



# Hillborough Infant and Nursery School

## Newsletter – 12<sup>th</sup> July 2024

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

Dear parents and guardians,

Not everyone in school can quite believe that there are five school days left until the end of term! It really does feel quite non-stop at present with lots of exciting things going on over the coming days.

**End of Year Reports** – my senior leadership team and I very much enjoyed reading all the reports and comments. It was amazing to see how much progress our children have made over the past year and the achievements they have made.

**Term Time Leave** – we would like to remind you that term time leave is only granted in **exceptional circumstances** and **MUST** be agreed by the Headteacher. Any application **MUST** be completed and returned to school, no later than 14 days prior to the request. You will be expected to attend a meeting, in school, to discuss the request before a decision is made. All details can be found by clicking on the following – [Term Time Leave of Absence](#).

**Sports Day** – we are delighted to share that our Sports Morning was a tremendous success! The children showed fantastic sportsmanship and enthusiasm in the events. The children loved all the events and some of them said that it was their best day ever! A very big thank you to all the parents who attended and cheered on our young athletes. Your support made the day even more special.



**Year 2 – end of year production** – at the time of writing this, rehearsals have been most afternoons in readiness for dress rehearsals and performance to parents. We can truly say that the whole year group have amazing voices and are really highlighting their talents and hard work. **Reminder of performances to parents: Beech - 15th July 2024, Ash - 16th July 2024, Willow - 17th July 2024.**

**Euro Football Final** - I am excited to announce Farley Big Local are hosting a special event the UEFA EURO Final Watch Party. This event is complimentary and includes food, drinks, and entry to watch the UEFA EURO Final.

Event Details:

Date: July 14th, 2024

Time: 7:30 PM

Location: Stockwood Park Academy

Spaces are limited and families must pre-register via QR code, please see attached leaflet.



## 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** - This week, Year 1 have been busy with exciting activities over the past fortnight. Here is a summary of our adventures aside the Zoo visit and Sports day.

In English, we read the captivating story of "[Zeraffa Giraffa](#)". After reading the book, we explored the features of discussions and engaged in thought-provoking debates on topics like "Should children have a bedtime?" The highlight was our analysis of whether Zeraffa Giraffa was happy or not, encouraging critical thinking and empathy.

Maths lessons focused on addition strategies, specifically making 10 first to simplify calculations. This approach helps build a strong foundation for more complex maths problems in the future. In science, we looked at classification of animals into herbivores, carnivores, and omnivores. This activity has supported us to understand the diverse eating habits of the animal kingdom. PE was particularly fun this week as we practised balancing on all fours, mimicking a cat and children had to lift an arm off the floor and balance a bean bag on their back. In RE, we continued our exploration of celebrations. This time, we focused on non-religious celebrations; we organised a mini sports day exclusively for Year 1 students. This event combined physical activity with teamwork and sportsmanship, providing a joyful conclusion to our busy week.

We are so very proud of the enthusiasm and engagement shown by our Year 1 students across all subjects! They will make amazing learners whilst in Year 2 and we wish them continued success.

- **Year 2** - Thanks to a successful transition morning, our spirits remain high, even though the weather has been a little overcast. The children's behaviour was nothing short of excellent and our pre-visit nerves gave way to excitement at the thought of their new school.

Nevertheless, perhaps the grey days made us long for [Grandad's Island](#), a wonderful book written and illustrated by Benji Davis. The book has been an inspiration to us and we have written some enchanting narratives in English. From journeying to a distant island to our maths journey, which returns to place value and written calculations.

Of course, we cannot forget to mention our exciting sports afternoon at Hillborough Junior School! Our young athletes have been showing their true potential to their new teachers and friends. Amidst all the excitement, we have still found time to practise our end of year production. We are all in fine voice and feeling confident. We cannot wait to tread the boards in front of our appreciative audiences!

**Summer Reading Challenge 2024** – is a FREE holiday activity for children. It is all about reading for fun, aiming to improve children's reading skills and confidence. All children aged 4-11 are welcome to take part and simply asked to read 6 books of choice over the school holidays. They will also collect free rewards for their reading along the way.

**Plus, any child who enters can swim for just £1 at any Active Luton pool\* by showing their library card at reception.**

Pop in to your local library or visit [summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk) to sign up.



**Well-being and mental health** - The summer holidays can be a time to relax, recharge and take a break. However, young people may struggle with the loss of structure and not seeing their friends every day. It is important that you

look after your mental wellbeing during the break. The summer can also be a great time to develop good self-care habits, so that when term starts again, you have techniques you can turn to in stressful times.

Just as we look after our physical health, it is important to look after our mental health. Self-care is all about what you can do to help yourself feel better or to keep yourself feeling good. It is a way that we can look after our own mental health and wellbeing. It can help your body and mind to relax, drift away, or be more energised.

Attached to this week's newsletter is a self-care plan. It walks primary-aged children through a series of steps, helping them create a simple self-care plan that works for them. It helps children identify activities that they can use to support their mental health.

Some of the suggested self-care activities include:

- music and dance
- mindfulness
- art

The resource was co-written by Anna Freud experts and young people, who shared ideas on self-care strategies that work for them.

**SEND** – Support available for children, young people with special education needs or a disability aged 0-25 years



<https://directory.luton.gov.uk/kb5/luton/directory/localoffer.page>

**Summer in Town** – Is a Luton Initiative with support from the UK Government. On their web page, they are saying that we need to *'Get ready for an unforgettable summer packed with free and fun activities for the whole family, right in the heart of Luton town centre.'* The activities offered range from: yoga, storytelling, summer open-air cinema, circus street show, steel pan workshop, tale shaker Tuesdays, hula hoop street show and so much more. All information can be found on their website or click on blue writing to take you there.



**Art Trail** - Keech Hospice Care, and our Project Presenting Partners Love Luton are no strangers to the iconic Wild In Art trails (remember The Big Trunk Trail in 2021?) and this one is set to be bigger, better and brighter!

In summer 2024, 90 hares and tortoises will form the biggest and unique outdoor public art event Luton has ever seen. These stunning sculptures will shine bright along the fun and family-friendly art trail around Luton's town centre and local parks, bringing together the community for an unforgettable event.

The Short Tail Trail will bring together communities and visitors to make amazing memories through creativity. Trail explorers young and old will have fun rediscovering Luton, learning about the artwork and spending time together.

30 large sculptures, each sponsored by a local businesses or organisation will be individually designed by an artist. Our small sculptures will each be adopted and designed by a local school, college or community groups.

#HopOnBoard, get outdoors, walk more and #TakeAShelfie. Share your stories on social media via @shorttailtrail and download The Short Tail Trail app (coming soon!) for even more fun!

- On Saturday 6 July 2024, all the sculptures will parade into Luton – before leaving on Thursday 12 September 2024.
- You will be able to #TakeAShelfie and see your favourite sculptures one last time at a final farewell weekend from 27 September – 29 September 2024.
- The legacy of The Short Tail Trail will continue when the large sculptures are auctioned on Thursday 3 October 2024 to raise vital funds for Keech Hospice Care.

<https://shorttailtrail.co.uk/app/>

#### Luton Libraries – free weekly activities for the summer

- Luton Central Library, Thursdays, 2-3pm
- Leagrave Library, Fridays, 10:30-11:30am
- Marsh Farm Library, Thursdays, 11am-12pm
- Lewsey Library, Thursdays, 2-3pm
- Stopsley Library, Tuesdays, 2-3pm

##### Special Events - £5

Mrs Armitage on Wheels	Luton Central Library	23 July	12:30 - 1:30pm
Mrs Armitage on Wheels	Luton Central Library	23 July	2:30 - 3:30pm
Crazy Colin's Marvellous Makers Magic Show	Leagrave Library	29 July	10 - 11am
Crazy Colin's Marvellous Makers Magic Show	Marsh Farm Library	29 July	12:30 - 1:30pm
Crazy Colin's Marvellous Makers Magic Show	Luton Central Library	29 July	3 - 4pm
Storytime with Mama G	Luton Central Library	12 August	10 - 11am
Storytime with Mama G	Lewsey Library	12 August	1 - 2pm
Storytime with Mama G	Leagrave Library	12 August	4 - 5pm

<https://www.lutonlibraries.co.uk/digital-content/activities/summer-reading-challenge>

#### Summer holiday activities

- Tiny Happy People and Asda have teamed up to create some fun, [free activity ideas](#) for little ones and families to support language and communication skills during and after a trip to the supermarket. In-store you will find sticker games, activity packs and [an interactive tap and find game](#) to play with children on devices as you walk the fruit and veg aisle!
- [Luton Libraries](#) have activities across the summer for all ages or why not pop in and visit the new Children's library?
- Free [town centre summer events](#)
- [The Short Tail Trail](#)
- [Walking maps](#)
- [Summer at Stockwood](#)
- [What's on Culture Trust](#)
- Events with [Step Forward Luton](#)
- Activities from [Tiny Happy People](#)
- Activities with [Active Luton](#)

Wishing you a relaxing weekend and let us hope that there is plenty of sunshine.

Hillborough Infant & Nursery School Team