



LISKEARD HILLFORT PRIMARY SCHOOL | 22nd October 2021

Dear Families

Well – that half term flew by. Where does the time go? With the nights drawing in and Halloween beckoning, it certainly feels that winter is just around the corner.

I do also hope that the telephone consultations for our first Parents' Evening were helpful. By all means do get in contact with the teachers or myself if a follow up slot is needed and appropriate!

The children have been super this term. They've been focused, hard working and a pleasure to be around. With the longer day, they certainly deserve a break!



Thank You!

I would also like to pay real testament to the colleagues here at Hillfort. Like many in society, they work hard – but these last few weeks have been particularly gruelling. High levels of staff absence due to covid, a nasty flu and the usual bugs that go round a primary school have really taken their toll. Many others have struggled in feeling anything but 100%, and battled through. I wish them all a relaxing halfterm.



Health & Wellbeing

Children love having parents who are playful, fun, interested and curious about them. Children enjoy feeling important and special and really benefit from having some individual time with parents.

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.

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A Reading Challenge

There are 5 Headteacher book prizes (from the vending machine) up for grabs. These can be won by sending in photographs of children reading. They don't have to be at the top of the Empire State Building or the Eiffel Tower, but I want to see children reading in the most imaginative position that they can come up with!

I've also popped a video for adults about reading at home onto our school website. Have a look!



Staffing Matters

With some sadness, we bid farewell to Mr McGirr. Commuting a fair distance with baby twins isn't the easiest thing to do, so Mr McGirr goes with our blessings and best wishes to a school in Plymouth. Mr McGirr has been a role model to many children here at Hillfort and will leave a huge hole behind him. Good luck!

Mrs Pomeroy will be stepping into his role, and we welcome Miss Hannah Grey to our school on a more permanent basis. I know that Year 4 children have already got to know and like Miss Grey in the few weeks that she's already been with us, so welcome!



ParentPay

We are converting to an online ordering system to order food. There are two main reasons to do this:

- a) It allows parents to choose the food their children eat in advance – maybe avoiding the scenario of children selecting food that they actually don't like when they come to eat it;
- b) It will save much time at the start of the day. The early part of the day is prime learning time, and we currently spend too long sorting out menu options when children could be learning!

We have a 'run in period' as technological change always tends to have hiccups, and no child will go hungry. We will have spare food and ordering in school for a temporary period. But do have a look, activate the codes and get ordering!

Make sure to read through the "<u>How To</u>" document for help on how to book your child's lunches via ParentPay. Look out for our launch date when we return after half term.

Setting Work During Covid Absence

Children who are off due to Covid have the right to work being set from the day after their covid absence kicks in. We need to be careful in this area, as the most important aspect is a child's he-alth – so if your child is unwell with covid (or anything else for that matter), then getting better is the priority!

We are now setting up a new virtual learning platform that our friends down at Gulval School are loving. It is called "SeeSaw". We certainly understand that Google Classroom was anything but easy to use. So going forward, anytime your children are isolating or are asymptomatic, then this is how work will be set. More to come very soon as we will also use "SeeSaw" as our home learning platform!

If you do have any queries or concerns on this matter, please do simply email your class teacher using the addresses on the school website. Children's work can be emailed to teachers via email too!





Yesterday the children in Year 2 spent a wonderful day at Seaton Beach. The sun shone all day as the children learnt about natural and human made features and habitats.

Before lunch, the children created art using natural materials found on the beach and after lunch, we went for a woodland walk.

The highlight of the day was when one of the children found a newt!

On return to the coach, we even managed to find a sneaky few minutes to play in the park. What a fantastic day!



Sustrans is running a photo competition for people in Liskeard schools, to help identify any areas in town that make it difficult to walk or cycle.

They don't need artistic or creative pictures but they want to find out where you would like to see future improvements to make travelling actively easier for people walking or wheeling.

To enter, please send a photo/s of any things in your area that stop you walking and cycling to <u>liskeard@sustrans.org,uk</u> by 24th October.

All entries will be put in a prize draw for a £25 One4All gift voucher and some Sustrans goodie-bags!





Stars of the Week

<u>YEAR 1</u>

Chiara K ☆ for her fantastic progress in reading Sophia W ☆ for excellent attitude towards her work and learning

<u>YEAR 2</u>

Sidney O ☆ for fantastic reading! Charlie Mutton ☆ for being an all-round kind friend, always listening and fantastic Maths

<u>YEAR 3</u>

Brody C-B \ddagger for being a caring friend and great role-model in class Jack L \ddagger for his amazing Maths, fantastic manners and all-round a fantastic member of 3NB

YEAR 4

Wren A ☆ for always being ready to learn and working hard
Hudson B ☆ for concentrating and working hard in all lessons
Baylynn R ☆ for her amazing work in all lessons, all week!!
Shirley-Jane F-E ☆ for always being ready to learn

<u>YEAR 5</u>

Rosie L \Rightarrow for challenging herself to use complex sentence structures **Harry S** \Rightarrow for his excellent progress in reading – an improvement of 2 years!

<u>YEAR 6</u>

Tia C \bigstar for overcoming her fears to deliver her speech to the class Alaina W \bigstar for fantastic progress with her reading





Starting school September 2022

Applying for a place in a reception class for children born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018

Attending a nursery or pre-school

You will need to apply even if your child attends a school's nursery or pre-school clas Please note that if a school is oversubscribed the fact that a child attends a school's nursery or pre-school, or a local nursery or pre-school, does not automatically guarantee a place at that school. The school's oversubscription criteria will be used!

Information and guidance Website and application form: www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions Email: schooladmissions@cornwall.gov.uk Post: School Admissions Team, County Hall, Truro, TR1 3AY Telephone: 0300 1234 101

Need help with your application? Contact the Family Information Service on 0800 587 8191





Transfer to secondary school September 2022

Applying for a place in year seven at a secondary school

Information and guidance Website and application form: www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions Email: schooladmissions@cornwall.gov.uk

Post: School Admissions Team, County Hall, Truro, TR1 3AY Telephone: 0300 1234 101

Need help with your application? Contact the Family Information Service on 0800 587 8191











OCTOBER HALF TERM ROADSHOWS EAST GORNWALL & NORTH DEVON 2021

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL, LAUNCESTON

25th Multi-Skills & Mini Pilgrims 27th Girls Only 29th Match Day Special LANTVET COMMUNITY HUB 25th TORPOINT YNGA 25th DOBWALLS FOOTBALL CLUB 26th BUDE FOOTBALL CLUB 26th SALTMILL 36 PITCH, SALTASH 28th CALLYWITH COLLEGE 28th ST TEATH FOOTBALL CLUB 29th Match Day Special

9.30am - 3.30pm Boys and girls of all abilities aged 5-15

> Book now 01752 562561 ext. 4 argylecommunitytrust.co.uk

argylecommunitytrust.co.uk