



#### **Upcoming Events**

**30**<sup>th</sup> Jan – **6**<sup>th</sup> **Feb** : National Storytelling Week

1<sup>st</sup> Feb: Chinese New Year 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> Feb: Half Term 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar: Year 1 Hearing Tests 11<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> Apr: Easter Holidays

15<sup>th</sup> Apr : Good Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Apr : Easter Monday

2<sup>nd</sup> May: Early May Bank Holiday 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> May: Year 3 Residential Week 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> May: Year 6 Residential

Hillfort Calendar



#### **Health & Wellbeing**

The role of the parent and carer is to support children to find out who they are and what they like to do. With this comes greater independence and responsibility, with children learning that they can still ask for help. We have put together some activities to support healthy social and emotional development through creativity, art and play.

Please visit the <u>Hillfort Newsletter</u> online to see a list of creative activities that you can use with your child to support their emotional development at home. Play releases lots of feel good chemicals that help us feel calm, steady and connected. If possible, look to do these activities for as much as 20 minutes or more each day.





#### **Quality Focus**

In school, we've had a real focus on quality assuring the work that happens in class — with our Director of Education, an external expert on SEND and our local governors participating in a variety of exercises. We looked at a variety of topics, including children's welfare, provision of History, SEND provision, how we teach PSHE and other aspects besides! It has been a pleasure to be part of those activities — seeing children's work, listening to children in focus groups and talking to curriculum leaders. You can rest assured that at school, trust and local governor level, there is an ongoing focus on ensuring that Hillfort delivers the best that it possibly can do.



#### **Sports Academy**

Looking forward, I'm pleased to announce that, following the withdrawal of Plymouth Albion RFC from our Sports Academy — we have replaced them with the Exeter Chiefs. Only a year or so ago the Chiefs were English and European Champions — with the likes of local boy Jack Nowell playing at the highest level, perhaps the first step to Twickenham Stadium might be taken on our training pitches! They will start their sessions, alongside our very own ex-England Ladies prop forward Mrs Ellis, after half term. They will complement the provision already in place from Mr Glass and Plymouth Argyle FC.



#### **Arts Academy**

Equally, the Arts Academy is running again. We are working towards some performances in Carnglaze Caverns, so please do consider if drama and music might interest your child. We are open to children starting at any point – so do have a look at our website, have a think about if this is something that might appeal – and let teachers know if you want to join!



#### **Bike Track**

With the sunshine of the last couple of days, some parents have approached me about the brand new bike track. This will be a facility, principally for use by Hillfort children – with access for responsible community groups. We were only allowed onto the facility a couple of days ago, but it is going to be great fun. We'll set up some after-school clubs in the first instance, and then go from there!



#### **Assemblies**

Today, we return to 'in-person' assemblies as covid restrictions loosen. This will be a breath of fresh air in terms of actually seeing children, rather than through a screen! I will, as ever, have a story for the children, Star of the Week certificates, and some reminders around behaviour!



#### **Lost Property**

Can we remind parents/carers to please name your child's clothes, bags and anything else they may bring to school. This will help us get any lost property back to its rightful owner. Any items not named will be posted to our <u>Hillfort Parents</u> group on Facebook. Please check through our Lost Property post! Any items that are not collected within 2 weeks of being shared will be taken to charity.





#### **More AR Books!**

We have MORE AR books available for our KS2 children! Pupils were extremely excited to browse the new selection and see what was available.











Last week, Year 3 were learning about Ancient Egypt and mummification. On Thursday they mummified Mr Larcombe to help them remember the process. They will be writing about this over the next couple of days.



Over the last few weeks, the children in Year 4 have been learning about the Environment in Science. They have found this extremely fascinating to learn about the planet and how humans are affecting the environment. They are keen to think of ways to help the planet with recycling and saving water.



### KS1

### **1-Minute Maths**

KS1 children - Why not try out 1-Minute Maths to practise your Maths skills at home! This free app is downloadable from the app store and doesn't involve a log in or password. Here you can practise your addition, subtraction and subatising skills.

Children will also be using 1-Minute Maths in school as well other White Rose Maths resources. Teachers will be showing children what they can learn on the app in class. If you need any help downloading or using the app, please contact Mr Larcombe and he'll be happy to help!





# Stars of the Week

#### YEAR 1

Felicity B.M ☆ for really challenging herself in phonics and showing a great attitude to learning in class

Ariana F ☆ for being really brave all week

**Luna E** ★ for her amazing recall of learning and a great attitude and attention in all lessons **Harry D** ★ for working really hard with his reading and reading every day

#### YEAR 2

Maddie P ☆ for being a super mathematician!

Micah D ☆ for his amazing determination in art

Abigail P ☆ for amazing maths, subtracting from a 2-digit number

#### YEAR 3

Memphis S ☆ for a much-improved attitude towards his reading and for great quiz scores!

Noah C ☆ for an all-round fabulous attitude towards his learning, and for supporting others around him

#### YEAR 4

Evelyn M ☆ for applying her knowledge from Science to do a litter pick around the school

Daisy R ☆ for her increased enthusiasm and showing greater confidence in all lessons

Solomon B ☆ for excellent improvement in English and handwriting skills

#### YEAR 5

**Leah W** ☆ for her perseverance in our design technology-sewing project **Oliver W** ☆ for making fantastic contributions during History discussions

#### YEAR 6

Fred S ★ for reading over 2.5 million words

Oliver B ★ for showing great resilience, especially with his reading

Jennifer H ★ for showing excellent resilience and a positive attitude during Maths lessons





#### BY STILES AND DREWE

Rehearsals: Sunday Afternoons
School Matinee Performances: 7th/8th July
Public Performances: 8th/9th July 10th/11th\*/12th/26th/27th\* Aug.
\*Mat. & Eve.

We are extremely excited to announce auditions for this year's family musical "Honk!"

#### Being different is a good thing!

Honk! is a high energy, modern musical comedy which has an amazing score and universal story, based on Hans Christian Andersen's The Ugly Duckling. Ugly is born, of course, as a duckling but is soon becomes clear that he is no ordinary duck. Mocked on the farmyard, pursued by the ever-hungry cat, Ugly finds himself lost on a nearby marsh in the middle of a duck-shoot and embarks on an odyssey through the countryside, meeting a battery of colourful characters along the way. With a variety of great cameo roles for all ages this is guaranteed to be a fun family show. Why not come along and be part of our "poultry tale of life down on the farm"?

Creative Team: Steph Reese (Director), Kate Rogers (Musical Director)
Steph is a regular fantastic performer at Sterts. She has also directed a
number of brilliant shows here including Little Shop Of Horrors & Peter
Pan, as well as a number of others with StageKids.

**Audition Date:** Sunday 20th Feb. from 14.00 - 20.00 (there will be allocated time slots).

For more information about performance opportunities and auditions please contact Steph Reese: honk@stertsarts.org





### **SEND Information Evening**



## for Year 6 parents Wednesday 9th February - 5.30-7.30pm

Please email enquiries@liskeard.net to secure a place.

This event will be held on the school site. If there is a need to move it online we will let you know in advance.

achieving more together