



# NEWSLETTER

# SPRING TERM 1

2025-2026

## A Message From The Headteacher, Grace Mullally



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the end of the first part of the Spring Term, I write to parents to share news of what has been happening across our wonderful school. Looking through the newsletter fills me with such warmth and pride – seeing the delightful experiences, trips and events that have taken place across the school hugely benefit our pupils, ensuring they have the skills and knowledge to be successful in life. I am sure you will enjoy reading this edition of our newsletter.

Spring is a time that symbolises renewal and new beginnings – it is characterised by blooming flowers, the awakening of animals and the planting season, representing growth and transformation. At Hillingdon Manor School, we support our pupils to ensure they grow personally and academically, throughout their time with us. Having received some feedback from parents recently, I am confident we are a school that transforms our pupils into confident young people, ready for a future of individualised success.

This term we saw our Pupil Voice Group working on the Toy Project, which was all about giving back to those most in need. The Project focused on collecting unwanted or unused toys from members of our community (thank you) and donating these to children who will love and appreciate them. It was fantastic to see our Pupil Leaders showing such compassion and kindness to those most in need.

As we embark on the second half of the Spring Term, I am looking forward to more opportunities for pupils to be outside, as the weather begins to improve in the lead up to the Summer Term. We have much to look forward to for the remainder of this year, including our Spring and Summer Market Days, World Book Day, Red Nose Day, Pupil Progress Days, Class Transition Day, and Sports Day, to name just a few! We will keep you posted on these events!

I would also like to politely remind parents about the importance of working with the school to maintain your child's positive attendance levels. Local authorities are working closely with the school to monitor the implementation of the DfE's guidance - Working together to improve school attendance. This is a shared responsibility and requires family engagement to achieve a collaborative working approach. I will write to you after the break, to share an updated attendance policy, with a reminder of the expectation to refrain from booking holidays in term time. Therefore, please be mindful that requests relating to holiday leave are unlikely to be approved.

I wish you a very happy and restful February half term break, and very much look forward to welcoming all pupils back to school on Monday 23 February 2026, for a fun Spring 2 half term ahead!

# Feature - Rock Steady Workshop



On Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January, we invited Rock Steady to Hillingdon Manor, to run a workshop with a number of our pupils. Rock Steady are an organisation that provide music to pupils in schools all over the country. We were lucky enough to be one of the schools selected to participate – and we had fun! Pupils had the opportunity to pick up and use a wide range of instruments, from electric guitars and drums, to bass guitars and microphones. Pupils played the instruments alongside members of the Rock Steady Band, to create their own version of classic songs. Although not all pupils were able to take part this time, due to restrictions in the numbers for each workshop, there will be plenty more opportunities in the future! Rock On!



## New Careers Newsletter

We are thrilled to announce that HMS have launched a brand-new monthly Careers Newsletter! The newsletter will feature information about events taking place at Hillingdon Manor and externally, visits from guest speakers, information about different roles and jobs, and will help to support with discussions around next steps and transitions with parents/carers and their children, at home. It will be posted on Class Dojo, and our website, so keep an eye on your feed and enjoy reading!



## Mei Takes On The London Marathon 2026

We are excited to share that our very own Mei, Regional Administrator, is taking on the London Marathon 2026 in aid of Mencap. Mei and her husband are aiming to raise an incredible £5,000 for the charity, that helps people with a learning disability to live the life they choose. It is Mei's first ever Marathon – a full 26.2 miles, and training is well underway. Mei says "Every mile we run is for love, for inclusion, and for a fairer world for people living with disabilities". If you wish to donate, you can do so here: [Mencap: Mencap London Marathon 2026](#). Good luck Mei!



## The Toy Project

HMS Pupil Voice Group took on a new project this term – The Toy Project! As we continue to promote kindness, empathy, and community spirit, we are excited to share that these important donations will now be shared with the Toy Project that work hard to bring joy to children in our community. We asked for donations of any unused toys that your children may have outgrown or no longer use, and we received a good number of donations – but there is still time to donate! The cut off is the end of February, so please feel free to drop any donations into Reception after the half term break. Thank you!



## KS5 Pupils' Work Experience at Heathrow Farm

A group of Key Stage 5 pupils visited Heathrow Farm to carry out some work experience. It was an invaluable experience where they got to work hands on in many aspects of farming life, including caring for animals, cleaning enclosures, and digging up ground for the chickens to explore in. The pupils had a great time and all worked incredibly hard during their time on the farm – some said they had an 'egg-celent' experience! Well done to all pupils involved.



## Key Stage 5 Pupils Visit Syon Manor

As part of our dedication to providing high quality, informative transition education to our pupils, on the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026, we took a small group of Key Stage 5 pupils to Syon Manor for a tour, an information talk and discussions with members of staff. The pupils who attended thoroughly enjoyed the experience of looking around somewhere new! They asked lots of useful questions, explored classroom spaces and considered their next steps. At Hillingdon Manor, we believe wholeheartedly that pupils' transition to a new setting should be smooth and enjoyable, and visits such as these ensure that happens. Thank you to the staff who organised and accomplished pupils on the trip. More trips coming soon – Watch this space!



# HMS News and Updates



## HMS Get Set For Milan Winter Olympics!

As part of the build up the 2026 Winter Olympics in Milan, HMS will be taking part in 'Get Set for Milan'. This is Team GB and Paralympics GB's official Milano Cortina 2026 activity programme for schools, families, and local communities. It is designed to help children and their families get active together, try new things, and most importantly, have fun! It is all about team spirit and building a habit of physical activity. As a school, we will be including all physical activities we take part in including PE lessons, Dance lessons, Horticulture lessons, and lunch/break! There are a variety of different 'reward badges' available to collect as a school, and we aiming for the very top – Gold Snowboard Badge which requires 100 physical activities to unlock! Watch this space to see if we meet our goal Go Team GB!



## 3C Out in the Community

On Thursday 29th January, 3C went out in the community for a brilliant trip around the local area, learning about road safety, how to pay for items in a shop, and taking public transport. The class went to the library to look at some books, and went to Sainsbury's to buy some items. It was an excellent experience for the whole class, who enjoyed learning about being out in the community. Well done 3C!



## Step Into Spring at HMS

We are thrilled to share that Hillingdon Manor will be taking part in 'Step into Spring' this March. 'Step into Spring' is an initiative run by Cancer Support UK, where they encourage walking every day in March to raise awareness and funds to support people impacted by cancer. Pupil Voice will oversee the initiative – it is a great opportunity for us to get outside, reconnect with nature and discover the beauty of Spring on our doorstep. We will share more information with you soon – watch this space!



# HMS News and Updates



## HMS Introduce 'Meet The Team'

Hopefully lots of you will have seen our new weekly 'Meet The Team' feature, which is shared with our community on Class Dojo and through our website. It has been great to introduce a member of the Hillingdon Manor School to our community each week – and they have loved sharing their stories with you! Please keep an eye out for future introductions to our team!



## HMS Pupils Attend SEND Careers Fair

On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February, a group of Key Stage 5 pupils attended a SEND Careers Fair to explore future opportunities and next steps. Some of the organisations who attended included: University of West London, Colas Rail Group, Green Corridor, Hewens College, the NHS and Shaw Trust Supported Internships. It was a fantastic day and pupils enjoyed speaking to a range of attendees. Thank you to Marcel and Mitzi for organising this important trip!



## Safer Internet Day 2026

On Tuesday 10th February 2026, we recognised Safer Internet Day 2026! Pupils took part in a variety of activities in their PSHE lessons, including discussions about how to stay safe online. Pupils also completed worksheets relating to online safety - focusing on the internet on computers, tablets and smart phones. It was an interesting and engaging day for pupils, who shared that they felt more confident about how to stay safe online.



## HMS Recognise Children's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week 2026 took place from February 9-15, focusing on the theme of "This is My Place" to promote belonging and wellbeing for children and young people. At Hillingdon Manor School, pupils took part in a range of activities, including discussions about how they look after their own mental health such as going for a walk, colouring, boxing, playing games, listening to music, and talking to friends and family. Pupils also created their own Happy Place Flower – linking to the theme of Children's Mental Health Week 2026!



# HMS Clinical Team Update



It's been a busy and brilliant half term it's been for the Clinical Team! We're so proud of all the amazing work that's been happening across individual and group sessions — and the smiles, teamwork and progress we've seen along the way. This half term, pupils have taken part in a wide range of sessions designed to support communication, independence and wellbeing. These have included work on AAC, fine motor skills, and becoming curious communicators, as well as lots of hands-on fun in Construction Club. We've also been busy with gross motor sessions, regulation work, and groups focusing on relationships and friendships, self-care, following instructions, and creating stories. Check out the photos below for a snapshot of all the great learning going on!



We've also loved running our lunchtime Girls' groups and Boys' groups, giving pupils a relaxed space to build social skills, confidence and friendships in a fun and supportive environment.

You may have noticed our weekly Dojo posts highlighting our Core Words of the Week — these are a great way to support communication at home too, so keep an eye out for them!

Looking ahead, we're excited to be joining the upcoming parent coffee mornings, where we'll be offering small training sessions and informal drop-ins. It'll be a great chance to chat, ask questions and share ideas — more information coming soon!

Thank you, as always, for your support. We're so proud of everything our pupils have achieved this half term and can't wait for what's next!



# Reminders & Dates



## HMS PARENT COFFEE MORNINGS



**COMING SOON**

SEE DOJO AND SCHOOL COMMS FOR  
FURTHER INFORMATION

## Dates for your Diary

### February 2026

23<sup>rd</sup> – All pupils back to school

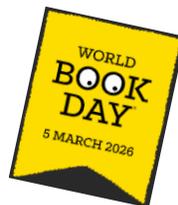
- WELCOME -  
BACK TO SCHOOL

27<sup>th</sup> – Stand Up To Bullying Day

INTERNATIONAL  
STAND UP TO  
BULLYING DAY

### March 2026

2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> – World Book Week 2026



5<sup>th</sup> – World Book Day 2026

19<sup>th</sup> – Red Nose Day 2026



20<sup>th</sup> – Pupil Progress Day



26<sup>th</sup> – End of Term (1pm finish)



## Reading



As reading is so important to our learners, a polite reminder about the below site – Read Any Book. It has a wide range of books from different genres that you can access and read on a computer, smart phone or tablet computer. The site has books for all ages that are free to read online or very cheap to download.

[Online Reading Books for Free - ReadAnyBook](#)

Pupils can also borrow books from school, or your local library to where you live. Reading is a lifelong skill, and we encourage our pupils to read as often as possible!



HAPPY HALF-TERM!