



Headteacher Newsletter 22nd September 2023

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Key Dates:

26 th September- school photos	6 th October – Harvest Festival
26 th September – Year R Welcome to classrooms	6 th October HSPTA Quiz
4 th October – Maths Multiply games event	10 th October flu immunisations all year groups

Communications this week:

15 th Sept Nasal flu vaccination	22 nd Sept Year R Welcome Handout
18 th Sept Junior school tours	22 nd Sept R & R Sports booking form
19 th September Yellow school photos	

Dear Parents & Carers,

We have had a super week in school, it has been great seeing the children so settled and engaged in their learning across the whole school. Myself and Mrs Flood have enjoyed getting into classrooms joining in with the children. Our Year R children have settled brilliantly!

Thank you to everyone for following our one way systems and bearing with us when the gate hadn't been unlocked one day, we have systems in place to ensure these are opened at the correct times.

Debbie and Jane came in from our local churches to lead assembly on Monday and talked with the children about being thankful, we would always welcome a variety of faiths to come and lead some of our assemblies with us, please just make contact with me to talk about this further.

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. The poster was sent out earlier this week with a link, to enable you to book your place. I have reattached this to this week's newsletter too.

Cycle to School Week

Could you use pedal power to get to school? Find out more about [Cycle to School Week](#) and how you can get involved. Do you want to save money, get healthier and protect the environment? As well as have lots of fun on the journey to school? Then get involved with Cycle to School Week! This year, Cycle to School Week will take place between **Monday 25 – Friday 29 September 2023**.

Make a pledge – and win! This year you can make a cycling pledge. From **Friday 1 September**, simply fill in the form choose your pledge, and be entered into our prize draw to win a brand new Frog children's bike.

Big Ambition Survey

The [Children's Commissioner for England](#) Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched #TheBigAmbition - a new national campaign to hear directly from children and young people. It seeks to take the voice of children and young people to Government, with a view to improving their lives. The [Big Ambition survey](#) is now live until **Friday 15 December** and asks children and young people about their schools, communities, family life, and the wider world, as well as their hopes, dreams and aspirations for the future. The survey is designed for all children and young people aged 6 to 18. Parents and other adults can also complete the survey on behalf of children and young people aged 0 to 5. Find out more about #TheBigAmbition and please do encourage your families to get involved here: https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/the_big_ambition/

Arts Week

We are really looking forward to having Arts week in school in the last week of this half term. We would love to involve our community and as parents if anyone feels they have some skills/ expertise they could share with us we would love you to get involved. We are focussing on community through art and diversity. Previously we have had Bollywood dancing, African drumming, local artists etc. Please contact Mrs Ford through the school office if you would like to get involved.

Learning Highlights from Each Year Group

Year R

Another fantastic week of learning in Reception. In phonics, the children have learnt the sounds 'i,n,m,d' and have begun to learn how we can use these sounds to 'sound talk and blend' to read words. We are really proud of all the children for trying so hard to form the letters too – they are all giving it a really good go! In PE this week, the children have been learning about 'strong' bodies – we have been dancing with ribbons, making different large movements listening to music. The children have had the opportunity to share their 'All About Me' bags with each other, it has been wonderful learning about all the children, their families and their hobbies. The children have also been learning about different areas of the school during their small group tours.

Year 1

The Year One children thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to show their grown-ups around their classrooms on Wednesday and to talk about what they have been learning. Mrs Ford, Mrs Leahy and Miss Beckley were pleased to meet so many parents in person. If any grown-ups would like to volunteer in school, then please talk to your child's class teacher or email the school office.

This week the children have loved learning about their body parts and the body part that links with each sense. For example, 'You use your eyes to see, sight is a sense'.







In English the children have learnt the names of the letters of the alphabet and I know they have been learning to spot these in many different places around the school. They will continue to learn that letters go together to make words.

The children have started to learn about the R.E concept of 'Thanking' and creatively made, constructed and drew what they were thankful for. We had some thoughtful answers from children which was wonderful to hear.

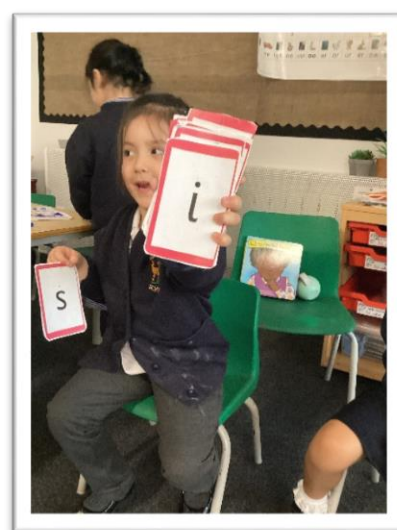
Year 2

It was wonderful to see so many of you attend our meet the teacher session on Tuesday. We know how much the children enjoyed showing you their new classroom and talking about the resources to support their learning. If you were unable attend please do not worry; you will have received the information that was shared electronically. If you have any queries, please see us at drop off or collection and we will be happy to answer any questions. This week, the children have continued their learning journey and practised writing accurately punctuated sentences. In maths, they have continued to practise identifying the tens and ones in a two-digit number. They have practised using this knowledge to explore place value within a context of money. We have been so impressed with their knowledge in geography as they applied their learning of geographical features in two areas to identify the best place to live for a given scenario. In art, children have practised using their knowledge of tone to show depth in a sectional drawing of an object. Their attention to detail and explanations of tone have been fantastic! What a super week Year 2, well done!

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

					
Anu Chestnut	Serena Hazel Zaki Chestnut Lily Spruce	Moizza Beech Finn Beech Joshua Hazel Sol Spruce		Vyas Holly Amber Holly Riley Cedar	Iris Cedar

Year R in Action!



Kind Regards

Phillippa Longman



Governor Welcome

Hello and welcome back to the start of a new school year and what a busy start it has been! It was so lovely to see the children in Year 1 and 2 returning to school this week and seeing them all so happy and keen to get going with their learning. They all seem to be settling very well into their new classes and are enjoying being part of our school community again. I also want to welcome all of our new Year R children and parents to our school and wish them a wonderful start to their learning journey.

I took over the role of Chair of Governors three years ago and I have the great pleasure to work closely with the school's amazing leadership team and our fantastic Governing Body to ensure that we provide your children with the best start to their education.

I have a love of learning and my background has always been in education. I joined the teaching profession in 2001 and have had a great variety of roles, including Deputy Headteacher, Year 2 leader and Assessment Coordinator which have enabled me to have a great understanding of the education system. After having my daughter in 2013 I made the difficult decision to leave the teaching profession however I was delighted when, in 2018, there was a Co-opted Governor vacancy on the Governing Body as I knew that I would be able to use all of my previous knowledge and expertise to make a positive contribution at Hiltingbury Infant School.

Our job as governors is to support the school but also ensure that it is meeting the ambitious improvement targets we set and provides a safe and nurturing environment in which your children can achieve their learning potential. Our Governing Body is dedicated, focused and forward thinking and as we are all volunteers, it is a real team effort and everyone plays a very important part. The time that each governor gives is amazing and I thank them so much for their commitment. We hold 6 Full Governing Body meetings throughout the year and then split between two subcommittees and attend 6 meetings either on the FBR (Finance, Buildings and Resources) and the S&I (Standards and Improvement). As individuals we also have specific roles which are all very important, from Safeguarding, Health and Safety, SEND, Chairs of Committees, I thank each and every governor for their time which is all voluntary. I shall introduce our governing body in the next newsletter.

We held our first full Governing Body meeting on Wednesday morning and as always our agenda was full. We always receive a staffing update and on behalf of the governors I would like to warmly welcome all of our existing staff back after the summer break and also welcome our new members of staff that have joined the team. I wish them all a wonderful year. There are always many policies to agree, School Improvement to think about and updates to be given but this meeting we also had the Ofsted inspection to reflect upon. As Chair, I want to recognise the amazing teamwork that I saw throughout the Monday leading up to the inspection and throughout the Tuesday and Wednesday. It is always such a stressful process to go through but I am so proud of each and every member of staff and I want to thank them for all their hard work, and always having the children at the forefront of everything they do. I also want to say what an immense governing body Hiltingbury Infants has. They dropped everything to support the school with their time throughout the three days and I have never felt so proud to be Chair. There is always a wait until we can share the inspection with parents but we will share it with you as soon as we are able to.

My Vice Chair, Seb Day and I joined the Governing Body in January 2018 and when we had the Ofsted inspection 2 years ago, we were happy to stay until they had come again. On Wednesday it was Seb's last meeting. He has been a fantastic Vice Chair, and has always been such a support to me behind the scenes. After nearly 6 years of governance I want to thank Seb for all that he has done for the Governing Body and I know he shall be missed.

If you are interested in becoming a Governor, please do leave me a message with the school reception with your contact details. We will be sending out more information in the near future as to the vacancies we have. Learning about the amazing work that happens at Hiltingbury Infants is inspiring and your children achieve their best because of this. Wishing you all the best for the new school year.

Amy Ingram (Chair of Governors)