch and talk about together, ideas for activities or talking points to share with your child.

We hope you enjoy them and they bring comfort, connection and fun!



We are delighted to announce the Book Fair is coming to school on **the 4th March**, each class will have an opportunity to look at the books! The book cases are coming from **Scholastic**, who offer a fantastic selection of good quality children's books. More information will follow soon on the books available and how to purchase. It is lovely for children to have special books of their very own to treasure and furthermore all purchases generate commission for free books for our school. Last year your support was FANTASTIC and we raised over £1,000 in free books for our school.



## **DON'T FORGET!!!**

**Break the rules day next Friday – 18<sup>th</sup> February**  
the ultimate mufti day!

18<sup>th</sup> February, your child will be able to choose to  
or all of the following 7 rules; Wear school

only, have neat hair, no temporary tattoos, no nail varnish, no make-up, wear school shoes  
only, no squash in water bottles. Suggested donation of £1 for each rule break, this can be  
paid prior to the day via our website [www.pta-events.co.uk/hspta](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/hspta) or alternatively you can  
bring in cash on the day and drop it in to one of our donation buckets that will be located  
with a volunteer outside the school's gates.



Join us for  
On Friday  
break any  
uniform

## **LOGO COMPETITION**



Congratulations to Harper (6B) who designed the winning logo



A huge thank you to all the children who designed new logo's  
for the PTA, it was wonderful to see how creative and talented  
your children are. There were so many amazing entries, that  
having to choose only one winner was incredibly difficult for the  
committee!

## **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**



## **Minutes from our Parent Representative meeting**

We had another insightful parents representative group meeting last week where we spoke with Mrs Hartley and Miss Loosemore primarily about supporting our children with reading and spellings at home, as well as the action points that the school had taken based on the parent survey.

### **Spelling**

A number of parents had raised questions in regards to the Y3 spelling homework, in particular around the fact that often the words have seemed very 'easy' and not challenging enough. The reasoning behind this approach is that the school wants to ensure that the children 'over learn'. A great way to help our children with these weekly spellings is to encourage them to apply the words to sentences as opposed to just learning singular words. Practising dictated sentences helps with the transition to composition writing.

### **Reading**

There has been a big push in encouraging children to fall in love with reading. I have to admit, sometimes that does seem like a big ask in our household...especially after a long week of learning!

The children are encouraged to take out up to two library books of their choice. If you feel that the level is perhaps a little ahead of where their ability is, then you can use that particular book as a text to read to them. It is all about the children having freedom of choice to pick from the library offerings.

Further points were raised around the reading records; what should parents be writing in them? We raised that it would be useful to have more direction from the school on how to support our children in closing specific gaps in their personal development. We discussed that it would be good to have the phonic sounds/focus words for the week written in the reading records.

### **Communication**

Zoe and Charlotte shared that they will be developing the schools website to share further information with parents such as what the children are learning and how to further support our children with techniques to practice at home.

This will be a huge benefit as many parents have voiced concern over a lack of communication between the school and parents. There are a number of factors for this - covid being one but also that the jump from 'infant' to 'junior' does take some getting used to!

All parent emails sent into the reception team will be acknowledged as received before being forwarded on to the relevant teacher.

With lots of us being busy parents, sometimes dates can be overlooked or missed. The school are looking into an app that could be potentially shared automatically onto parents' own electronic calendars.

### **Mental Health**

In terms of mental health and wellbeing, the last two years have been tricky for us all and the school has noted a rise in students being more anxious and lacking confidence. The school has been working hard on this and have provisions in place to support our children. If you feel your child could do with some additional support then do speak to your child class teacher to arrange.

### **Clubs**

We discussed more non-sporting extra-curricular clubs - the choir has plans to return and the school is also looking at starting up a green fingered gardening club!

### **Homework**

For those parents concerned about levels of homework, it has been limited due to the amount of work the school are doing to 'bridge the gap' with the children from missed schooling due to covid.

### **Join us!**

As a first time parent of a Junior school pupil I have found the Parent Representative Group to be really insightful. To learn about the positive things the school is doing, to enable us to feedback any concerns we may have and to share things that are working well. If you are keen to join us then there is still space in the group, so do email over to the reception team to join us for the March meet!

*Exciting opportunity in our local community!*



WINCHESTER  
CATHEDRAL

## Winchester Cathedral Junior Choir



The Junior Choir is a non auditioned choir for children in and around Hampshire. They rehearse on Tuesdays in the Cathedral's Learning Centre from 5:45pm. £30 per term.

If interested, please email:  
[choirs@winchester-cathedral.org.uk](mailto:choirs@winchester-cathedral.org.uk)

No singing experience needed