



Hermitage Primary School  
Focused on Excellence; Surrounded by Care

# NEWSLETTER 2

Wednesday 4th October

## News from the Head of School

Dear Parent / Guardian,



This term is proving to be a busy one already, with lots of workshops, activities and school trips already on the calendar.

Year 3 & 4 will be attending the Harvest Celebration at St Margaret's Church on Monday 16th October where they will be performing Harvest songs, poems, and readings. Parents are welcome to join them from 9.30am. As part of our Harvest celebrations, Hermitage families have been donating food and toiletries: these will be taken to St Margaret's where they'll be distributed via their foodbank to members of the community.

The 4th-10th October is National Space Week and so we have The Immersive Theatre visiting the school to carry out a space workshop with all year groups.

Year 6 will be visiting the Battle of Britain Bunker to support their curriculum topic of World War II. Some of our children from this year group will also be visiting Ruislip High School for a maths workshop.

Thank you to all parents who completed our annual Parent Survey in June 2023. We had a total of 87 parents engage with the survey. The Senior Leadership Team have met to discuss the feedback, and below are some of the actions that we have revisited and implemented:

1. Class teachers will continue to post the weekly 'Peek into Next Week' class Dojo post.
2. The 1:1 reading books should be changed once weekly. We ask that children re-read the book a number of times to develop their fluency.
3. To support with congestion via the school entry path, Year 5 children are dismissed from the small hall door.
4. To support with communication, all formal information will be sent via email and celebrations and general feedback via class dojo.
5. The introduction of this newsletter which is to be sent every fortnight on a Wednesday, sharing key news and information.
6. The Parents Information Afternoon held two weeks ago enabled a lot of core information about each year group.
7. Regular coffee mornings each term to allow senior leaders and parents to continue to grow our partnerships.
8. We are also going to be arranging sessions for parents to join their child's class. Further information to follow on this.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

*PK Varaitch*

**Mrs Parmjit Kaur Varaitch**  
Head of School



## Dates for your Diary

### Monday 9th October

- \* Years 3 & 4 - Immersive Theatre Visit - Space Workshop

### Tuesday 10th October

- \* World Mental Health Day—Wear Yellow to School for a donation to charity!
- \* Years 1, 2 and 3 Parents' Coffee Morning – (8.50-9.30am)
- \* Years 5 & 6 Immersive Theatre Visit – Space Workshop
- \* PATH – AGM, School Hall (6.00pm)

### Wednesday 11th October

- \* Reception Open Day (9am)
- \* Years R, 1 & 2 – Immersive Theatre Visit – Space Workshop

### Friday 13th October

- \* Year 1, 2 & 3 - Trinity Homeless Projects Assembly

### Monday 16th October

- \* Years 3 & 4 – Harvest Celebrations at St Margaret's Church (9.30am)

### Tuesday 17th October

- \* Years 4, 5 and 6 Parents' Coffee Morning – (8.50-9.30am)
- \* 6S – School Trip – Battle of Britain Bunker

### Wednesday 18th October

- \* Year 6 – Selected children Maths Challenge at Ruislip High School
- \* Dog's Trust Workshop

### Thursday 19th October

- \* 6D – School Trip – Battle of Britain Bunker
- \* Dog's Trust Workshop

### Mon 23rd – Fri 27th October

- \* School closed for Half Term



### Monday 30th October

- \* School Opens for Autumn Term 2

### Wednesday 8th November

- \* Reception – Open Day (9am)

### Thu 23rd – Fri 24th November

- \* School closed for VLT Staff Training

### Monday 27th November

- \* School Opens

### Wednesday 29th November

- \* Reception Open Day (9am)

### Thursday 14th December

- \* Nursery & Reception Nativity at St Margaret's Church, Uxbridge (AM)
- \* Reception Open Day (4.30pm)

### Monday 18th December

- \* PATH Christmas Fayre (3.30pm)

### Thursday 21st December

- \* School closed at 1.15pm for Christmas

### Thursday 4th – Friday 5th January

- \* School Closed for Staff Training

### Monday 8th January

- \* School Opens for Spring Term 1

### Tuesday 9th January

- \* Reception Open Day (5pm)

### Monday 15th January

- \* Deadline for Reception applications

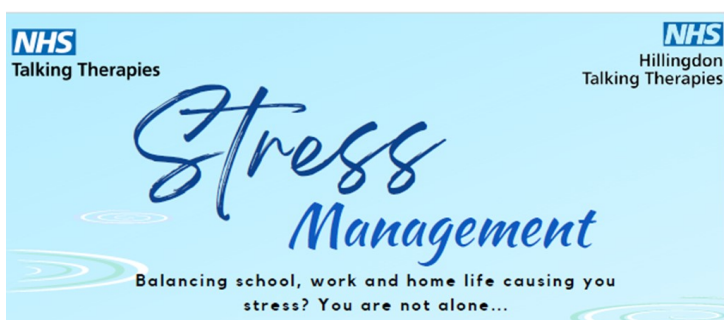
## Coffee Mornings

We will be hosting a coffee morning with parents of children in Years 1,2,3 on Tuesday 10th October from 8.50 - 9.30am and for parents of children in Years 4,5,6 from Tuesday 17th October - 8.50 - 9.30am. Please do come and join us for a chance to meet with other parents in your child's year group.

## Stress Management with Hillingdon Talking Therapies



Hillingdon Talking Therapies will be hosting a session on Stress Management at the school on Monday 13th November from 2.15-3.15pm. During this session, they will talk about Ways to Wellbeing, What is Anxiety/Depression?, Managing Worries and Relaxation.



Please register your interest via the school office.

## Wednesday Wellbeing and Safeguarding

To access our Wellbeing and Safeguarding Padlet, please click on the [LINK](#) or go to

<https://padlet.com/hermitageprimaryub8/well-being-and-safeguarding-at-hermitage-primary-school-50w5wkfot6yxutw3>

There is a wealth of resources that you can access via this Padlet, including this month's Action for Happiness Calendar - Optimistic October.



## Childline

NSPCC Learning has published a new page with information about Childline, the UK's free 24-hour service for children and young people, up to the age of 19, run by the NSPCC. This new page is to help anyone who works with children and young people to signpost to Childline's support and advice. Access at this [LINK](#)

## Out of School Activities

Please click on the link below for poster that can be accessed by parents regarding how to keep your children safe during clubs, tuition and activities offsite. [LINK](#)



## Attendance Update



**It is vital that our children attend school, on time, every day, in order to gain the greatest benefit from their education.**

96.7% is the national average for school attendance

95-100% (less than 10 days absence in a year) is good attendance and anything

97% or above is excellent - although 100% is what you should be aiming for.

**Schools aim for a total attendance figure of 96% and above.**

**Our attendance figure is currently:**

**96.13 %**

(compared to 95.21% Sept)

**There has been a total of 140 lates since school started in September.**

Please make sure your child is in school ready and prepared to start the school day on time at 8.35am for the soft start.

Lateness can cause embarrassment to your child, make it harder for them to settle and cause interrupted learning to your child and the rest of their class.

**The school has a responsibility to record all absences and lates. This information is shared with the Local Authority on a monthly basis. Persistent lateness can result in Local Authority intervention.**

## School Times

All children are expected to arrive and to be collected punctually each day.

**School Times are:**

Gates Open: 8.25 am

School Starts 8.35—8.45 (soft start)

Children who arrive after 8.45 will be marked as late in the register

School Closes: 3.15pm



## Welfare News

### Coughs and Colds

A lot of children are suffering with coughs and sore throats at present. Please note that children are deemed well enough to come to school with these symptoms. The teachers will send any child who appears too unwell for school to the Medical Room, and parents will be called to come and collect them.

### Lost Property

We have an alarming amount of clothing and lost items in school that need reuniting with their owners! Please come into school to collect any of your child's missing things.