



Hindon Primary School

'Where happy children learn'



Newsletter No 9 – May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We're delighted to report that it has been another very full and successful half-term. The children continue to work incredibly hard and we can really see the progress that they are making. In particular, a huge 'well done' goes to Year 6 who have successfully completed their Key Stage 2 Statutory Assessments (SATs).

Staffing Update

After the half term break, Miss Gill's maternity leave begins and we're delighted to welcome Mrs Kingston (Monday & Tuesday) and Mrs J (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday) who will be covering **Robins** class during this time.

In **Woodpeckers** class, Mrs Cassel will be supported by Mrs Wilson for 4 days per week, and Miss Stroud will continue to be with the class for the other day each week.

Looking ahead to September, we are also pleased to share some exciting news with you about Mrs Cassel's Maternity Leave Cover. Following a thorough recruitment process, which included listening to feedback from the children, we're pleased to announce that **Miss Green** has been appointed as the maternity cover.

Miss Green is an exceptional teacher with the skills and experience to deliver high-quality teaching. She shares our school values and will help maintain the caring, nurturing environment that our children thrive in.

We will arrange opportunities for her to meet the children and parents before September and will share more details about this nearer the time.

Parent Workshops – Please Sign Up!

We have two important parent sessions coming up that we'd encourage you all to attend:

1. **Supporting Children with Anxiety** – Learn practical strategies to help your child manage worries and build resilience, see flyer in this newsletter
2. **Keeping Children Safe Online** – Essential guidance on protecting your child in the digital world, see details in this newsletter.

These workshops are designed to give you the tools and knowledge to support your child's wellbeing both at home and in their online activities. Please sign up as soon as possible to secure your place.

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

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After-School Club for Younger Children

We're excited to announce that our after-school club provision will now be available for younger children. More details in this newsletter

Have a lovely half term!

We hope you all enjoy a restful break and look forward to seeing everyone back after the holiday.

Best wishes,

Simon Watkins - Interim Head Teacher

Robins Class



This term, Robins have loved learning about materials, recycling and how we can help look after our world. We explored different materials, discovered how recycling works and even learned that our classroom chairs are made from recycled plastic bottles!

As part of composting week, we learned what can be composted and made our own mini compost bins. Our learning then led into DT, where we designed and made our own reusable Morsbags using recycled fabric. We practised hand sewing and used sewing machines safely with adult support – we are so proud of our finished bags!

The Robins also visited a local farm this week to meet some lovely mares and their very cute foals, cows and sheep. They learned about different animal feeds and saw some amazing wild birds flying over the farm including some swifts feeding on the wing and a sparrowhawk.



"I am also so incredibly proud of our wonderful Robins this past year and will miss them like crazy as I head off on maternity leave. I'll definitely still be popping in to visit" - Miss Gill.

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Owls Class

We had a fantastic time on our trip to the Hawk Conservancy! The children thoroughly enjoyed a private session with Walter the owl, where they were able to learn more about these amazing birds up close.

We also watched two exciting flying displays and had the opportunity to walk around and see the wide variety of birds of prey at the conservancy. Back in the classroom, we have continued our Science learning about grouping and classifying animals, and the children have been busy creating their own classification flow charts to show their understanding.



After half term we are excited to start our Art topic 'How did Beatrix Potter create her artwork?' focusing on the skill of using watercolours.

Woodpeckers Class



This half term has been incredibly busy and exciting for Years 4, 5 and 6! A huge congratulations to our Year 6 children for completing their SATs with such determination and maturity. We were so proud of the effort and resilience they showed throughout the week.

A special thank you also goes to the wonderful Mrs Bristow, who treated the children to a delicious SATs breakfast each morning to

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help them start their days feeling calm and ready to shine. Well done, Year 6 — you worked exceptionally hard and should be very proud of yourselves!

Meanwhile, Years 4 and 5 have produced some absolutely beautiful pieces of writing based on the Greek Gods. Despite some disruption and changes to our usual routines, the children showed fantastic resilience and continued to work incredibly hard. Across the curriculum, we have enjoyed learning about the Ancient Greeks in History, dissecting plants in Science, and developing our ICT skills through hyperlinks, algorithms and coding activities. It has been wonderful to see the children so engaged and enthusiastic in their learning.

After half term, we have lots more exciting learning ahead! In Art, the children will be creating their own clay pots inspired by Ancient Greek designs, which we know they will thoroughly enjoy. To finish the year in style, our DT lessons will focus on preparing and serving a Greek feast for parents — a fantastic opportunity for the children to showcase their cooking and teamwork skills. We are looking forward to a fun-filled and memorable final term. Well done to everyone for all of your hard work and positivity this half term!

Swimming & PE

Our weekly swimming and PE sessions continue at Riversmeet. In PE the focus is currently on athletics and different activities that support the children to prepare for our Sports Day taking place on 18th June.

Our pupils' swimming skills and confidence in the water continues to grow each week and the swim instructors have been very impressed with their progress.

As well as our PE at Riversmeet we are looking forward to an exciting half term of sport at school! Netball club will take place on Wednesday lunchtimes, alternating between KS1 and KS2 each week. Running club will continue on Friday lunchtimes for any Year 6 pupils who would like to join.

We also have several sporting events coming up, including our friendly cricket fixture against Chilmark on Monday 8th June, followed by the Kwik Cricket tournament for Year 5 and 6 pupils on Tuesday 16th June. Of course, we are all eagerly anticipating Sports Day on Thursday 18th June at Fonthill Cricket Club!

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Forest School



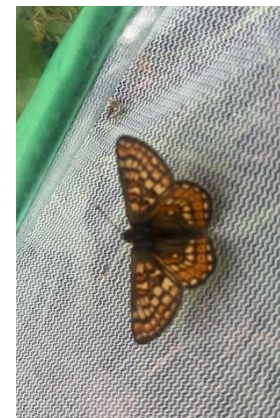
Another lovely term at Forest school, and finally some dry weather!

We've focussed on making this term, and many of the children have really enjoyed working on and improving their whittling skills; progressing from veg peelers to knives allows the children to develop their good practice using sharp tools. They are also learning to identify different woods and their uses - hazel, elder, willow have been our focus this term.

We've also enjoyed using natural rather than air drying clay: making tree spirits, bowls and all manner of creatures. The distinction is important as air drying clay is reinforced with nylon and plastics which leach into our soils when left out.

There's been lots of play and fun too of course - sticky weed crowns, hide and seek and the slack line has made a reappearance. We'll finish the term with toasted marshmallows, our regular tradition.

The children used sweep nets to carefully see what inhabits our wild area, they inadvertently caught a rather special butterfly and after a quick photo let it go again straight away. We weren't 100% sure what it was straight away so sought some expert advice from Charlie & his Dad Steve who are our resident bug experts, they identified it as a Marsh Fritillary, thank you to them for their knowledge. This species is protected and we are now on the look-out for signs of caterpillars in the wild area as they make low silk webs. This was a lovely learning experience and the children were thrilled to find such a special butterfly.



Despite the warmer weather, please may I remind everyone that there are still wet and cold days so wellies and waterproofs are essential. The wild area is also 'wild' with lots of stinging nettles (for eating, dyeing, making cordage and for wildlife) and other plants that can scratch or sting. Long trousers to offer some protection are a part of our risk assessments and help prevent tick bites. Please make sure children have suitable clothing on, or available to put on, on their forest school days.

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Wellbeing

Mrs Johnson continues to support children across the school with a range of ELSA sessions, group wellbeing and one to one sessions and check-ins. The summer term is when we start to turn our wellbeing focus towards transitions, with our Year 6 pupils leaving us in July, and other children preparing to move up into new classrooms in September.

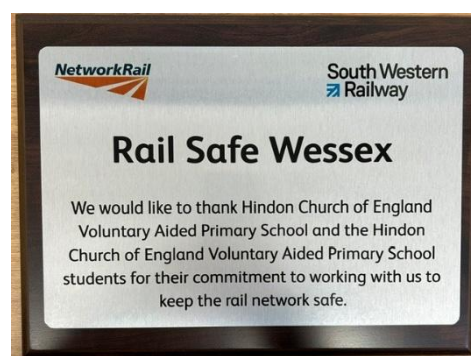
Mrs Johnson will be working with the Year 6 pupils in a weekly transition wellbeing group after may half-term, giving the children the opportunity to talk about any worries, ask questions and prepare for the next steps in their education.

This term is also an important time to support the children who will be moving into a new classroom in September, again Mrs Johnson will be supporting these children with transition wellbeing work.

Returning to school in September after the long summer break can be challenging for some children, particularly if they are moving into a new classroom. To support parents and children, Mrs Johnson will be putting together some social stories which will be made available to parents if they wish to use them in the days leading up to the return to school. Social stories help to manage expectations and change in a very visual way, reducing worries and helping children to navigate transitions. They can be helpful for all children, but particularly so for children who find new situations and change unsettling.

Rail Safety

We were pleased to host a representative from Network Rail recently to speak to our pupils about the important topic of rail safety. This important topic becomes mandatory in the PSHE Curriculum from September this year so it was great to be able to start to embed this life saving learning. The children learned how to keep themselves safe around the railways through key stage specific sessions that were age appropriate.



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New after school activity club for Robins & Owls Class

We are pleased to tell you about an additional after school club that will be running next term. This club will include a range of activities depending on the weather including crafts, games, outdoor play, and wellbeing focused activities. This club will be run by two very familiar faces; Mrs Johnson & Miss Lockett.

The club will run on Tuesdays 3-4pm and the cost is £30 for the term (6 weeks) and parents need to sign up and pay on Scopay.

Warm weather reminder

A reminder that with the warmer weather children need to have a hat and water bottle in school and sun cream applied. Children may have roll on sun cream in their bags if you wish that they can apply themselves.

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

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CAMHS InReach Team

would like to invite you to an

Information & Advice Session on:

'Supporting your child with their worries'

- * Anxiety, fears and building resilience.
- * How can I best support my child, ideas and strategies?



Tuesday 30th June

9.30-11.30am.

Hindon C of E Primary School

School Lane, Hindon.

SP3 6EA

Sign up to this session via the school office

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FRIENDS OF HINDON SCHOOL

HELP US MAKE OUR SCHOOL RAFFLE A HUGE SUCCESS!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR DONATIONS OF PRIZES to support our school and raise vital funds for our children.

We welcome donations of experiences, vouchers, gift sets, bottles, days out, products and more!

Thank you for supporting our school community!

PRIZES ALREADY DONATED – THANK YOU!



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1 x bottle of Witchmark Gin



HONOUR JEWELLERY
1 x Pink Daisy Pendant
1 x Yellow Daisy Pendant



COCK N BULL
1 x Vegan Chilli 'Non' Carne
1 x Vegan Italian Inspired Bolognese



MOONRAKERS KNIVES
1 x Lansky Knife Sharpening System (with MOONRAKERS logo)



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1 x night's stay in a beautiful shepherds hut in Gloucestershire (sleeps 2)

WOULD YOU LIKE TO DONATE A PRIZE? Please get in touch – we'd love to hear from you!

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Dates for your diary

May		
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 – No Teacher Tuesday
Wednesday 3 rd June	Swimming/PE @ Riversmeet	PE Kit & Swimming kit
Monday 8 th June	Y6 Leavers Service at Salisbury Cathedral	Details to follow
Monday 8 th June	Y5/6 Cricket friendly @ Chilmark	
Thursday 11 th June	Countryside Classroom @Fonthill KS2	Details to follow
Friday 12 th June	Parent workshop, online safety	1.45pm in school
Tuesday 16 th June	Kwik Cricket Festival @Fonthill	Details to follow
Wednesday 17 th June	National thank a Teacher Day	
Thursday 18 th June	Sports Day @ Fonthill	Details to follow
Wednesday 24 th June	Oysters Coppice Y 2 & 3	Details to follow
Friday 26 th June	Leavers Service Hindon Church	1.30pm, all welcome
Tuesday 30 th June	Parent workshop – managing anxiety in your child	9.30-11.30am
July		
Weds 1 st July	Ashmolean Museum visit	Woodpecker class
Mon 6 th & Wed 8 th July	Bikeability	Details to follow
Tuesday 7 th July	Teacher Tuesday	3-3.30pm
Wed 15 th July	Last swim of the year	Riversmeet
Thursday 16 th July	Studland Beach trip – whole school	Details to follow
Friday 17 th July	Friend raffle draw in playground	3pm
Tuesday 21 st July	Last Day of Term	Picnic lunch
Wednesday 22 nd July	TD Day	No children in school

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