



Hillborough Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter – 12th December 2025

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

Dear parents and guardians,

As we fast approach the end of the term and year, we wanted to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful journey we have had at school. It is hard to believe that we have just one week left, filled with excitement and joy for all our pupils. Our dedicated staff have been working tirelessly to ensure that this week and our final week is packed with fun and memorable experiences. We have had a fantastic line-up of activities, including an exciting trip to the pantomime, where our children enjoyed a well-deserved break and some festive cheer.

To add to the excitement, each year group will be hosting their own group or class disco, providing an opportunity for our pupils to celebrate and enjoy time with their friends. The final day of term will be our festive jumper day and we have joined the junior school, to ensure we are on the same day. Additionally, a variety of planned activities over the last two days, will allow the children to embrace the festive spirit and engage in creative and enjoyable projects.



A big thank you MUST go out to all the staff and volunteers, who work tirelessly to ensure that we can put on events listed throughout this newsletter, and support our children having a wonderful learning experience.

Attendance – everyday counts! Please remember to ensure that you 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.

Shine Star Shine – was Year 1'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. 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.

Christmas Fayre - We are delighted to share that our Christmas Fayre on 5th December was a wonderful success! Thanks to the incredible support from our school community, we raised approximately £1,000. This fantastic achievement will go directly towards enhancing our learning resources; playground/outdoor equipment and enrichment activities for the children. A huge thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered, donated prizes, and helped make the day so special. The children had a brilliant time enjoying the festive activities and it was wonderful to see so many families come together to celebrate. Your continued support makes such a difference to our school, and we are truly grateful to be part of such a generous and engaged community.

Christmas Lunch – The children had a fantastic time this week, enjoying their festive feast. It was heart-warming to see their excitement and joy as they celebrated together with their friends, teachers and other staff.

Santa - we have heard that the man in the 'big red coat' will be visiting each class and delivering gifts to all our children on the 16th December 2025. He will be visiting all classes and Saplings will have two visits!

Last week of term – school is running as normal up until 15:30 on Friday the 19th December 2025. On the Friday, children will be able to wear a festive jumper if they wish and further details will be sent out via ParentMail.

SEND – information for families of children with special educational needs: [Phoebe's Green Christmas: A free digital sensory show | Luton Directory](#) Award-winning inclusive theatre charity Embracing Arts invites children and families to enjoy Phoebe's Green Christmas, a free sensory digital show. [Central Bedfordshire - Holiday Activities and Food \(HAF\) programme](#) - This Christmas session will include bouncy castles, craft activities and biscuit decorating. There will be a visit from Father Christmas. There is hot food available too.

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 fortnight, explored storytelling through the book [Bear Shaped](#). We practiced retelling the story while focusing on the structure - beginning, middle, and end. The children then created their own story by changing the main toy, creating their own version with unique characters. We worked on using adjectives to describe toys and practiced writing simple sentences with full stops. Activities included describing our favourite toys, sequencing events, and drawing or constructing toy shapes. By the end of the fortnight, the children proudly wrote, edited their work, checked against a checklist and illustrated their own short narratives. It has been an exciting journey into creative storytelling!

With the rest of our core subjects: In maths, we have been exploring odd and even numbers! The children loved using equipment to see which numbers have a "buddy" and which ones leave an "odd one out." We played lots of fun games to practice, like finding a partner to check if a number is even, and "Stand Up Tall / Curl Up Small" to spot the patterns. We finished off the week by sorting number baubles onto the correct odd or even trees. In science, we have been learning how to group animals based on their characteristics. We explored the five key groups: birds, mammals, fish, amphibians, and reptiles. The children watched videos, discussed group features, and sorted animal cards into the correct categories through an engaging class activity. In their books, the children completed a sorting table and explained their choices, with some even using conjunctions in their sentences! It was wonderful to see their curiosity and enthusiasm as they learned about the diversity of the animal kingdom.

- **Year 2** – What an exciting couple of weeks it has been for Year 2! Of course, our absolute highlight was the spectacular trip to see the Jack and the Beanstalk Pantomime – the children laughed, cheered, and had an amazing time!

In maths, we have worked on comparison, developing our ability to find the difference between quantities and using precise mathematical language like 'more than' and 'less than' to describe relationships between numbers. In English, we read [‘The Extraordinary Life of Mary Seacole’](#), by Naida Redgrave. Our major writing project was compiling a Fact File (an example of a non-chronological report). The children displayed brilliant research and writing skills, learning to use expanded noun phrases (e.g., *the vibrant, welcoming hospital*) to add detail and extending their ideas by using subordinating conjunctions (*when, if, that, because*). They also explored the correct usage of proper nouns when discussing significant people and places. In science, to finish off a fantastic term, the children are creating their own mini-books about animals. This project is a wonderful way for them to demonstrate all the knowledge they have acquired over the past few weeks, combining facts and diagrams into a beautiful, personal resource.

In other curriculum areas, history has taken us back to the past, where the children have been looking at the Fire of London! They have been focusing on developing their historical analysis skills by identifying similarities and differences between ways of life in different historical periods and comparing pictures or photographs of past events. A key part of this learning was making sure they could use historically correct nouns when describing or comparing these events and times. During computing, the children have become budding digital artists! The key focus has been learning how photographs can be improved. They have been exploring different ways to take photos, learning to make creative decisions about what makes a photo better. In RE, the children had a very special time as they made Christingles and then proudly took them to the RE assembly. This wonderful, reflective, and practical activity helped them understand the meaning behind this tradition.

Something for the weekend and beyond – [e-Luton](#) has many events listed and [‘The Culture Trust – Luton’](#) link will take you to lots of free events happening this weekend and over the coming weeks.

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

Hillborough Infant & Nursery School Team