



Headteacher Newsletter 1st December 2023

Please click [here](#) to go to our website

Key Dates:	
7 th December Christmas Jumper day and Christmas lunch	14 th December- class parties in afternoon
7 th December HSPTA Elfridges	15 th December HSPTA Santa Dash. Last day of term
11 th , 12 th , 13 th December Year R, 1&2 performances	2 nd January INSET Day

Communications this week:	
Christmas Parties & Christmas Post	Parent Survey
Christmas Jumper Day	Y2 Children's Concert
Book Fair	Leg it to Lapland

Dear Parents & Carers,

It has been wonderful hearing the rehearsals getting underway this week with lots of fantastic singing coming from the hall!

Next week we are 'legging it to Lapland' trying to virtually travel the 1385 miles to Lapland. We are encouraging active journeys to school next week as every active journey to and from school will equal 2 miles travelled. We will be taking part in daily activity at school to earn more miles! Children will be recording their active journeys in class every morning.

Driving/parking

Please can I remind everyone to take great care when driving and parking at school drop off and pick up. There was a near miss this morning where someone drove the opposite way to the one-way system to get into a parking space closely missing a child who had not expected a car to be coming this way. Also a reminder the taxi bays must be used by taxis only as we have children who are escorted into school by taxi and these spaces are needed to ensure safe drop off.

Christmas/End of term performances

Booking is now available for our performances in the last week of term. A maximum of three tickets per family, with a **maximum of two tickets on one day and one ticket on the other day**, as we do not have capacity in our hall to allow more than this. A reminder of the performance times and dates:

Monday 11th December: 9.30am Year 2 performance, 2pm Year 1 performance

Tuesday 12th December: 9.30am Year 1 performance, 2pm Year R performance

Wednesday 13th December: 9.30am Year R performance, 2pm Year 2 performance

Learning Highlights from Each Year Group

Year R

This week, we have started our RE unit of 'celebrating' the birth of a new baby. The children have thoroughly enjoyed sharing photos of how their families have celebrated the birth of babies. We were lucky to have Miss Peters visit us this week too - she came in with her new baby to share with us how she celebrated his birth. In maths this week the children have been learning about 1 more and 1 less with numbers to 5, noticing patterns. We have used 5 frames to show 1 more and 1 less. In phonics this week, the children have learnt to read words ending in the letter 's' that sometimes makes the sound /s/ e.g. cats and sometimes the sounds /z/ e.g., bags. Thank you to everyone that has brought in costumes so far, we have had another busy week continuing to rehearse songs and lines for 'Noisy Nativity.' Please can costumes be brought in on Monday at the latest.

Year 1

This week the Year One children have been busily learning their lines, practising dances and practising their actions to go with the Christmas songs they are learning for the play. We thank you for your support with the children learning their words!







The children have also completed their 5-week dance sessions based on Victorian dance steps with Maisie from The Intergr8 dance company. The children learnt to work with a partner and follow instructions to the beat of the music.

The children have continued being historians and learnt about a significant monarch, Queen Victoria. They learnt about Victorian games and toys from this period. Each class learnt to play the game Marbles. Later this half term they will enjoy learning some more outdoor games that were played in the Victorian times. The children noticed that the toys were made from wood and that they were painted in different colours as plastic wasn't invented. They have learnt to use a timeline to show the chronology of the toys from the past and those they play with now. In History and English, the children have learnt to ask and answer questions. The children have learnt that most questions start with 'what', 'why', 'who', 'when', 'how' and 'where'. Perhaps pick out questions in your reading books or learn to ask questions to find out information.

Year 2

What a busy week Year 2 have had! They have continued their English journey by applying their knowledge of co-ordinating and subordinating conjunctions to write a letter. We have been really impressed with their knowledge of why conjunctions are used and their effective use of these within their writing. In maths, the children have continued to practise adding using known facts and a range of efficient strategies to support their mathematical thinking. Rehearsals for our winter production are in full swing and we have been blown away by the children's singing, dancing and performing. Please remember to ensure your child's costume is in school by Monday at the latest. In history, the children have continued to research a significant individual from the past 'William the Conqueror' who reigned during the medieval period. We have been really impressed with the engagement children have displayed. Well done Year 2!

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

					
Sophia Apple Arabella Hazel Melody Cedar William Spruce		Paige Apple Alex Plum Eliza Beech Nour Hazel Max Chestnut Advika Holly Ava Cedar Daisy Spruce	Ben Chestnut Emilia Holly	Bunny Cherry Casey Cherry Eliza Plum Nate Beech	

Welcome to our School Council!

Our school council have met to talk about how they can talk to adults in school if they have big feelings, worries or questions. They are meeting with their classes to gain ideas from everyone about how we could make it even easier to be able to talk to someone. The school council are looking forward to sharing these thoughts and ideas with two of our governors next week.



Please encourage any families looking for a school place in September 2024 to book a school tour on our website [Hiltingbury Infant School - Starting School September 2024](#)

Kind Regards

Phillippa Longman

