



Hillside Junior School Newsletter

Thursday 21st December



Message from the Head teacher

As 2023 ends, I would like to thank everyone for all the support they have given the school throughout the year. There have been challenges but I am proud of what the children have achieved. Visitors to the school often comment on the warm reception that they get especially when they are greeted by the children.

Our participation in events such as Remembrance Sunday and the library choir visit both highlight the importance of the school in the community and also how well the children represent us. I am so glad that we have been able to make it all the way to the end of term, culminating in the carol service. This is also a personal highlight; the first carol service since 2019. Whilst it is an opportunity to celebrate the importance of Christmas together, it is also a time of reflection. The thoughts of the children shared in the carol service prayers focused everyone's minds on the difficulties around the world but also issues closer to home. This was reiterated by some of the children in a recent assembly when they talked about people who are lonely at this time of year.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone in the Hillside Junior school community a safe and restful Christmas. Enjoy quality time together with your families and we look forward to welcoming you back in 2024. Happy New Year!

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>



Diary Dates

TERM STARTS – TUESDAY 9th JANUARY

Monday 15th January – Clubs start again this week

Wednesday 17th – Year 5 trip to Northwood Synagogue

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.

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.

