



Harrington Hill Primary  
15.09.23

Newsletter

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*Friday 15th Sept 2023*

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## What's been going on this week?



Welcome to Harrington Hill for all the families new to our community. The children have all settled into school life fantastically this week and we are very proud of the excellence we have seen around the school. A great start to the new school year!

The children in Nursery have had a brilliant first few days. They are settling into class routines and making friends. Reception have also had a fantastic week at school. They are focused on the routines and expectations of the classroom, which children are doing a great job of following. New children

are making friends and feeling settled. The children went to Forest School for the first time this year and enjoyed the sunshine!

Year 1 have had a fabulous week. They have been exploring different number bonds and have used concrete resources such as cubes and place value coins to support. In English, the children also showed great focus; they wrote sentences to describe the character in their book 'Look Up' and even included adjectives. Well done also to Miss Lee's phonics group as they showed amazing enthusiasm this week!

Year 2 have had a great week settling in and getting to grips with their new learning. Ms Tooze has been so impressed with their grouping of tens and partitioning of 2-digit numbers in maths. During English the children have read their focus text Ravi's Roar and written a book review using the conjunction 'because'. Linked to their focus text, they had a PSHE lesson around what they could do when they feel angry to help calm down. Finally, in topic lessons, the children have learnt what it means to be a significant person in history and discussed significant people in their lives.

Year 3 have had a great start to the year. From an immersive Stone Age day to creating wonderful self-portraits during their 'getting to know you' sessions. This week the children started their book work; they have worked very hard on their presentation using cursive handwriting and focusing on punctuation. They also went to Forest school, role playing what it would be like to live in the Stone Age, hunting and gathering, building shelters and creating imaginary fires. During maths, Year 3 have used place value to solve logical problems and make posters! Well done everyone!

Year 4 have been reading the book 'George's marvellous medicine' by Roald Dahl and writing captivating character descriptions about the main characters using key vocabulary and expanded noun phrases. The children will be moving on to writing their own chapter of the book in the coming week.

Year 5 have settled excellently into the new school year and have been enjoying their new topic Ancient Benin. They have been asking questions about images of Benin artefacts and making connections. They have also been writing a setting description of an African desert using rich vocabulary to generate expanded noun phrases and adverbials.

Year 6's topic this half-term is Ancient Greece and during their English lessons, they have been learning about Theseus and the Minotaur. Year 6 have begun to retell this narrative with a focus on figurative language. See below for some examples of their fantastic writing!

This week's learning in pictures







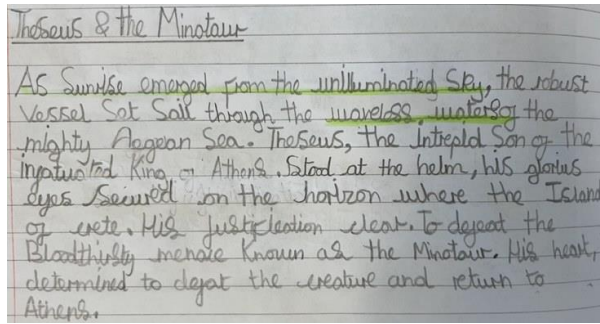


As dawn's golden fingers stretched across the tranquil waters of Athens, Perseus a valiant son of King Aegeus took a step on a sturdy vessel willing to set sail to Crete to defeat the ravenous, haughty Minotaur. As Theseus stood on the helms, clad in armor weaved and shouted to his father, father I promise I will end this man eating beast once and for all and Athens will be forevered no more! The wind was whistling with anticipation and the waves were motionless and calm.

'Goodbye Athens,' whispered Theseus as the ship drifted away. The black sails glided in the air as the wind blew at the sea making water drops splash around them. In the distance, Crete was seen with the horizon glistening over it. As they sailed across the tranquil waters, Theseus' heart dropped at the thought of the bloodthirsty beast that awaited him.

Determination shone across his face while his hands clenched by his sides. His hair ran wildly on his head as he stared ahead. His purpose was clear- he had made this epic voyage to end the tragic death of many young children that was sacrificed to the monstrous Minotaur who belonged to the tyrannical King Minos.





## Welcome New Staff

This academic year we welcome two new staff members.

They have settled into the Harrington Hill family wonderfully and we look forward to working with them this year!



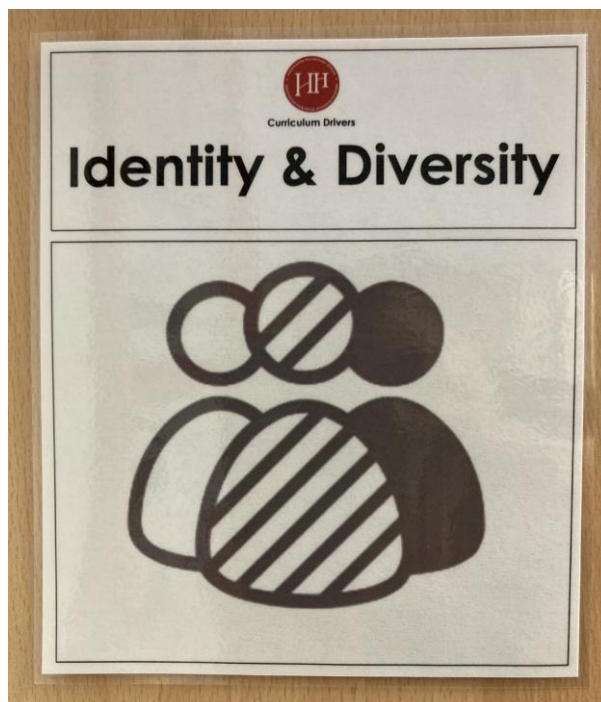
1 - Tara Kajee has joined us as a teaching assistant working across years 2 and 6.



*2 - Engin Eshref is our new music teacher, teaching across all classes on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.*

## Our Curriculum Drivers

At Harrington Hill, our curriculum is underpinned by four key drivers:





Curriculum Drivers

# Curiosity



Curriculum Drivers

# Environment





## Attendance

Our overall attendance this week was 96.6% which is above our target of at least 96%.

Here is the attendance by class for the week:

### Year Group

Year N 98.5%

Year R 94.3%

Year Y1 93.3%

Year Y2 99%

Year Y3 97.6%

Year Y4 94%

Year Y5 95.6%

Year Y6 100%

The attendance trophy goes to **Year 6** this week. Well done Year 6!

Did you Know...?

If your child's attendance During the School Year....	Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...	Or They Would Have Missed Approximately...
was 95%	9 Days from School	50 Lessons
was 90%	19 Days from School	100 Lessons
was 85%	29 Days from School	150 Lessons
was 80%	38 Days from School	200 Lessons
was 75%	48 Days from School	250 Lessons

Did you Know...?

In a School Year, If Your Child is Late Every Day By...	Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...	Or They Would Have Missed Approximately...
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	20 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	41 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	55 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	82 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	123 Lessons

3 - GETTING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL REALLY MATTERS. ABSENCE = LOST OPPORTUNITY

## Excellence Assembly

Congratulations to all our amazing certificate winners this week. It has been wonderful to see such excellence in classrooms and around the school. This week our winners are:

Zaireya and Janet in Year 1

Billie and Michael in Year 2

Ryan and Antonio in Year 3

Gabriel and Meryem in Year 4

Zainab and Precious in Year 5

Jacob and Esther in Year 6





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## Nursery and Reception places available

Did you know, children can be offered a free full time place at Harrington Hill as soon as they turn 3 years old? They do not need to wait until the start of the term that follows their 3rd birthday and they do not need to wait until September. They can start from the day of their third birthday! We currently have spaces in Nursery and Reception classes. Our Early Years classes benefit from a highly stimulating, well-resourced, spacious learning environment and use of their very own Forest School on school site! Visits to the school are always welcome. If you would like to arrange a tour of the school with a member of the senior leadership team, please

## Wellbeing News

As we mentioned in the previous newsletter, we have a new Educational Mental Health Practitioner working with us at Harrington Hill. Her name is Hadassa Joseph. As part of her work, Hadassa is looking to gain more of an understanding of parents/carer's opinions of the current mental health provisions in school, as well as areas of need that might benefit from extra support.

If you have not completed the survey already, we'd be grateful if you could take a few minutes to fill it in. Please click on the link below:

<https://forms.gle/SpC1vCgi9NjeQBgw7>

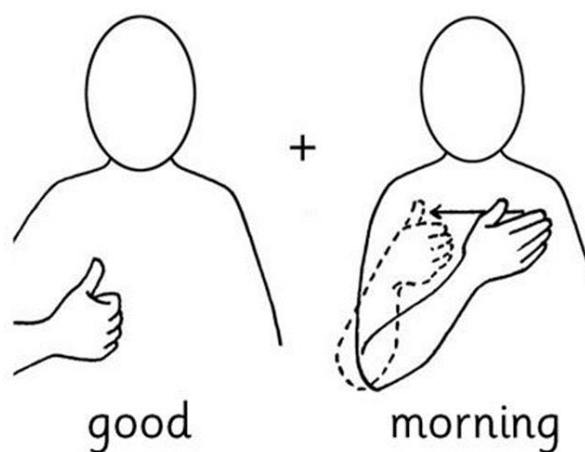
Makaton sign of the week



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*At Harrington Hill, we have been focusing on using Makaton to say 'Good Morning'*

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**Wellbeing thought of the week:**

Warm Hearts: "When you share kindness, the world becomes a warmer place." *Anonymous*

Contact Us



At Harrington Hill we welcome feedback from parents and carers on any aspect of school life. We also welcome visits to the school for prospective parents.

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