

# HM& Newsletter

Term: Summer 2

## Message From Head of School



Dear Parents/Carers

I will start my final newsletter contribution for this academic year, by extending my sincere gratitude to every one of you. I am so grateful for all your support to me and the team at Hillingdon Manor School, to drive forward with the progress and development that we have achieved since I re-joined the school in January of this year. Furthermore, I appreciate that at times, this was testing for you as parents/carers at home. Especially where it involved working collaboratively with us to introduce new processes and raise behaviour expectations, to reduce the impact that mobile phones have on education and school experiences. Consistency is key for all young people, but particularly for pupils with ASD. Together, we will continue to be fair but firm with our boundaries of school rules, to ensure school can be a safe and happy environment for all pupils to access their learning.

When I reflect on all the events we have seen over the second half of the Summer term, it is quite unbelievable that we have managed to fit it all in! A huge well done to our staff team for working together to make this possible. We held two focus events, the first being Sports Week, including Sports Day, which was a huge success. We are pleased to confirm we have already secured our booking for the stadium next year to avoid missing out. The second focus week was Cultural Diversity, which took place last week. This also included our final Market Day for the academic year, branded the 'Green Festival.' Extra special activities were arranged for this day to celebrate the success of these whole school community events! Thank you to everyone who made the effort to join us at Sports Day and the Green Festival, I recognise how difficult it can be to take time off from work/personal commitments to join us, so please know, it is very much appreciated. Particularly where it allows our pupils the opportunity to practice real life customer service experiences to support their readiness for employability routes in the future. We also celebrated multiple groups of our KS4/5 pupils taking part in their residential Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions, all of which would not have been possible without the endurance of Mick and Luke, who walked hundreds of miles no doubt over the course of a few weeks to make sure each group were given their opportunity to partake! Finally, we held a KS3 late evening event called Starry, Starry Night and held a KS4 event in the form of a residential PGL trip. With the abroad trip to Paris for KS5 pupils taking place earlier in Spring term, we are delighted to say we have been able to offer every single pupil an opportunity to join a recreational activity with their peers outside of school hours. Thank you to all staff who supported us at all these events throughout this year, particularly where it involved arranging your own childcare to support our pupils to experience overnight residential trips.

# Message from Head of School continued

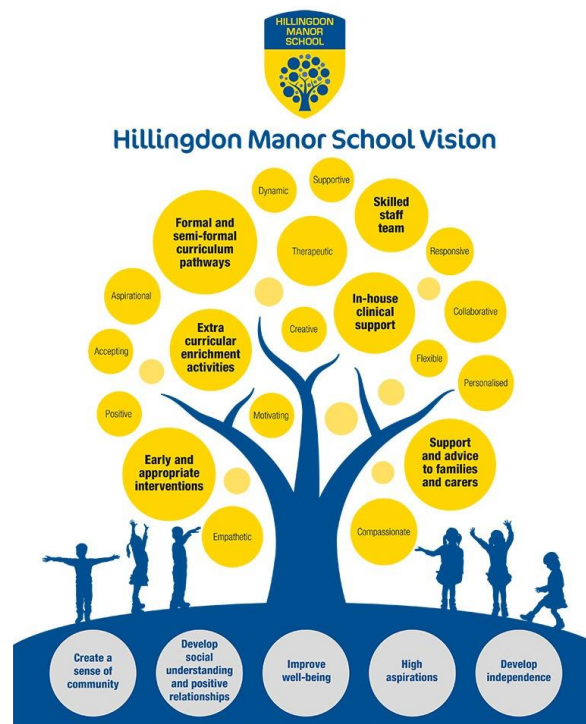
Finally, I am delighted to share with you that we have a new member of our Senior Leadership Team, joining the existing team in September. Claire Stapleton will become our third Assistant Head Teacher at the Secondary site. This will add further capacity to the Senior Leadership team, and Claire's experience in education and SENDCo will complement our curriculum development. Laura Nichol will remain as the assigned SENDCo, however with Claire also being trained in this area, alongside Brendon Mascarenhas undertaking his SENDCo qualification, I believe this will add great value to our leadership's expertise, where supporting and advising parents is considered. Laura will continue to directly oversee the SENDCo support and draw upon them to support where necessary. Claire has already started to get to know the staff team by joining our recent Staff Wellbeing Event in school. Additionally, she has kept in close contact with members of the leadership team as she has processed through her recruitment checks with us. Please look out for her in September and extend a warm welcome to her into our school community.

For those of you that are excitedly awaiting the formal GCSE exam results, please remember the school will be open from 9:00am-12:00pm on Thursday 22nd August 2024. Please join us for a few light refreshments when collecting your child's results with them. Please also remember Monday 2nd September and Tuesday 3rd September 2024 are INSET days for staff training. We look forward to welcoming our pupils back on Wednesday 4th September 2024 at 8.45am for a full school day.

On that note, I would like to wish you all a fantastic Summer break. Wherever and however, you plan to celebrate it, I hope it is enjoyable for you. To our pupil leavers, I know I have written to you all personally, but I would like to wish you the very best of luck for the future, we will miss you all greatly!

Best wishes

Grace



# Events at HMS this term



Thanks to our events team



Once again, the HMS events team have co-ordinated a term full of exciting events and celebrations; they have worked collaboratively with the wider school community and ensured every key stage had an opportunity to take part.

A massive thank-you to Madhu, Barrington and all the staff that have supported all of these events .



## Father's Day BBQ



This year to celebrate Father's Day, students were invited to bring their influential male role models to school. This special day was celebrated with good food, good music but most importantly good company.

Thank you to all that came and we cannot wait to see you all again next year!

## Focus weeks

### Sports week



This week started with the bang of the starter pistol, as we sprinted into sports day, over the rest of the week students took part in different activities that showcased a variety of sports. This included Boccia, dodgeball and rounders, but also with activities that keep us fit but might not traditionally be thought of as sport; such as Dance, Yoga and Sensory circuits.



### Cultural Diversity Week



As a school, we celebrated our cultural differences with both students and staff wearing traditional clothing, to demonstrate their heritage, everyone looked amazing. Later in the week classes took part in a Euro style football tournament and played cricket. The week ended with Passport Day where all classrooms became a different country and everyone expanded their world knowledge.



# Out and about and more events

## Starry ,Starry Night



Some of our key stage 3 students and our students who will join us in September from both of our primary sites, spent an extended day at school and shared in a fun experience.

Throughout the evening the pupils were able to enjoy a range of activities such as Galaxy slime making, bouncy castle, Magnet and Keychain making and so much more.

A huge thank you to all the parents for their continued support, to our wonderful staff who gave up their Friday night to join the fun and the many vendors, who delivered an excellent and dependable service.



## Duke of Edinburgh



Some of our Key stage 5 students, have embarked on the first stages of the D of E Award and took part in the Bronze Challenge. This involved a 25 mile walk across 2 days in the Peak District.

Students expanded on their communication and life skills as they set up tents, camped out and cooked on an open fire!

While The students who have advanced to the silver award expanded on this and walked 12 miles a day across 4 days. A massive congratulations to all who took part in this arduous journey and respectively passed their Bronze Award or their Silver Award. A special mention has to go to Mick and Luke P; who did this walk 3 times, to ensure all students were able to participate and pass this award.



# EVENTS

## PGL



Students in Key stage 4 had the opportunity to visit PGL in Liddington . All the students, showed a great strength of character and bravery. They pushed themselves beyond their comfort zones and gave all activities a go, this include but was not limited zip wiring, laser tag and rock climbing. Students demonstrated their independence and resilience. Well done to all who went!



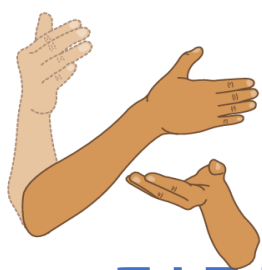
## Market day The Green Festival



As the term drew to an end, students in all key stages eagerly participated in our final market day of the year. Students exhibited all their strengths, through the production of many different items. Students demonstrated their Math, English and ICT skills to produce posters to advertise their items. The day was a great success with lots of yummy treats, singing and dancing and music supplied by Barrington.

As with all of these events, the success is also partly due to all of you who attend on the day. A huge Thank you, for your constant support and we look forward to seeing you at the next Market Day.





# Continuing on ...



## Dates for the Diary

September 2024

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> - Return to school 

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> - Jeans for genes day

October 2024

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> - Pupil Progress day

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> - Focus week-Recycling week

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> - Reward trip day

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> - Half Term

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> - Spooky afternoon

## Have a safe summer



**5 SUMMER Safety tips**

- 1 Be Sun Savvy**
  - Use a broad-spectrum sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15.
  - Wear a hat, sunglasses (with UV protection) and lightweight, light-colored clothing.
  - Seek shade under a tree, shelter or an umbrella.
  - Wear a protective sun shirt in the water.
- 2 Stay Safe in the Surf**
  - Only swim where lifeguards are positioned, and never take your eyes off of swimming children.
  - Check the conditions of the current before heading out.
  - If you find yourself in a rip current, swim parallel to the shore until you are out of it.
  - Look for jellyfish. If you are stung, go to a lifeguard for first aid.
  - If you hear thunder, stay off the beach for at least 30 minutes after the last thunder clap.
- 3 Be a Water Watcher**
  - Never take your eyes off of children in a pool or any body of water, even for a moment!
  - If you're in a group, appoint a designated "water watcher," taking turns with other adults.
  - Avoid distractions like your phone, books or magazines.
  - Use caution with water wings or other inflatable toys.
- 4 Don't Get Bugged**
  - Wear an insect repellent with at least 20% DEET.
  - Cover exposed skin with long-sleeved shirts, long pants and hats.
  - If you've been in the woods, check your kids, your pets and yourself for ticks.
  - Stay inside at dusk and dawn, the most active times for bugs.
  - Avoid places with standing water, which attracts mosquitoes.
- 5 Hot Car Reminder**
  - Never leave a child or a pet inside a parked car, even for a minute.
  - If you're not used to having a child in your car, put something you will need next to the car seat, such as a briefcase, purse or cell phone.
  - If you see a child alone in a car, call 911 immediately.



## Graduation 2024



As we wrap up our final term, we say good bye to our current Year 14 students. Many of our leavers have been with us for a long time and while this will be a time of great trepidation for our students, hopefully they will be able to embrace the next step of their journey and move smoothly on to this new chapter of their lives.

We wish our leavers, the best of luck as they move on and to all our students and families a safe and happy holiday; we look forward to seeing you in all in September.

