

### Message from the Principal:

Welcome to our October newsletter. Once again, we have had an amazing half term! As you can see from this newsletter, we have managed to provide the children with lots of wonderful learning experiences, which they are always excited to tell me about. It is a real privilege to walk into classes and see their excited and enthusiastic faces with big, beaming smiles of enjoyment. As you can see, we have focused on ensuring that our children have had the opportunities to participate in a plethora of enrichment activities. Indeed, 95% of our children attend at least one after school club per week. We have had numerous visitors into the academy and lots of trips to many exciting places all linked to our very well-planned curriculum. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the parents/carers and children for their exceptional homework this half term on our new online platform and for some outstanding craft pieces. You are all so talented! It was also a pleasure to welcome many of the parents/carers into the academy for the Christmas card sessions with the children. The children, as always, have worked so hard and thoroughly deserve this half term's treat - the spooky wood and Halloween extravaganza! I look forward to the events planned next half term and I do have a BIG surprise for the children's Christmas treat! Finally, I wish all the Mill Hill staff, parents, carers and children a lovely half term break.

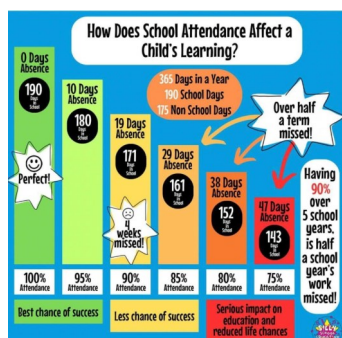


### Attendance

Each week, we celebrate the classes with the best attendance and they win a big breakfast on a Friday. Our current whole school attendance is 96.4%, which is brilliant as each week we are aiming for at least 96%. Attending school each day is vital to your child's education.

Just a reminder that children need to be in the academy

between  
8:30am and  
8:40am.  
Anyone arriv-  
ing after  
8:40am, are  
classed as  
late.



### Message from Vice Principal:

Wow, this half-term has flown by. It has been wonderful to see all the amazing learning and enrichment experiences that the children have been taking part in over the last half term. I would like to say a huge thank you to you for all your support with homework and reading at home. It really does make a difference. If your child is in Y1 or Y2 please look out for the cumulative quizzes in their homework books, so you can see how much they have been learning. We will be holding an Early Years open day on Tuesday 14th November 2023, so please feel free to contact the academy to make an appointment to come and have a look around if your child is going to be in Nursery or Reception in September 2024. We are also offering Rising 3 places for children from January 2024.



### Message from Assistant Principal:

Well this half term has gone by at the speed of light. There has been so much learning and enrichment activities happening over the last few weeks. Children are fully immersed in their learning and can talk about it well. When the units are complete, look out for the cumulative quizzes in your child's homework book to see how much they have learnt. We are looking forward to our behaviour for learning treat to end the half term and our next half term is just as busy. Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Please use Class Dojo to keep up to date with everything happening in the academy and if you have any queries, please get in touch.



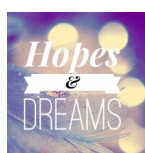
### Bags2School

We are collecting again for Bags2School. the collection date isn't until 6th December, but if you are thinking of having a clear out at half term, then pop your items in a black bag and drop them off at school when we return. Thank you as always for your continued support.

### Hopes, Dreams and Aspiration and Theme of the Week

Through our weekly assemblies, the children will focus on different themes and key celebrations. For the next few weeks, the themes are:

- Celebrating differences
- Remembrance Day
- Parliament Week
- Diwali
- Anti-Bullying
- Road Safety



### Important Dates

#### Monday 6th November

Academy open for all pupil

#### Wednesday 8th November

Tempest photographs

#### Thursday 9th November

Book fair delivered

#### Monday 13th November

Parents evening

#### Tuesday 14th November

Flu immunisations REC-Y6

#### Friday 17th November

Children in Need - SPOTacular

#### Friday 24th November

INSET day (closed to children)

#### Monday 27th November

INSET day (closed to children)

#### Thursday 30th November

EYFS Christmas performance

Christmas Fayre (3:00pm-4:30pm)

#### Friday 1st December

EY Christmas performance

### Our Curriculum

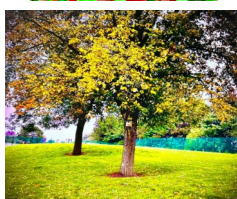
Current unit  
Next unit

Nursery	What is a family? What makes a hero special?
Reception	Are we nearly there yet?
Year 1	Season—Autumn <b>Why do sculptures sculpt?</b>
Year 2	How has technology changed over the last 50 years? <b>Fieldwork and Seasonal Changes</b>
Year 3	How can where you live impact you as an artist? <b>Design and Technology</b>
Year 4	What can pottery tell us about the past? <b>States of Matter</b>
Year 5	How realistic do portraits need to be? <b>Design and Technology</b>
Year 6	How can our school reduce its plastic waste? <b>Electricity</b>

### Photography Club

Using the theme of autumnal nature, the children in our photography club took and edited these incredible photos from around our school grounds.

Watch out David Bailey!



### The Stone Age Workshop

All year 3 children took an exciting trip to 'The Stone Age Company' to take part in a hands on workshop about the topic that the children are currently learning about in History, the Stone Age.

On the trip, the children discovered the events and developments that took place during this time period. They also had an opportunity to explore artefacts and partake in Stone Age tool shaping and shelter building.



### Bus Trip Around Tunstall

The year 1 children have been on a bus tour of Tunstall. They visited lots of different places such as Port Vale, Asda and Tunstall Park.

The children spotted lots of things on their checklist and had a lovely time learning about their local area.



### Year 6's Haywood Visit

The children were treated to breakfast when they arrived at the academy and took part in three taster sessions. These included Design and Technology (either cookery or woodwork), PE and History or Drama. The children had a great time, were an absolute credit to the school and did us proud. They were so engaged in the sessions and were so well behaved.

Thanks to Haywood Academy for inviting us to take part and well done to our incredible year 6's.



### Year 5 and 6 Football

Congratulations to the Y5 and Y6 boys and girls who competed in two different competitions this half term. The teams played extremely well and the boys even reached the quarter finals.



### Sunny the Duck

We had some surprise visitors waddle into our whole school assembly at the start of October.

We are proud to announce that we are the Character and Arts Foundation school of the year for our creation of 'Sunny the Duck'. We were presented with a plaque and all children went home with a variety of items including a duck keyring, a miniature duck, lollies and chocolates.



### Our Student Leadership Team



Senior Prefects

Take a look at our amazing student leadership team. How smart do they look!



Prefects

Throughout October, they have been allocated some important roles that they will complete weekly around the academy.



Ambassadors

Well done to all involved!

### Reception's Trip to the Fire Station

What an amazing trip our reception children had at Sandyford fire station! The children learnt lots about the fire engine and what they looked like in the past. They were so excited to sit in one. They also pretended to be a firefighter and had lots of fun squirting the hose.



### Cross Country Success

This month, we held the Cross Country for Stoke North competition. Six schools across the city including students from Mill Hill took part.

We would like to congratulate the following boys who came 1st: Moriba D, Paddy B, Kimarni L, Ryan H and Logan J. And also express a huge congratulations to our following girls who also came 2nd: Kyla M, Ellice N, Shania A, Momina K, Luciana D and Samah H.

