



23rd January 2026

HIPPS Newsletter



Headteacher update

What a fantastic week it has been in school! We all know the importance of children doing as well as possible in core subjects but we also know the importance of celebrating the wider curriculum. Over 90 children represented the school wonderfully at Young Voices earlier this week filling the O2 arena with their amazing singing and hopefully creating memories that they will keep long after they leave primary school.

I was lucky enough to accompany our Year 6 girls football team to the County finals today. Despite the weather they did a fantastic job. They lost their first game 4-0 to last years' champions Fordham before

narrowly losing 2-1 and then 3-2 to the eventual winners. They never gave up though and won their final match against Monkfield Park 1-0. I was so proud of them all. Special mention to Karina who was outstanding in goal and picked as player of the tournament.

Whilst walking around school yesterday I was also delighted to observe Year 1 doing some fantastic science learning. They had been testing what would be the best material to make an umbrella out of and decided that although tin foil is great as a waterproof material it wouldn't necessarily make a great umbrella!

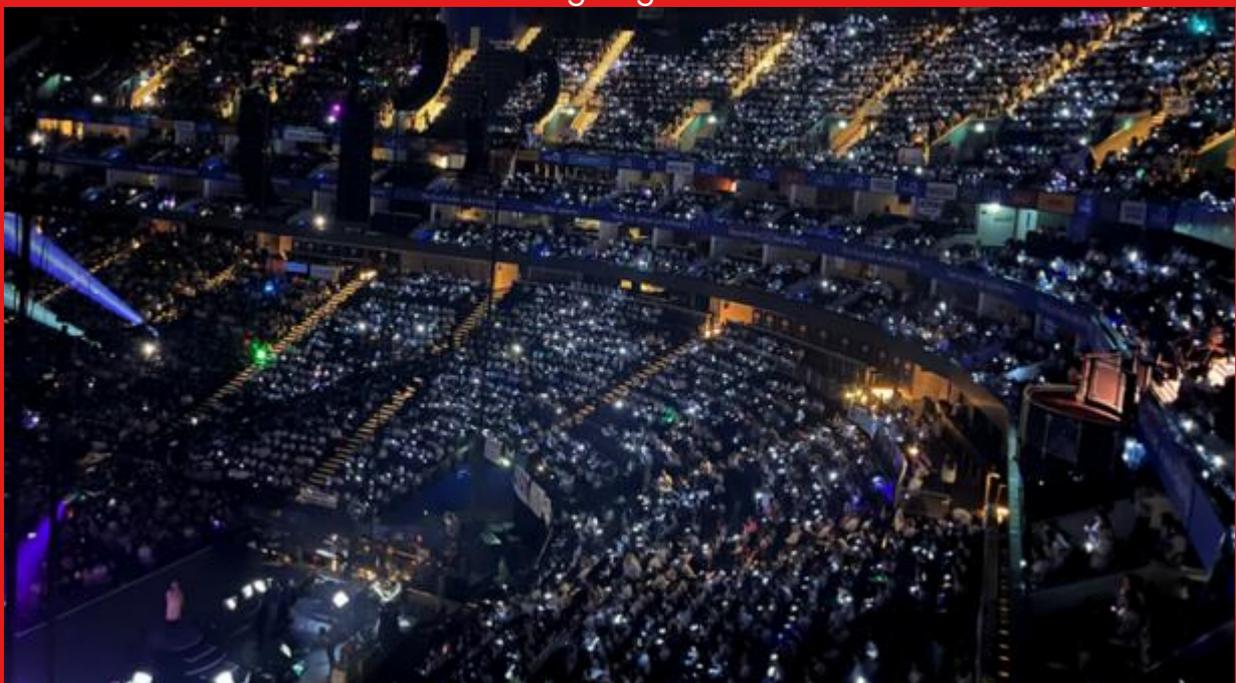


Young Voices 2026

On Tuesday 20th January, Miss Moule and Mrs Jackson took over 90 members of the Key Stage choir to Young Voices at the O2 Arena in London. Young Voices is an event where 1000s of children join together to perform to an audience. This year was the 30th anniversary and the HIPPS joined a choir of 8500 children to perform to over 10,000 people!

It was a long day with the children leaving at 10am and not getting home until midnight however they made us so proud. They joined in with enthusiasm, behaved beautifully and ensured, that in a very busy place, that they were able to follow instruction and be safe.

Huge thanks to the school adults who supported and the parents who helped. Also thank you to the 133 family members who came to watch! We look forward to two years time where we hope to go again!



Year Group Updates

Reception

At the end of last week, . Reception were lucky enough to have a visit from the Fire Service. They found out all about how they help people and learnt about the fire engine and all the tools that were on board! The children found out what qualities make a good firefighter. It was exciting to hear the siren in action and see the hose firing water across the field!



Key Stage One

Key Stage 1 have all been designing puppets this week and thinking about what they want their puppets to look and feel like as well as what material to use for different parts of their puppets. They did a fantastic job and we are really looking to seeing their designs come to life!

Key Stage 2

All of Key Stage 2 have been practising their hockey skills this week and Mr Carminati has been super impressed by their skills, determination and positive attitude. They have been learning to pass, dribble, stop and flick the ball ready to play some small sided games later this term. Well done to Rory in Year 4 for being Mr Carminati's sports star of the week.

Stir Fundraising

We have been approached by Stir Histon to work with them as part of a fundraising initiative which will run from 26th January until 8th March.

During this time, 10% of the cost of any purchases made at the Stir Histon branch by HIPPS parents/staff will go into the HIPPS fundraising pot. (Please note this is not a discount)

All that you need to do is save the picture below in your phone.

When you then go into the shop/cafe, before you make your purchase/before you sit down, show the card to the staff member.

Don't wait until you are paying at the end.

The team at Stir will then calculate the 10% of your spend to go into the pot.

This can also be used as part of their Click and Collect service, when at the checkout, please write in the notes sections "Histon and Impington Park PTFA".

Please note this fundraising only applies to purchases at the Stir Histon branch.

Thank you to Stir Cambridge for their support and we look forward to working with them.



Housepoint Totals

	 EARTH	 WATER	 FIRE	 AIR
Totals for this week	51	38	45	52
Total for the term	153	142	135	139

Well done to Air House for winning this week. Earth house have taken an early lead in this half term's competition.

Entering School

Please can parents/carers ensure that children arrive at school **no earlier than 8:30am**. We have a number of children here before then; we are not able to supervise them and you will be aware that there is only very limited waiting space outside the gates. The gates open at 8:40am and ideally children should arrive on site between 8:40 and 8:45a.m.

PE Kit

Please can you ensure your child always has a full PE kit in school every day as PE days can change. At the moment all of the children in Key Stage 2 are doing hockey and require shinpads. If you have any old spare pairs of shinpads that you can donate to the school we would be very grateful. **Children must bring a change of shoes for PE.** Children must not wear earrings for PE. Ears cannot be taped to cover earrings, so earrings must be removed. If children cannot do this themselves, parents should remove at home. If ears are newly pierced and earrings cannot be removed, children will have to observe PE lessons as they cannot join in due to Health and Safety guidance.

Requests

We would like to start a collection of Christmas jumpers and Children in Need clothes to keep in school. If you have any that you no longer need and would be willing to donate please hand in to the office.





Key Dates (new dates in black)

Monday 26th January 2026		Stir Fundraising campaign begins–show your card with every purchase!
Tuesday 27th January 2026	6pm	Year 6 SATS Information Talk for Parents
Wednesday 28th January 2026	4pm	Year 6 English Challenge (Selected pupils will be invited)
Monday 2nd February 2026	All Day	Ancient Egyptian Day Year 3/4
Monday 2nd February 2026	2.45pm	Year 4 Showcase Assembly and Open Classrooms
Wednesday 4th February	am	Year 5 Library Visits
Wednesday 4th February	7.30pm–8.30pm	SmartPhone Meeting at HIPBS
Thursday 5th February	am	Theatre of Widdershins Puppet Show in for Reception and KS1
Wednesday 11th February	am	Reception Library Visits
Tuesday 24th February	all day	Year 4 Trip to Fitzwilliam Museum
Wednesday 25th February	all day	Year 3 Trip to Fitzwilliam

Thursday 5th March	All Day	World Book Day
Thursday 5th March–Tuesday 10th March	3.30–4pm	Book Fair in School
Wednesday 11th March	am	Year 4 Library Visits
Wednesday 11th March/Thursday 12th March		Parents Consultations
Wednesday 18th March	am	Year 3 Library Visits
Friday 20th March	pm	PTFA Quiz
Wednesday 25th March	9.15am	Reception Showcase Assembly
Wednesday 25th March	All day	Year 5 Lion King Theatre Trip
Wednesday 15th April	am	Year 2 Library Visit
Wednesday 22nd April	am	Year 1 Library Visit

Monday 27th April	2.45pm	Year 3 Showcase Assembly and Open Classroom
Tuesday 5th May		Class Photos
Monday 11th May–Thursday 14th May	9.15–11.00	Year 6 SATS Week
Tuesday 19th May	9.15–11.00	Reception/Key Stage One Sports Day
Tuesday 19th May	1.30–3.15	Key Stage Two Sports Day
Thursday 21st May	All day	Reception Trip to Wicken Fen
Monday 1st June–Wednesday 3rd June		Year 6 Residential
Monday 1st June–Friday 12th June		Year 4 Multiplication Check
Monday 8th June–Friday 12th June		Year 1 Phonics Screening Week
Monday 15th June	2.45pm	Year 2 Showcase Assembly and Open Classroom
Monday 15th June	After school	Year 1 Open Classroom
Monday 22nd June/ Tuesday 23rd June	All Day	Year 6 IVC Transition Days
Friday 26th June	After School	Summer Fair



Looking Ahead!

Save the date for the PTFA quiz.
Friday 20th March is the date for your diaries!
Start gathering your team—more information to follow!



Meridian Trust News

Visit our Trust Website to read about what has been happening at Meridian!

[Read more here](#)



Work with us

Are you or your family looking for a new role?

Meridian Trust aims to be the employer of choice for the communities we serve, and since 2010 we have nurtured and developed the careers of many people.

See a list of our current opportunities on our website:

[Find out more](#)

Connect with us at Histon & Impington Park Primary School



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ELECTRICAL SAFETY AND DEVICES

Electrical safety is a vital topic for parents and educators, especially with the growing use of devices like smartphones, laptops, and power banks. Electrical fires are a major risk and are the cause of many deaths and injuries each year. There are reportedly nearly 20,000 accidental fires of electrical origin each year in the UK. This guide offers practical advice to help families and schools prevent electrical hazards, and promote safety when using everyday devices.

1 CHECK FOR OVERHEATING

Devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartphones can overheat if used for long periods or when charging. Ensure that children don't use devices on soft surfaces like beds or sofas, which can block ventilation. If a device becomes unusually hot, turn it off and unplug it. Overheating can lead to fire hazards if left unchecked.

2 INSTALL RESIDUAL CURRENT DEVICES

Ensure that homes and schools are equipped with Residual Current Devices (RCDs). These devices cut off the power if an electrical fault occurs, preventing electric shocks and reducing the risk of fires. RCDs should be tested regularly to ensure they are working properly. More information about RCDs is available from Electrical Safety First.

3 AVOID OVERLOADING SOCKETS

Plugging too many devices into one socket can overload the electrical system and cause a fire. In schools and homes, ensure extension leads are not overloaded and never 'daisy chain' multiple extension cords together. Educate children on the dangers of connecting too many devices to a single outlet.

4 POWER BANKS: SAFE USE

Power banks are a handy way to charge devices, but they can also pose a risk if misused. Ensure power banks are of high quality and comply with UK safety standards. Teach children never to leave power banks charging unattended, and to avoid placing them under pillows or bedding where they may overheat.

5 REGULAR DEVICE INSPECTIONS

Regularly check devices for signs of wear and tear. Frayed charging cables, cracked device casings, or devices that are slow to charge may indicate electrical problems. If any issues are noticed, stop using the device until it can be repaired or replaced by a qualified technician. This proactive approach helps prevent fires caused by faulty devices.

6 UNPLUG DEVICES WHEN NOT IN USE

Encourage children and pupils to unplug devices when not in use, particularly overnight. Devices left plugged in unnecessarily can overheat or become fire hazards, especially if left charging unattended for long periods. Simple habits like unplugging can prevent serious incidents.

7 USE GENUINE CHARGERS

Always use chargers supplied by the manufacturer or from a reputable retailer. Faulty or counterfeit chargers can cause devices to overheat, short-circuit, or even catch fire. Teach children the importance of avoiding poor-quality chargers, and regularly inspect charging cables for signs of wear or damage. More tips on safe charging can be found at Electrical Safety First.

8 WATER & ELECTRICITY DON'T MIX

Teach children that water and electricity are a dangerous combination. Devices should never be used near sinks, bathtubs, or swimming pools. Parents and educators should ensure that any electrical appliances near water sources have proper waterproof casings and are plugged into RCD-protected outlets.

9 KEEP DEVICES VENTILATED

Devices need proper ventilation to avoid overheating. Avoid stacking items on top of plugged-in devices like laptops or gaming consoles, and make sure there is enough space around devices to allow for airflow. Proper ventilation helps prevent dangerous heat build-up, reducing the risk of fires.

10 SUPERVISE YOUNG CHILDREN

Younger children may not understand the dangers of electricity, so it's important to supervise them when they are using devices. Keep electrical cords out of reach and always remind children never to put objects into electrical outlets.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings as well as many other industries to help them maintain a safe working environment.



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