

## A Message From The Headteacher, Grace Mullally



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the Easter school holiday, I am exceptionally proud of the work we have completed at Hillingdon Manor School during Spring Term 2. Although it was a very short half term (under 5 weeks), it has been busy, purposeful and most certainly fun! Looking through this newsletter fills me with pride – of our pupils, our staff and our community. I continue to be in awe of the wonderful school community we have here at Hillingdon Manor.

This term we have been super busy with activities and events across the school. We celebrated World Book Week/Day, with door decorations, writing stories and dressing up as our favourite book characters – we had lots of fun too! We also acknowledged British Science Week with lots of activities both inside and outside of the classroom, where pupils discovered why Science is so important. We also had Red Nose Day, where we raised money for a very important cause, through a bake sale and wearing our own clothes. Events such as these are essential to teach our pupils about giving back to their community.

This half term we also had Eid celebrations in classes through lots of activities – teaching our pupils about the diverse community in which we live. It was fantastic to see all pupils and staff celebrating Eid alongside the Muslim members of our school. We have also celebrated Easter through various in class events, discovering more about why we eat chocolate eggs and the ‘Story of Easter’. Everyone enjoyed the learning opportunities in relation to faith, culture and diversity.

Pupil Progress Day was a success and gave us an opportunity to discuss the progress pupils have made since September. We have also held parent coffee mornings, where we welcomed parents and carers into our school for an informal morning of tea, coffee, cake and discussion about school related topics. It is always a pleasure to welcome parents and carers into our school, and we look forward to seeing more of you at future events.

Finally, the Spring Market Day was a real success, and allowed pupils across the school to arrange stalls for a wonderful day of selling, entertainment and community. We thank parents and carers for attending this event and sharing in the joy with our pupils, who thoroughly enjoy our Market Day events and are a highlight of each term.

I wish you a restful and enjoyable Easter holiday, spending time with loved ones, family and friends. We very much look forward to welcoming pupils back to school on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April, for a super Summer term ahead!



# Feature - British Science Week & World Book Week



We celebrated two weeks of British Science Week, from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2026. The two weeks involved a range of Science related activities in classrooms and across the school. Pupils made their own fragrances using natural items, took part in a Science workshop with a visiting Scientist, planted some flowers and herbs, engaged with sensory activities and some pupils even visited the Science Museum in London. All classes took part in the live Science lesson, delivered by the National Farmers Union, learning about farming, food production and the important role farmers play in providing the food we eat – as well as the Science behind it! Pupils learned about the importance of Science, the fact it is all around us, and why Science is so important to society today. A huge thanks goes to our STEM Lead, Elena, who oversaw and arranged all of the activities over the two weeks. We all had a brilliant time! We think there are some budding Scientists here at HMS!

At Hillingdon Manor School, we believe a rich and varied curriculum is essential to inspire our pupils.



During week commencing 2<sup>nd</sup> March, we celebrated World Book Week at Hillingdon Manor School. The week included pupils designing their own book tokens, using their favourite book or character, classroom doors being decorated in the theme of different books, pupils taking part in the BBC World Book Day Live Lesson, The 100 Storywriting competition overseen by OFG, and pupils and staff dressing up for World Book Day in their favourite characters. We had Harry Potter, Ash from Pokémon, Dorothy from Wizard of Oz, astronauts, The Mad Hatter, Willy Wonka, footballers, and more! Everyone had an amazing week, and thank you to Sara G, our English Lead, for overseeing a wonderful week of BOOKS!



# HMS News and Updates



## Red Nose Day 2026



On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March, we celebrated Red Nose Day at Hillingdon Manor School. Pupils and staff were able to wear their own clothes and encouraged to 'Wear it Red' in support of an important cause. We also held a cake sale, baked by our wonderful Food Tech Team, which was a real success. Overall, we raised nearly £150 for the Comic Relief. Throughout the day we also sold red noses and gave pupils the opportunity to design their own red noses – and some of the designs were spectacular! Everyone across the school had a great day and enjoyed raising funds for a fantastic charity – and everyone also met Mr Bear with his big red nose.

Well done to everyone who donated and got involved with the day and thank you to Toni S and Clair F for organising the day! We had an amazing day!



## Spring Market Day 2026

Today, Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March we held our annual Spring Market Day Celebrations at Hillingdon Manor. The day was a great opportunity for classes to design their own stalls, selling a range of items to our community. We really enjoyed the music and performances throughout the event and loved welcoming parents and carers into school to join in the Market Day – thank you if you were able to attend! Pupils sold a range of items, including chocolate eggs and hampers. Everyone had a wonderful day, and we very much

look forward to our Summer Market Day next term. These events are always a highlight for our school community! Happy Easter, everyone!



# HMS News and Updates



## Eid Mubarak Celebrations

On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March, we celebrated Eid across our school community. With Eid taking place on Pupil Progress Day on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March, we decided to celebrate as a school community a little bit earlier. Pupils learned about the importance of Eid to Muslims across the world. Pupils also took part in creative activities such as making greeting cards, crescent moon paper plates, and Eid themed suncatchers. Pupils enjoyed learning more about this wonderful religious festival and using their creativity to make something they could display in the classroom or take home to share with parents and carers. We hope everyone had a great day celebrating Eid!



## Mei Takes On The London Marathon 2026

As we mentioned in the Spring 1 edition of the newsletter, Mei is taking on the London Marathon on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April, where she will run the full 26.2 miles across London, in support of Mencap. Mei has continued her rigorous training schedule, ensuring she is prepared for the day. At Hillingdon Manor School, we are very proud of Mei – and doing it all for an amazing cause! Thank you to those of you who have donated so far. If you wish to donate, you can do so here: [Mencap: Mencap London Marathon 2026](#).

We will write in the next newsletter once Mei has completed the Marathon! Good luck Mei!

## Step Into Spring at HMS

This month, we took on Step into March for Cancer Support UK. Cancer Support uses the initiative to raise awareness and funds to support people impacted by cancer. Pupil Voice set us all a mission to walk everyday in March, and take as many steps as we could. We are thrilled to share that as a school we walked nearly 200,000 steps across the month of March. We also helped to raise funds for the charity! The improved weather really helped with getting outside more, taking in the fresh air and enjoying the great outdoors! Well done Pupil Voice, and well done to everyone for getting involved!



# RUN



# HMS News and Updates



## Hillingdon Mobile Library Visits The Courtyard



In February, the Hillingdon Mobile Library visited The Courtyard and pupils enjoyed looking at and reading some books from a wide range of genres and authors. Pupils spent time looking through the books, reading, and choosing some books to borrow to read both at school, and at home.

Pupils very much enjoyed the opportunity, and the library will be coming back to visit very soon. We truly believe all of our pupils should love reading, and this is one

of the ways we support them.

We love books!



## Pupil Voice Meet SLT To Present Their Ideas

On Monday 23rd February, members of the Pupil Voice Group met with two of our Deputy Headteachers, Dawid and Claire, to share their ideas for School Improvement. The pupils, Noah and Arius, presented their ideas in a clear and meaningful way. Ideas include further expansion of the Adventure Playground and recruiting a Therapy / Wellbeing Dog. The ideas were well received by SLT who will discuss with the wider team about finance and other logistics, before feeding back to Pupil Voice about next steps and future plans. Well done to Pupil Voice for sharing their ideas, and to Noah and Arius for representing the group excellently!



## International Stand Up To Bullying Day 2026

On Friday 27th February, Hillingdon Manor pupils and staff recognised International Stand Up To Bullying Day 2026. The day was all about promoting kindness, stopping bullying and sharing ideas about how we can make sure Hillingdon Manor is a bully-free school!

Pupils engaged brilliantly with the day, from writing poems and short stories, to creating performances and collaborative displays for around the school.

We had a fantastic day and are very proud of our pupils for approaching the day with such maturity, showing kindness throughout all tasks. Well done Team HMS!



# HMS News and Updates



## Parent Coffee Mornings

Pupil Voice held their first parent/carer coffee morning on Friday 27th February 2026. The group served up tea, coffee, and cakes for the parents and carers who attended the event. The focus of this coffee morning was the importance of pupil attendance to school, with our Deputy Headteacher, Claire Stapleton, sharing updates with parents and carers. The event also raised money for a cancer charity, as we embark on our Step into Spring Challenge, raising funds for a very important cause.

Pupil Voice were excellent role models during the event, and parents and carers commented on their maturity, respect and kindness!



## Pupil Progress Day - Spring Term

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March, we held our Spring Pupil Progress Day, where we invited parents and carers into school to meet with the class team, to review progress during the Spring Term. It was a wonderful opportunity to share all of the positive highlights with parents and carers, and celebrate individual achievements! Thank you to all parents and carers who were able to attend – if you were celebrating Eid, please remember to contact your Class Team to arrange a separate meeting.



## Cancer Support UK Visits HMS

In preparation for the launch of Step into Spring at Hillingdon Manor at the end of February, the team at Cancer Support UK visited the school to deliver an assembly to all pupils. Pupils learned about why Step into Spring is a great platform for raising awareness of cancer support, and an opportunity to raise important funds whilst being outdoors and enjoy some fresh air.

Pupils also had the opportunity to meet Cancer Support UK's Cuddles The Bear - their mascot - who led them on their first walk around the playground. We are very excited to Step into March and get our steps up!



# HMS News and Updates



## Pupil Voice Launch Newsletter

We are thrilled to share with our community that our amazing Pupil Voice Group have launched their very own newsletter – created and edited by them, to be shared with you! Our Pupil Voice Group do some incredible work across the school, supporting charities, organising events, and meeting with the Leadership Team to share ideas for change and School Improvement.

When the group asked if they could have their own newsletter, we thought it was a great idea! In our first edition, shared at the beginning of March, the group introduced Noah, Arius and Clem, and shared updates on the work being carried out by Pupil Voice. A huge well done to them all!

### PUPIL VOICE NEWS



## Brilliant Book Tokens

Pupils at Hillingdon Manor School took part in the National Book Token competition, by designing and submitting their own ideas for the token next year! Pupils were thrilled to use their creativity, choosing their favourite characters and stories, and have their fingers crossed that one will be chosen for the winning design.



## National Careers Week 2026

From Monday 2nd – Friday 6th March, we celebrated National Careers Week at Hillingdon Manor School. The week included in class activities, visiting speakers, careers interviews / advice, and learning about different careers. The week culminated in an opportunity for staff and pupils to dress up as their dream careers. We had chefs, police, other emergency services, business people and a pop star!

Everyone had a great week and explored lots of different careers. Thank you to Marcel and Mitzi for organising a fantastic week!



# HMS News and Updates



## Door Decorations

During World Book Week, classes across the school decorated their doors in the theme of their favourite books! We held a vote for our favourite designs, and the winners have been announced - 3B (Goldilocks & The Three Bears), 3I (Harry Potter) and 4H (Pattan's Pumpkin). All three classes will receive a Waterstones voucher, which they can use to purchase some new books for their reading corners in their classes.



## Peace Banner for Kids of Guernica

Pupils at Hillingdon Manor School are creating a real piece of history - an enormous Peace Banner for Kids of Guernica, an international children's art project focused on sharing the values of peace across the world. We are thrilled to share that Hillingdon Manor have been asked to create a new Peace Banner for Britain - the only one being created here in the UK for the project, this year. When it is completed, it will be hung next to the banner from Hiroshima at the WWI art event in London. This is the first time in Europe that autistic pupils have taken on this huge but very important task. The banner that we have created will then fly off to be shown in Argentina at a peace conference and will become part of the Peace Banners Collection forever! Thank you to Colin for securing this amazing opportunity for our pupils!



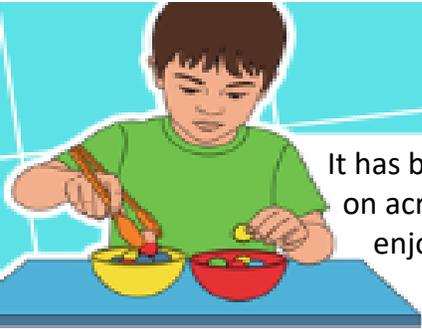
## Easter Activities

On Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March, pupils took part in a range of Easter related activities in their classes to celebrate all things Easter! Activities included literacy and comprehension, spot the difference, designing their own Easter eggs and Easter bunnies, and using their artistic skills to make homemade cards and decorations that they could take home to share with their families.

Pupils also learned about the importance of Easter within Christianity and why Easter is celebrated by Christians and Catholics all around the world. Pupils engaged really positively with 'The Story of Easter' with some classes even bringing the story to life in the form of a performance. Everyone had a great time!



# HMS Clinical Team Update



It has been a wonderful and busy spring term, with so much going on across the school. The Clinical Team have thoroughly enjoyed being part of all the learning, growth and progress we have seen over the past few months. Throughout the term, we have been delivering a wide range of interventions and support to meet the diverse needs of our students. This has included sessions focused on creating and telling stories, developing the ability to follow instructions, exploring different ways to communicate, as well as completing handwriting assessments and running sensory circuits. Our OT students carried out sensory environment audits, helping us to identify ways we can adapt classrooms and shared spaces to make them more supportive and accessible for all learners.

We have continued to offer individual sessions, where we have introduced new strategies tailored to each student. One example is the use of the “Circles Relationships” visual, which supports students in understanding different types of relationships, as well as important concepts such as social interaction, boundaries and consent. Our boys’ and girls’ groups have remained a real highlight of the week and continue to be a great success, providing opportunities for students to build confidence, social skills and connections with their peers. Alongside our direct work with students, we have been focusing on supporting and upskilling staff. This has included in-class consultations, as well as sharing our “Core Words of the Week” to promote consistent communication strategies across the school. We have



Let's work on the WOW: **YOU!**

- Ways to Model 'YOU'
- Fun Activities to use 'YOU'
- Say it Out Loud!
- AAC
- Sign it!
- Try Saying.....
- YOU want?
- YOU do
- YOU stop
- YOU do not want
- Let's Practice 'YOU' Throughout the Day!

POP!

also worked closely with SLT and class teams through our weekly multidisciplinary meetings, ensuring a collaborative approach to supporting every student. In addition, we have attended annual reviews and were delighted to be part of our first coffee morning, which was a fantastic opportunity to connect with families in a more informal setting. Looking ahead to the summer term, we have lots of exciting plans. As well as continuing our sessions, we are hoping to attend more coffee mornings and will be running some short workshops for parents—so please keep an eye out for those. We are also launching our “Twilight Therapy Tips” for staff, where the Clinical Team will deliver weekly training sessions, sharing practical strategies and ideas to support learning and wellbeing across the school.

We hope you all have a restful and enjoyable Easter break, and we look forward to seeing everyone again for another exciting term ahead.



# Reminders & Dates



## HMS PARENT COFFEE MORNINGS



FRIDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2026 - 9:30-10:30AM

FRIDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2026 - 9:30-10:30AM

FRIDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2026 - 9:30-10:30AM



### Dates for your Diary

#### April 2026

13<sup>th</sup> – ALL PUPILS BACK TO SCHOOL



#### May 2026

4<sup>th</sup> – Early May Bank Holiday



11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> – Mental Health Awareness Week



21<sup>st</sup> – World Day for Cultural Diversity



25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> – Half Term



#### June

1<sup>st</sup> – Training Day (No School for Pupils)



2<sup>nd</sup> – ALL PUPILS BACK TO SCHOOL



### Pupil Attendance

As shared with you previously, and discussed during Pupil Progress Day, pupil attendance to school is essential for their development, progress and growth. Hillingdon Manor school believes that to facilitate teaching and learning, good attendance is essential. Pupils can not achieve their full potential if they do not regularly attend school. We understand that barriers to attendance are complex, and that some pupils find it harder than others to attend school; therefore, we will continue to prioritise cultivating a safe and supportive environment at school, as well as strong and trusting relationships with pupils and parents. Thank you for your support!

SCHOOL  
SUCCESS  
STARTS WITH  
ATTENDANCE

Happy  
EASTER