



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

Dear parents and guardians,

It is a pleasure to welcome you all back to school after the half-term break! This month, we are focusing on the value of **respect**, which we define as valuing every member of our school community and listening to one another with kindness and empathy. It has been wonderful to see our children return with such positive attitudes, showing respect for their learning environment and each other as we begin this new stretch of the school year.

**Our First Community Iftar** - We were delighted to host our very first community Iftar event on the **27th of February**. It was a truly wonderful evening of reflection, connection, and breaking bread together as a school family. We are so grateful to everyone who attended and helped us celebrate this special season of renewal.



**Bubble Run / Holi Event** - A massive thank you to everyone who participated in and supported our Bubble Run / Holi Event! The children had a fantastic time completing the sponsored 'run' around our course, and the atmosphere was vibrant and full of joy. We are thrilled to share that, so far, the event has raised **over £1000**. Your generosity and support for the school are deeply appreciated.



**Visiting author** – all our children very much enjoyed a visit from Olaf Falafel, who is a local author. He engaged the children with his book [‘Blobfish’](#) and shared his experiences of being an author and the process of writing and drawing the pictures for a book.

**World Book Day: Super Science** – what a wonderful day was had by all children and with a link with science. All the books that the children explored during the day, had a science link or theme e.g. Roald Dahl and his book Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Our children rotated around classes and worked with different teachers and staff. A lot of the experiences were outdoors and on such a beautiful day.

**Parent Consultation Evenings** - Please keep an eye out for an upcoming ParentMail regarding our Parent Consultation Evenings scheduled for the **24th and 25th of March 2026**. Booking for this event will be managed through the ParentMail app. It is a wonderful time to celebrate your child's successes and discuss the next steps in their learning journey.

**Health & Safety First: Bag Charms** - We must address a growing health and safety concern regarding **bag charms and keychains**. While these trinkets may seem like harmless fun, they pose a significant risk within a busy school environment. Many are made of small, detachable parts or fragile materials that can easily break off, creating a serious **choking hazard**. This is particularly dangerous for our younger students and those with **Special Educational Needs (SEN)** who may explore objects through touch or taste. To ensure the physical safety of every child, we must maintain a strictly "**bits-free**" environment on all school bags.

**SEND – EPIC Luton Parent Carer Forum** We would like to remind families of the excellent **EPIC Luton Parent Carer Forum**. EPIC is a non-profit, independent company made up of parents and carers of children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) aged 0–25. Please check their 2025/26 schedule for dates of coffee sessions and focus groups.

**Protecting Our Students and Staff: Nut-Free Policy** – This is reminder that we are a strictly **nut-free school**. We have several children across the school with severe, life-threatening nut allergies (anaphylaxis). Even the slightest contact with nut products—whether through shared snacks or residue on surfaces—can lead to a serious medical emergency. We also like to ensure our staff are also safe from exposure.

**Social Media** – the school now has three social media platforms with all posts being assessed before being approved and all membership of the relevant groups, vetted. The social media platforms are: Facebook, Instagram, and 'X'.

**E-safety** – reminder that 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.

#### 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** – have been engaged in a whirlwind of exciting activities over the past fortnight:
  - **English:** The children embarked on a captivating debate surrounding "The Emperor's New Clothes," pondering if it was fair for the emperor to be tricked.
  - **Maths:** We have focused on finding the difference between numbers 11 and 20, using comparison language such as "greater than" and "fewer than".
  - **Geography:** The class explored London, learning about transport such as the famous Underground, red double-decker buses, and riverboats.
  - **Science & World Book Day:** Our little scientists went on a Spring hunt to find budding trees and blooming flowers. We also celebrated World Book Day with experiments like making slime, building Cinderella's carriage, and investigating shadows inspired by *The Gruffalo's Child*.
- **Year 2** – Year 2 has fully embraced their learning with fantastic positive attitudes:
  - **Maths:** We are focusing on the 2, 5, and 10 times tables, linking repeated addition to multiples and exploring arrays.
  - **English:** Our theme is 'Twisted Tales'. We have been reading *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* and writing diary entries from the Wolf's perspective.
  - **Foundation Subjects:** In science, we designed a fair test to discover what plants need to grow. geography involved using compass directions on treasure maps. In D&T, we began a project to design and create fabric money pouches, investigating which materials are strong and flexible.

It has been wonderful to see the sun shine this week and let us hope that we see more over the weekend.

Hillborough Infant & Nursery School Team