

Hillsborough Primary School Autumn 1 Newsletter

Welcome to the first edition of this year's newsletter! Nearly half a term has gone by already and the children have settled in to school life well. We have had some amazing events already this half term and we are already looking forward to the next one. I hope your children are coming out of school telling you what is going on—please remember to check Seesaw for more insights into their day!

New CEO

Due to the retirement of David Dennis, our previous CEO of Tapton Academy Trust, Lee Barber was appointed towards the end of the Spring term as our new Chief Executive Officer of the Trust. Lee joins us having been Director of Secondary schools in a large academy trust in Manchester and is already making his mark here in Sheffield. We are very pleased to welcome him to Hillsborough and I know he is keen to meet as many people as possible so if you see him around, please say hello.



Winter Weather

As the colder days are approaching, please ensure your child has a coat in school, which is named. We are all keeping our fingers crossed for a milder winter but if there are ever any changes to the school day, these will be communicated on the school website, via Seesaw and on the school's Instagram page. Please make sure you have linked to Seesaw families and Instagram for the most up to date news on all that is going on in school.

European Day of Languages

Last month we enjoyed sharing in celebrating diversity and language in our school by sharing in the European Day of Languages together. We looked at where we all came from and the different languages we have represented in school alone. Did you know, we have over 30 languages represented in school? From Spanish to Portuguese to Polish to Urdu, we were so lucky that our children and their families were keen to share their home languages and cultures with their class mates. We used our geography skills to locate where children came from, learnt simple greetings in different languages and welcomed parent visitors into school who spoke about their cultural roots. We also tasted different foods through the day! It was a great day of celebration. Thank you to Miss Sanchez and Mr Harper for organising the day and to all the parents and visitors who came to join in!



Archer Project

The Cathedral Archer Project work with the homeless and vulnerable in Sheffield and assists people in seeking help, accessing services and providing them with resources to meet their basic needs. We were lucky enough that our children in Y4 Y5 Y6 met with volunteers from the project and found out more about what the project does and how they could help. REMINDER — for Harvest this year, we are collecting food, toiletries and blankets which we will donate to the project. The last date we can accept goods is Friday 25th October. Please give as you are able to as they will be grateful for all donations. [Gifts in kind | Cathedral Archer Project](#) gives some ideas about what you could donate.

ScrapShed

We have invested in a ScrapShed on our playground for children to use during playtimes and lunchtimes. ScrapShed is a social enterprise project that focusses on helping the environment by reusing waste materials from businesses as resources for imaginative play. The staff and children have received training on how to use this during playtimes and they discussed the skills that they will develop when playing this way. We are hoping further collaboration, sharing and negotiation skills will develop along with children's imagination and creativity. Our playday was brilliant and the children really showed that they could create some wonderful pieces out of junk! Check out our Instagram page for more pictures of what the children made on this day!



Communication between Home and School

From speaking to parents, we understand that communication between home and school can sometimes be a frustration. We would like to improve this. We would like to form a working party to look at communication, how it is currently done and what we could try to improve the situation so that we can ensure all messages are with parents and carers in a timely manner. If this is something you feel you could contribute to, we would love to hear your views; there are a couple of ways to do this!

1. **You could join the working party.** Mrs King is overseeing this and would love as many parents as possible to be a part of it.
2. **Complete the survey when it comes out.** This will only be short but we would like as many responses as possible so that the working party have all this information to work with.

We believe in hearing from all of our community and would love for you to come along and meet with us to help improve our school together.

Uniform

Just a reminder that children need to be in school uniform every day they are in school. Uniform will be provided to children who do not wear this to school. Parents will also be contacted if there continues to be reoccurrences. It is important to us that children feel like they belong to our school community. If you are struggling with any aspect of getting your child to wear school uniform, please make an appointment to see your child's class teacher.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 22nd October—Y3 visit to Weston Park.

Y1/2 Firefighters visit.

School closes for half term Friday 25th October and reopens to all pupils on Monday 4th November.

Wednesday 6th November—Y3 Harry Potter day. Please see the letter from the class teachers regarding this.

Thursday 7th November—Spooks and Sparks disco

Monday 11th November—Remembrance day assemblies

Tuesday 12th November—Odd socks day. Children can wear odd socks to support anti-bullying.

Friday 15th November—Children In Need fundraising day.

Week beginning 25th November—Parents evening phone calls. Please ensure that you book an appointment with your child's teacher.

Friday 29th November—School is closed to all pupils.

Monday 2nd December—Non-uniform day in exchange for chocolate products!

Tuesday 3rd December—Parents are invited in to classrooms to make Christmas crafts with the children.

Thursday 12th December—Christmas Fair. Come along and support your school! 2.30—4.30pm.

Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th December—Christmas performances. More details to follow.

Wednesday 18th December—Christmas dinner! Wear your Christmas jumper/outfit to school today and share in a Christmas dinner.

Wednesday 18th December and Thursday 19th December—Film sessions for classes over these two days.

Friday 20th December—Visit from Santa!

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