

Newsletter 4
Friday 27th September, 2024

What an honour I had to walk around some classes this week. The calm and purposeful atmosphere was lovely to see. A particular highlight was my visit to Early Years. Our youngest children have settled in splendidly. Well done to the staff team, who have embedded those daily school routines, and began to build those strong, nurturing relationships.

Our **School Council**, had their first meeting this week, so look out for updates on their work, to speak for the children of Hillfort. Thank you to Miss Stannard for her work with this important group.

I have been working with our Head Girl and Boy on an exciting project, and have been so impressed with their hard work.



In **sporting news**, our Year 5/6 football team had an extraordinary victory at Polperro Primary School. Thank you to Mr Glass for coaching and accompanying the team. Thank you also to family and friends who supported with travel to and from the match.

Richard from **Stay Safe** has sent us some feedback and top tips for parents, to help keep your children safe online. Please read below;

Top Tips for Parents:

The main message is to take the time to fully understand what your children are doing online and the functions available on the apps and games they use:

When they start playing a new app or game, have a think about asking these questions below;

- Can they chat with others?
- Can they connect with people they don't know?
- What kind of content can they be exposed to?
- What are the age ratings of the games and apps they use?
- What settings are available to limit risk and encourage a more positive environment?

The next set of tips is for you to do with your child(ren) next to you;





- Sit down with your children and explore privacy settings in the games and apps they use.
- Ask children to show you how they BLOCK & REPORT people in the games they play (lots of children can say you should, but not all know how to).
- If they use social media, determining if their accounts are private or public (some children here at Hillfort weren't sure)

Knowledge is the key to fostering meaningful conversations and sharing ideas on how to ensure online safety at home.

Have a great weekend and enjoy reading the highlights of the week below.

Mr Campbell

Polite Reminders

Another reminder about lunches we still have a few children not having lunches ordered at home. If lunches are not ordered at home the only thing we can order in school is tomato pasta and this will soon get boring if they are having tomato pasta everyday!

Here at Hillfort we are a latex free school. This includes balloons. Please make sure no latex items are brought into school.

Please make sure that children are wearing the correct school uniform to school each day. This includes on P.E days. A reminder P.E kit is a blue polo top with the logo and either black shorts and black jogging bottoms and the Hillfort fleece and suitable trainers.

If children have signed up for football club after school they need to bring in football boots and shin pads.

If children have signed up for rugby club after school they need to bring in suitable boots to wear on the field.

Please make sure ALL uniform is clearly labelled.

With the weather changing we have seen a huge amount of coats and fleeces coming to the office with no names. Please make sure you label them so they can be returned to their rightful owners!





Early Years Corner

This week we have started learning phonics! We use Read Write Inc which teaches individual sounds which we can blend together to read words. This week we are learning m, a, s, d and t. We learn to recognise the sound and write the sound using letter formation rhymes we will send home on Seesaw. As part of our phonics lessons, this year we have started completing handwriting sheets to support with letter formation.

These will be sent home in book bags for you to see!
We are so proud of how hard the children are working!

We have had lots of fun in our choosing time this week!





Year 1

In Maths this week the children have been learning about parts of objects and shapes. In the next week or so this will move onto learning about parts of whole numbers. At this point, the children have enjoyed the practical nature of the lessons.

As Summer gradually changes to Autumn, the children in Year 1 have been encouraged to notice the range of weather patterns that Autumn brings. It didn't take long for it to start raining and we all had to dodge the showers. Every day we have been completing a weather diary which we will repeat at different times of the year so that the children can compare weather and temperature changes.

Year 2

This week Year 2 did their first science experiment! We looked at four different materials to find out which were waterproof. Then we recorded and compared our results. Look out on seesaw for photos!

In PSHE we continued to explore our similarities and differences and made our own poems to celebrate this.

Year 3

This week Year 3 have had their first lesson on the topic of rocks where the children have been able to identify if different types of rocks are man-made or naturally occurring. Next week the children will be able to put their scientific skills to the test when they will identify different types of rocks and look closer at the different features of each type. On top of this, during Geography the children have been discussing what it would be like to live in an urban area and considering the pros and cons to living in such a location.





Year 4

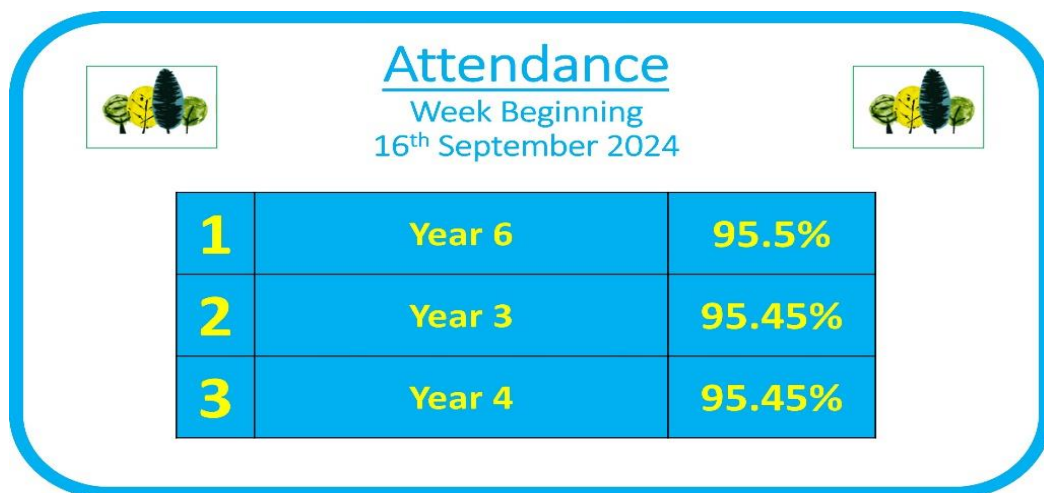
This week in Year 4, the children have enjoyed being introduced to the Roman Empire. Building on what we studied on the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age, we learnt where the Romans fit on our timeline in comparison to the historical periods that we have covered. In addition, we looked at where the Roman Empire is located on a map and its distance from us here in Cornwall. The children are very much looking forward to our lesson next week where we look at why the Romans invaded Britain.

Year 5

Year 5 have started their Computing topic this week learning about systems whereby they create an input, a process and an output for a Digital Ted. In History, they have learnt more about the Ancient Greeks and their gods while in Geography, the children are learning about the impact of Coastal flooding.

Year 6

Year 6 have had a busy week. We have been writing time slip action stories. We have edited our own stories and made them even better!
In History we have been looking at Cornish History and comparing it to the National picture.





Dates for your Diaries

Saturday 12 th October 2024	Open morning for September 2025 admissions. 10am – 12 noon
Monday 21 st October 2024	Whole school flu vaccines.
Thursday 24 th October 2024	Whole school autumn disco

Monday 28th – Friday 1st November 2024 – Half Term

Monday 4th November 2024 - Inset day (School closed for children)

Tuesday 5 th November 2024	Year 1 Hearing screening Wednesday
Wednesday 6 th November 2024	Individual & sibling photos
Monday 11 th November 2024	Open evening for new childrens
Friday 6 th December 2024	Christmas Fayre

Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January 2025 - Christmas Holidays

