



Hillborough Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter – 17th October 2025

Value of the month – our value of the month is **aspiration (...do our best)**.

Dear parents and guardians,

As we move towards the end of what has been a busy and productive half term, I want to take a moment to thank our entire school community for your continued support and dedication. Our children have worked incredibly hard, and it has been wonderful to see their progress and enthusiasm for learning. A huge thank you to all our staff for their commitment and energy, and to our families for your partnership in supporting your children's education. We hope everyone enjoys a well-deserved break **which is from the 27th - 31st of October 2025**. School will reopen on **Monday 3rd November 2025 at 08:50**, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for the second half of term.

We would like to thank you again for ensuring your children get enough sleep. I am sure 10 hours can sometimes feel like a great challenge, but I cannot emphasise enough the impact sleep has upon your child's learning. If you need any further support, please click on [The Sleep Charity](#) link.

Finally, as we move further into autumn, please send your child to school with a raincoat. Physical Health is a crucial part of our curriculum, and it is important for your children's learning for them to be outside and moving every day despite the weather. We also ask they come to school wearing appropriate footwear for the day, so they can move at ease.

School uniform - please ensure that your children are wearing the correct uniform and suitable footwear. Hair accessories should be kept to a minimum and in the school colours. If you are unsure, do check out our website - <https://www.hillboroughinfants.co.uk/uniform/>

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](#).

School Photos – Monday 20th October 2025, this is just an additional reminder of the individual photographs of each child being taken. Please ensure your child is wearing their full school uniform on photo day. This helps create a smart, consistent look across all the photographs. You will receive a copy of your child's photo and how to order later on in the week.

World Mental Health Day (10th October 2023) – this day, as is every day, is important to both children and adults, and in addition to our PSHE/RHE programme we led on the focus for this year of **'ensure mental health today, and every day'** and that everyone around the world would hopefully looking after their mental health. Mental health and wellbeing are not just for one day, but every day. This is the link to our website and the page dedicated to wellbeing - <https://www.hillboroughinfants.co.uk/well-being/>. If at any point you are worried about your child's wellbeing, do speak with the class teacher or make contact with our Family Support Worker.

Luton Food Bank / Harvest Festival week – we have received wonderful contributions towards this and thank you to everyone who has supported this. We have celebrated this event in a variety of ways and our School Council have been very supportive in so many different ways and will ensure all the items donated will safely arrive at Luton Food Bank. Here is a link to their website - <https://lutonfoodbank.org.uk/>. If you are struggling, you can contact them directly or do contact our Family Support Worker who can also support you and signpost you to other agencies that can provide support. We are aware that **The Stockwood Park Academy school** run a food bank on Saturday mornings – there are no questions asked and you just need to live in the local area.

Safeguarding – Keeping your children safe: online and beyond. Do click on the following blue writing link that will take you to a wonderful site that is dedicated to offer guidance and support for parents whilst their children are using the internet and devices. [ParentSafe](#) by LGfL

Space Week - We are delighted to announce that our World Space Week 2025 design competition was a tremendous success! Thank you to all the children and families who took part in our 'Living in Space' design competition. We were overwhelmed by the creativity, imagination and effort that went into every single entry. From incredible drawings and detailed models to innovative collages and digital creations, our pupils truly embraced the challenge of designing a house for their family to live in space. Certificates were awarded to the class winners in our celebration assembly, and we're proud to have their winning designs on display in school for everyone to enjoy. The standard of entries made judging incredibly difficult, and every child who participated should feel proud of their contribution. All entries have been displayed around school and will be available to take home during parents evening. A huge thank you to all parents and carers for supporting your children with this competition. Your encouragement and involvement helped make this such a successful and engaging learning experience for our pupils. Well done to everyone who took part!



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 One** - In English, we explored the features of a diary entry, helping Ruby to write her own diary from our English class story '[Ruby's worry](#)'. The children learned that talking about things that make them unhappy could lead to receiving help and solving problems. We also practised using capital letters at the beginning of sentences and focused on forming them correctly. Now, we have moved on to the story '[Hair Love](#)' by [Matthew A. Cherry](#). The children made puppets and practised retelling the story to their partners, helping to build vocabulary and comprehension skills.

In maths, we explored part-whole models, where children practised representing numbers and discovered how numbers can be broken into parts. We've now started learning about commutativity in addition, and the children realised that changing the order of numbers doesn't change the result in addition. They've also been practising learning subtraction using part-whole models, learning new vocabulary such as "minus," "less," and "take away."

In art, we introduced the children to the artist Pablo Picasso and explored the techniques he used in his paintings. The children learnt about cubism and how he used shapes in his portraits. The children created collages of portraits in the style of Picasso.

In computing, the children were practising using the trackpad on the chrome books and had lots of fun creating different pictures. In geography, the children have been learning about physical features in Luton. For example, rivers, forests etc. It has been an exciting and productive couple of weeks!

- **Year Two** – Over the last fortnight in English, Year 2 have been exploring the wonderful book [Amazing Grace](#). The children have been developing their comprehension skills by ordering the story and discussing the key events and characters. They've learnt to identify verbs and understand the difference between past and present tenses, practising how to use them correctly in their writing. The children have been expanding their noun phrases to make their writing more descriptive and interesting, and they've learnt how to use conjunctions to join ideas and create longer, more complex sentences. They've also explored the features of diary entries and have been practising writing their own, thinking about how to express feelings and recount events from a first-person perspective.

In maths, Year 2 have been developing their understanding of number lines to 100. The children have been challenged with number lines that have different starting points, helping them to become more flexible in their mathematical thinking. They have learnt to place 2-digit numbers in the correct position on number lines, building their understanding of number value and developing their estimation skills.

Our science topic has focused on what animals need to live. The children have explored the basic needs of animals, including food, water, air, and shelter, and have discussed why these are essential for survival. They looked at what their pets need.

In geography, we've been comparing our local area of Luton with Sibiu in Romania. The children have enjoyed discovering similarities and differences between the two places, learning about different cultures and environments. They also been around the school carrying out fieldwork.

Our art focus has been on mosaics. The children first learnt about the mosaic technique and practised creating patterns and designs. They then applied their new skills to add mosaic to the ongoing portrait projects, showing great creativity and attention to detail. Well done to all of Year 2 for their hard work and enthusiasm over the last fortnight!

Family Support – again we will highlight how much sleep all of us need, whether you are child, parent or grandparent. Sleep is so vital for all of us and really helps all to function well, learn more, solve problems and be less reactive to small niggles. There is plenty of advice on the following link -

<https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/information-support/children/>

[Anger management in Children – The NSPCC](#) have a wonderful page around anger management and how best to support this area. Just click on the blue writing and it will take you to the website page.

What's on in Luton this October 2025 – please find below a link to The Culture Trust Luton, which provide a lot of free entertainment and activities for children and adults - <https://www.culturetrust.com/>

Wishing you a lovely weekend

Hillborough Infant & Nursery School Team

