



# Hillborough Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter – 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022

**Value of the month** – our value of the month is **empathy**.

Dear parents and guardians,

I cannot quite believe how quickly the past seven weeks have gone by and what has been achieved over that time. I feel that we are all looking forward to a restful break and do remember that the **new term starts on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022**.

With our new book-based curriculum, the children have been part of some wonderful learning opportunities both in and around school. It is so exciting watching our children making links and developing their skills across the curriculum and with your contribution to their learning, via home learning tasks, online phonics and listening to your child read they are really progressing.



**Attendance – everyday counts! Our current whole school attendance for the half term is 94.3%!** Good attendance is vital for all children, and we work to ensure all classes achieve that. The knowledge and skills that your child gains will support their achievements over time.

We are currently focusing on two areas around attendance:

- those who **persistently arrive late** during the week. We are working together to remove the barriers to arriving on time
- those who are deemed **persistently absent from school**. Gov.uk describes this as, those who have had more than 10 days away from school since the start of term.

**Mindful parking and consideration** – over the past few weeks, we have received an increased number of concerns from residents and parents about the inconsiderate parking outside our school or at the entrance to the school. What is even more saddening, are those who feel the need to take the law into their own hands. We are role models to our children and what has been witnessed or experienced by others has not been pleasant. Blocking the school entrance could put children and adults at risk, if the emergency services could not get through.

**Uniform reminder** – please ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform for school and has the correct PE Kit in school. After the holiday break, please ensure that your child has a coat that is suitable for outdoors and appropriate footwear. **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.**

**Harvest Festival** – we had a visit from [Luton Foodbank](#) who talked about their work in supporting families who are struggling to buy food or dry goods. All the lovely food that was collected was presented to them by our school council.

**School Council** – recently we received a letter from our local MP Rachel Hopkins, who had heard about our wonderful School Council and wanted to arrange a visit to the school to meet them and see the contribution that they are making to school life. As part of Parliamentary Week, she will be visiting us on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November** and spend the morning with the children. Do look out for their page on the school's website.

**Values ambassadors for October are: Ash: Yousef, Abdullah and Faith, Beech: Mariah, Khadija and Amaya, Willow: Sophie, Abyan and Angela, Birch: Anelis, Hamza and Ismail, Cedar: Nael and Aniya, Maple: Inayah, Isaiah and Fatima, who have really shown the value of empathy.**

**Parent Consultation Evenings** – it was lovely to welcome you all into school and enjoy the buzz of conversation about how your child has settled into their new class, their next steps for English and maths and celebrate their successes, to date. We will be touching base with those who were not able to attend, so that they receive all the relevant information about their child.

#### **Updates from year groups:**

- **Nursery & Reception** – produce a wonderful weekly newsletter with all the exciting information about what they are working on and how you can best support your child during the week.
- **Year 1** - after reading the lovely story '[Hair love](#)', we have been very busy writing our own fact files called 'all about me'. We have used conjunctions to extend our sentences to give even more information about ourselves. To do this we have been using the conjunctions 'and', 'because' and 'as well as'. This week we have been writing our own poems using adjectives to make our writing more exciting!

In Maths Year 1, have been writing number sentences, both addition and subtraction. We have used stories to help us understand the number sentences. We had a celebration day about Diwali and designed our own rangoli patterns. In Science we have continued learning about the seasons and this week we talked about the different weathers. The children even had an opportunity to be weather presenters!

- **Year 2 - Dear Diary,**

Winter may be on its way, but the chill in the air and the dark and gloomy mornings cannot stop us! In English, we have been budding diary writers, based on our reading of *Amazing Grace*. We have been writing in the first person, past tense verbs and using contractions and conjunctions. Our diaries will dazzle you! Not to mention our proudly produced poetry, based on our reading of Pie Corbett's poem, *Wings*. Our powerful poems will amuse and entertain you!

Our mighty mathematicians have been mastering the skills of comparing numbers as well as comparing length and mass, using the correct vocabulary and symbols. Additionally, we have estimating numbers on a number line and using number squares and bead strings to augment our knowledge of counting on and back. The Year 2 explorers have also been intrepidly using Atlases to find countries. Our RE has included a celebration of Diwali, as well as understanding the importance of the Quran to Muslims. Our inquiring scientists have also continued their investigations of life cycles. It is hard to believe we have packed in so much learning over such a short period of time! We've been so busy!

**Family Support – it is holiday time!** We have some fantastic local parks with free museums for the family to enjoy - [Stockwood Park](#) and [Wardown Park](#). Please find attached a link to '[Kids Eat Free](#)' which is from a money saving website (please note that we are not affiliated to the site). Other places that are offering free or cheap deal meals over the break are – Tesco, Asda, Beefeater, TableTable and Morrisons. Also find a link to '[Things to do in Herts, Beds & Bucks](#)' which are free and indoors.

**SEND (Special Educational Needs & Disability)** – please remember that our **SENDCo** can be contacted via the usual methods and by using the email address – [inclusion@hillboroughinfantschool.uk](mailto:inclusion@hillboroughinfantschool.uk).

Wishing you a wonderful restful half term break and we look forward to seeing you on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022**.

Josie Walter – Headteacher