



## Tulip Class Newsletter

### April 2024



Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back. I am glad to be back in class with everybody. This half term we have lots of extra opportunities including scooter training and a dance workshop.

Please continue to support your child with their reading. This should happen daily and be recorded in their reading record.

#### **Curriculum Overview**

##### **Maths**

This half term we focus on fractions!  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{3}$ ,  $\frac{2}{3}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$  and understanding equivalent fractions ( $\frac{1}{2} = \frac{2}{4}$ ). We will explore fractions of shapes and numbers and also solve word problems involving fractions. We will also continue to revisit column addition and subtraction to ensure the children are secure with this.

Mathletics homework will continue to reflect what we have been learning in the classroom. Please continue to support your children with this and also in using TT Rockstars to begin to build up their recall of multiplication facts.

##### **English**

We begin this half term with the text "Jim and the Beanstalk. Through this text we will write letters, stories and factual reports. The emphasis will be on accurate sentence structure and spelling. We will also begin to look at the use of paragraphs in our story writing. Please continue to support your child in learning their spellings and high frequency words.

**Guided reading** Hotel Flamingo will be used to develop our vocabulary, inference, predicting, explanation, retrieval and sequencing skills.

**Handwriting:** Each morning for early work, the children have the opportunity to work on their spellings through handwriting practice. In our lessons we will continue to rehearse join patterns.

#### **Foundation Subjects**

In **Science** our topic is The Environment. We will explore the impact humans are having on the environment and using scientific enquiries to identify changes that should be made. Our **Computing** sessions will be learning to code, debugging algorithms and writing programs to make different things happen. In **Design and Technology** we will focus on healthy eating, culminating in designing and making healthy pasta salads. In **Geography**, we will be finishing the mapping skills unit before beginning to learn about a contrasting African safari locality, drawing comparisons between physical and human geographical factors. In **Music**, we will develop our skills in improvising and composing, whilst appraising a variety of pieces of musical genres and also begin to learn the songs for our upcoming music concert. In **PE** we will continue to be developing our gymnastic and fundamental skills with Mr Webb. Our PE sessions continue to be on a Tuesday and a Thursday, however the children will need to have their PE kit in school every day of the week (Mrs McMillan will do PE on a Wednesday instead of Tuesday for the first 3 weeks, whilst I return to full mobility. Our **PSHE** learning focuses on 'Relationships', both within the family and with friends and adults in school. Finally, our **RE** learning focuses on "How special is the relationship Jews have with God?" identifying the different ways Jewish people can show their commitment to God through their actions.

#### **Home – Communication**

For day-to-day issues, such as collection by a different adult, you can let us know on the door in the morning or contact the school office [admin@hillmead.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@hillmead.herts.sch.uk). For any other issues, email the office and we can arrange a meeting if necessary.

#### **Uniform**

Thank you for your support in ensuring that the children take pride in the way they dress for school. This does include no nail varnish or earrings. Long hair must be tied up without the use of large bows and accessories. Please see the school website for school uniform requirements, including school shoes.

PE uniform consists of a white t-shirt (plain white or with the Hillmead logo – or the new red one which looks fantastic) and black shorts. If your child wears tights then they need socks in their PE bag to wear with their trainers.

#### **Water bottles and snack**

All children should have a named water bottle in school. We do give them opportunities to drink during the day and water bottles make this much simpler than issuing cups of water. The water bottles must only contain water.

The children are provided with fruit as part of the government's fruit for schools scheme. If you choose to send in a snack instead then this must only be a piece of fruit or vegetable, not flapjacks or fruit bars etc.

#### **Homework**

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. Please support your child in accessing their homework, by providing them time and space to complete it. Daily reading is an essential part of your child's homework and should be recorded in the reading record by an adult at home. Homework set builds on learning that is taking place in the classroom and supports in the retrieval of information and consolidating understanding to commit the knowledge to memory.

Thank you for all you do to support your child's learning and all we do at school.  
Mrs Suttle