



# Hillside Junior School Newsletter

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October



## Message from the Head teacher

This week we have enjoyed harvest assemblies led by Nina Oskarsdottir from Emmanuel Church. It has provided an opportunity to reflect on what is happening around the world and what we are grateful for.

I am very proud of what we have achieved this half term. The children have settled very well and have continued to demonstrate so many of the school values. Improving attendance and punctuality continues to be a key focus both at school and national level. I want to thank you for your continued support. Just a reminder that the playground gates close at 8.40 am. Lessons start at that time.

Finally, as we approach the colder weather, I wanted to remind everyone about our expectations around PE kits. In the current financial climate, I have very much taken the approach that PE kits should be plain. There is no requirement to wear school branded t-shirts or shorts as long as they are white and red. However, a range of different track suits are starting to appear including branded tops of different colours. From experience, this tends to escalate. Please can we ensure that the children are wearing plain black tracksuits. A school jumper or fleece can also be worn.

Have a good half term

Mr. Davies

## Mrs Holland

After nearly 30 years working at Hillside Junior, Mrs Holland has decided to retire. Over that time, Mrs Holland has undertaken a number of roles that include lunchtime supervisor, higher level teaching assistant and netball coach. She will be greatly missed.

As a school, we would like to say thank you for her incredible contribution to all aspects of school life and we wish Mrs Holland the very best as she embarks on a new adventure.

## Mr Johns

We would like to congratulate Mr Johns on the birth of his first child, a healthy baby girl.

Mr Johns will now be taking some paternity leave.

## Diary Dates

Staff Training Day - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October

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

**Cut off date to apply for Secondary School - Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

Individual photo day - Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November

3S Trip to Westminster Cathedral – Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November

## Clubs

We still have some spaces for the following clubs; I got Soul – drama, Speak Like a Native - Spanish, PT Coaching - gymnastics, Spaghetti maths, K-kwon do, Violin and Rock & Pop foundation – Guitar.

Places will be offered on a first come, first served basis. Please book early to avoid disappointment. Please see the list of contacts below, you will need to apply to the clubs directly.

- **Violin/Woodwind** – Please contact Hillingdon Music Service on 01895 558108 - [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/music](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/music)
- **Drama Club – I Got Soul** – Please contact I Got Soul directly on 07791 466 859/ [info@igotsoulofficial.com](mailto:info@igotsoulofficial.com)
- **K-Kwon-Do (Martial Arts)** – please contact Bushra Khosla (Instructor) at [bushrakhosla@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bushrakhosla@yahoo.co.uk)
- **Spanish Club** - Please book directly with Speak Like A Native - [www.speaklikeanative.com/book-now](http://www.speaklikeanative.com/book-now)
- **Rock Steady Music School** – Please book directly with Rock Steady - <https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/>
- **Spaghetti Maths**- Please book directly with Spaghetti Maths at [www.spaghettimaths.co.uk](http://www.spaghettimaths.co.uk)
- **PT Coaching - Gymnastics** – [www.ptcoaching.co.uk](http://www.ptcoaching.co.uk)
- **Piano Lessons**- Please contact Matthew Deane at [matthewdeane7@gmail.com](mailto:matthewdeane7@gmail.com)

## School Lunch/ School Grid

To book school lunches for your child, click on HCL's booking portal, [School Grid](#). If your child has **specific allergies**, please inform 'HCL' as soon as possible, using the following link <https://specialmenu.hcl.co.uk/> Please download the '[School Grid Parent Leaflet](#)' on our school website for all account and booking information. For all other booking information queries, please telephone School Grid on 01506 300 310.

## Parent Reading Volunteers

Once again, we are asking for parent (or grandparent) reading volunteers to help us to support children's reading. **Could you spare 10 minutes in the morning? We will give you any training you need.** If you are able to spare some time, please let the school office know.

## Hillside Curriculum Overview

Our curriculum overview for 2023-2024 is available on the school website. Please click [here](#) to view. This document shows the topics your children will investigate this academic year.

## Communication

All school related communication (newsletters, parents' evening bookings and payments) is made using the School Gateway App. Please follow the steps below to download the app.

Apple iPhone users, click on the icon to download the app.

Android phone users, click on the icon to download the app.

**Creating an account is simple and only takes a few minutes:**

1. **Register** using the same email address and mobile number held by the school
2. **Four-digit PIN.** School Gateway will send you a text with your PIN
3. **Login**, you are ready to go

If you change your email address or mobile number, please let us know so we can update our records. If you have any questions, or would like more information, please visit the [School Gateway](#) site. If you do not have a smart phone, you can login to the online version of School Gateway via the school [website](#) although we do recommend using the app if possible.

