



Hillborough Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter – 16th February 2024

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

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 terms.

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 **26th and 27th 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.

Aspens catering – continue to organise a wide range of 'food event days', which the children love. It also encourages them to try new foods.



Saying goodbye and hello - we want to say goodbye to Ms Rahman, our School Business Manager whose last day is 28th February who has received a development/career opportunity and we wish her well for her new journey.

We would like to say hello to new staff who have started with us this term:

- Miss Razzaque who has been supporting Year 2 this term and will have now become a familiar, welcoming face to some of you.
- Mr Adekanye has just joined and is supporting Year 1 and Miss Mobalaji-Ashafa is a new member of the Midday Supervisor Assistant team and we hope you welcome them into the Hillborough Infants & Nursery School family.

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** - As we look back on a week filled with excitement and learning, Year 1 students have truly embraced a diverse range of experiences that have ignited their curiosity and creativity.

History came to life as our young historians participated in an immersive Florence Nightingale workshop. Donning both historical and modern nurses' uniforms, they embarked on a journey through time, gaining insight into the remarkable life and contributions of Florence Nightingale herself.

In their English lessons, students delved into the fascinating world of lifecycles, exploring the stages of growth and transformation through engaging writing activities. Their imaginative narratives brought these concepts to life, highlighting their emerging literacy skills.

Artistic talents flourished as children experimented with the styles of Kandinsky and Andy Warhol. Through painting and printing, they expressed themselves creatively, producing vibrant works of art that reflect their individuality and inspiration.

In PE sessions, students honed their physical skills through ball games and movement activities. Learning the importance of teamwork and coordination, they navigated challenges with enthusiasm and determination, all while prioritising safety.

As we reflect on these enriching experiences, we celebrate the growth and achievements of our Year 1 students. With each adventure, they continue to embrace learning with open minds and boundless enthusiasm

- **Year 2** –Are you curious about the Mars Rover? Our Year two 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're also learning about time, so we'll know exactly when lunch time is coming! Time is always the focus of history - we concluded our discovery of the mathematician Katherine Johnson by producing knowledge organisers. And our knowledge of science is ever growing as we investigate which materials can change and which remain the same.

We have concluded with a week of grammar practise; our children will be experts after these experiences.

SEND – please find the link to [FUN \(Families United Network\)](#) and their wide range of events for families and children who have additional needs or disability. They cover the whole of Bedfordshire and you can find all their holiday club news etc. on the website. Bookings are made via the links on their website.

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.



HYPERLINK "<https://ican.org.uk/i-cans-talking-point/>" **ICAN** - 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 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.

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

Josie Walter – Headteacher