

Newsletter 3 Friday 20th September, 2024

The sun has shone bright this week at Hillfort and also for our Year 4 and Year 3 Rock & Rapid adventurers. The children had a super time on their residential. We need to say a huge thank you to the staff, who gave up their time to make the trips possible – Mr Larcombe, Mrs Powell, Mrs Cotterill, Mrs Pickering and Miss Wherry. One lovely comment from Mrs Pickering was that the Y4 trip ranked up in her top 3 school moments. The other two were a helicopter landing on the school field and the famous Henry Winkler (commonly known as The Fonz) visiting our school. Quite the trip!

The first full week of extra-curricular clubs got underway, which is a superb opportunity for the children here at Hillfort. As the academic year progresses there may be some additions to these clubs, to give a great breadth of opportunity. It was a hot one for our running club members but they all did a super job!

We had a brilliant online safety day earlier in the week, where the children learned how to stay safe online. Richard from Stay Safe Initiative has said he would be happy to support with parents' workshops, so look out for those.

Part 2 of the first PTA meeting of the school year took place, where we got some exciting dates in the diary. Thank you to the PTA for your support and stay tuned for the official dates next week.

This week's newsletter sees the launch of our new year groups news section, where every week you will find out some highlights of this week; it might be a couple of photos, a short paragraph or even a sneak peek into an upcoming topic.

Enjoy.



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Early Years Corner

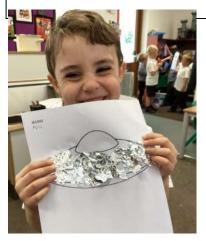


We are so proud with how the wonderful new Stars and Rockets have settled into Reception! We have had a busy few weeks learning our new routines and spending time in the garden and playing with new friends.



We love our playtimes and lunchtimes! We've enjoyed the sunshine and have balls, hoops and chalks! The PTA have kindly given us some money to spend and we would like to build on our play resources for these times of the day!

Our favourite time of the day is our 'fingers and thumbs' activities each afternoon.









Year 1

The children in Year 1 have been working super hard in their new phonics groups. They are settling in well and trying very hard.

On that note a huge thankyou to parents for reading with their children each night and making sure book bags are in school.

Reading every day is so important to help children improve with their reading.

Year 2

Here is what Year 2 have been doing this week.

weeks time for our final performance.

Our new topic in PSHE is about being unique. In this weeks lesson we looked at the qualities that make us all special. We then explored our similarities and differences within the class. We have learnt that we are special and unique! In music we have just started learning a new song, watch out on Seesaw in a couple of

Year 3

Year 3 had a normal start to the week where the children amazed us with their work on the composition of 100. We were also lucky enough to have an afternoon learning about how we should remain safe whilst online. The back half of the week has been a little different to usual with some children going off on a residential trip and some remaining in school. In school we have had sessions with Mr Borlase working on our trust and foraging skills as well as developing our skills in our first go on the school apparatus. On Thursday we celebrated 'International talk like a pirate day' by making our own pirate hats and rounded off the week by watching a film.





Year 4

We had a super three days to begin the week in Year 4 with the children who have remained in school. Our days have been filled with lots of fun activities, including: creating animations on iPads using drawings and Lego, PE and Outdoor Learning, Keith Haring and Mondrian inspired art, mindfulness colouring, TTRS, as well as other exciting art activities.

The children worked so well together in pairs or groups creating their animations which recapped their learning from last year - perhaps we have some future animators in our midst!

Another highlight was our outdoor learning with Mr. Borlase. We had a wonderful time exploring the conservation area and working together to problem solve on the field in the sunshine.

Well done to all the children!





Year 5

Year 5 have had a good start to the new year which has included starting their Science topic on Forces. They had a fantastic time exploring contact and non-contact forces using ping pong balls and straws!

5VH have also started their swimming sessions for this term. 5PP will be the next block.



Year 6

Year 6 have been working very hard this week.

We took part in a Climate change workshop and saw a famous Arctic Explorer! As a practical for this Year 6 made their own sugar cube igloos.



School Council

Our School Council Team from last year enjoyed a thankyou Picnic for all their hard work. Miss Stannard said the team worked amazingly hard last year.





Please could we remind parents and carers to park safely when dropping off your children or collecting them at the end of the day. Please respect our neighbours and do not block driveways. We have parking permits available for FREE in reception which allow one hours free parking at the beginning of the day and one hours free parking at the end of the day in Westbourne car-park. Please pop into reception if you would like one.

Also a reminder that we do not permit dogs in the school grounds. This includes the playground and even if they are being carried in arms.

Lunches need to be ordered each day if required. You can order lunches for the whole term. At school we can now only order tomato pasta, so it is even more essential that you made sure that lunches are ordered so that your children can choose what they would like to eat.



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