

Hermitage Primary School

Focused on Excellence; Surrounded by Care

NEWSLETTER 4

Wednesday 8th November 2023

News from the Head of School

Dear Parent / Guardian,

I have a number of things to share with you, please see headlines below:



New Parent 'Look and Learn' sessions

A great opportunity for parents to join us in class to take part in some live learning sessions. In week commencing 4th December, different year groups will be invited in over different days to take part in a reading session with their class teacher (start of day 8.35am-8.55am). Further details to follow. We hope that you can join us!

Parents' Evening

Please ensure you book via the online portal: <https://hermitageprimary.schoolcloud.co.uk/> for a meeting either on Monday 13th November or Tuesday 14th November. We very much value the support that you can offer us towards your child's academic and social, emotional learning. There will be signs to direct you where to go when you arrive. Please be punctual as the 10 minute slot cannot be extended if you are late.

Remembrance Day

On Friday 10th November we will be wearing red (no uniform required) and poppy items will be available for purchase with a donation to the Royal British Legion.

Anti Bullying Week — Monday 13th to Friday 17th November

Make a Noise about Bullying — We will start the week with the whole school (parents, staff and children included), wearing **ODD SOCKS** on Monday 13th November. Children should wear their normal uniforms with a pair of any coloured/patterned odd socks! On Friday 17th November, the whole school (parents, staff and children included) will come together again and **WEAR YELLOW** for *Friendship Friday*. Children do not need to wear any school uniform on this day. **Please note - there are no monetary contributions required for any of the anti-bullying week events!**

Polite Reminders

- As it is getting colder, please ensure your children arrive to school wearing jackets.
- All children, including nursery need to be collected from school. We do issue £5 fines for late collections!

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

PK Varaitch

Mrs Parmjit Kaur Varaitch
Head of School



Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 8th November

- * Reception – Open Day (9am)

Friday 10th November

- * Wear red for Remembrance Day

Monday 13th November

- * Wear *Odd Socks* to school
- * Hillingdon Talking Therapies (12.15-3.15pm)
- * Parents' Evening

Tuesday 14th November

- * Parents' Evening

Friday 17th November

- * Wear yellow for Friendship Friday

Thursday 23rd – Friday 24th November

- * School closed for VLT Staff Training

Monday 27th November

- * School Opens

Wednesday 29th November

- * Reception Open Day (9am)

Monday 4th December

- * New Parent 'Look and Learn' sessions

Thursday 14th December

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

Tuesday 19th 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



Wednesday Wellbeing and Safeguarding News

Talking Therapies

Hillingdon Talking Therapies will be hosting a session on Stress Management at our 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.

Brilliant Parents

Brilliant Parents host a whole range of events and programmes to the Hillingdon Parenting community. Please see further information at the links below:

- [Brilliant Parents You Tube](#)
- [Brilliant Parents Webinars](#)
- [Brilliant Parents Champions](#)



Action for Happiness

The [calendar](#) for this month is 'New Ways November', encouraging us all to try something new! The small daily tips are also a great way to share wellbeing ideas with your children too.



Transport for London — Reroute Bus Services

Transport for London warmly invite you to tell them what you think about their proposals to reroute four bus services in Hillingdon.

To find out more, please visit their [website](#) and take ten minutes to tell them what you think via their online survey, or email them at haveyoursay@tfl.gov.uk

PATH Events

Book at Bedtime (date/time TBC)

This a beautiful after school event for all Reception and Year 1 children. Sign up on School Money.

Non School Uniform Day (date/time TBC)

In exchange for gifts for the Christmas Fayre Tombola, we will be asking for a chocolate item from the upper school children and a new small toy (to fit in a jam jar) from the lower school children)

If you are available to help with preparation, able to donate raffle prizes or run a stall on the day, please let the PATH team know at path@hermitageprimary.org.uk

The children will be designing their own, professional looking Christmas cards in class, which parents will be able to purchase.



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:

96.45 %

(compared to 96.13% in October)

There has been a total of 374 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



Welfare News

Coats, Hats, Scarves and Gloves!

As the colder weather approaches, please make sure your child has appropriate outdoor wear as they still go out to play. Make sure all items, especially coats are named.

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. Please note, that anything not collected by the Christmas break will be bagged up and disposed of.