



Sunflower Class Newsletter – April 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

This newsletter should provide you with a bit more information about the curriculum content we will be covering this half term.

English

We will start a new unit of work using the book *Lost and Found* by Oliver Jeffers. The children will learn to write a sequence of instructions using consistent tense, detailed diagrams and numbers or words indicating chronological order.

Next, using *Dinosaurs and all that Rubbish* by Michael Foreman, the children will explore the themes and ideas in the story, such as dreams, desires and how to keep the earth a nice place to call home. They will create a variety of written outcomes including reports, setting descriptions, letters and instructions.

In our daily phonics sessions, we will be learning many new ways of writing the phonemes (sounds) we have already learnt. For example, the children already know the 'ch' sound in 'chip' so we will be learning that the letters 'tch' can also make a 'ch' sound in words such as 'match'.

In handwriting, the children will be using the Nelson Thornes font below. We will be focusing on forming the letters correctly by starting and finishing in the correct place.

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

Maths

In maths, we will be using the Hertfordshire scheme of work. The points below illustrate our focus for this half term (you can also support your child by trying tasks similar to these at home).

Coins and Combinations to 20p, Ordering and Comparing

Match the coins to their value represented on the beadstring.

Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s

Add coins to each line to make the total.

14p

35p

Non-standard Measures and Introducing Simple Standard Measures

The volume of water seen in each glass is equal.

Do you agree?

How could you prove them right or wrong?

Multiplication and Division – Equal or Unequal Groups and Remainders

Bag A Bag B

Which bag of money could be shared equally between two children?

Multiplication – Repeated Addition and Arrays (number of groups and size of group)

Find the odd one out.

6 lots of 2	
	6 groups of 2

Other Curriculum Areas

Science: Identifying plants – The children will learn to observe, identify, compare, classify and describe UK plants. They will become familiar with different types of plants, including wild plants, garden plants and trees. They will use the terms 'deciduous', 'evergreen', 'leaves', 'stem', 'flower', blossom' and many more to describe a wide variety of plants.

RE: Theme: Shabbat Key Question: Is Shabbat important to Jewish children? Religion: Judaism

PSHE: Relationships – During this unit the children will be discussing friendships, family, greetings and people who help us.

Computing: Children will be coding using the 2Code tool. Children will learn to move code blocks around to create a simple program.

Music: We will be following the music scheme from Charanga.com.

DT and Art: Firstly, we will be finishing our design and technology unit. The children will get the chance to apply all the skills they learnt last half term to help them design and create their own fabric face. After that we will start our next art unit that will focus on the sculptures created by Andy Goldsworthy.

Geography: The children will be finding out about the features, people and landmarks for one country on each of the seven continents.

Uniform

Thank you for your support in ensuring that the children take pride in the way they dress for school. Please see the school website for more detail about the school uniform requirements. Please note that nail varnish should not be worn, long hair must be tidied back with hair bands that are plain and in school colours, jewellery should not be worn and earrings are not allowed.

PE

In PE we will be working on fundamental skills such as rolling, receiving and striking. Our PE slots are on **Tuesdays** and **Fridays** but the children must have their PE kit in school every day of the week. Please ensure your child's PE kit includes: a Hillmead or plain white t-shirt, black shorts, trainers or plimsolls and spare socks. A black tracksuit top and bottoms might be necessary in the colder months but the children will still need shorts.

Home – Communication

If you have any queries or need to pass on any information to us, please contact the school office admin@hillmead.herts.sch.uk. The Class Dojo messaging system must not be used for parent teacher communication.

Homework

Homework will continue to consist of Mathletics tasks and Spelling Shed games, which will be assigned to your child every **Thursday**. In addition to this, your child should read their school reading book at home every day. Reading books will be changed every **Tuesday** and **Friday** but the children will only receive a new book if an adult has written in their reading log to indicate that the child has finished their current reading book. Optional reading and spelling activities will also be available on Active Learn Bug Club.

Thank you in advance for all your help and support.

Yours faithfully, Mr Wisbey