

# NEWSLETTER



**Friday 10th February**

I would like to express my thanks to the PTA and parents who joined us on Wednesday for the proposed Forest School meeting. We explored the potential of the forest school area and I think it is fair to say that many were shocked by the amount of land we have cleared ready for development.

I think the size of the pond, which was originally hidden from view, was the biggest surprise of all... Sadly, we cannot open this area up for children without community support as it is currently unsafe and requires green fingers and tender loving care. So if you would like to be part of this exciting project, then please do not hesitate to contact the info box or members of the PTA. Every little Helps :)

At Hurst Hill we work hard to promote good speaking and listening skills (Oracy). We believe that children should be taught how to communicate effectively; we also encourage exploratory learning through talk. We have been part of the Voice 21 Oracy project for the past 18 months and have been working hard to broaden 'every child's vocabulary'. We have therefore decided to launch a word of the week section on the newsletter. We would welcome your support in encouraging our children to use these words; to discuss the meaning and in what context they might be used. This week's word is **sustainability**—I feel this links perfectly with the 'Forest School' vision we are currently promoting.

I would like to say a huge well done to Sophie, Scarlett, George, Sofia, Olivia and William who represented Hurst Hill in the year 3 and 4 West Midlands Maths competition held at Priory Primary. They were superstars and we are very proud of their hard work and determination.

Does your child like to cook? Are they the next Tom Kerridge or Nadiya Hussain? Applications for Channel 4's Junior Bake off are now open. Further details can be found on page 3.

Next week is the final week before half term and we have lots going on! Year 2's INSPIRE session is on Tuesday; Year 4 are off to Thinktank for their Science trip on Wednesday and Year 3 will be visited by TimeZone on Thursday. This will be a wonderful way to end the half term and we thank parents for their continued support, as without your contributions, these experiences would not be able to go ahead.

Have a wonderful weekend  
Mrs Johnson  
Head of School

## Attendance

Attendance at school is **mandatory**. Whole school attendance should be **at least 96%**.

**The 100% winner this week was Thomas in year 5. The winning class was Mrs Jones/Mrs Walker's class.**

If your child is too ill to come to school then you should **contact the school office before 9.30am**, either by telephoning 01384 818845 (option 1) or using the absence reporting feature on ParentMail. Do not use our social media pages to report absences. Please remember that school can administer medication in certain circumstances.

## Safeguarding

We all have a **responsibility** for the welfare of our children. If something concerns you about the welfare of a child within school then please contact the class teacher in the first instance who will refer to the School's Designated Safeguarding Leads within school.

If you have concerns which are **not** school based you can: Call the children's services referral and advice service on **0300 555 0050** during office hours (9am - 5pm). Out of office hours contact the Emergency Duty Team on **0300 555 8574** or in an **emergency call 999**. Alternatively you can call ChildLine on **0800 1111** or email them by visiting [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

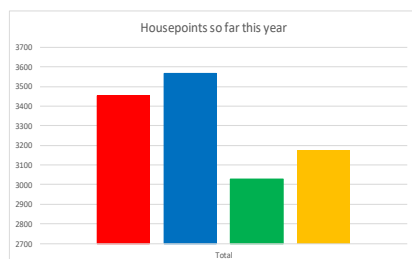
**HONESTY-POSITIVE ATTITUDE-RESPECT-RESILIENCE-CARING**

## HONESTY

We use house-points at Hurst Hill to reward pupils for following our school rules and values.

This week our house point totals are:  
Ruby– 276  
Diamond–242  
Emerald – 309  
Sapphire– 189

Well done to this week's winners– Emeralds



## DIARY DATES

**Tuesday 14th February**—2NF INSPIRE session

**Wednesday 15th February**– Year 4 trip to Thinktank

**Thursday 16th February** Year 3 TimeZone visit & PTA Valentine disco

**Friday 17th February** Last day of half term.

**Monday 27th February**—INSET day– school closed .

We return to school Tuesday 28th February

**Tuesday 28th February**– 3SW INSPIRE session and Reception Ophthalmology visit

**Wednesday 1st March**– Secondary admissions decision day

**Tuesday 7th March**– Year 1 INSPIRE session

**Tuesday 14th March**– Reception INSPIRE session

## CARING

This week we take a moment to reflect on the importance of supporting families who are suffering due to the recent earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.

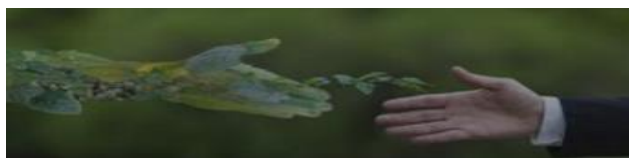
Our hearts and prayers go out to families who have lost loved ones. We continue to hope that the famous search and rescue dogs despatched by Turkey, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Libya, Poland, Switzerland, the UK and the United States will continue to rescue people who may be trapped beneath rubble.

## Word of the week Sustainability

**Sustainability** is the idea that humans must interact with the environment in a way that ensures there will be enough resources left for future generations.

There are now more than seven billion people on Earth. These billions of people use the planet's resources every day.

**How can you contribute towards sustainability?**



## RESPECT

**Star Pupils of the week** show our school values of honesty, positive attitude, resilience, respect and caring.

**Reception**– Daisie-Rae for caring for her class

**Year 1**– Ellie for resilience in PE

**Year 2**– Oscar for resilience in his English

**Year 3**– Marnie for positive attitude to writing

**Year 4**– Abdullah for resilience in writing

**Year 5**– Arjun for positive attitude in lessons

**Year 6MJ**– Alfie N for positive attitude in lessons

**Year 6JG**– Millie for resilience in Maths

## POSITIVE ATTITUDE

We have been trying really hard with our **reading on MyOn**.

**Below word count for each class for the week**

Year 2– 16,463	Year 3– 47,833
Year 4– 10,716	Year 5– 32,594
Year 6JG– 335	Year 6MJ– 92,753

This week's winning class is 6MJ for the most words read this week. They win a new book for their classroom!

## RESILIENCE

Our skill builders award winners this week are

Jack-Junior, Kaleb, Lily, Layla-Rose, Luke, Amelia, Roman & Autumn-Lea





# JUNIOR BAKE OFF



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AGED 9 - 12

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**APPLICATIONS CLOSE  
SUNDAY 12th MARCH 2023**

Enquiries:

[applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk](mailto:applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk)