

Hiltingbury Highlights

Issue 39

4th December 2020



Message from Miss Loosemore

Tis officially the start of Christmas celebrations! The school has already started to feel festive this week with staff wearing their Christmas jumpers, decorations going up in the classrooms and setting up our Naughty and Nice Christmas calendar in the staffroom. Needless to say the staff have chosen many naughtier, sweet treats than the healthier treats available!

I would like to say a special Christmas cheer to our HSPTA for their amazing efforts in organising and selling Christmas trees over the last few weeks. I hope you are all enjoying their efforts with your fully decorated trees now standing in your homes.

This week there have been so many children being recognised by their Teachers for their hard work and efforts that I have nearly run out of Headteacher stickers! Mrs Hartley and I have also been meeting with each year team and discussing the children's progress across the school. One common theme has been the children's continued positive learning behaviours and how they are all persevering towards being more independent in their learning. As a school we have found that the children have needed more support with their writing but after providing regular opportunities for the children to practice their grammar skills across a range of different topics they are seeing their confidence and progress building.

We hope you all have a wonderful weekend!

Miss Loosemore



Morning drop off - time slots by surname

Thank you for continuing to support us with the staggered drop off slots. Please ensure your child does not arrive before this start time, as the reason for staggered starts and finishes is to ensure that we support parents with social distancing when dropping off and collecting, in addition to avoiding too many children in the corridors / locker areas at any one time.

Time slots by surname:

8.40am A-G

8.45am H-N

8.50am O-Z

The junior school field and side gates will close at 8.55am after which point the children will need to come in via the office and sign in.

Thank you for your co-operation

We Care nominations:



Mrs Clarke ELSA - Our very own Mrs Clarke for our beautiful Christmas decorations she has hand drawn all around the school, thank you for your Christmas cheer!



Harry B (4CO) - Harry has wowed us this week with his ambitious attitude and WAGOLL writing in English. His adventurous vocabulary and superb use of fronted adverbials were woven into his persuasive paragraphs for his Hocombe Mead leaflet. Great job Harry!



Max S (3DN) -Max has worked incredibly hard this week on his Stone Age Boy story and come up with fantastic ideas and vocabulary. He consistently shows a wonderfully positive attitude to all his learning across the curriculum :-)

Orla (4P) - Orla's Hocombe Mead writing impressed me with its focus on the success criteria and careful editing to make it the very best it could be. Orla shows this same care and determination in all areas of school life - what a super star!

Emma SJ (4S) - Emma has been plugging away at her learning in maths and English with a determined and ambitious approach which has seen some great results this week. Her persuasive sentences with fronted adverbials were correctly punctuated and



Woody L-B (5M). A news reporter in the making! Woody has really dived into our English unit about Apollo 13 and has put tremendous effort in. He came up with a short snappy headline and wrote a cracking introduction.

Sophie (6L) Sophie has shown an incredible amount of enthusiasm towards her writing the past week. She has also been concentrating on improving her handwriting and made significant progress. Well done Sophie, I'm so proud of your achievements.

Harry W (6C) Well done for a new found enthusiasm for your writing - keep white boarding and you will reap the benefits of your hard work.



Sophie M (6W) WOW - what a superb piece of writing Sophie produced as a result of her reflective learning attitude. Sophie took on board my feedback and identified where she could improve her writing; as a result, Sophie achieved her first green-dot piece of work for her 'Wing It' story.



Year 5 - Have had another action-packed week! On Tuesday we held a press conference to hear from those involved in the disaster of Apollo 13 and excitedly wrote questions for Fred Haise, Peter Carolan, Marilyn Lovell and Gene Kranz. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity to meet these famous characters (aka Mr Reed, Miss McCarthy, Mrs Richardson and Miss Chambers!) and much fun was had by all! After an oscar-worthy performance, we all learnt how to turn our notes into direct and reported speech in order to flavour our newspaper articles with opinions to engage the reader. As the rest of the week unfolded, we have thoroughly enjoyed using our working together skills to write some sensational newspaper articles, worthy of their place in a 1970's edition of First News! In Maths, we have been exploring prime numbers, prime factors, square numbers, cube numbers, as well as multiplying by 10, 100 and 1000. In other areas of the curriculum, the children have been delighted to return to our DT project creating clothing for Mayan dolls; have enjoyed another session of yoga based around a day in 'school' ; have loved their opportunity to spend some time in the library and select new books and, perhaps the absolute highlight of the week, have relished finding out the result of the Hampshire Illustrated Book Award (and what a surprise it was!) Definitely ask your children which book won overall from all the schools that voted across Hampshire! What a fabulous project to be involved with and thank you to Mrs Thomas for your support with this. Have a restful weekend Year 5 and see you all next week!



Year 6 - We have had lots of fun in year 6 this week as we have started to read Charles Dicken's Christmas Carol. We started the week by exploring the history of Victorian Britain and the issue of equality surrounding social hierarchy - something which Dickens addressed with the creation of his character Scrooge. We have really enjoyed the challenge of reading a more complex text, unpicking phrase and word meaning and exploring character traits through the use of inference walls (using and building evidence from the text to infer the traits). We have also explored how simple present and present progressive tense can be used in our writing and applied this to write from the viewpoint of Scrooge as a child. It has been lots of fun to watch clips of Jim Carey's version of the film to help us understand the story and bring the characters to life. We are excited about exploring the rest of the story next week.

Year 3 - Working together has been a real strength across Year 3 this week. In English, the children have been writing their own adventure stories, based on an extract from 'Stone Age Boy' with a partner. This is the first time that the children have encountered paired writing. This is a strategy that we use to support the children in improving their skills as a writer (from sentence structure, to spellings, to vocabulary, to having creative ideas). The teachers all agree that overall this is the best writing we have seen so far this term!

In reading, we have also introduced the children to reading as a pair. Each class has a different book that they are going to be reading over the next few weeks. Due to the success of paired writing we have had over the past few years, we have been keen to transfer these benefits across to reading too. Please do ask your child about this, as we would love this strategy to be used at home too.

In science we have explored fossils and what they reveal about the Stone Age and in history, we compared the Stone Age with the Iron Age. Christmas has made an appearance in Year 3, with our mischievous elves up to no good each day, the kindness advent calendar (we have encouraged the children to share this with you at home), the singing practice for our sharing assembly (14th December) and decorations up in the classrooms.

Year 4 - It has been another busy, action packed week in Year 4. In English, our unit on Hocombe Mead came to a conclusion with the final presentation of our leaflets. We have been really impressed by the children's enthusiasm for this writing and the way they have taken on board new concepts such as fronted adverbials and topic sentences. The final leaflets are both informative and persuasive. Well done Year 4! In maths we have used our understanding of place value and the concrete resources to explore what happens when whole numbers are multiplied and divided by 10 and 100. Next week our multiplication and division journey will continue with exploring all the different times tables. It will really help your child with this and subsequent topics if they could continue with regular play on Times Tables Rock Stars at home. We know some of our Year 4 are getting very quick now - the practice is paying off!

Year 4 always love their games and PE lessons and this week has been no exception. In games we practised the tricky skill of shooting in football and found it was surprisingly hard to hit the target. Maybe one to practise at the weekend? In PE we have been composing gymnastic routines based on a woodland walk and the children have wowed us with their creativity and working together skills.

Finally, next week we begin our RE unit on angels. Perhaps you could talk to your child about what your understanding of angels is - what do they mean to you?



HSPTA

Delivered from our store straight to your door in time for Christmas Eve! Get ready for Christmas and fill up your Christmas Eve boxes with our handy pre-made supplies.

Our Classic Christmas Eve Selection contains; reindeer food (environmentally friendly), a magic Santa key, a sweet treat, a mince pie for Santa & carrots for the reindeer.

You can also choose to upgrade your Classic Selection with our Luxury Add-on, which includes; 1 luxury hot chocolate, a gingerbread man, a candy cane and a larger sweet treat. You can choose as many Add-ons as you need (i.e. one per child).

Alternatively you can purchase this on its own without the Classic Christmas Eve Selection. **SALE ENDS TONIGHT!!**



Letter from Father Christmas



This year we are offering for sale a beautiful personalised letter from Father Christmas to your children. Purchase on our website and fill in the questions at checkout to give it that personal touch. Letters will be delivered to you in time for Christmas and an option to add a small gift is also available.

LAST CHANCE TO ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE!

Locally sourced in Hampshire, high quality, non-drop Nordman fir trees delivered netted and ready for collection to the school at **AMAZING** prices! Orders placed from now until 6th December will be ready for collection on 11th December. After purchase you will be contacted in due course via email with details of the collection slots available.



HSPTA Christmas Codebreaker Trail



The HSPTA trail is back and this time with a Christmas theme.

"Detectives, Santa needs your help!! Can you solve the clues and break the code to get Santa out in time to save Christmas?!"

The trail will get sent out on or after the 18th December, so that you can enjoy it with your children over the Christmas holidays.

To purchase these items, or to browse all of the other items we have for sale, please visit our website www.pta-events.co.uk/hspta or for more information please contact events.hspta@gmail.com and let us know how we can help you.



Friday 11th December

Come to school wearing your Christmas/ Festive jumper and help to raise funds for **Save the Children**.

All donations will be collected online via our joint Hiltngbury Schools just giving page.

Please click the link to make your donation.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/cid200015244>

Thank you for your support!



Well done to all the children who have actively travelled to school this week for our Christmas Elf Challenge.

We have been very impressed with the number of children taking part this week.

A special well done to William who received today's prize.

Keep up the good work!

Mr Wright

