

Hillsborough Primary School Autumn 2 Newsletter

It's very nearly Christmas and this term seems to have flown by! We have been really busy in school, from trips to Christmas Fairs, from craft events and Parents Evenings, there seems to have been something to remember every week. Thank you for your support over this term and for all of those parents who have contributed in anyway to school and all we have tried to do. We are so grateful!

School Ambassadors

We're thrilled to announce the recent election of our school ambassadors! Every class from Year 2 to Year 6 has elected at least seven enthusiastic representatives, ensuring that our children have a real voice in the way our school operates. The ambassadors have been grouped into various teams and led by a staff member, focusing on sports, reading, maths, science, school wellbeing, and attendance, all tied to our school's development priorities this year and closely linked to developing our ethos of belonging.

The ambassadors have already started making a difference around the school. They've organised fundraising efforts, met with parents to discuss key issues, conducted litter picks, and even set up a library club during lunchtimes. Additionally, they've taken the lead in organising special events! We are incredibly proud of these young leaders who are speaking on behalf of their classmates and truly embodying the spirit of our community. Keep up the great work, ambassadors!



Punctuality

We are finding lots of children are arriving late to school. Our registers are open between 8:40 and 8:50am and all children should be in class during this time to receive their present mark.

Between 8:50am and 9:10am, children have to sign in at the main office and will receive a late mark (L). This is different to the policy last year following the changes in the new guidance from the Government published in August 2024.

When children arrive after 9:10am they receive a U code for **unauthorised absence**. A U code impacts on your child's overall attendance percentage and can result in the Local Authority becoming involved with your child. When children arrive after 8:50am they miss essential learning in the classroom leaving them at risk of falling behind in key areas such as phonics and times tables. During the Spring term we will be working on improving punctuality.



Be In SCHOOL
Be On TIME

Fundraising this term

What a fantastic term it has been for our fundraising efforts! We kick-started the fun season with our spooky Halloween disco, where the kids had a blast dancing and enjoying a night filled with frightful delights. Thanks to your support, we managed to raise a commendable amount of £410.

Then came our much-loved Christmas Fair, which was a roaring success! It was great to see so many parents and friends supporting this event and the children were so excited to meet Santa and spend their money on the class games. The raffle was drawn and so many children went home the next day laden with chocolate goodies and tickets for football, Sheffield Steelers and Disney on Ice events in the lead up to Christmas! With a good turnout from families and friends, we raised over £1,000, all of which will go towards purchasing iPads and books for our school, enhancing our students' learning experience. It's heartwarming to see our community come together for such a worthy cause.

Thank you ever so much for your continued support at both events. It's your enthusiasm that makes these occasions enjoyable and successful for our children! Here's to more fun and fundraising in the coming months!

Choir at Christmas

This festive season, our brilliant KS2 choir has been busy spreading joy by singing beautifully at various local events. The children performed at the church, dazzled visitors at the Christmas fair, and brought cheer to Sheffield Wednesday's community dinner. Their confidence and talent truly shone through, sharing the true spirit of Christmas within our community. We are incredibly proud of their efforts! If your child is interested in joining this wonderful group, practices take place on Tuesday lunchtimes. A heartfelt thanks to Mrs Appleyard for her dedication and support in making this all possible!

Foundation Stage Success:

We're thrilled to report a fantastic first term for our Foundation Stage pupils! They've settled in beautifully, displaying kindness and politeness that have impressively impacted our school community. Parents have played an essential role in this progress, and we're delighted that the children are enjoying their school life so much.

Excitingly, **we currently have spaces available for September 2025!** If you know any families looking for a nurturing school or nursery, please spread the word! We'd love to welcome them to our community. We're always happy to show prospective families around and introduce them to our wonderful school. Your support in promoting us is invaluable!

Dates for your Diary

Monday 6th January—Return to school for all year groups

Thursday 14th January—Year 4 Sound Outdoor Learning

Friday 17th January—Y5 Chocolate day

Monday 20th—Friday 24th January—Attendance Challenge week. We will be focusing on being in school and on time this week! See further letters about this exciting event!

Thursday 23rd January—Y3 Yorkshire Water visitor in school

Monday 27th January—Y6 outdoor Learning day

Friday 31st January—Y6 Football event with SWFC (selected team)

Monday 3rd February—Church led assemblies in school

Thursday 6th February—4pm Governor Board meeting

Friday 7th February—Number day in school

Tuesday 11th February—3.15pm Parents meeting for those children attending Herd Farm. KS2 hall.

Wednesday 12th February—Internet safety day.

Friday 14th February—INSET DAY. School closed to all pupils.

Monday 17th—Friday 21st February - HALF TERM

Monday 24th February—Return to school for all year groups.

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. This includes wearing the correct PE Kit. 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.

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