



Hillside Junior School Newsletter

Friday 28th February 2025



Message from the Head teacher

This half term began with the amazing Science week escape workshops. It was wonderful to see the children working so collaboratively using critical thinking to solve various scientific problems. The provider was very complementary about the children and their behaviour. They were a credit to the school. Other science activities are planned for next week.

We continued to strengthen our links with neighbouring schools with a visit to St.John's. The focus this time was DT (see more information below). On other occasions, we have participated in sports tournaments such as rugby and cricket against other local schools. We pride ourselves on the links we make with all our neighbouring schools. This has also included weekly visits from older students from St.Helens who help with reading, homework and lead art activities.

I would personally like to thank the parents who attended the coffee morning on Tuesday. This will be followed next week with an opportunity for Years 5 and 6 parents to meet. I am optimistic that we as a school will be able to build on the ideas and discussions and arrange more opportunities to meet. One of the ideas discussed, a culture day, has already been provisionally booked for the summer term. More information to follow.

Have a good weekend,

Mr.Davies

Attendance (Week beginning 10th February)

| 3R | 3S | 4M | 4S | 5KS | 5OS | 6JO | 6MT |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|-------|
| 99.3% | 94.6% | 96.2% | 97.7% | 96.4% | 97.9% | 98% | 97.7% |

Congratulations to 3R who were our attendance winners.

We also award the class with the least number of late marks. Congratulations to 3S who were winners of the HERO award.

Diary Dates

Tuesday 4th March – Years 5 and 6 coffee morning (08.40am – 09.30am)

Thursday 6th March – World Book Day – Children to dress up

Tuesday 11th March – Friday 14th March – Book Fair in Carew

Monday 17th March – Year 4 trip to Cassiobury Park

Monday 17th March – Year 6 trip to Brunel University

Arrival to school

Polite reminder that children **should not** be arriving on the school site before 8.30am. Before this time, children are unsupervised and therefore this causes a potential safeguarding risk.

If children are arriving before 8.30am, they MUST be accompanied by an adult.

Coffee Morning

This week, we held a coffee morning for the parents and carers of Year 3 and 4. We'd like to thank everyone who joined us. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet informally over a cup of coffee and a biscuit, with lots of ideas and discussions shared. We really appreciate the thoughtful suggestions that came from the conversation. We look forward to welcoming parents and carers of Year 5 and 6 children to our next coffee morning on Tuesday, 4th March, from 8:35-9:30.



Science Escape Workshops

This week we have kicked off Science Week with a wonderful challenge. *Which team can work together to solve the science related problems quickest to unlock all the boxes?* Well done to all year groups, you approached this challenge with great resilience and teamwork. We look forward to more science related activities and workshops next week as well. If your child would like to enter this year's Science Week Poster Competition, please see the attached information.

Thank you again for all your support in helping these exciting and engaging events to happen.



DT Day at St John's School

On our recent DT Day at St John's, four Year 5 children worked together to design and build a machine that could successfully transport tomatoes up and down a mountain. Throughout the day, they collaborated as a team, developing their design and technology skills while learning about problem-solving and creativity. It was a fantastic experience, allowing the children to work with their peers, share ideas, and build something amazing together. We are incredibly proud of their efforts and the teamwork they demonstrated—what a wonderful day of learning and fun!



Netball Tournament at Newnham

The Netball Cluster Tournament on Wednesday 26th February at Newnham was a fantastic display of skill and sportsmanship. Hillside Junior School participated and gave their best efforts on the court. In one of the exciting matches, Hillside and SSW played a tense game that ended in a 2-2 draw. Hillside faced off against Newnham and, despite a strong effort, were defeated 4-0. In another match, Hillside came out victorious against Lady Banks with a 3-0 win.

Well done to all the players for their hard work and teamwork throughout.

Clubs

Please see below the list of clubs running for the Spring term; **if you need any help, please speak with Ms Evans in the office.**

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

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

Aveea STEM Club - Please book directly with <https://www.aveea.org/>

Drama Club –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/book-now

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

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

Fence 43 - Please book directly with <https://app.outclass.io/classes/fGFpBnPQXMuXsUy9TECu>

Uniform

Uniform

- white shirt (not polo shirts)
- school tie (red/grey)
- red sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo
- grey or black trousers, trouser shorts, pinafore or skirt
- black leather type shoes (**NOT** trainers)
- In the Summer term a red gingham dress may be worn

PE KIT

- red shorts (not Bermuda or cycling shorts)
- white t-shirt with school logo
- black or white trainers

Please ensure children are attending school wearing weather appropriate clothing and footwear.

PE Days

Please see PE days below. Children should come to school wearing their PE kits on those days.

Tuesdays – Year 4

Wednesdays – Year 6

Thursdays – Year 3

Fridays – Year 5

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.

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. Additionally, 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.

Hillside Curriculum Overview

Our curriculum overview for 2024-2025 is available on the school website. Please click [here](#) to view. This document shows the topics your children will investigate this academic 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/ISajJUpiqzVFB9EJYz4NTk>

