



Hillborough Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter – 14th January 2022

Value of the month – our value of the month is **co-operation**.

Dear parents and guardians,

Time moves on as always. It's almost unthinkable that a year ago most children were learning at home. Whilst COVID continues to provide significant challenges, I am confident that 2022 will be less disrupted and eventually bring back normal everyday life.

What remains at the heart of everything is your children. In 2022 we will continue to strive to build a place they love to be. A place they can grow and develop. Where they can be safe and happy. A place they can succeed and set the foundations for their lives.

As a community, I know we will continue to work together, support each other, take care of each other, and enable all of us to be our best.

Reminder of the main symptoms of Coronavirus:

- **a high temperature – a new, continuous cough – a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.**
- most people with coronavirus have at least one of these symptoms
- NHS link - <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>
- NHS link - <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/>
- **Do NOT send your child to school if they are displaying symptoms and follow the guidance listed above.**

COVID-19 - Omicron appears to be more like a cold for some people, with common reported symptoms including a sore throat, runny nose, and a headache. Previous COVID variants were more likely to lead to a loss of taste or smell, a new cough, and a high temperature - although these are still the three official symptoms.

We hope by maintaining high levels of hygiene and a sensible approach to keeping safe, school will remain open and free of restrictions. Please note that isolation periods are shortening from Monday 17th January 2022.

Attendance – Thanks again for all your support with attendance. Of course, children should not be coming to school if they are unwell. Equally, we do still get messages every day saying children have a bit of a cold or are tired, this can particularly happen on Mondays and Fridays. I know this is hard, but I also know how essential it is for children to be at school whenever they can. Please do continue to send your children to school unless they really are too sick to attend. If there is anything further we can do to support you with this, do just let us know.

Uniform reminder – **Please remember to write your child's name on their uniform and other clothing items so if they are lost, they can find their way back to you.** We appreciate your support in ensuring that your children wear the correct uniform each day and the agreed uniform for P.E. days. Do contact our Family Worker if there is anything further, we can do to support you.

School bag – a polite reminder that we do not have the storage for backpacks in school and they do not fit in your child's tray. We would signpost you to the one below, which can be brought from the office/online. If you are experiencing any financial difficulties, do contact us and we can look at how best to support you.



Extra-curricular clubs – started this week and we are covering a wide range of activities from Tuesday to Thursday. If you have any suggestions for future clubs, do let us know via the usual communication channels.

Updates from year groups:

- **Nursery** - we have been learning about winter. We wrapped up nice and warm and went on a winter walk around the school. It was a sunny day, but still cold and we spotted frost and trees with no leaves. The rhymes we have been learning this week are 'Miss Polly had a Dolly' and 'Five Little Ducks'.
- **Reception** – we have been learning about different modes of transport and which types children have enjoyed the most or been on, e.g. train, bus or plane. Our focus book is 'Room on the Broom' by Julia Donaldson
- **Year 1** – we have been reading 'The Paper Dolls' by Julia Donaldson. The story inspired us to create our very own paper doll chains and then write instructions on how we made them. We have also been practising our sewing skills in DT and creating 'ugly dolls'. It has been a challenge, however we have persevered and showed resilience and created fantastic dolls.
- **Year 2** – we have been investigating materials and their properties. We carried out an investigation to find the most suitable robe for the emperor, linking to our story in English. Our class story, ['The Emperor's New Clothes'](#), led into a whole class discussion on honesty. In addition, we have been exploring the main components of story writing: settings, characters, and main events. In maths, we have been learning about making equal groups using sharing, grouping, and knowing the difference between the two.

Family Support – we would like to signpost you to the new home of 'Change4Life', which is now known as ['Better Health – healthier families'](#). By clicking on the new name, you will be taken to the website where you can find out about healthy eating options, cooking with your children, healthier food swaps, 10-minute shake up sessions, which are linked to Disney movies and Marvel heroes, and designed to get you moving and finally mental wellbeing tips for parents.

Building resilience in children - Helping our children build resilience and confidence is one of the most important gifts we can give them. We all understand how life can bring you many challenges throughout and how important it is on how we manage this. Resilience is being able to manage stress, challenges, trauma, or adversity that life brings and bounce back from it. When children and teens are resilient, they are going to be more confident, curious, and adaptable to the world around them. Do click on the ['Family Lives'](#) link and you will be able to find a guide on building resilience and emotional health in children.

Wishing you a peaceful weekend.

Josie Walter – Headteacher