

NEWSLETTER 8

Wednesday 7th February 2024

News from Head of School

Dear Parent / Guardian,

This half term has certainly whizzed past. Please note that school finishes at normal time this Friday and opens again on Monday 19th February,

There has been a lot of sickness at school, so please continue to remind your children to wash their hands throughout the school day.

Please see other news below:

Maths 'Look and Learn' sessions this week

It has been great seeing so many of our parents at school for our Maths 'Look and Learn' sessions. The last session is today for Years 4,5,6 at 2.45 pm, so do come and join us!

Winter Playday—Discover Hillingdon

Winter Playday is a free fun event for families in Hillingdon. It takes place in the Pavilions Shopping Centre on 13th February from 10am to 4pm. The event will include information stalls from a range of organisations as well as free activities including dance tasters, story time, arts and crafts, sport activities and more!

Information for Carers

Hillingdon offer key support and advice for carers. To access information, please use this [LINK](#).

Term Dates

You will receive an email this week regarding a change to term dates for 2024/25 and 2025/26. Please make sure you read the email once you receive it. The revised dates can be downloaded from the schools website [HERE](#)

Parent Survey (Spring 1st)

As shared in the last Newsletter, we will be sending out a parent survey on clubs and other school communication, this week. Please look out for the survey and complete it as we value your feedback, and aim to action ongoing improvements.

Parents' Evening

You will be able to meet your child's class teacher on either Tuesday 19th or Wednesday 20th March. Emails will be sent out after half term, which will allow you to sign up for a 10 minute face to face appointment to discuss your child's academic and personal progress.

Have a lovely half term.

Kind regards

Mrs Parmjit Kaur Varaitch
Head of School



Dates for your Diary

Monday 12th—16th February

School closed at normal time for Half Term

Monday 19th February

School opens for Spring Term (2nd Half)

Thursday 28th March

School closes at 1.15pm for Easter

Monday 15th April

School closed for Staff Training

Tuesday 16th April

School opens for Summer Term (1st Half)

Monday 6th May

School closed for Bank Holiday

Monday 27th May—Friday 31st May

School closed at normal time for Half Term

Monday 3rd June

School opens for Summer Term (2nd Half)

Friday 19th July

School closes at 1.15pm for the Summer

Monday 22nd July

Staff Training Day



Attendance & Lateness

Attendance for the start of the year is below average at 95.74%, mainly due to illness.

Lateness continues to be an area of concern, with 173 incidents of lateness since the start of January! This figure includes 27 children who have been late to school on at least 5 occasions.

Children who arrive late to school often feel embarrassed and unsettled when walking in to a class of children who are all ready to begin their first lesson.

Children are expected to arrive, 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





Wednesday Wellbeing and Safeguarding News



Action for Happiness

The calendar for February can be accessed [HERE](#). It is also uploaded to the wellbeing section of our website. It is entitled 'Friendly February'.

Parent Guide for Self-Care

From time to time, parents may need some support with their own mental health, particularly when they are stressed or anxious about their child's wellbeing. Young Minds has a great support page on their website. The advice looks at blame, asking for help, taking time for yourself, and recognising when you might need to see your GP for specific support. Please access via this [LINK](#).

There is also a 4 minute read that some parents might find helpful, access via this [LINK](#).

Parenting Apart Programme

The Parenting Apart Programme (PAP) supports parents who are going through conflict, divorce or separation, and breakdown of relationships. It also supports the emotional wellbeing of children during this difficult time. Please click on the [LINK](#) for access.

School Readiness at Learn Hillingdon - EYFS parents / carers

School readiness is as a measure of how prepared a child is to succeed in school — cognitively, socially and emotionally. This allows teachers to focus on developing skills, and stops young children playing 'catch up' so they can develop their love for school, and parents can be confident that their child is coping well with the transition.

Sadly, the last statistical data shows that in Hillingdon only 1 in 2 children are 'school ready', compared to Lewisham where about 3 in 4 children are school ready (*fingertips.phe.org.uk-2014*) — the pandemic will not have improved this situation.

All parents of young children, who are about to go to school for the first time can access School Readiness courses by clicking on the links below:

School Readiness (online course) 10am to 12pm (4 weeks)

Wednesday 28th February to Wednesday 20th March.

Click [HERE](#) for further information.

School Readiness (Online course) 7pm-9pm (4 weeks)

Tuesday 5th March to Tuesday 26th March

Click [HERE](#) for further information.

Parents can enrol [HERE](#): Course List | ontrack: Learner Hub (tribal-eps.com) just click on the blue ENROL button.

You will then receive an email containing all the information you need to attend the class.



Extra Curricular Clubs

We are pleased to be offering a whole host of After School and lunchtime activities this term, including:

Kiddy Cook
Book Club
Rocksteady Music
Netball
Football
Lunchtime Club
Street Dance
Writing Club
French
Performing Arts
Illustration Club
Chess
Choir

Please access further information about our clubs at this [LINK](#)



Welfare News

There have been a few cases of Strep A and Chicken Pox in school since we returned from the Christmas break. If you suspect your child has either of these infections, please seek advice from a Pharmacist, GP, or call NHS 111. Please inform the school.

Further information and guidance, can be found here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/strep-a/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox/>

Lost Property / Lunch Boxes

We have accumulated a large amount of lost property again!

In order to return these items to their rightful owners, we will be displaying everything in the playground on Thursday 8th and Friday 9th February at the end of the school day.

Please note that all lost property remaining at school will be disposed of at half term.

Please remember to collect your child's lunch box from the trolley at the end of term.