



# Hillborough Infant and Nursery School

## Newsletter – 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023

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

Dear parents and guardians,

Only another eleven sleeps until the end of autumn term and the start of the festive season. Plans are in place for the build-up to the end of the Autumn Term. We are determined that the children have a wonderful time and we really want it to be fun and exciting for them. Our wonderful school staff have been working hard on plans and do look out for messages via ParentMail with further details.



**Attendance – everyday counts!** Please remember to ensure that your child is in every day until the end of term and that they arrive on time. **Remember that leave during term time is only granted in exceptional circumstances and authorised by the Headteacher.** A form can be found on our website and at reception.

**Uniform** – a gentle reminder on uniform and ensuring sensible clothing for PE, outdoors, jewellery and hair accessories. If unsure, please look at our School Uniform Policy; which can be found on our website.

**Shine Star Shine** – was Year One's performance this year and retold the story of the Nativity through the eyes of a 'star'. Each child took part in the performance, regardless of need, and each class had their day. A special 'shout out' goes to Cedar & Maple, as the sound system was a bit crackly and in true West End style – 'the show went on'. We are so very proud of every child and how much they have 'grown' since they started in September. They were able to remember their lines, sing all the songs, perform, narrate, and manage stage directions and so much more. It was also lovely to see so many families and extended family members in sharing the joy of a live performance.

### Event reminders:

- We have heard that 'the man' in the big red coat and beard will be visiting us as some point, remember he knows if we have been making green choices and showing our school values.
- 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023 – Winter crafting sessions. Please ensure that you book up for this event – due to H&S regulations, we cannot admit anyone who has not pre-booked.
- 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023 – Christmas – reminder to order your children's food via our SELECT meal ordering system
- 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023 – Pantomime 'Dick Wittington' We also have a visit from a travelling pantomime and they will be taking us through the story of Dick Wittington. This story again reminds us of our overarching school value of C-A-R-E

### 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** - recently graced us with a magical Nativity play that left everyone enchanted. The young stars embraced their roles with gusto, bringing the timeless story to life in front of an audience filled with parents and peers. The auditorium echoed with joyous laughter and applause, creating a memorable experience that highlighted the creativity and dedication of our youngest performers.

Under the guidance of our dedicated Year 1 teachers, the children's enthusiasm lit up the stage, portraying characters from Mary and Joseph to shepherds and angels. The parents were visibly

moved as they watched their little ones' shine in the spotlight, contributing to a heartening sense of community spirit during this festive season.

As we close this term and approach the holidays, let the Year 1 Nativity play be a warm reminder of the magic that unfolds when our school community comes together. We extend our gratitude to the children for their charming performances and to the teachers for nurturing their talents. May the joy and unity displayed on that stage continue to resonate with us throughout the holiday season.

- **Year 2** – In English we have been discovering who Mary Seacole is and writing key facts we have learnt about her to write a persuasive letter to make sure Mary Seacole gets her nursing job. In maths, we have been learning to add, subtract, solve number problems all using money.

If we shared all the fun activities and learning, we did this week we would need a whole newsletter to ourselves! Right now though, we are very tired. We are looking forward to a great winter break and some rest. First... we have more learning and fun to come, so watch this space!

**The Big Ambition Survey** - We have been asked to share the below by the Children's Commissioner for London.

'The Big Ambition' provides a much-needed opportunity for the children of England to tell policy makers what is important to them ahead of the General Election. Please see this [flyer](#) to tell you more about the survey. Let's make sure that the children and young people of Luton are represented in the results.

Children and parents can complete the survey here: [www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition](http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition).

**The closing date is Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024.**

#### **Events in Luton:**

- **Stockwood Illuminated 2023 – 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023 – 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2023** - Discover Stockwood like you've never seen it before, as you weave your way on a self-guided tour through the illuminated pathways, set against the backdrop of the lush greenery. Book and find out more via the [link](#).
- **Father Christmas visits Wardown Museum – 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023 – 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2023** - A magical Christmas experience awaits the whole family at Wardown House, Museum and Gallery. Listen to a festive story from Miss Christmas, meet the whimsical elves, and receive a special gift from under the tree when you meet Father Christmas. Plus, you'll be treated to milk and cookies in our cozy café afterwards! Book and find out more via the [link](#).
- **Peter Pan and Me, The Hat Factory Arts Centre – 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023 – 24<sup>th</sup> December 2023** - A whimsical and fun adventure story for small people with big imaginations. Book and find out more via the [link](#).

As we approach the end of term and the holiday season, we're aware of the heightened financial pressures that many of you are facing at the moment.

As such, we want to emphasise that our staff are not expecting any 'thank you' gifts from pupils and parents. Should you still wish to say 'thank you', we always appreciate:

- Homemade cards and letters, or a spoken 'thank you' – kind words mean a lot!
- Donations to charities etc
- Paying it forward – volunteering your time to help others
- Homemade gifts

Wishing you a twinkly weekend and see you all on Monday.

Josie Walter – Headteacher