



Buttercup Class Newsletter

April 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Hello and welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful Easter break and are ready for the summer term. We are into our final term of this year, and I am so proud of the children's work so far, this academic year. We have a busy term coming up with lots of exciting new learning and of course, our trip to Skreens Park!

Skreens Park Trip

With our school trip coming up please make sure that your child has everything they need for the stay. Mrs Wardle has sent some emails regarding the items that the children need to bring so please speak to either Mrs Wardle or myself if you need any help.

Helping your child at home

Please continue to support your children in completing all their home learning tasks – daily reading (including comprehension questions from an adult), daily TT Rockstars and the weekly Athletics tasks set. This really does have a huge impact on their progress and confidence. Reading books will be changed on Tuesdays and Fridays if there is evidence that the book has been read at home – however reading books should be in school every day.

Year 4 Compulsory Multiplication Check

The multiplication check will take place the **first week back of after half term**. The children have made great progress with their multiplication skills, and we will continue to practise in class.

Some information for parents on the Multiplication check:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents>

The following games/songs may also support preparation and develop confidence:

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/>

<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check>

<https://www.youtube->

[nocookie.com/embed/cuvxmjgkIU0?autoplay=1&iv_load_policy=3&loop=1&modestbranding=1&playlist=cuvxmjgkIU0](https://www.youtube-nocookie.com/embed/cuvxmjgkIU0?autoplay=1&iv_load_policy=3&loop=1&modestbranding=1&playlist=cuvxmjgkIU0)

Curriculum Overview

Maths

In Maths this half term, we will start by exploring formal division (bus stop method) and then progress onto being able to read, write, calculate and convert time on analogue and digital 12-Hour and 24-Hour clocks. We also focus on Roman Numerals and negative numbers. Finally, we will explore geometry, looking at angles, coordinates and direction.

English

This term we will be reading 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' by C.S Lewis. The children will explore how a character can change over time and continue to develop the skills of prediction using evidence from the text. The children will then be creating their own narrative based on the story.

Guided reading In Guided Reading we will be exploring 'The Humans' Written by Jonny Marx, the children will be developing fluency alongside their comprehension skills – Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explanation, Retrieval and Summarising.

Handwriting: We will continue to focus on pencil grip, letter formation and the correct joining of letters in our handwriting lessons, to ensure the children build up the muscles that will support them in extended writing tasks now and later in life. This term we will be making sure that the children are joining their writing in all lessons not just during our handwriting lessons.

Foundation Subjects

Our **Science** topic this half term is 'Circuits and Conductors'. We will be learning about electricity, how it can be dangerous and then creating our own simple circuits. We begin our **Computing** with a focus on 2Logo, the children learn common commands and constructs of the Logo programming language and develop their ability to compose algorithms for drawing mathematical structures and turn these into Logo code. In **Geography** our topic will be Village Settlers. The children will explore different settlements and progress onto looking at maps and map symbols. In **DT**, we will start our new topic, Battery Operated Lights. We will develop understanding about series and parallel circuits and different types of switches. They will then be given the chance to apply their knowledge about electric circuits by designing and making a battery-operated light which will be controlled by a homemade switch. In **Music** we will be focusing on the song 'Blackbird' by The Beatles. This half-term in **RE** we will continue our focus on Buddhism and the eight-fold path, with the key question 'What is the best way for a Buddhist to lead a good life?'. In **PSHE**, our topic will be Relationships and a recap of Zones of Regulation from last year. Finally, **PE** will be taught by Mr Webb on a Thursday and another PE lesson on Monday. Please make sure that the correct and appropriate PE kits are in school for the lessons. As PE lessons will be done outside in all weathers, please ensure that your child has black jogging bottoms or shorts and an appropriate jumper in school.

Reminders:

Uniform, water bottles and snack

Thank you for your support in ensuring that the children take pride in the way they dress for school. All uniform requirements including PE kit are listed on the school website – please check that all uniform requirements are being met. We are now into the Summer term, this means children can wear summer dresses and shorts. Children should also wear shoes to school - trainers, even if they are black are not acceptable. If your child wears tights as part of their school uniform, then they need socks in their PE bag to wear with their trainers. Your child may benefit from a tracksuit if they get particularly cold.

All children should have a named water bottle in school, preferably with a sports-cap to reduce spillages on their hard work! Water bottles must only contain water in the classroom. The children are not provided with a snack in KS2, so please ensure they have some fruit or vegetables for break time.

Attendance and punctuality

Children are able to enter the corridors from 8:45am and should not be on the playground before this time. The corridor doors close at 8:55am so children who arrive after this will need to sign in at the office with late attendance registered accordingly. Please be punctual with drop off and collection, KS2 collection is at 3:20pm. Parents must inform the office as soon as possible if there is a change to the collection arrangements, or if a child is unwell.

Homework

I will set homework on Thursdays. This year homework will be more streamlined with tasks to be completed online (no need to upload to Class Dojo) alongside daily reading. Daily reading is an essential part of your child's homework and should be recorded in the reading record by an adult at home. This will be closely monitored in school so please make sure you are recording when your child has read. Whilst pupils are completing their tasks, please be mindful of their online activity and ensure appropriate measures are in place to keep your child safe online.

Staff:

I will continue to be supported by Mrs Loader. On Wednesday mornings, Mrs Evans and Mrs Loader will take the class while I take my PPA time.

Please come and talk to me if you have any worries or questions. You can pass any quick messages through the member of staff on duty at the door but if you would like longer to talk, I can be contacted via the office email admin@hillmead.herts.sch.uk.

Thank you for all your help and support. We are very much looking forward to a term full of more exciting learning opportunities.

Miss Lynch