



Hillborough Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter – 28th November 2025

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

Dear parents and guardians,

As we approach the start of Advent this Sunday, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on what has been another wonderful fortnight at Hillborough Infant and Nursery School. This special season reminds us of the importance of hope, peace, joy and love – values that sit at the heart of our school community. As we enter this period of preparation and anticipation, we will be exploring these themes with our children through our collective worship, classroom activities and festive preparations.

The children have continued to impress us with their enthusiasm for learning and their kindness towards one another. It has been particularly lovely to see how our older pupils have been supporting our younger ones, truly embodying the spirit of community that makes our school so special.

As the days grow shorter and the weather becomes colder, we are also mindful of keeping our children warm, safe and healthy. Please ensure your child comes to school with appropriate outdoor clothing, including a warm coat, as we continue to make the most of our outdoor learning opportunities.

Over the coming weeks, we have many exciting festive activities planned, and we look forward to sharing these special moments with you all. More details will come out via ParentMail and in forthcoming newsletters.

Christmas Fayre – the whole school is looking forward to this event and welcoming you in through the doors. All details have been sent via ParentMail and do see the posters that are around the school. We have even heard that **Santa** is coming along to the event.

Fire Service – Recently they provided our pupils with an engaging demonstration of their firefighting equipment and explained how it is used to keep communities safe. This visit was a valuable opportunity for the children to learn about fire safety and the important role firefighters play in our society. The pupils were fascinated in addition, asked insightful questions, making it a memorable experience for everyone involved.

Proud Multi faith school - that celebrates and respects the diverse beliefs and traditions of our pupils and their families. Throughout the year, we embrace all faiths through our inclusive curriculum, special events, and celebrations that highlight the rich tapestry of cultures within our school. We strive to foster an environment of mutual respect, understanding, and acceptance, ensuring that every child feels valued and appreciated. Our goal is to equip our pupils with the knowledge and empathy needed to thrive in a diverse world. Thank you for your ongoing support in nurturing a harmonious and vibrant school community.

Whole School Focus Plan - The school has at the heart of all that it does to have a commitment to nurture every child's potential. This year, our key focus areas include driving up standards in phonics and reading to ensure every child is a reader and to develop a love of reading. We are also focusing on writing and writing for purpose and as part of everyday life. Another focus is to ensure that our outdoor learning experiences are of a high quality and support the development of physical skills, curiosity, resilience and a love learning across all subjects. Additionally, we are prioritizing special education needs, providing personalized support to help every child thrive.

PE kits – reminder that they need to be in school and only taken home at the end of each half term (see website for summer/winter kit details). PE is a vital part of our curriculum, supporting not just physical

health, but also enhancing learning and overall well-being. Regular exercise helps improve concentration, coordination, and social skills, contributing to your child's holistic development.

Reading at home with your child - reading with your child at home is vitally important to ensure that they are developing their understanding of the world, improving their reading skills, whilst also promoting a love of reading. Sometimes it can be hard to find the time, but research suggests that reading aloud to children or children reading aloud to an adult, even if only for a short time each day, develops their language skills, as well as enhancing their love of literature. Why is reading so important - books provide good models of language; reading develops the imagination; exploring a variety of texts develops our pupils' vocabulary; reading helps to explore life beyond a child's immediate experiences; reading can help a child to develop their own story telling skills.

E-safety - Keeping your children safe: online & beyond! The school's internet provider is LGfL and they provide/work with DigiSafe®. It is never easy to know how to keep our children safe when they are not with us, and sometimes even when are, if we do not know what is happening in their lives or on their devices! Who are they talking to, what are they doing, are they okay? LGfL provide an amazing page for parents ([PARENTSAFE](#)) which is full of up-to-date information for all age groups of children.

Volunteers – Thank you to the wonderful people who have volunteered to support the work that we are completing in school and give up their time to support us.

SEND – please click on the links to take you to Luton's local offer and events for Christmas events and the latest SEND news - [Luton Local Offer Christmas Events and SEND news.](#)

School Council – the school councillors have met several times this week to learn more about what happens in Parliament during what is national Parliament week across UK schools and colleges.

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** - Over the past fortnight, our classroom has been buzzing with creativity and learning! In English, the children loved the story "[Paper Dolls](#)," we explored new vocabulary and learnt about verbs, and then we went on to look at time adverbials. Children then wrote their own instructions to make paper dolls.

In maths, we concentrated on numbers up to 20, ensuring that the children can pronounce these numbers correctly and recognise their written forms. Using dienes, they grasped the concept that numbers from 11 to 19 are composed of ten plus a single-digit number.

Meanwhile, we have been diligently practicing our nativity whenever possible, and we are incredibly proud of how many children have memorised their lines! We are all very excited about our production and cannot wait to perform for our parents.

- **Year 2** – Amidst the darkness of November, Year two continues to be a hive of learning. [Vlad and the Great Fire of London](#) is our English text - it is the story of a flea called Vlad who lived during the infamous fire of 1666. Yet while we learn about the past, we are still using modern technology... The children are creating vlogs to teach the world everything they know about our theme. We had our WOW day on Wednesday and we even had a visitor who really brought to life all that we have been learning.

In other curriculum areas, the fiery theme continues in history as we compare the London of 1666 to the modern day. In RE, the children have been learning about self-care and inner peace. We have also had an exciting week of maths with the children expertly demonstrating what they have learned so far. In science, the year two scientists continue their investigations of animals including humans, learning about germs and the importance of washing hands. The children carried out a [bread experiment](#) and we are waiting to see the results, this could be interesting!

For the weekend and beyond – With the festive season fast approaching and advent starting on Sunday the 1st December, there are a wide range of events that are happening in and around Luton. We would generally signpost you to '[The Culture Trust – Luton](#)' for all event information. The blue link will take you there and you will find information about events at the Hat Factory Arts Centre. Luton Council have a social media presence on Facebook and Instagram with latest information around a wide and varied range of topics, including latest information.

Wishing you a peaceful weekend,

Hillborough Infant & Nursery School Team