



Hillborough Infant and Nursery School

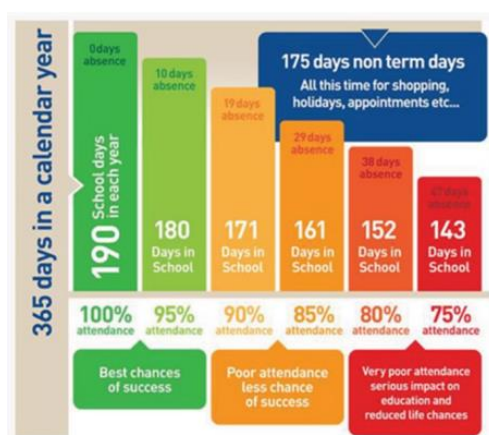
Newsletter – 10th February 2023

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

Dear parents and guardians,

I cannot believe we are at the point of being halfway through the school year! It is a wonderful time of year in school. Children are generally settled, and relationships are developing to be meaningful and reciprocal. The children are making progress and really enjoying their learning.

Even though going on educational visits has been limited for us, we have strived to ensure that we have had some wonderful people into school, which has so enhanced the children's learning. We have many more educational visitors planned to come into school over the coming term.



Attendance – everyday counts! Our current whole school attendance is 94%! 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.

Parents and guardians – as a school we will work closely with you to ensure that children are in school and receiving the best start to their educational journey. If you are experiencing challenges regarding arriving on time or general attendance, do come and talk with Family Support or our SENDCo. We are here to support.

e-safety – [Safer Internet Day](#) has been and gone, however e-safety is an everyday focus for educators and parents. The school's internet provider (LGfL) has a wonderful portal for parents called [ParentSafe](#). It has clear and concise information for parents about devices, the internet, TV, and streaming programmes, also advice around computer/console games.

Parent Consultation Evening – a reminder that upcoming event will be on the **28th and 29th March** and booking for this event will be via ParentMail. It is a wonderful time to celebrate your child's successes; the skills they have developed and next steps in their learning journey.

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** - we have been busy learning all about the different life cycles, including a [butterfly](#), a [frog](#) and a human. We have been looking closely at the different stages in a butterfly's life cycle and written about what we have learnt. We have even learnt about the meaning of chrysalis and lava!

In maths, we have been reinforcing our number bonds to 20 using a range of resources. We have also explored with Cuisenaire rods this week and explored part, whole relationships within a number. We linked this learning to our understanding of the part, whole model.

- **Year 2** – Are you curious about the Mars Rover? Our Year 2 certainly were, which is why we wrote an explanation text based on the book, [Curiosity](#) by Marcus Motum. We discovered that on the 5th August 2012, the famous roving robot landed on Mars, and wrote some amazing facts about its journey.

Meanwhile, our journey through maths has been about positional language - half turns, quarter turns, we know all about turns! We are also learning about time, so we will know exactly when lunchtime is coming!

Time is always the focus of history - we concluded our discovery of the mathematician Katherine Johnson by producing knowledge organisers. In addition, our knowledge of science is ever growing as we investigate which materials can change and which remain the same.

SEND – please find attached the **FUN (Families United Network)** leaflet of events. There are many different activities such as their February Family Holiday Club, information about their 5k Colour Obstacle Rush for FUN and their Holiday Club Activity Schedule. Spaces for this were available on request from 10am on Tuesday 24th January 2023.

Family Support – ‘talk to them and not at them’ - When you are speaking to your child/children make sure that you are talking to them, not at them. Make eye contact, pause, and let them interject when they need to. Conversations are so precious, and children learn so much from their interactions with us. How we respond and how we listen to them, teaches children how valuable their thoughts and opinions are. So, take your time when speaking to your child. Make these conversations matter.



[I CAN](#) - Is a wonderful organisation that provides wonderful resources for parents and family about how to support your child's language development. Click on the blue words to take you to their website and parent section.

Half term break plans – if you are looking for ideas for the weekend, do look at the ‘what’s on’ page of [The Culture Trust - Luton](#). We would also like to signpost you to the ‘[Children’s Half Term Festival](#)’ which has everything from theatre, to circus skills, dance workshops, clay play and so much more. Finally there are discount tickets for London zoo, that can be found via the link <https://www.londonzoo.org/plan-your-visit/community-access-scheme>.

Wishing you all a wonderful half term break and do enjoy all that you do with friends and family.

Josie Walter – Headteacher