



Buttercup Class Newsletter

June 2024



Dear Parents and carers,

Hello and welcome back to our final term! This year has gone so quickly and I can't believe we only have 6 weeks left of Year 4. This term is packed with lots of exciting learning and some wonderful summer activities, like Sports Day and our trip to Henry Moore.

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 Mathematics 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

I want to say a massive thank you for all your hard work preparing for the Multiplication Check, your support has been amazing and the children have made huge progress.

Curriculum Overview

Maths

In Maths this half term, we will start by exploring geometry, angles and properties of triangles. Then, we move onto coordinates and position and direction. In the final weeks of term, we will be revisiting fractions and both multiplication and division.

English

This term we will be reading 'Pride: The Story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag' by Rob Sanders in which children begin by exploring the symbolism and the history of the Rainbow/Pride Flag before discovering the story and significance of Harvey Milk as well as other figures central to the LGBTQ+ Rights Movement of San Francisco in the late 1970s and beyond. During this sequence of learning they will have the opportunity to write leaflets about the Pride Flag, speeches in role as Harvey Milk and to eventually create a biography of the activist's life.

Guided reading In Guided Reading we will be exploring 'The Last Firefox' Written by Lee Newbery, 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 'Scientists and Inventors'. We will be learning about famous Scientists and Inventors, for example Gerald Durrell and Thomas Edison. We begin our **Computing** with a focus on animations then progress onto Effective Search and Hardware Investigation. We begin looking at Early Civilisations in **History**, discovering the earliest settlements, forms of writing, trade, maths, technology and architecture. In **Art**, we will be looking at different sculptures, what materials they are made from and then creating and evaluating our own sculptures. In **Music**, we will finish the year by consolidating our Year 4 learning in, 'Reflect, Rewind and Reply', appraising a different piece of music each lesson and looking at the history of music. This half-term in **RE** we will be focusing on Christianity, with the key question 'Do people need to go to church to show they are Christians?' In **PSHE**, our topic will be Changing Me and a recap of Zones of Regulation from last year. Finally, **PE** will be taught by Mr Webb on a Thursday and our other PE lesson is on a Wednesday. Please make sure that the correct and appropriate PE kits are in school for the lessons. As we move through the term, please ensure your child has **black jogging bottoms** and a **black jumper**, as well as black shorts, a **white t-shirt** and a hat, to cover all 'British Summer' weather possibilities.

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.

Please note that we now have a new PE uniform which consists of a red polo shirt with the Hillmead logo, replacing the white T-shirt which did not wear well. We ask that all children have one of these polo shirts in their kit from September 2024.

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