



Hillside Junior School Newsletter

Friday 24th November



Message from the Head teacher

“Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much.” – Helen Keller

The success of our football team in a recent tournament highlighted the importance of teamwork. Our assembly this week got the children thinking how they can demonstrate teamwork in the classroom, playground and beyond. It links very well with one of our 6Rs, relationships. This term there have been so many examples of children supporting each other; a great quality that will serve them well into the future.

Whilst we were disappointed not to attend the Christmas lights, the festive season is certainly upon us. It is wonderful to hear the children singing and preparing for the production. We are particularly excited about the prospect of our first carol service for 4 years. I look forward to welcoming as many parents and carers to the different festive events.

I am pleased to write that overall school attendance is higher than the comparative period last year. Thank you for your continued support. I am also conscious that many families travel abroad for the festive season. However please be mindful that the new school term starts on the 9th January and all children are expected to return on that date. When children return late they are missing out on essential learning and it makes more difficult to catch up.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mr. Davies

PTA (Parent Teacher Association)

Your support is needed! Any offers of help are very much appreciated. Money raised makes a huge difference in helping to fund projects such as new library books and iPads.

Please join the PTA WhatsApp group by following the link below or scanning the QR code:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/ISajUpiqzVFB9EJYz4NTk>



The infants will be holding a PTA meeting on Thursday 30th at 6.30pm, if you would like to attend but are unable to make it in person, you can join the meeting via zoom using the details below;

Meeting ID: 842 6373 4801

Passcode: PTA

Diary Dates

PTA Christmas Jumper Sale – Friday 1st December

Christmas Fair donation to be in school – Monday 4th December

Christmas Jumper Day/Christmas Lunch/PTA Christmas Fair – Friday 8th December

Cast 1 Christmas Production **2pm** – Monday 11th December

Cast 2 Christmas Production **7pm** – Monday 11th December

Cast 2 Christmas Production **2pm** – Tuesday 12th December

Cast 1 Christmas Production **7pm** – Tuesday 12th December

Surprise Room Deadline for handing in gifts and making payment – Thursday 14th December

Christmas Surprise Room – Monday 18th December

Carol service at Emmanuel Church – Thursday 21st December

Term ends at 1.30pm - Thursday 21st December (**No After School Club**)

TERM STARTS – TUESDAY 9th JANUARY

Wrapping Paper Donations

We are looking for some donations of Christmas wrapping paper to support our Christmas surprise room event. If you have any spare rolls that you are able to donate, it would be greatly appreciated.

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.