



Hindon Primary School

'Where happy children learn'



Newsletter No 8 – March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the spring term, I wanted to take this opportunity to share some updates with you and look ahead to the summer term.

Pupil Progress and Achievement

As you will have seen during parents' evening, your children continue to work with considerable dedication and are making strong progress across the curriculum. We are particularly pleased with the impact of recent developments in our teaching approaches.

Our "I Do, We Do, You Do" Teaching Model

One of the most effective changes we have implemented is our focus on explicit teacher modelling. We use a structured approach called "**I do, we do, you do**":

- **I do** – The teacher demonstrates how to approach a problem or task
- **We do** – The teacher and class work through the next part of the task together
- **You do** – Pupils attempt the task independently

This systematic approach has proven highly effective in building pupils' confidence and competence. You may find this technique useful when supporting your child with learning activities at home.

Summer Term Priorities

I am looking forward to continuing our work together in the summer term. Our key priorities will include:

Online Safety

We will maintain our focus on online safety and supporting children to navigate the internet safely and responsibly. To support you in this important area, we have arranged for a **representative from Wiltshire Police to deliver a presentation to parents on helping to keep their child safe online**. I would strongly encourage you to attend this

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session which will be held in school on Friday 12th June at 1.45pm, please save this date for your diary.

Summer Term Events

The summer term will include several of our traditional activities that enrich the children's experience at Hindon:

- **Sports Day** – An opportunity for all pupils to participate in athletic activities and demonstrate teamwork
- **End of Term Beach Trip** – A celebratory outing to mark the conclusion of the academic year

Further information regarding dates can be found at the end of this Newsletter

I hope you all have a restful Easter break. We look forward to welcoming the children back for what promises to be an engaging and productive summer term.

Thank you to the Friends of Hindon School

The arrival of spring has brought a noticeable improvement to our morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up routines. We have been delighted to see the bulbs that the Friends planted back in September now flowering beautifully after the wet winter.

I also wanted to say a huge thank you for the wonderful work the volunteers did this week tidying up the playground. Your time and effort has made such a positive difference to our school environment.

Best wishes,

Simon Watkins - Interim Head Teacher



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Robins Class



The Robins have been fully immersed in their topic this term, "Spring Has Sprung!" We have been learning all about plants and how they grow, but the most exciting part of our topic was our Bee Week, where we discovered why bees are so important to our world. The Robins worked incredibly hard to prepare for our Little Bee Market, creating lovely little crafts to sell and making some delicious lemonade. It was an absolute success and we raised an impressive £63.88! A big thank you to Verity's family for kindly providing the scrumptious cakes.

This has been a wonderful real-life learning experience, helping the Robins understand money, earning, and the value of hard work. Our PSHE focus this term has been Rights and Responsibilities, with a special focus on money and how we use it responsibly. The children will now decide together how to spend the money we earned and choose something special to buy for our classroom.

The Robins have also loved taking on the responsibility of caring for our little caterpillars, and we are pleased to say they have all formed their chrysalises. Now we are patiently waiting for them to emerge and transform into beautiful butterflies.

We have also been learning about the responsibility of caring for our loved ones and supporting our local community. Today the Robins walked through the village to post packets of wildflower seeds through letterboxes with the message, "*Help the bees and plant the seeds.*" This small act aims to support our busy bees while also bringing a little joy to members of our community.

In our art lessons we have been studying the artists Vincent van Gogh and Frida Kahlo. These two artists are very special because they did not follow the norm and created unique artwork, even when others said their work was unusual or wrong. They teach us that there is no such thing as "wrong" art. Inspired by their styles, the Robins created their own self-portraits. The outcomes were fabulous, and every portrait was wonderfully unique to each child.



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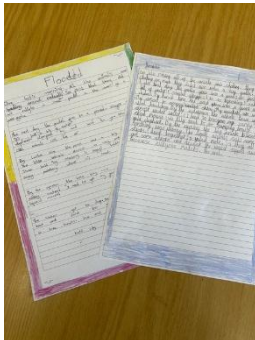


Owls Class

This term, we have been very busy across the curriculum; continuing our Rainforest Topic work. In Design and Technology, the children explored structures, thinking carefully about which shapes and joins make buildings strong and stable. They enjoyed researching structures created by indigenous communities, testing ideas and learning how to improve their designs.



In Art, we studied some nature art by Andy Goldsworthy and focused on our own mixed media techniques. The children experimented with leaf printing, leaf rubbings and sketching to create some lovely pieces of artwork inspired by nature.



In RE, we will be learning about the Easter story and discussing why it is important to Christians.

All of the children worked incredibly hard to complete their assessments and should be very proud of their efforts. They are now looking forward to ending the term with some fun Easter crafts!

Next term, we are very excited to begin our new topic based on Beatrix Potter. The children will explore her much-loved stories and characters, discover the world of woodland animals, and take part in creative activities inspired by her work. We will be linking our learning across subjects, including art, writing and outdoor exploration, and we are looking forward to a wonderful term full of imagination and creativity.

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Woodpeckers Class



This term has been a fantastic and busy one for KS2, full of engaging and exciting learning opportunities. The children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the Tudors, learning all about King Henry VIII and his wives, as well as some rather gruesome Tudor torture methods! They have also developed a strong understanding of Queen Elizabeth I, including her Religious Settlement and her role in defeating the Spanish Armada.

To bring this learning to life, the children were challenged by “Queen Elizabeth” herself to recreate her famous Armada Portrait and design a Tudor-style frame to display it. They were given a strict design brief—and warned that failure to meet the criteria would result in beheading! Thankfully, I am pleased to report that every child rose to the challenge, and we are all heading into the Easter holidays with our heads still firmly intact.



In English, we have focused on *The Water Tower*, with the children producing some wonderfully detailed and imaginative descriptive writing, often with dark and unexpected twists. In Geography, we have been developing our skills in using 4-figure and 6-figure grid references, applying this knowledge to map and describe the attempted Spanish invasion and understand why it was ultimately unsuccessful.

Our Year 6 pupils have been working exceptionally hard as they prepare for their SATs in their penultimate term at Hindon. Their dedication and effort have been fantastic to see, and they should be very proud of themselves.

Looking ahead to next term, we will begin our new topic on the Ancient Greeks. The children will explore Greek myths and gods, as well as create their own Greek-style pottery. Year 6, who have previously studied this topic, will continue with SATs revision during the first half term before moving on to explore new aspects of Ancient Greece later on.

Finally, Year 6 have made a special request for their final topic at Hindon—to plan and cook another Greek feast for parents and carers. Of course, I couldn't refuse! So, it looks like there will be plenty more keftedes and meatballs to enjoy in the summer term!

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Swimming & PE

We are very happy to be back swimming at Riversmeet following their changing facilities refurbishment. The children were very impressed with the updated facilities and went straight back into the pool as if they had never been away. The last session of this term finished with a fun swim with the floaty mats and fun equipment out for the children to enjoy.

Swimming and PE at Riversmeet will start again on the Wednesday of the first week back after the Easter holidays.



World Book Day

It was lovely to see so many fantastic World Book Day costumes in March; the children enjoyed a special assembly where they divided into teams and took part in a mini-quiz to test their knowledge of books and authors, they all did really well.

The staff all dressed up as different characters from Eric Carle books; including the very well-known Hungry Caterpillar, the children correctly guessed who we all were. We foster a love of reading and literature and it was lovely to see the children so passionately engaged in their love of books.



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Magic Lantern Workshops

The lovely Briony came into school this month to run her Magic Lantern art workshops in each classroom. The sessions were focused on the topic that each class has been learning about and the children really enjoyed the workshops.



Gillingham Gymnastics Festival

We are very proud of the children that went to Gillingham for a recent Gymnastics Festival; they all did really well and represented our school brilliantly, here are just some of the team below.



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Raise The Bar

Raise the Bar, an after school weight lifting club run by Tess & Craig proved very popular and helped children develop their weight lifting technique and skills each week. The final week culminated in a visit to Crazy Strength Gym in Amesbury.

Easter Focus

This week the children enjoyed an Easter craft session, where they made Easter cards. Revd. Kate also came into school to lead our worship where the children reflected on the Easter story.

Today a curious Bunny appeared from the wild area at lunchtime, he hopped around the school field, and helped the children with their Easter egg hunt, much to the delight of the children. The bunny left them all a little Easter treat.



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Welly Walk

We finished the term today with our traditional welly walk around the lanes and bridleways of Hindon, where the children enjoyed looking for signs of Spring, looked at the growing crops and took in the amazing views during our snack stop.



Can you help with our field & back garden?



We are in need of someone with either a sit on and ride mower or heavy-duty hand mower (and the love of a good walk!) to mow our school field and the back garden and do some strimming on a periodic basis during the growing season.

If you know of anyone locally who might be interested in doing this for us please put them in touch with the school office, we will of course pay for their services.

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Dates for your diary

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 resumes after the Easter break	Swimming & PE kit
Thursday 23 rd April	Rail safety morning	In school – all classes
May		
Monday 4 th May	Spring Bank Holiday	School closed
Tuesday 5 th May	Teacher Tuesday	3-3.30pm
Mon 11 th May	SATS week	Year 6
Friday 15 th May	Owls Class - Hawk Conservancy	Details to follow
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
Friday 12 th June	Simon Goodwin, Cyber Crime Prevent Officer	In school @ 1.45pm – 2.55pm
Tuesday 16 th June	Kwik Cricket Festival @Fonthill	Details to follow
Thursday 18 th June	Sports Day @ Fonthill	Details to follow
Wednesday 24 th June	Oysters Coppice Y 2 & 3	Details to follow
July		
Mon 6 th & Tue 7 th July	Bikeability	Details to follow
Wed 15 th July	Last swim of the year	Riversmeeet
Thursday 16 th July	Studland Beach trip – whole school	Details to follow
Tuesday 21 st July	Last Day of Term	
Wednesday 22 nd July	TD Day	No children in school

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