



Headteacher Newsletter 15th September 2023

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Key Dates:	
19 th September – Year 2 Meet the teacher	26 th September – Year R Welcome to classrooms
20 th September – Year 1 Meet the teacher	4 th October – Maths Multiply games event
26 th September- school photos	6 th October – Harvest Festival

Communications this week:	
Ofsted letter & guide	
YR Vision Screening Consent Form	
Y1 Curriculum News	

Dear Parents & Carers,

Wow, what a busy second week we have had! We received the call from Ofsted mid-morning on Monday and three inspectors joined us on Tuesday and two on Wednesday. I am so incredibly proud of all of the children-they were absolutely amazing and demonstrated such positive behaviours and fantastic learning throughout. They were able to articulate what they were learning, recap on previous learning and share all the wonderful extra opportunities they have within our school. Ofsted were so impressed with how well Year R children have settled into daily routines and just couldn't believe they were only on day 2/3 of school! We even had a surprise fire alarm in the middle of lunch on Tuesday - we were all so proud of how sensibly and safely the children got out of our building and lined up on the junior playground. I would like to thank all members of staff for their absolute commitment, hard work and dedication to providing the very best for every child day in day out, not just throughout an Ofsted visit. I would also like to thank the governors who do such a great job of ensuring Hiltingbury Infants is providing the very best education for all, their support has been very much appreciated. The positive parent feedback on the Ofsted survey was also very much appreciated by all staff. The Ofsted report will be written and approved within the next 30 working days and we look forward to sharing this with you when we are able to.

We believe the fire alarm has been triggered twice by a child/children since returning in September. I have talked to all children about safety and that we must not push the fire point glass if there is not a fire, please follow this up with your children at home. I reassured all children that there was no fire and that the school was safe to go back in to. Please let the class teacher know if your child has any concerns or worries about the fire alarms so we can follow up.

Classroom welcome sessions

We are welcoming you into your child's classroom after school at 3.15pm, where you will get a chance to meet the teacher, see the classroom and hear about class/year group key messages. If you need time to speak with your child's new class teacher individually, please arrange this at another time as the teacher will not have time to speak to everyone individually in this session. You will receive an information handout next Friday all about your child's new year group and following this if you have any further questions you will be able to ask these in this session. The timings and days for these sessions are as follows:

Year 2: Tuesday 19th September 3.15pm-3.30pm

Year 1: Wednesday 20th September 3.15pm-3.30pm

Year R: Tuesday 26th September 3.15pm-3.30pm

Multiply Free Maths Games Night

The Multiply maths team at Hampshire County Council is hosting a free family maths games afternoon at our school on Wednesday 4th October. We will be sending out a poster next week with a link on to enable you to book your place but please put the date in your diary.

Learning Highlights from Each Year Group

Year R

We have all had a fantastic first week at school! The children have settled in so well and we are really proud of the way they have adapted to the new school routines. We have begun our phonics teaching this week, learning the sounds 's,a,t,p', all the children have joined in so well

during these sessions! The children have been learning new names, finding their way around the classroom, the outside area and the hall where they have all enjoyed eating lunch with their new friends. We have enjoyed lots of singing and stories. A wonderful first week in Reception!

Year 1

Wow! What a busy week we have had! The Year 1 children have worked incredibly hard this week in their phonics and guided reading sessions this week. They have been quick to revise and remember the digraphs and trigraphs e.g. (ear, air, oa, ow, ai, ee, igh etc) that they learnt in Year R. It is wonderful to see how engaged they are in their guided reading sessions.

This week the children have been brilliant Geographers and have learnt that maps are in 'aerial view'. They are practising to use the term 'aerial view' and know it as "looking down from above". The children looked at photographs of different features e.g. buildings, tennis courts, swimming pools, parks etc. and sorted them into those that were taken in aerial view and those that were not taken in aerial view.







In maths the children have learnt to move objects when showing their 'careful counting' skills. During our art sessions the children learnt to explore using different drawing. They learnt that different drawing tools can make different lines e.g. thick, thin etc.

We have been absolutely thrilled and proud of the Year 1 children's engagement in lessons and how they spoke enthusiastically to the Ofsted inspectors about their learning.

Year 2

This week, the children have continued to share their 'All About me' work and we have been so impressed with their creativity in design and confidence when sharing these in class. Thank you for supporting your child to complete this task; it has enabled strong relationships to be established as they transition to Year 2. In literacy, the children have continued to revisit their learning from Year 1 to practise constructing simple sentences and write these accurately with a capital letter and full stop. In maths, they have built on their place value knowledge to revisit partitioning numbers into tens and ones. The children have also built on their learning in geography to identify some of the geographical features in Southampton. We were really impressed with how much knowledge they have retained from Year 1. As artists, the children have revisited their drawing knowledge to explore tone and identify why it is used. Next week, they will practise using tone in their artwork to demonstrate their understanding further. During the week, the children have taken great pride in demonstrating our core Hiltingbury values to our visitors from Ofsted. They were highly praised for their positive attitudes and behaviour in class and around school. Many of them had the opportunity to speak to the inspectors about their learning, and how they remembered prior learning and how they confidently spoke about it was fantastic. They were all true Hiltingbury Heroes and we could not be any prouder of them!

Learners of the Week – This week we are incredibly proud of

					
Edward Beech Max Chestnut Emma Cedar Livie Spruce	Pippa Holly	Jack Hazel Georgia Hazel Jacob Cedar	Dev Spruce	Sienna Beech Remy Chestnut Max Holly	

Enjoy the weekend and some continued nice weather.

Kind Regards

Phillippa Longman

