



WHITEHEATH JUNIOR SCHOOL

Opportunity, Confidence & Growth

Whole School Newsletter

Newsletter No: 20

Friday 13th February, 2026.

Welcome to our whole school newsletter. Our aim is to keep you informed of achievements, successes and general information regarding Whiteheath Junior School. These newsletters will be sent to you at the end of the week. You can also find this newsletter on the home page of the school **website** along with our **'year group pages'** (under the 'children' section on the website). Please check your emails regularly as this is our main form of communication with you.

SAFER INTERNET DAY

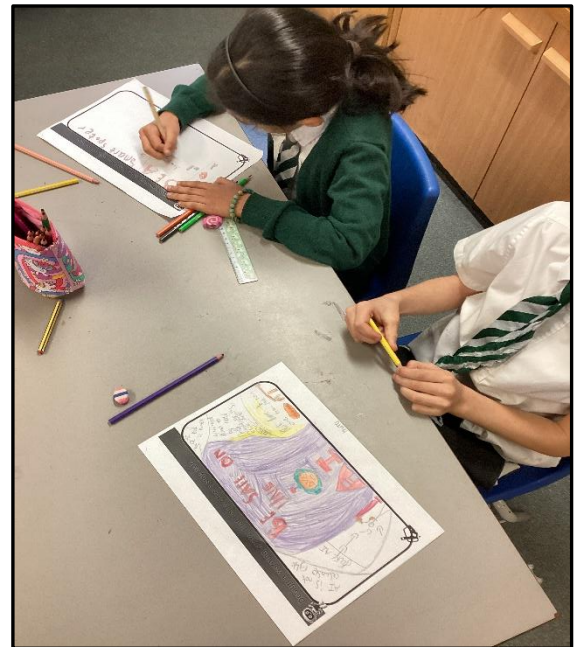
This Safer Internet Day, our pupils explored the exciting world of Artificial Intelligence (AI) based on this year's theme: "Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI." They used AI tools to help create their own music, discovered how technology can support creativity and bring new ideas to life. Alongside this, children learnt about the benefits of AI, such as helping with learning and problem-solving, as well as the risks and dangers, including the importance of staying safe online and thinking carefully about what we see and share. It was a fantastic opportunity to build digital skills, spark curiosity and encourage responsible use of technology in a safe and supportive environment.

We encourage you to join us in celebrating by continuing the conversation about AI technology at home. Here are some helpful resources:



- You can complete the [UK Safer Internet Centre's interactive quizzes](#) with your child.
- Read the UK Safer Internet Centre's top tips for parents and carers [here](#).
- You can share the UK Safer Internet Centre's [top tips for children and young people](#).





CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK



First of all, thank you all for your support in sending your children to school wearing yellow to celebrate Children's Mental Health Week.

On Wednesday afternoon, we marked the occasion with a special Mental Health Afternoon. The children took part in a range of enjoyable activities centred around this year's theme: '*This is My Place*'. The theme encouraged the children to think about where they belong and what makes them feel safe, valued, and happy.

Throughout the afternoon, the children enjoyed listening to music, sharing stories focused on wellbeing, taking part in thoughtful discussions, singing, creating pieces of art, and drawing places where they feel that they belong. The activities gave them all the opportunity to reflect, express gratitude and highlighted the importance of looking after their own mental health and wellbeing.



ORACY COMPETITION – NOW YOU’RE TALKING

As part of our ongoing work to develop the children’s oracy skills, the children were tasked with coming up with a speech based on a given topic.

Year 3 – Things that make me smile...

Year 4 – If I had a million pounds, I would...

Year 5 – If I could only keep one book, I would keep...

Year 6 – If I were Prime Minister for the day, I would...

The children did a remarkable job of writing, practicing and performing their speeches. This week, we held the finals. We were so impressed by the quality and length of the children’s speeches and were amazed by their ideas. The children also did an excellent job of learning their speeches off by heart, projecting their voices to fill the school hall (no easy task!) and being confident enough to perform in front of over 300 people. It was a really tough competition!

The winners were:

Year 3: Noah

Year 4: Roman

Year 5: Isla

Year 6: Eve



Well done to all the children who performed their speeches to their class and a huge well done to our finalists!

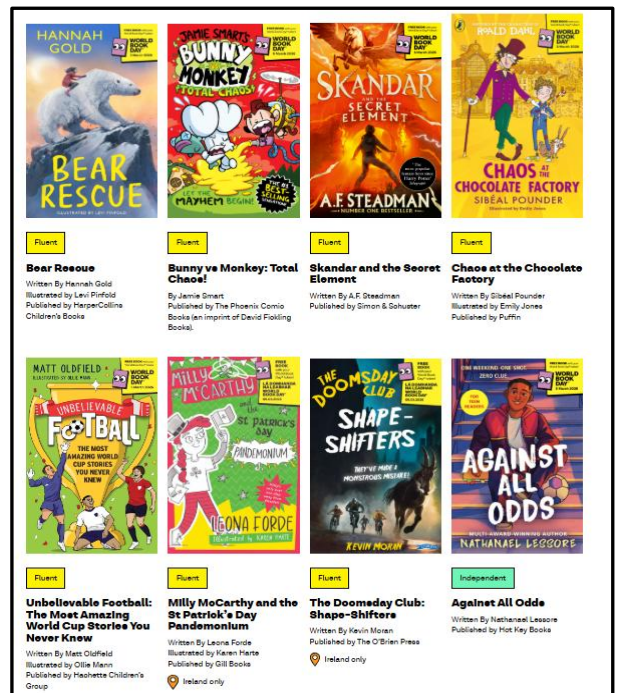
WORLD BOOK DAY

This week, the children have been given their World Book Day vouchers, which entitled them to a book chosen from the World Book Day titles for the price of just £1! There are some excellent titles suitable for all ages so please encourage your children to use their vouchers. We hope the children will find something they love over the half term to support their ongoing love of reading for pleasure.

The full range of titles can be found at: <https://www.worldbookday.com/books/> but I have included a picture of the ones that fall into our children’s age bracket. We hope you enjoy sharing these books with your children!

STRANGEST PLACE YOU CAN READ!

As part of our World Book Day 2026 celebrations, we are hosting a ‘Strangest places you can read’ competition!



The children have been asked to choose an unusual, safe place and read a book there for a short time. It might be somewhere funny, surprising, or a little bit silly, but it must always be safe.



Please take a photo of them reading in the strangest place you can find and either print it out and send it into school or send it to their teacher via the class email. Winners will be announced on World Book Day, Friday 6th March.

We look forward to receiving lots of entries and celebrating a love for reading across the school.
Miss Jackman, Reading Lead

BIG WALK AND WHEEL WEEK



We're excited to be taking part in the **Big Walk and Wheel** from **16th-27th March**! This national event encourages pupils to travel to school in active ways such as walking, wheeling, scooting or cycling. It's a fun opportunity to build healthy habits, reduce traffic around the school and help the environment. Each day, classes will record how many pupils travel actively, with opportunities for friendly competition and celebration. We'd love your support in helping your child take part wherever possible — every active journey counts!

Reminders

Calling All Parent and Carer Volunteers!



Do you have a job that involves reading or a love of books? We'd love to hear from you!

We're looking for parents and carers who use reading in their careers - whether that's in publishing, journalism, research, education, or any other field to come in and talk to the children about how reading plays a part in your work.

If you're interested, please get in touch with Miss Jackman via pine@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk

Thank you for helping us inspire a lifelong love of reading!

PARENT/CARER CURRICULUM WORKSHOPS

We have several workshops this year. The date/time of the remaining workshops are:

- **Spring 2 - Oracy - Friday 6th March 9:00 - 10:00am**
- **Summer 1 - Behaviour Policy and Behaviour Curriculum- 16th April - 2pm**
- **Summer 1 - Spelling - 21st April 9am 10am**
- **Summer 2 - Computing/Online Safety - Wednesday 10th June 9:00 - 10:00am**

All parents/carers are welcome to attend and booking details will be sent out for each workshop in due course.

SEND & PASTORAL SESSIONS FOR PARENTS/CARERS

- **Wednesday 25th March at 2.45pm**
 - An opportunity to raise your questions related to SEND and Pastoral needs/processes.

Please email your attendance and send through questions you would like to raise ahead of the meetings - sendco@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk





Merit Assembly

Class of the Week – Poplar

Class Merit Awards

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Enzo, Ava, Charlie	Sarah, Frankie, Ellis	Grace, Asha	Paul, Ishaani, Eray

House Points

Hampton	Windsor	London	Westminster
20	30	10	50

Payment/deadline Dates

OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS DUE

Payment
Year 6 alternative week
Year 5 alternative week
D & T resources for the year
Yr 6 SATs books
Yr 5 Mosque trip
Mental Health Awareness donation to Young Minds

UPCOMING PAYMENTS

Payment	Date due
Yr 6 Journey Outreach	13 th February
Yr 6 Art Canvas	13 th February
Yr 6 Battle of Britain Bunker trip	16 th February
Yr 4 Ark Synagogue trip	27 th February

Spring Term Dates

Monday 23rd February

Children return

Friday 27th February

Year 6 Journey Outreach workshop

Friday 27th February

Yr 5/6 Basketball Competition (rescheduled)

Thursday 5th March

Year 5 Mosque visit



Thursday 5 th March	Year 6 Battle of Britain Bunker trip (2 classes)
Friday 6 th March	Oracy workshop for parents/carers
Friday 6 th March	World Book Day
Monday 9 th March	Year 6 Battle of Britain Bunker trip (1 class)
Thursday 12 th March	Yr 3/4 Netball Festival
Tuesday 17th March	Yr 3 Church visit
Thursday 19 th March	Yr 5/6 Development Netball Festival
Friday 20 th March	Comic Relief Day
Monday 23 rd March	Online Maths Parents Meetings – Yr 3
Tuesday 24 th March	Online Maths Parents Meetings – Yr 6
Tuesday 24 th March	Year 4 Synagogue visit
Tuesday 24 th March	Year 5/6 District netball competition
Wednesday 25 th March	Year 5/6 b team netball competition
Wednesday 25 th March	Online Maths Parents Meetings – Yr 5
Wednesday 25 th March	SEND/Pastoral session for parents/carers
Thursday 26 th March	Online Maths Parents Meetings – Yr 4
Thursday 26 th March	Year 6 Maths Challenge
Thursday 26 th March	End of term report cards out to parents/carers
Friday 27 th March	School breaks up for Easter at 12:30pm

Weekly Attendance

Class	% Attendance W/C – 9th Feb 2026	% Attendance 03.09.25 – 13.02.26	Year Group Attendance % 03.09.25 – 13.02.26
Ash	94.6	95.3	
Oak	97.5	97	
Willow	95.8	94.6	
Year 3	-	-	95.6
Beech	98.2	96.2	
Elm	93.7	94.7	
Maple	92.4	96	
Year 4	-	-	95.7
Birch	94.2	95.3	
Yew	94.5	94.7	
Year 5	-	-	95
Juniper	98.5	96.3	
Pine	97.8	96.3	
Poplar	95.8	96.1	
Year 6	-	-	96.3
Totals	95.8	95.7	95.7

Contacting us

Contacting class teachers	Willow	Miss Atkinson	willow@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk
	Ash	Mrs Garland/ Mrs Robert	ash@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk
	Oak	Miss Malone	oak@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk



	Maple Beech Elm Yew Birch Poplar Pine Juniper Years 5 & 6 maths sets	Mrs Mendez Miss Cook Mr Lewington Ms Prioli Miss Bryant Miss Lawrence Miss Jackman Mr Goodchild Miss Wells	maple@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk beech@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk elm@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk yew@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk birch@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk poplar@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk pine@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk juniper@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk maths56@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk
General enquiries	office@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk		
Welfare/reporting your child's absence	welfare@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk		
<p>Safeguarding concerns - dsl@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk Whiteheath Junior School is a safe space for any child or adult to come to talk about issues affecting them. Ask the office to speak to a Designated Safeguarding Lead, (Mrs Ventin or Ms Kenny), or the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (Miss Wells). Alternatively, you can email the address above dsl@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk - this is a confidential email address only read by the safeguarding leads.</p>			
<p>If you are concerned a child may be at risk, you can also contact the Stronger Families Hub on 01895 556006 (available all year round).</p>			

Extra-curricular Clubs

We are very fortunate in being able to offer the children a wide variety of before, lunchtime and after school clubs. To see the full schedule, and for details of how to sign up for clubs, please visit: <https://www.whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk/extra-curricular-clubs/>

Online Safety

Each week we are going to include a guide in this newsletter, covering different aspects of online safety, to help ensure children and young people are supported and protected online. We aim to reach and engage our entire school community, fostering a collaborative approach to promoting online safety and digital citizenship.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI TOYS

This festive season, the newest toys on the shelves do not just blink or make noise; they listen. Many now come with artificial intelligence (AI), allowing them to talk, learn, and even respond to a child's emotions. These toys can be educational and engaging, but they also collect, store, and process information. This guide explains what that means for families and why it matters.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

TOYS THAT LISTEN AND LEARN

When a toy uses AI, it collects data such as voice recordings, interactions, and background sounds. This information is sent to remote servers, where it is analysed to improve responses. Your child's voice becomes training data, which may be stored indefinitely or shared with third parties.

WEAK SECURITY PROTECTIONS

Some AI toys have poor password protection or open network connections. Others may have microphones or cameras that stay on, even when the toy appears to be off. This can lead to recordings being made without your knowledge, including conversations unrelated to play.

ARTIFICIAL VOICES, REAL INFLUENCE

For very young children, an AI companion may become one of the first voices they interact with regularly. How that voice shows humour, empathy, or authority can shape how a child learns to communicate. If the model is artificial, then part of what is learned is artificial as well.

PRESSURE TO KEEP ENGAGING

Some toys reward repeated use or track engagement, encouraging children to interact more. When children compare how their toys perform, it creates pressure to play more often. This increases the amount of data collected and can make learning feel like competition.

MARKETING THROUGH PLAY

Toys that learn a child's preferences may feed that data into future advertising. A toy that knows a child's favourite colour or hobby could help a company design more targeted marketing to that child and their family.

PLAYTIME AS DATA TRAINING

The information collected from children helps train AI systems. Their voice, emotional responses, and behaviour shape how machines understand people. Play becomes part of a much larger system that influences how future technologies behave.

Advice for Parents & Educators

START WITH A CONVERSATION

Talk to young people. Explain that some toys learn from what they say and do. Help them understand that even friendly technology should have boundaries, and to ask questions about it. Curiosity is healthy, blind trust is not.

SET LIMITS ON USE

Turn off Wi-Fi or Bluetooth when the toy is not in use. Check for updates regularly, as they can change privacy or safety settings. Treat connected toys like any smart device: they should be monitored, updated, and switched off when not in use.

MODEL DIGITAL AWARENESS

Children learn from adults. If they see you checking privacy settings, reading terms, and talking openly about online safety, they are more likely to do the same. Show them how to question technology in a healthy way.

RESEARCH BEFORE YOU BUY

Look for toys that work offline or store data locally. Check for a free or demo version so you can test how it behaves. Read privacy policies to understand what data is collected, where it goes, and whether it's shared with others.

REVIEW PRIVACY SETTINGS

Find out where the data is stored and who has access to it. Some companies sell or share data with advertisers. If the toy connects through an app, check what it requests access to and limit those permissions whenever possible.

BALANCE AI WITH REAL PLAY

AI toys can be fun and creative, but they are not a replacement for real human interaction. Encourage time away from technology with activities that foster emotional and social development. Use AI toys to support learning, not define it.

Meet Our Expert

Clara Hawking is Executive Director of Kompass Education. She advises governments, school trusts, and global organisations on AI governance and safeguarding, helping schools and families understand how technology shapes learning, wellbeing, and the digital future of children.



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@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

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Community info/events



My name is Vicky and I work for England Rugby. We are running a series of free events nationally inviting girls aged 8-11 (Y3-6) to come along and give rugby a try in a safe all girls, fun environment. This is one of our legacy festivals after England Women won the World Cup recently and is being hosted at Ruislip Rugby Club.

We would love to see lots of new faces and new schools giving rugby a try for the first time, or reconnecting with it.



This is a free event and we have lots of giveaways, special guests and I can guarantee lots of fun. Parents can register their child to attend using this link. They will receive a follow up email about logistics and most excitingly we have Ealing Trailfinders women supporting the event with their special guests.

- Registration: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/e3d1e86b1c274ee482c0e8b587684fb4>

I look forward to having lots of Hillingdon school students represent their schools at this event and give rugby a try in a safe and enjoyable environment.

Thank you for supporting girls to play sports with other girls.

Vicky Alexander
Women & Girls
Growth Activator
London & South East



LOVE RUGBY SERIES

A nationwide series of **girls-only** festivals, joining up girls new to rugby with those already playing for a fun, friendly and positive experience.

Key Information

- Girls ages 8-11yrs – Y3-Y6
- All abilities welcome
- Non-contact rugby
- Delivered by experts
- Lots of giveaways

Ruislip RFC

Sunday 19th April
Registration 1200
Rugby 1230 - 1530
Email Vicky Alexander: vickyalexander@rfu.com



Ruislip Rugby



TRAILFINDERS
WOMEN





What's on for children and young people in Hillingdon this February half-term and beyond?

Hillingdon Youth Offer brings together three teams (Universal, Targeted, Community & Voluntary) to provide a variety of services and activities for children and young people in the borough. Visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/youth-offer for more information on our year round offer and see below for a snapshot of what's on this February half-term.

Monday

- **Next Gen community pop-up** at Ruislip Manor Library (HA4 8TW), 2pm-5pm - Community event everyone welcome. Come find out more about the Hillingdon Youth Offer. The team will be there to answer your questions alongside fun activities for children and young people. While you are there you could also

check out the [Let's Connect Group at Ruislip Manor Library.pptx](#) for 11-14 year olds.

- **Juniors Youth Session (school years 4-6)*** at Harlington Young People's Centre (UB3 1PB), 11am-1.30pm - Socialising, cooking, sports, games, craft, music and CREST Awards and more.
- **Inters/Seniors Youth Session (school years 7+)*** at Harlington Young People's Centre (UB3 1PB), 2pm-4.30pm - Socialising, cooking, sports, games, craft, music, AQA Unit Awards and more.
- **Detached and Outreach Team** will be out and about in the community in the Northwood and Ruislip area, 2.15pm-4.45pm - Engaging with children and young people in places and spaces.

Tuesday

- **Juniors Youth Session (school years 4-6)*** at Harlington Young People's Centre (UB3 1PB), 9am-11.30am - Socialising, cooking, sports, games, craft, music and CREST Awards and more.
- **Inters/Seniors Youth Session (school years 7+)*** at Harlington Young People's Centre (UB3 1PB), 12noon-2.30pm - Socialising, cooking, sports, games, craft, music, AQA Unit Awards and more.
- **Detached and Outreach Team** will be out and about in the community in Hayes Town area, 2.15pm-4.45pm - Engaging with children and young people in places and spaces.

Wednesday

- **Juniors Youth Session (school years 4-6)*** at Ruislip Young People's Centre (HA4 7SX), 11am-1.30pm - Socialising, cooking, sports, games, craft, music and CREST Awards and more.



- **Juniors Youth Session (school years 4-6)*** at St Matthew's (UB7 7QH), 3.45pm-6pm - Socialising, cooking, sports, games, craft, music and CREST Awards and more.
- **Inters/Seniors Youth Session (school years 7+)*** at Ruislip Young People's Centre (HA4 7SX), 2pm-4.30pm - Socialising, cooking, sports, games, craft, music, AQA Unit Awards and more.
- **Detached and Outreach Team** will be out and about in the community in the West Drayton and Yiewsley area, 4.45pm-7.15pm - Engaging with children and young people in places and spaces.

Thursday

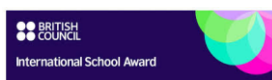
- **Juniors Youth Session (school years 4-6)*** at Ruislip Young People's Centre (HA4 7SX), 9am-11.30am - Socialising, cooking, sports, games, craft, music and CREST Awards and more.
- **Inters/Seniors Youth Session (school years 7+)*** at Ruislip Young People's Centre (HA4 7SX), 12noon-2.30pm - Socialising, cooking, sports, games, craft, music, AQA Unit Awards and more.
- **Detached and Outreach Team** will be out and about in the community in the Hayes Town area, 4.45pm-7.15pm - Engaging with children and young people in places and spaces.

Friday

- **Next Gen community pop-up** at Oak Farm Library (UB10 9PB), 1.30pm-4.30pm - Community event everyone welcome. Come find out more about the Hillingdon Youth Offer. The team will be there to answer your questions alongside fun activities for children and young people. While you are there you could also check out the [Teen Board Games Group at Oak Farm Library](#) for 11-18 year olds.
- **Juniors Youth Session (school years 4-6)*** at Harlington Young People's Centre (UB3 1PB), 1pm-3.30pm - Socialising, cooking, sports, games, craft, music and CREST Awards and more.
- **Juniors Youth Session (school years 4-6)*** at Ruislip Young People's Centre (HA4 7SX), 4pm-6.30pm - Socialising, cooking, sports, games, craft, music and CREST Awards and more.
- **Inters/Seniors Youth Session (school years 7+)*** at Harlington Young People's Centre (UB3 1PB), 4pm-6.30pm - Socialising, cooking, sports, games, craft, music, AQA Unit Awards and more.
- **Seniors Youth Session (school years 9+)*** at Ruislip Young People's Centre (HA4 7SX), 7pm-9.30pm - Socialising, cooking, sports, games, craft, music, AQA Unit Awards and more.
- **Detached and Outreach Team** will be out and about in the community in the Uxbridge Town area, 4.45pm-7.15pm - Engaging with children and young people in places and spaces.

***There's no need to book, but you must be a member to attend. [Register to become a member here](#). You'll need to pay 50p when you arrive.**

For further information or any questions please email youthoffer@hillingdon.gov.uk



The following links provide further information about other activities available to children and young people this school holiday and all year round in Hillingdon.

- Hillingdon Youth Offer | www.hillingdon.gov.uk/youth-offer
- Family Hubs and Children's Centres - If you have a child aged 0-7, why not book onto one of their sessions that run across the borough | www.hillingdon.gov.uk/family-hubs
- Care and Support Directory | <https://careandsupport.hillingdon.gov.uk>
- Activity programmes for children and young people - Hillingdon Council | www.hillingdon.gov.uk/children-activities
- Events and activities in Hillingdon - Discover Hillingdon | <https://discover.hillingdon.gov.uk/events>
- SEND local offer - Hillingdon Council | www.hillingdon.gov.uk/send
- Libraries - Hillingdon Council | www.hillingdon.gov.uk/library-branches



The Mayor of Hillingdon's Fundraising Chess Tournament

Tuesday 31 March,
from 6pm to 10.30pm

The Winston Churchill Theatre, Ruislip, HA4 7QL

The event is open to chess players of all abilities.
Finger buffet and refreshments provided.

Tickets £19.50 with all proceeds going
to The Mayor's Charitable Trust.



Scan the QR
Code to book.

[www.tickettailor.com/
events/mayorofhillingdons
charitabletrust/1920373](http://www.tickettailor.com/events/mayorofhillingdons-charitabletrust/1920373)





Repair and Reuse Day


**Saturday 7 March, 11am to 2pm
at The Great Barn, Manor Farm,
Bury Street, Ruislip, HA4 7SU**

A FREE event to learn practical skills to repair clothes, broken electricals or your bike – helping save money and reduce waste.

Find out more about zero waste refills, climate change and Harefield Hospital's scheme for recycling NHS mobility aids.

Have a go at our quiz and children's treasure hunt, enjoy refreshments and check out our pre-loved soft toy and book stalls too.

To find out more, visit

 discover.hillingdon.gov.uk/repair-day



restart party



HILLINGDON
LONDON

www.hillingdon.gov.uk

Have a restful half term,

M Kenny,
Headteacher

