



Hindon Primary School

'Where happy children learn'



Newsletter No 7 – February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It feels like only moments ago since we welcomed the children back into school after Christmas. It has been a very stable, settled and busy half-term which has meant that it has flown by.

Christingle Celebration

In the first week back, we had a wonderful time celebrating Christingle at Hindon Church. It was lovely to see the children engaging with this special tradition, and we're grateful to everyone who joined us for this meaningful occasion.



Celebrating Progress in Reading, Writing and Presentation

Children have continued to make amazing progress in class, and many of you noticed at Teacher Tuesday when you looked at your child's books how much their presentation and handwriting have improved. As a school, we have been really working on this and it's great that it is beginning to have a positive impact.

We have also been developing and improving our approach to reading and writing. So not only is the children's work looking better, the content and quality has been raised as well. The children should be very proud of the effort they're putting into their work, and we're delighted to see such clear results from our focused approach to developing these essential literacy skills.

Extra-Curricular Activities

We have also been developing our offer beyond academic learning. We now have three after-school clubs running, which the children have been thoroughly enjoying. These clubs provide wonderful opportunities for our pupils to explore new interests and develop different skills and you can read more about these clubs later in this newsletter.

Looking Ahead to Half-Term

As we approach the February half-term break, we want to thank you for your continued support of your children's learning. The children have worked incredibly hard this term, and they've certainly earned a well-deserved rest! We look forward to welcoming everyone back after the break, refreshed and ready for the exciting learning opportunities ahead in the spring term.

Best wishes,

Simon Watkins - Interim Head Teacher

Interim Head Teacher: Mr S.Watkins Chair of Governors: Mr R Bryson

Hindon Primary School, School Lane, Hindon, Salisbury, SP36EA

Tel: 01747 820260

E-mail: admin@hindonce.wilts.sch.uk



Hindon Primary School

'Where happy children learn'



Robins Class



This term in Robins class, we have loved exploring our topic *The Land of Dinosaurs*. We enjoyed learning about the famous palaeontologist Mary Anning before discovering where dinosaurs once roamed in our geography lessons.

To finish the term, the children designed, planned, and created their own movable dinosaur skeletons in Design and Technology, developing creativity, resilience, and problem-solving skills along the way. They showed patience when working with tricky materials, learned the importance of accurate measuring so their models could stand, and demonstrated fantastic perseverance when overcoming

challenges.

We are incredibly proud of their teamwork and thoughtful engineering, and we are excited to welcome our Robins parents to our Dinosaur Museum tomorrow!

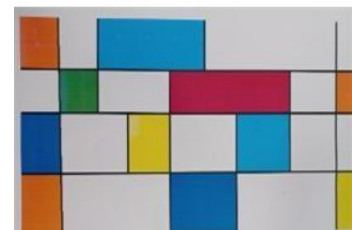
Owls Class



Owls class are learning about Rainforests this term, their focus so far has been looking at where Rainforests are in the world, and what kind of environment they are. They have also been learning about the different plants and animals that inhabit rainforests and the adaptations that they have which allow them to thrive.

This has culminated in the children making their rainforest dioramas to bring their learning to life through a hands-on, 3D model. The diorama helps children visualise and represent the four distinct layers of the rainforest— the emergent layer, canopy, understory, and forest floor—and learn which plants and animals live in each. As well as exploring how different species are uniquely adapted to their specific jungle environment.

In Computing Owls have been using an art package to create digital art. They have experimented with the different tools, created digital pictures and learnt to save their work so that it can be edited. They went on to re-create a picture in the style of the artist Piet Mondrian.



Interim Head Teacher: Mr S.Watkins **Chair of Governors: Mr R Bryson**

Hindon Primary School, School Lane, Hindon, Salisbury, SP36EA

Tel: 01747 820260

E-mail: admin@hindonce.wilts.sch.uk



Hindon Primary School

'Where happy children learn'



Woodpeckers Class



Woodpeckers have been learning about The Tudors this half term and we have been enjoying every gruesome moment of it. I am sure the children have come home and told you all about the terrible rulers of the Tudor period as well as some of the horrific crimes and their punishments.

We have learned all about King Henry VIII and his dreadful rule, where people were executed by the thousands and his wives changed every few years! We looked into the short but bloody reign of Queen Mary, known as 'Bloody Mary' as well as Queen Elizabeth I who seemed to bring peace to the country with her Religious Settlement.

We have been painting The Armada Portrait and looking into the symbolism within that painting and linking this to modern day 'selfies' and how people only show you what they WANT you to see, especially on the internet.

Our reading book this term is 'Treason' by Berlie Doherty and we read this every day; we are loving how closely this links to our topic and supports our learning by listening as The Tudor period comes to life! Next term we will be creating Tudor picture frames for our paintings using wood burning techniques and learning about The Spanish Armada in Geography.

Internet Safety Focus

Internet Safety Day was on Tuesday this week and the children have been learning about how to keep themselves safe online through a whole school assembly led by Mr Watkins along with activities in the classrooms.

For more information visit: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>



Interim Head Teacher: Mr S.Watkins **Chair of Governors: Mr R Bryson**

Hindon Primary School, School Lane, Hindon, Salisbury, SP36EA

Tel: 01747 820260

E-mail: admin@hindonce.wilts.sch.uk

Forest School



It's rained and rained and rained!

This term has certainly brought much opportunity for resilience building and for reflecting on our decisions and consequences in a safe environment. We've used the mud to make plaster casts of wildlife tracks, to make mud pies and to generally just squelch in.

The children have really enjoyed the rain, especially hunting for the natural springs coming up through the field and have created an amazing array of water collection and diversion apparatus. All the children have grown in confidence with their fire striking and some are really honing their skills, even in the wet. Quite a skill!

We finished with the RSPB Big Garden bird watch having learnt about different birds throughout the term. The children especially enjoyed our 'find your flock' game, finding each other using only bird song to identify their partners. They also enjoyed our interactive bird song book - our wonderful robins often answer the book's robin calls.



Children's Mental Health Week



This week is Child Mental Health Week and the nationwide focus for the week is 'This is my place' which shines a light on fostering a sense of belonging in children, which in turn supports their wellbeing and mental health.

Mrs Johnson and Mr Watkins led two whole school assemblies which encouraged the children to think about their important place within their family, their friendship groups, their school, and their community.

Today we focused on pupil wellbeing and the children spent the morning in mixed age groups, moving around the school to different spaces where staff led activities that allowed children to relax, have fun, build social skills, be creative and appreciate each other. It was wonderful to see our kind and caring children look after the youngest children and carefully guide them to each activity.

Interim Head Teacher: Mr S.Watkins **Chair of Governors: Mr R Bryson**

Hindon Primary School, School Lane, Hindon, Salisbury, SP36EA

Tel: 01747 820260

E-mail: admin@hindonce.wilts.sch.uk



Hindon Primary School

'Where happy children learn'



After School Clubs & Activities

We now have three extracurricular activities/clubs running. Our Monday after school multi-sports club continues to be a great success; thanks go to coach Ollie who provides a range of sports activities which the children are really enjoying. Sign up for next half-term is available now.

Raise the Bar on Wednesdays run by Tess & Craig continues to be popular and the children have been improving their technique and skills each week.

Our music Teacher Mr Gundry has been teaching individual pupil music lessons after school as well which has been lovely.



Swimming & PE

Swimming and PE at Riversmeet resumes again after the half-term break on Wednesdays following their refurbishment work. Please ensure that children have swimming and PE kit on Wednesdays. We are looking forward to using the new updated changing facilities.

There will be a small payment next term as parents had already paid for the cancelled sessions this term and that has been carried forward. Please pop onto SCOPAY to make your payment and give permission by Monday 23rd February, thank you.

Interim Head Teacher: Mr S.Watkins

Chair of Governors: Mr R Bryson

Hindon Primary School, School Lane, Hindon, Salisbury, SP36EA

Tel: 01747 820260

E-mail: admin@hindonce.wilts.sch.uk



Hindon Primary School

'Where happy children learn'



Uniform Reminder



All children need a pair of wellies and a set of named waterproofs that are kept at school and should also bring a named coat and water bottle every day. Having the right uniform every day means that the children can enjoy break time and lunchtime outside and Forest School, and smart uniforms don't get wet and muddy.

It is so helpful for our staff if items such as jumpers, coats and wellies are named so that misplaced items can be reunited with children, it doesn't have to be a sticker or iron on name label, a simple handwritten name using a sharpie is absolutely fine.

Slippers

We also wanted to remind you that children can bring in a named pair of slippers to school. We have created a warm, homely learning environment at Hindon where children feel comfortable and settled. Research shows that when children feel comfortable and relaxed, they're better able to focus on their learning and engage fully in lessons. Many children find that wearing slippers helps them feel more 'at home' in the classroom, which can support their wellbeing and concentration throughout the school day.

Children are **welcome** to bring a named pair of slippers to wear during lessons if they would like to. This is entirely **optional** – there is no expectation or requirement for children to bring slippers.

If your child does bring slippers, please ensure they:

1. Are clearly **labelled with your child's name**
2. Have **non-slip soles** for safety
3. Are in **good, clean condition**

Children will still need to bring their usual outdoor shoes for playtimes, PE sessions, and travelling to and from school. Children will keep their slippers on a shelf below their coats and can change into them at the start of the day.

Interim Head Teacher: Mr S.Watkins **Chair of Governors: Mr R Bryson**

Hindon Primary School, School Lane, Hindon, Salisbury, SP36EA

Tel: 01747 820260

E-mail: admin@hindonce.wilts.sch.uk



Hindon Primary School

'Where happy children learn'



Toys or personal items from home

Children should **not** bring toys or personal items from home into school - this helps us maintain a safe, focused learning environment and prevents items from being lost, damaged or causing distraction during the school day.

Support for Children Who Need It - We understand that some children benefit from additional support to help them focus and manage their emotions during the school day. **For children who would benefit from sensory or listening aids, the school will provide appropriate equipment.**

If you feel your child would benefit from using a listening aid or other supportive equipment and they are not currently accessing this support, please speak to your child's class teacher. They will be happy to discuss your child's needs and arrange appropriate support.

School Lane safety

We wanted to remind you about our unofficial one-way system down School Lane during drop-off and pick-up times; please drive down School Lane from the B3089 rather than driving into School Lane from the High Street. This simple measure really helps to:

1. Reduce congestion around the school
2. Keep our children safer
3. Make drop-off and pick-up smoother for everyone



We really appreciate your cooperation with this arrangement. By following the unofficial one-way system, you're helping to create a safer environment for all our pupils and families.

Interim Head Teacher: Mr S.Watkins Chair of Governors: Mr R Bryson

Hindon Primary School, School Lane, Hindon, Salisbury, SP36EA

Tel: 01747 820260

E-mail: admin@hindonce.wilts.sch.uk



Hindon Primary School

'Where happy children learn'



Five Star Lunches!

Last week a representative from the Local Authority Environmental Health team made an unannounced visit to check our kitchen and food storage and preparation systems as part of their routine checks on catering settings.

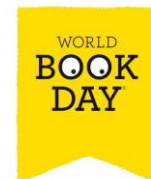
They were very happy to give us a five rating again; well done to Clare our very talented school Chef, we are very lucky to have meals cooked from scratch with locally sourced ingredients wherever possible.



Lunches for term 4 are available for booking on SCOPAY, the deadline is 20th February.

World Book Day

World Book Day takes place on Thursday 5th March; children can come to school dressed as their favourite book character on this day. We will be celebrating our love of books and literacy.



Events in the local community

On Saturday 7th March at East Knoyle Village Hall 10.30am – 12 Noon there is a free World Book Day event for accompanied children aged 3 – 7 years old, come dressed up as your favourite book character and enjoy storytelling and crafts.

TD Days

Our TD days for the remainder of the academic year are included in the dates for your diary section below, you will also see the last day of term in July so that you are able to plan holidays etc.

Interim Head Teacher: Mr S.Watkins Chair of Governors: Mr R Bryson

Hindon Primary School, School Lane, Hindon, Salisbury, SP36EA

Tel: 01747 820260

E-mail: admin@hindonce.wilts.sch.uk



Hindon Primary School

'Where happy children learn'



Dates for your diary

February	Event	Notes
Friday 13 th February	Break up today	Normal finish time
Monday 16 th – Fri 20 th February	Half-term break	
Mon 23 rd February	First day of Spring 2 Term	
Wed 25 th February	Swimming & PE @Riversmeet resumes	Swimming & PE kit
March	Event	Notes
Tuesday 3 rd March	Teacher Tuesday	3-3.30pm
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day	Dress as favourite book character
Tuesday 10 th March	The Magic Lantern Art workshops	
Tuesday 24 th March	Parents Evening	Booking nearer the time
Friday 27 th March	Break up today	Normal 3pm finish
April		
Monday 13 th April	TD Day	No children in school
Tuesday 14 th April	First day of Summer Term 1	
Wednesday 15 th April	Swimming & PE @Riversmeet	Swimming & PE kit
May		
Monday 4 th May	Spring Bank Holiday	School closed
Tuesday 5 th May	Teacher Tuesday	3-3.30pm
Mon 11 th May	Year 6 SATS week	
Friday 22 nd May	Break up today	Normal finish time
June		
Monday 1 st June	TD Day	No children in school
Tuesday 2 nd June	First day of term	Children in school
Monday 8 th June	Y6 Leavers Service at Salisbury Cathedral	Details to follow
Thursday 11 th June	Countryside Classroom @Fonthill KS2	Details to follow
Tuesday 16 th June	Kwik Cricket Festival @Fonthill	Details to follow
Wednesday 24 th June	Oysters Coppice Y 2 & 3	Details to follow
July		
Tuesday 21 st July	Last day of summer term	
Wednesday 22 nd July	TD Day	No children in school

Interim Head Teacher: Mr S.Watkins Chair of Governors: Mr R Bryson

Hindon Primary School, School Lane, Hindon, Salisbury, SP36EA

Tel: 01747 820260

E-mail: admin@hindonce.wilts.sch.uk