

# Hillside News

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



DATES TO REMEMBER



Christmas Fayre

## Lest We Forget...



Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November  
17:00 – 19:30

[www.hillsidefirstschool.org](http://www.hillsidefirstschool.org) ~ 01202 822737 ~ [office@hillsidefirstschool.org](mailto:office@hillsidefirstschool.org)

### Headteacher Update Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2024

#### Welcome Back!

I hope everyone had a good half term! We have a busy week ahead. Hopefully, you've seen today's letter with details and reminders about the African Drumming Workshop, Remembrance Day, Odd Socks Day, and Children in Need. These are important events in the school calendar, and they're all coming up next week.

#### Knowledge Organisers

Keep an eye out on Google Classroom for new Knowledge Organisers as we start new topics across the school. I hope you're finding them useful for gaining insight into what your child is learning in class. The feedback I received during parent consultations was very positive, so I'm glad they are helping!

#### Exciting Half Term Ahead

We've got a fun-filled half term ahead with lots of special events. I hope you'll be able to join us for our annual Christmas Fayre, organised by our wonderful PTA. A huge thank you to them for all their hard work behind the scenes to make it happen!

#### A Personal Note

You may or may not know that I'm a big rugby fan, so it was disappointing to watch the England men's team lose to New Zealand last week. But sometimes, dealing with disappointment helps you come back stronger—and I'm looking forward to the next match!

#### Discos Tonight!

The excitement has been building all week for our school discos, which are happening straight after school today. We're looking forward to a fun time!

I hope you have a wonderful weekend and are as excited as we are for the events coming up.

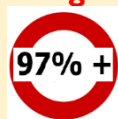
Best wishes, Mr Graves

### WEEKLY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Little Owls 1	97%
Little Owls 2	92%
Tawny Owls 1	94%
Tawny Owls 2	98%
Tawny Owls 3	92%
Snowy Owls 1	99%
Snowy Owls 2	96%
Snowy Owls 3	95%

Whole School 95%

Target



The school day begins at 08:40

Gates open at 08:30

School finishes at 15:00

### Christmas Tree Donations Needed Please

Do you have an artificial Christmas tree that you could donate to the school?

We are aiming to collect at least 10 trees to help decorate for our Christmas Fayre on 29th November. Any donations would be greatly appreciated!



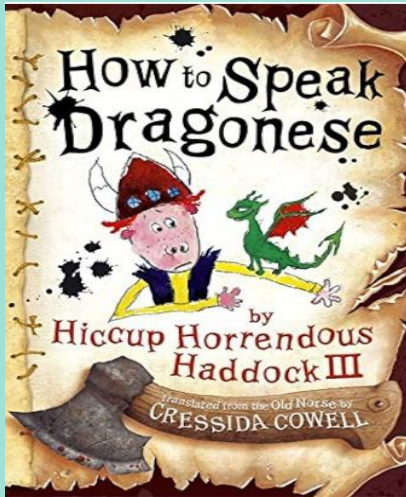
**Congratulations** to the following children  
for being our latest **Stars of the Week**:



**Hot chocolate time!**



# The Book Nook



This week's recommendation comes from Year 3 Snowy Owls 1.

Gruff loves to read How to Train Your Dragon books.

How to Train Your Dragon - How to Speak Dragonese

It's all about dragons and it's very exciting. It has challenges like climbing up a cliff to get to a school of sword fighting.

## staff news

I am delighted to welcome **Natasha Donnachie** to our team. She will be supporting us by covering some lunchtime duties across the school and working as a teaching assistant on select days.



If you're planning to purchase books as gifts through Scholastic, please consider selecting our school at checkout. Doing so will help raise valuable funds for us!

 **SCHOLASTIC**

<https://shop.scholastic.co.uk/spend-your-rewards>

**FREE** books for your school

Every order over £10 earns 20% of the order value back to your chosen school in FREE BOOKS

[Find your school](#)

# Autumn *term*

# UPCOMING EVENTS



## September

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Inset Day

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>**

Inset Day

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup>**

Individual & Sibling Photographs

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>**

PTA AGM - new members welcome  
18:00 at Hillside First School



## December

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>**

Pyjama Themed Movie Night  
Year R and 1

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup>**

Christmas Jumper Day

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>**

Pyjama Themed Movie Night  
Year 2-4

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> &  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup>**  
PTA Christmas Shop



**Friday 13<sup>th</sup>**

Christmas Performances

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup>**

Christmas Performances

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>**

Christmas Performances

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>**

Christmas Party Day  
& Chartwells  
Christmas Lunch  
FREE Mufti day  
Children invited to  
wear party clothes

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>**

Last day  
of term



## October

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup>**

New Parents Open Morning  
09:00 - 11:00

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup>**

New Parents Open Evening  
17:00 - 19:00

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup>**

Harvest Assembly

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>**

World Mental Health Day

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>**

New Parents Open Morning  
09:00 - 11:00

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup>**

Parent Consultations

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Parent Consultations

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> - Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November**  
Half Term



## November

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

Inset Day

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

Flu Immunisation

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup>**

School Disco

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup>**

Remembrance Assembly  
Anti Bullying (Friendship Week)

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

Children in Need

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup>**

Dog's Trust Assembly and KS1 Workshops

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>**

Dog's Trust KS2 Workshops

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>**

New Parents Open Morning  
09:00 - 11:00

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>**

New Parents Open Morning  
09:00 - 11:00

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

Mufti Day for Christmas Tombola

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

Christmas Fayre





# Meet our heroes

At the weekend, Rosie learnt to ride her bike without stabilizers.



Amazing, well done Rosie!

Athena has recently developed a passion for golf and spent the late summer attending a few group lessons with a new lady pro at



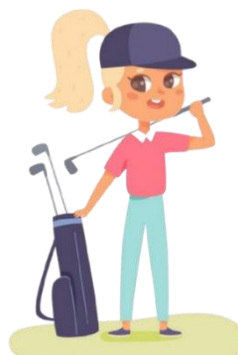
Athena has been really proud of what she has achieved over the summer with her golf.

She was so pleased when she won the award for best golf swing and hitting the ball over 100 yards!



We're incredibly proud of her progress and dedication to practicing whenever she can with daddy!

Well done, Athena!





**Do you run a sports club, activity fitness group, art or craft club?**

# **Hire our facilities**

Our school hall and large outdoor space are available for hire.

Our facilities are available to book on weekday evenings, weekends and holidays.

**Contact us:**

**Hillside First School**

Hillside Road, Verwood, Dorset BH31 7HE

For further information contact us at [office@hillsidefirstschool.org](mailto:office@hillsidefirstschool.org) or 01202 822737

[www.hillsidefirstschool.org](http://www.hillsidefirstschool.org)



# After School Clubs

Hillside First School are pleased to offer the following clubs:

## Monday

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 (Year R-4)

12:00-12:30 – Sports & Fitness Lunch Club (Year R-4)

15:00-15:50 – After School Football Club (Year 1-4)

## Friday

Lessons in school – Rocksteady

15:00-16:00 – Dodgeball /Bench ball (Year 1-4)



**DORSET CREATIVE DANCE**

HILLSIDE FIRST SCHOOL  
AFTER SCHOOL DANCE CLUB

Fun and creative dance classes for children attending Hillside First School  
Password for booking: Hillside2024!!

Bookings now open through our website!

Mondays 3pm Reception, Years 1 & 2

Mondays 4pm 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)

A photograph of a young girl with blonde hair, wearing a pink t-shirt and black leggings. She is smiling and holding two long, colorful ribbons (one blue/purple and one red/yellow) that are trailing behind her. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

POOLE FOREST SCHOOL  
HILLSIDE

Thursday after school. Cook on the campfire, learn to use tools, build dens, nature crafts. Woodland games and challenges.

Bookings being taken@  
[www.pooleforestschool.com](http://www.pooleforestschool.com)

A graphic illustration of several stylized evergreen trees in shades of green and grey, arranged in a row at the bottom of the page.