

# Hillside News

*'Where children are at the heart of everything we do'*



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**DATES TO  
REMEMBER**



**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March  
World Book Day**

Children are invited to  
dress up as their favourite  
book character

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March  
Red Nose Day  
Sponsored Bounce**

## Headteacher Update 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024

It has been great to welcome the children back this week, and the return has been overwhelmingly positive. During our assembly, we took the opportunity to revisit our three rules of readiness, respect, and engagement as well as our values of respect, ambition and perseverance, emphasising their significance throughout the entire school. As a staff team, we employ a method called Positive Framing, leveraging positive reinforcement, encouragement, and affirmative language to establish and sustain high expectations.

We are pleased to announce the completion of the extension to the Reception area over the half term. Currently, we are awaiting the delivery of wood chippings, sand, and tuff trays to finalise and enhance the area. Photos to follow soon.

On Tuesday, our School Parliament had the honour of visiting the Mayor of Verwood, Cllr Toni Coombs, at the Town Council. The report below details the positive experience our School Parliament members had during this visit.

Building on the success of last year, the Move in March initiative is set to launch once again, under the guidance of Mrs. Davis.

Please take a moment to explore the captivating nature scenes captured on our Trail Camera this week, thanks to the generous contribution from the Rotary Club. It's a wonderful showcase of the beauty surrounding our school. A video is also available [here](#).

As we look forward to the school discos tonight, we extend a huge thank you to our exceptional PTA for organising and managing the event. Your support is sincerely appreciated, and it adds to the excitement and joy our children experience.

Healthy regards, Mr Graves

## WEEKLY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Little Owls 1	99%
Little Owls 2	88%
Tawny Owls 1	98%
Tawny Owls 2	96%
Tawny Owls 3	91%
Snowy Owls 1	99%
Snowy Owls 2	90%
Snowy Owls 3	96%

**Whole School 95%**

**Target**



**Gates open at 08:30**

**Gates close at 08:40**

**The school day begins  
at 08:40**

**School finishes at 15:00**



Please keep going  
with  
Times Table  
Rockstars and  
Numbots!

**Congratulations** to the following children for being our  
latest **Stars of the Week**:





## Hillside First School's School Parliament visit the Mayor!

On Tuesday morning, the School Parliament of Hillside First School had a valuable opportunity to visit the Mayor of Verwood, Cllr Toni Coombs, at the local Town Council. Members from Reception to Year 4 engaged in an enriching experience, gaining insights into democracy and the functioning of the Town Council. The visit provided a platform for our School Parliament members to pose questions, ranging from the Mayor's experiences in the role to what is her favourite fish.

During the visit, the Mayor generously offered our school a £250 donation from her fund, allowing the children to decide how to allocate the funds. After a vote, the children chose to invest in books! The School Parliament expressed their appreciation for this generous donation.

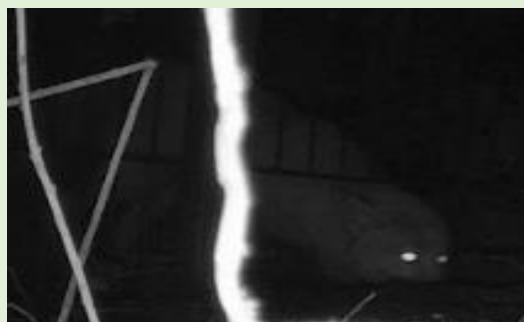
Then Tommy, elected by his peers, had the unique opportunity to wear the Mayor's robes and later on Millie had the honour of raising the flag outside.

The visit proved to be an educational and enjoyable experience for our children, providing them with practical insights into civic leadership and a deeper understanding of local governance. Hillside First School appreciates the Mayor's time, generosity, and willingness to connect with our children, creating a lasting memory for all involved.



## Hillside's Wildlife Cam!

Using the Rotary Club's kind donation our Eco Warriors decided to purchase a Trail Cam that with its sensors captures photos and videos. We have been amazed with some of the wildlife we have captured on our school grounds over three nights:







# Meet our heroes

Alba started football training at a very young age, and she enjoys the training sessions. However, she finds playing matches challenging because being on the spot and communicating quickly with a team is difficult for her.



Recently, Alba participated in a friendly match, playing twice and breaking that barrier. The team performed exceptionally well! Coaches were very impressed with her willingness and participation, and she also won the 'player of the match' trophy!



Violet achieved her stage 2 badge and certificate at swimming recently. She has really persevered and tried her best each week. Violet is looking forward to wearing her yellow hat and start stage 3.





# Spring term



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## January

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup>**

INSET Day

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>**

National Handwriting Day



## February

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup>**

NSPCC Number Day

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup>**

Parent Consultations



**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>**

Safer Internet Day

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>**

Parent Consultations

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> - Friday 9<sup>th</sup>**

Children's Mental Health Week

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> - Friday 16<sup>th</sup>**

Half Term

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup>**

INSET day

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>**

PTA Event - School Disco

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup>**

Tawny Owls 3 School Trip  
(Museum of East Dorset)

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup>**

Tawny Owls 1 School Trip  
(Museum of East Dorset)

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup>**

Tawny Owls 2 School Trip  
(Museum of East Dorset)



## March

**Week Commencing**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup>**

World Book Day  
week of celebrations

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>**

World Book Day

Dress up as a character  
from one of your favourite books



WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup>**

Comic Relief

RED  
NOSE  
DAY

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup>**

Sponsored Bounce

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>**

PTA Event - Craft Friday

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup>**

Snowy Owls School Trip (Marwell Zoo)

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>**

Inset Day



## April



**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March to**

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April**

Easter  
Holidays

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup>**

Children return to school

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup>**

PTA Event  
break the rules day



**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>**



Class and Year 4  
leavers photographs

# After School Clubs

**Hillside First School are pleased to offer the following clubs:**

## Monday

15:00-16:00 – Computer Explorers (Year 3-4)

15:00-16:00 – Creative Dance (Year R-2)

16:00-17:00 – Creative Dance (Year 3-4)

## Tuesday

08:00-08:30 – Sports & Fitness Breakfast Club

12:00-12:30 – Sports & Fitness Lunch Club

15:00-16:00 – After School Football Club

## Wednesday

15:00 – 16:00 – Creative Club

## Thursday

15:00-16:00 – Forest School (Year R-4).

## Friday

Lessons in school – Rocksteady

15:00-16:00 – Computer Explorers (Year 1-2)



**DORSET CREATIVE DANCE**

HILLSIDE FIRST SCHOOL  
AFTER SCHOOL DANCE CLUB

Fun and creative dance classes for children attending Hillside First School  
Password for booking: Hillside2023!

Booking opening soon through our website!

Monday 3pm - 4pm Reception, Years 1 & 2  
Monday 4pm - 5pm Years 3 & 4

e: [info@dorsetcreativedance.co.uk](mailto:info@dorsetcreativedance.co.uk) t: 07759 949 478  
[www.dorsetcreativedance.co.uk](http://www.dorsetcreativedance.co.uk)

CODING | GAME DESIGN | ANIMATION

**AFTER SCHOOL TECH CLUB**

Computer Explorers

15:00-16:00  
MONDAY Y3-4  
FRIDAY Y1-2

£8 per session  
10% OFF for siblings

**CLICK OR TAP HERE TO BOOK NOW**

HILLSIDE FIRST SCHOOL

Poole Forest School After School Club at Hillside  
Thursday 11th January - Thursday 21st March

Tools, shelter building, bushcraft, natural crafts, campfire cooking and much more. Ofsted registered for ages 5-11. Accept childcare vouchers.

est. 2019

**FOREST SCHOOL POOLE**

BOOK ONLINE  
<https://forms.gle/VRb1265DTXSsvk8y5>  
[www.pooleforestschool.com](http://www.pooleforestschool.com)  
[marina@pooleforestschool.com](mailto:marina@pooleforestschool.com)