



Hillside Junior School Newsletter

Friday 19th January



Message from the Head teacher

“Do not think of today’s failures but of the success that may come tomorrow.” – Helen Keller

The assembly this week marked World Braille Day and focused on the achievements of Louis Braille and Helen Keller. Both are inspirational figures that personify resilience amongst many other qualities. The topic was also important in the school’s promotion of inclusivity and equality of opportunity.

The new term has also brought a change of weather. Some children have been reluctant to wear coats and, in some cases, come to school without one. Please support the school in ensuring that the children are wearing appropriate clothing. On a similar note, the branded tracksuits have started to emerge again. I was asked by a child this week why I insist on plain black tracksuits. I explained that it was down to cost especially in the current financial climate. It also avoids issues around peer pressure to buy different branded clothing. Once again, please can you help to reinforce this message at home.

The spring term, whilst relatively short, is always a good opportunity to reflect what has been achieved so far and set targets for the remainder of the academic year. It was wonderful to hear so many of the children’s new year resolutions and I wish them every success in their endeavours. One child commented that they wanted to continue to be kind and support other children, truly embodying the Hillside spirit!

Have a good weekend.

Mr.Davies

Diary Dates

Monday 22nd January - Year 3 trip to the Science Museum

Monday 29th January - Year 4 Roman Day in school

Monday 12th January – Friday 16th February – Half Term

Mrs O’Sullivan

We are excited to announce that Mrs O’Sullivan is expecting a baby and would like to send many congratulations. Mrs O’Sullivan will continue in her role as Inclusion Manager and Y6 Group Teacher until she starts her maternity leave in April 2024.

Science Week

We are looking forward to celebrating Science Week with your children in the week beginning 26th February. Our theme this year is 'Time' and we already have lots of exciting activities and workshops planned for your children to be involved in. However, it would be lovely for the children to hear from someone with first-hand experience in science. If you have any background related to science in any way, or you feel you have something which would contribute to our learning, please get in touch with us. We would love to hear from you. You can email office@hillsidejuniorschool.org or pop into the school office.

Clubs

Please see below the list of clubs that still have available spaces. If you require any further help, please speak with Ms Evans in the school office.

PSD Basketball Club – Please book directly with [PSD](#)

Guitar – Please contact the Rock & Pop Foundation on 01252 368330 – www.rockandpopfoundation.com

Drama Club – I Got Soul – Please contact I Got Soul directly on 07791 466 859/ info@igotsoulofficial.com

K-Kwon-Do (Martial Arts) – please contact Bushra Khosla (Instructor) at bushrakhosla@yahoo.co.uk

Portuguese Classes – Please contact The Portuguese Embassy on 0207 235 8811 - www.e-portugues.co.uk

Spanish Club - Please book directly with Speak Like A Native - www.speaklikeanative.com/booknow

Rock Steady Music School – Please book directly with Rock Steady - <https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/>
(Limited spaces)

Piano Lessons- Please contact Matthew Deane at matthewdeane7@gmail.com

Dance Club - Please book via the '[School Gateway App](#)'

Art Club – Please book directly with artboxworkshop.bookwhen.com

Rhythm Vision Music – Please book directly with rhythmvisionmusic.com

Parent Governor Vacancy

We are delighted that we have now filled the Parent Governor vacancies. We would like to give a warm welcome to Ms Hannah McCarthy and Ms Alexandra Saade. Please see below the reasons they gave for wanting to join the Governing body.

Hannah McCarthy

My name is Hannah, I am a mum of 3. I used to work as a SEN teaching assistant at a Hillingdon High School. As I have been a parent governor before, I would love to use my spare time supporting Hillside in any way possible.

Alexandra Saade

I am a mother of 2 children. As a school governor volunteer, I aim to be an active, supportive parent liaising with teachers, parents and kids. Optimising the synergy of the three for an inspiring, nurturing environment for all through effective

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.

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/ISajJUpiqzVFB9EJYz4NTk>



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.

