



Hillborough Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter – 8th May 2026

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

Language of the month – Punjabi

Dear parents and guardians,

As we move through the summer term, I'd like to thank you for your continued support and involvement in school life. This month, our whole-school value is **empowerment**—helping children to find their voice, make positive choices and feel confident to try new things—so please do look out for the many small ways pupils will be taking on responsibilities and leading their own learning. We are also celebrating **Punjabi** as our language of the month and look forward to sharing words, stories and cultural learning across the school community. Next week is **Mental Health Awareness Week**, and we will be using the week to shine a light on wellbeing, kindness and the importance of talking and listening; more details are shared below. Please remember to check the key date's section for upcoming events and opportunities to get involved, and as always, if you have any questions or would like to share your feedback, don't hesitate to contact us.

ParentMail – the school's preferred method of communication with all parents and carers. Please ensure that you are signed up to receive messages this way. Documents can easily be translated into a wide range of languages.

Summer term events – we have so many exciting opportunities for children and families to enjoy, and we will be using ParentMail to share events and invite you along to join in. One example is that we will be running a summer fayre towards the end of the school year.

Good weather – with the warmer weather, we want to ensure that all pupils stay safe while enjoying the sunshine. To support this, please make sure your child comes to school with a sun hat, a refillable water bottle and sunscreen already applied at home, as school staff cannot administer sunscreen. Staying hydrated and protected will help them enjoy outdoor activities comfortably and safely.

Mental Health Awareness Week – we will be marking the week by focusing on this year's theme of 'action'. This theme fits perfectly with our school values of 'C-A-R-E', as we believe that taking action to support one another and working together helps everyone to thrive. Throughout the week, children will take part in activities designed to strengthen our sense of belonging and encourage open conversations about wellbeing. We know that mental health matters for all of us, and we are committed to supporting every member of our school community.

If you'd like more information, or are looking for ways to support your child's wellbeing at home, the following UK websites offer practical tips and advice for families:

- [YoungMinds](#): Support and resources for children and parents about mental health.
- [Childline](#): Confidential advice and support for children and young people.
- [NHS Every Mind Matters](#): Ideas and guidance for families and young people on looking after their mental health.
- [MindEd for Families](#): Free, trusted advice to help families understand and support children's mental health.

Sports Day – will be held during July and do look out for a **ParentMail** about when this event will be happening.

Parentsafe – click the link for a wide range of advice and support around ['keeping your children safe: online & beyond'](#).

Health and safety at home and on the road – a gentle reminder that small checks can make a big difference to family safety. For practical guidance, you may find these trusted UK resources helpful: [RoSPA home safety \(preventing accidents in the home\)](#), [GOV.UK child car seat rules](#) and [NHS guidance on choosing a baby car seat](#), plus [GOV.UK fire safety in the home](#) and [HSE carbon monoxide advice](#).

SEND – our SENDCo has asked us to share the following reminder for families: please check the Local Offer calendar for a range of events and support networks. [Luton Local Offer Calendar](#)

Book bags/school bags – school is unable to store the backpacks that some children bring in. Your child has a tray in their classroom, which comfortably fits a standard book bag. We ask that you **do not** send in backpacks. We also ask that you **do not attach charms or other items** to book bags, as they can be dangerous for some of our children, pose a choking hazard and may lead to envy or theft.

Updates from year groups:

- **Nursery & Reception** – they produce a wonderful weekly newsletter with exciting information about what they are working on and how you can best support your child during the week.
- **Year 1** – Our overarching theme is 'Wonderful World of Plants,' and we're exploring this concept through our subjects. In English, we've embarked on a delightful journey with "[Katie and the Sunflowers](#)" by James Mayhew. This charming story has sparked our imagination and provided us with ways to look at adjectives and capital letters in our writing.

In maths, we're discovering the world of repeated addition and making arrays. The children are having fun discovering how numbers can grow through repeated addition, which lays the foundation for multiplication. We've been using visual aids and hands-on activities to make learning engaging and interactive.

Our foundation subjects are being explored and developed in the following ways. History lessons have taken us back in time as we explore fossils and dinosaurs. The children are fascinated by these ancient creatures and are learning about how fossils help us understand the past. In art, we're keeping in the sunflower theme by exploring the work of [Vincent Van Gogh](#). The children have been captivated by his famous sunflower paintings, and they've been creating their own masterpieces inspired by his style. In science, we're working scientifically to explore trees. This week, we focused on identifying and naming the parts of a tree, we are very lucky in school, as all our classes are named after trees.

- **Year 2** – what a wonderful fortnight! It has been busy, productive and full of exciting discoveries and hands-on activities. In English, we read the book [Dear Greenpeace](#) by Simon James and used our expert knowledge to write clear instructions on how to look after an animal of our choice. In maths, we have been mastering fractions, specifically learning how to identify and calculate a half, a quarter and three-quarters of shapes and amounts.

In our combined geography and history lessons this week, we travelled through time to create a timeline of famous explorers and see how they changed our world. Some of the explorers we have looked at are Ibn Battuta and Christopher Columbus. During PE, we have been developing our physical skills by learning how to throw overarm and underarm, as well as improving our coordination while controlling a ball with our feet. Finally, in DT, we have been busy planning for 'healthy cooking' by writing a list of all the ingredients and equipment we will need to make a delicious vegetable soup. Great work, Year 2!

Ideas for the weekend and beyond – [Events, arts and culture in Luton](#) or [The Culture Trust Luton](#).

Hillborough Infant & Nursery School Team