

Hilary House Newsletter



Spring Term – 28th March 2024

Dear Parents,

Spring is in the air!

We have combined both Spring 1 and 2 newsletters into one, as we had such a short term at the beginning of 2024. We have had a great term in Hilary House, some highlights include World Book Day, our Celebration Assemblies, St. Patrick's Day and meeting the donkey from our Palm Sunday celebration this week.

Please note our upcoming inset date change – Hilary House will now be open on April 15th for children and closed on May 17th to facilitate essential staff training.

Have a great Easter! – Mr. Hourigan

Blue Class News.

Blue Class are loving the sunny weather and opportunities for outdoor learning!



Blue Class **Lions** have been learning about the theme of Spring. We focused on different plants and animals. We examined the lifecycle of a butterfly and had our very own caterpillars in school.

We observed their development as they turned into butterflies. We have had daily sensory groups, attention autism, foundation for phonics, intensive interaction and early math activities. We have enjoyed sensory play relating to Easter.

Blue class **Tigers** have been looking at different explorers and the amazing ways they have navigated the world and beyond. We have focuses mainly on David Attenborough and have produced some fantastic non-fiction fact files about him.

In **Maths** we have been focusing on 'Addition and Subtraction', using pictorial representations, the crossing out method and by counting forwards and backwards.

We continued to build on our understanding of part-part whole models and ten frames. Additionally we have used our understanding of place value to help us understand numbers further.

Green Class News.

What a fantastic Spring term we have had in Green Class. We have learned so much and had a lot of fun in the process.



English: We became newspaper reporters and learned how to write articles based on our text *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. We loved the story so much that it inspired our costumes for World Book Day. We then moved onto our Spring 2 text, *The Promise*, and used this as a springboard for class debates. These helped us to form arguments for writing our persuasive letters.

We have had daily Guided Comprehension sessions where we focused on developing our VIPERS strategies. (Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explaining, Retrieving and Sequencing/Summarizing) Next term, we will using the text "*A Midsummer's Night Dream*" to learn about the Biography genre.

Maths: We continued our learning from Autumn term, focusing on problem solving in multiplication and division, before moving onto fractions. Next term, we will continue learning about fractions and how these link to decimals, before moving onto units of measure.

We have been learning about the Romans in history and settlements in geography. We have also been learning about what Autism is and how it is different for each and every one of us.



Elisha Olusheye
Green Class – Year 6

Hilary House is the perfect school for anyone who wants to have fun and to do some questions and work, of course.

My favourite thing about school is sketching because I am an artist. When I finish school, I want to be a painter or an artist.

I like maths because it is an easy subject. My favourite person is Mr. Hourigan because he makes me do work.

My favourite memory is our trip to McDonalds because it was awesome.



Meet Hilary House.

Lisa Clayton
TA – Green Class

Before coming to Hilary House, I was TA for 12 years supporting lots of different children. I have also been a Scout Leader for 5 years. I love working here because every day is different. The children and wider Hilary House community make working here really special, I love feeling like I am part of a bigger family.

One of my favourite memories to date has been our trip to the British Museum to see their SEN Taught Handling Course on the Egyptians. The children got the chance to touch each of the artefacts. I was also so proud when we won Gold in the Primary Pentathlon Challenge.

Spotlight on Occupational Therapy.

During the holidays, why not take some time to practice some functional fine motor skills at home!

Functional fine motor skills are fine motor activities which have a clear purpose and outcome for children. Doing up buttons, using a knife and fork and opening and closing containers are functional skills children need to learn. At school, children need to hold a pencil, draw shapes, numbers and letters and be able to use glue, scissors, and rulers. They might also want to use a game controller, play with Lego or stickle bricks. Older children need to be able to do their hair, floss their teeth and learn to use knives, vegetable peelers and graters. Here's some ideas you can try at home:

- Opening zippers on bags
- Opening/closing food containers/packets
- Using scissors – if you need ideas check out our scissor skills programme
- Drawing shapes with a ruler
- Using glue sticks – opening, closing, winding
- Buttons
- Cut and paste activities
- Junk modelling
- Origami
- Frustration game
- Connect 4
- Buttering bread
- Cutting fruits/vegetables

Integration.

Children in Hilary House have personal integration plans, based around their individual level of development and needs. For integration to be successful and have the best outcome, children need to be able to access the mainstream curriculum with some adaptations. Currently, Blue Class children who integrate do so in short bursts with support.

For Green Class, children integrate for specific subjects matched to their needs, usually with 2:1 support.

Dates for your Diary.

- ◆ 15th April – First day of Summer 1 term for Hilary House.
- ◆ 17th April – Green Class Family Learning
- ◆ 18th April/ 19th April – Blue Class Lions/Tigers Family Learning
- ◆ 24th April – Parents Evening – 3.30pm close for Hilary House
- ◆ 3rd June - INSET
- ◆ 26th June – Disability Day at the Oval.
- ◆ 9th July – KS2 Sports Day
- ◆ 16th July – KS1 Sports Day

Homework Reminder.

- ◆ Children get their homework on a Friday and it is due the following Thursday.
- ◆ Spellings are given on a Monday with spelling test on a Friday.
- ◆ Children who do not complete homework stay in at play time to complete on Friday.

Our Memories!

We develop our fine motor skills and pencil control in lots of different ways.



We celebrated Chinese New Year and St. Patrick's Day and Valentines Day!



We loved seeing chickens hatch from eggs and watching them grow and meeting the donkey.



We made memories that will last a lifetime!



Our Memories!

We have made some amazing artistic creations using our words and our hands.



We worked hard on learning new skills in playful and multi-sensory ways.



Writing Heroes.

Ⓢ Sounding

CROCODILE

FOX

Rabbit

FLAMINGO

To use their understanding of phonics and punctuation to create a non-chronological report on their favourite animal.

Rabbit

Habitat

It lives in a swamp

Appearance

It has a floppy ear.

It has long white ears.

It has long pink legs.

It has an orange tail.

Diet

Fluffy tails.

Congratulations **Mia** in Blue Class who received a Head Teachers Award for her writing!

Wall of Fame.

Green class News

The 105+ tickets that have been found

Charlotte is a poor boy and lives in a small house. He comes from a poor family. He always wants to go into the chocolate factory. He won a ticket to go to the factory and see everything. He was very happy and he lived with his family.

I am so excited to go to the factory. I am lucky to go to the factory. I will be very happy to go to the factory. I will be very happy to go to the factory. I will be very happy to go to the factory.

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David in Green Class has been worked so hard on his newspaper article – well done David!