

A Message From The Headteacher, Grace Mullally



Dear Parents/Carers,

We have enjoyed a fantastic start to the new academic year at Hillingdon Manor School. It has been wonderful to see pupils and staff return with such enthusiasm, settling quickly into their new classes, routines and learning opportunities. The positive atmosphere across the school has been evident from day one, and we are incredibly proud of the excellent start everyone has made.

This term has already been filled with a range of exciting learning and personal development experiences. Pupils have shown great compassion and community spirit through our Jeans for Genes Day celebrations and our Kindness Assembly, while others have developed valuable life and employability skills through work experience opportunities both within and beyond the classroom. We have also been delighted to see pupils enjoying a range of enrichment activities, including memorable visits to Woburn Safari Park, where they were able to explore and learn about a variety of animals, as well as taking part in fun and engaging Halloween celebrations within their classes.

We have also been delighted to launch our new school lunch menus this September. It has been fantastic to receive such positive feedback from pupils and parents, and we are pleased that the wider variety of meals is proving so popular across the school.

Another highlight has been our Pupil Voice elections. Candidates demonstrated confidence and leadership by campaigning for their peers' support before taking part in a democratic vote involving both pupils and staff. We held a fantastic ceremony to welcome the new Pupil Voice team to their roles, and you can read more about this later in the newsletter. Pupil Voice will help to shape school life and ensure pupil voices continue to be heard.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support. We hope you enjoy reading about the many achievements, experiences and successes that have already made this such a positive start to the year. Have a fantastic half term, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on **Monday 2nd November** for another exciting half term filled with learning, celebration and new opportunities.

Feature - Pupil Voice Ceremony



We were delighted to celebrate the announcement of our newly elected Pupil Voice Team during a special ceremony held at Hillingdon Manor School on Thursday 1st October 2026. Following a successful election process, where candidates campaigned enthusiastically and both staff and pupils cast their votes, the newly elected representatives were officially revealed.

The event was hosted by Danny Beales, MP for Uxbridge and South Ruislip, and attended by Richard Power, UK CEO of Outcomes First Group, Ciaran Walsh, Regional Director, and Grace Mullally, Headteacher. Guests highlighted the importance of pupil voice, leadership, and ensuring that young people have meaningful opportunities to influence and shape their school community.

We would like to congratulate all pupils who took part in the election process. Their willingness to put themselves forward and represent the views of others demonstrates confidence, responsibility, and a commitment to making a positive difference within our school. We look forward to seeing the positive impact that our new Pupil Voice Group will have throughout the year.

Our new Pupil Voice Group are:

1. Billy K (3C)
2. Jaden M (3I)
3. Junior M (3E)
4. Stanley M (3H)
5. Leah B (3L)
6. Ricardo S (3H)
7. Myleigh L (3O)
8. Isabella Y-W (3O)
9. Mary-Kate O (4F)
10. Emily E (5D)
11. Callum S (5B)
12. Affan A (5B)



HMS News and Updates



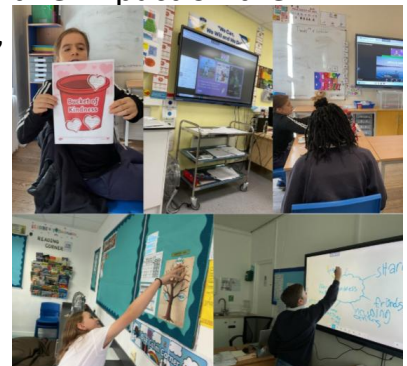
Jeans for Genes Day 2026

We are proud to have supported Jeans for Genes Day on Friday 18th September, helping to raise awareness and vital funds for children and families affected by genetic conditions. By taking part in this important event, our school community has come together to demonstrate the values of kindness, inclusion, and helping others. Staff and pupils embraced the day with enthusiasm, showing how even small acts of support can make a meaningful difference to the lives of those facing daily challenges. Events such as these provide a valuable opportunity to learn about the experiences of others, celebrate diversity, and reinforce the importance of empathy and compassion within our school community. Thank you to everyone who took part, donated, and supported the day. A special thank you goes to Toni S for organising the event and helping to make it such a successful and meaningful occasion.



Kindness Assembly

On Friday 18th September, pupils took part in a special Kindness Assembly, exploring how even the smallest acts of kindness can have a positive impact on the people around us. Through thoughtful discussion and reflection, pupils considered a range of ways they can show compassion, respect, understanding and empathy in their daily interactions, both within school and beyond. Following the assembly, many classes continued the theme through activities and conversations that encouraged pupils to think about the importance of treating others with kindness and consideration. These valuable experiences helped reinforce the role that every individual plays in creating a welcoming, inclusive and supportive school community where everyone feels valued and respected. A huge thank you to Claire S for overseeing and supporting this important initiative.



HMS News and Updates



New School Menus A Huge Success!

This September, Hillingdon Manor School was delighted to launch an exciting new menu for all pupils, alongside the introduction of free school meals for every pupil. The refreshed menu offers a wider variety of nutritious and delicious options, including favourites such as Chicken Jollof Rice, Fish and Chips, Lamb and Vegetable Stew, Meatballs and Pasta, and traditional Roast Dinners. The response from pupils has been overwhelmingly positive, with the new meals proving incredibly popular across the school. Lunchtimes have been filled with excitement as pupils enjoy trying new dishes and sharing their favourites with friends. We are thrilled that the new menu has gone down such a storm and are proud to be providing high-quality meals that support both wellbeing and learning throughout the school day.



Key Stage 4 Work Experience for DoFE

During September, a group of Key Stage 4 pupils took on the responsibility of supporting improvements to the staff room as part of their work experience for the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Working together as a team, they helped to unbox and organise newly delivered furniture, clear and prepare the area, and carefully assemble a range of items ready for use by staff. Throughout the project, pupils demonstrated excellent teamwork, communication and problem-solving skills, showing great determination and resilience when faced with practical challenges. They worked safely and responsibly, taking pride in their tasks and contributing positively to the school community. The experience provided valuable opportunities to develop employability skills, build confidence and gain hands-on experience of a real workplace environment. We are incredibly proud of their hard work, positive attitude and the professionalism they showed throughout the project.



Democracy in Action: Pupil Voice Vote

On Thursday 24th and Friday 25th September, pupils at Hillingdon Manor School took part in a democratic vote to select their new Pupil Voice representatives. Candidates campaigned for support by sharing their ideas and explaining how they would represent their peers, before pupils and staff cast their votes.

This exciting process gave everyone the opportunity to have their say and demonstrated the British Value of Democracy in action.

Thank you to all candidates for their enthusiasm and courage in putting themselves forward. We announced our new Pupil Voice Group in a very special ceremony which is our Featured article!

Well done to everyone who took part!



Work Experience With Heathrow Farm

Our Key Stage 5 pupils recently enjoyed a fantastic work experience visit to Heathrow Farm on a bright and sunny day. During the visit, pupils got hands-on experience caring for a variety of animals, including cleaning out enclosures, looking after livestock, and learning about the daily care animals need to stay healthy, safe and happy.

The visit provided valuable opportunities to develop independence, responsibility and practical workplace skills in a real-world setting. We are delighted that this is the start of an ongoing initiative, giving our pupils access to meaningful work-related experiences that help prepare them for future education, employment and independent living. Well done to all involved!



HMS News and Updates



Mental Health Awareness Day

To mark World Mental Health Day 2026, pupils across Hillingdon Manor School took part in a range of engaging wellbeing activities designed to promote positive mental health, self-reflection and connection with others. The day began with a calming morning meditation, followed by opportunities to enjoy the sensory circuit in the hall and large playground throughout the day. In the afternoon, pupils contributed to a special Wellbeing Tree, identifying their strengths, positive qualities and affirmations, helping to celebrate what makes each individual unique. The day ended with calming music and a relaxing atmosphere to encourage reflection and wellbeing. The activities provided valuable opportunities for pupils to develop self-awareness, celebrate their strengths, and learn positive strategies to support their mental health and wellbeing.



Stunning Autumnal Views Over HMS

What a way to start the week! On the morning of Monday 12th October, staff and pupils arriving at Hillingdon Manor School were greeted by a stunning rainbow arching across the sky above the school site. As autumn settles in and winter approaches, the changing colours, cooler mornings, and beautiful seasonal skies provide a daily reminder of the natural beauty that surrounds our school community.

Isn't this picture beautiful
– Mick Precht, Forest
School Lead took it
and shared it with us!



HMS News and Updates



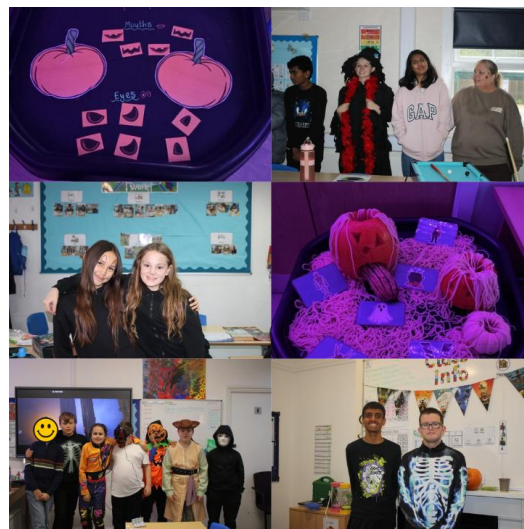
HMS Go On Safari

Over a week in October, a large number of pupils have enjoyed unforgettable visits to Woburn Safari Park. The trips provided a fantastic opportunity for pupils to see an incredible variety of animals up close, creating lasting memories and plenty of excitement along the way. Beyond the safari experience itself, pupils also took part in a range of engaging learning and sensory activities, allowing them to explore, discover and interact with the environment in meaningful ways. These activities encouraged curiosity, supported personal development and provided valuable opportunities for social interaction and communication. A huge thank you to Elaine for coordinating these wonderful experiences. The smiles, enthusiasm and stories shared by pupils on their return were a true reflection of what a special and enriching opportunity the visits provided.



Halloween Celebrations

Pupils and staff enjoyed a fantastic Halloween celebration on Friday 23rd October, with classrooms transformed through a range of creative, sensory-friendly activities. Throughout the day, pupils took part in arts and crafts, games, sensory exploration and themed challenges, all carefully adapted to meet the needs of each class and ensure everyone could participate in a way that worked best for them. The event also featured a Halloween Costume Competition and a Halloween Tuff Tray Competition, showcasing the creativity, imagination and teamwork of pupils and staff across the school. A particular highlight was the Halloween Party, which was planned and organised by our Pupil Voice representatives. Their hard work, organisation and enthusiasm helped create a fun and memorable celebration for everyone involved. It was wonderful to see pupils enjoying the festivities, spending time with friends and creating lasting memories as part of a truly inclusive whole-school event.



Out in the Community



3O went to Thames Valley Adventure Playground and had lots of fun!



3K went to the park to play on the equipment. They travelled there by foot!

4E went to Café Delight to order some lunch, and also went to Colham Recreation Ground and Tesco to practise making purchases!



3L went to Lidl to buy some items and pay for them independently at the tills. They also had to find certain items in the aisles too!

5B went to the local park, to play on some equipment and enjoy the sunshine. They had an absolute ball!



3H travelled by bus to Lombardy in Hayes, to enjoy some lunch and a sweet treat in Costa. Everyone had a brilliant time!

4C went to a local café for lunch. They practised ordering their food and making payments. Everyone had a great time – and very much enjoyed their lunch!



HMS Clinical Team Update



It has been a busy and exciting first half of the autumn term for the Clinical Team! We have been working hard to get our individual and group therapy sessions up and running, supporting students across a range of areas through our Occupational Therapy (OT), Speech and Language Therapy (SaLT), and Psychology/Psychotherapy services.



Over the summer holidays, we carried out lots of important preparation to ensure our students and class teams have the resources and environments they need to thrive. This included developing generic visual support packs, setting up a model classroom to reflect an ideal learning environment, and auditing our class communication iPads and OT equipment. We have been working hard to organise, update and provide these resources to class teams and students to support communication, independence, sensory regulation and engagement in learning.

Our lunchtime Boys' and Girls' Groups have also resumed, providing valuable opportunities for students to connect with others, develop relationships and build social skills in a supportive environment. To keep clinical strategies and advice accessible to everyone, we have continued sharing our weekly Therapy Top Tips, Core Word of the Week and Healthy Mind Platter tips through our in-house bulletin. These provide practical ideas and strategies to support communication, wellbeing and development across the school.

The Clinical Team was also involved in planning activities for Mental Health Awareness Day, encouraging students to explore and celebrate their wellbeing. Activities included meditation sessions, a wellbeing walk, sensory circuits, and creating our very own Wellbeing Tree. Students were invited to write a personal strength or something they liked about themselves on a leaf, helping us celebrate the unique qualities that make each of us special.

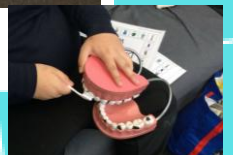


Looking Ahead to the second half of Autumn Term we are excited about what lies ahead! Our Clinical Team will be expanding, with new Occupational Therapists and a Therapy Assistant joining us. This will help us continue to develop our provision and support our students' individual needs.

We look forward to continuing our therapy sessions and finding even more ways to engage with students, families and class teams. Keep an eye out for our upcoming clinical drop-ins, workshops and further opportunities to share ideas, learn practical strategies and work together to support our students to thrive.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to another positive and productive half term!

Ciara Quinn & The Clinical Team



Reminders & Dates



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



- **Monday 2nd November – ALL PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL**
- **Thursday 10th December – Christmas Market Day 13:00-14:30**
- **Thursday 10th December – Christmas Jumper Day 2026**
- **Wednesday 16th December – Christmas Dinner Day**
- **Friday 18th December – End of Term: 1pm finish for all pupils**
- **Monday 4th January – INSET DAY: NO PUPILS IN SCHOOL**
- **Tuesday 5th January – ALL PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL**

October Half Term: Free or Low-Cost Activities

- Pack a picnic! Save money on meals out by bringing your own yummy snacks and lunch and heading to a local park.
- Explore local parks and playgrounds: Many parks have fantastic facilities that are completely free to use. Simply type into Google 'Local parks to me' and allow location settings to see your local beauty spots!
- Visit free museums and galleries: The UK has an abundance of incredible museums with free entry, offering hours of educational fun.
- Nature walks and scavenger hunts: Head out into the woods or a local nature reserve for a free adventure. Create a list of things to find, like different coloured leaves or types of berries!
- Crafts at home: Get creative with autumn-themed crafts using leaves, conkers, and other natural materials collected during your outdoor explorations.
- Baking: Spend an afternoon baking some delicious Halloween treats together. It's fun, creative, and you get to eat the results!



**Happy Half
Term!**



**HAPPY
HALLOWEEN**