

Hillside News

DATES TO REMEMBER



Monday 3rd – Friday 7th February

Children's Mental Health week

Hillside First School

where children are at the heart of everything we do



www.hillsidefirstschool.org ~ 01202 822737 ~ office@hillsidefirstschool.org



Headteacher Update Friday 10th January 2025

Welcome Back and Happy New Year!

I hope everyone in our school community had a wonderful Christmas period and managed to spend time with family and loved ones. The New Year often begins with resolutions, and we discussed this in our first assembly back on Tuesday. We linked the idea of resolutions to our three core values: respect, ambition, and perseverance. It was interesting to hear some of the children's New Year resolutions.

It has also been fantastic to restart our celebration assemblies. Due to the busy schedule of Christmas performances, we couldn't fit them in during the last couple of weeks of last term. These assemblies are always a highlight of my week. I enjoy discovering and sharing the reasons why children have been chosen as Stars of the Week and having the chance to talk to them over hot chocolate and biscuits.

This term, we will be supporting a number of exciting events, including World Book Day, NSPCC Number Day, Red Nose Day, and Children's Mental Health Week, among others. I will also be meeting with Tracy Pearson, our PTA Chair, to plan and schedule more PTA events, so please keep an eye out for updates. We've included a preliminary calendar outline below, which we will continue to expand over the coming weeks.

I've been very impressed with how the children have returned to school. They are engaged with their learning, working hard, and showing great enthusiasm. One of the values I emphasise is respect, which includes demonstrating good manners. Simple actions like saying "please" and "thank you" or asking how someone is doing can make a big difference. On Tuesday morning, I was greeted by two children with huge smiles, a warm "Happy New Year," and about how I was before I had the chance to ask them. I was both proud of them and impressed.

Over the next few weeks, I will work with staff to plan events and share additional information to support you in understanding how we teach your children. Last academic year, we held reading and maths workshops, and we are exploring ideas for similar sessions this year. I'm particularly interested in sharing strategies about how children learn, what we are doing in school, and how you can support learning at home to help it stick.

I'm really looking forward to the term ahead and all the exciting events planned for our children. Thank you for your continued support.

Have a great weekend.

Best wishes,

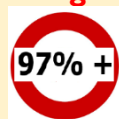
Mr. Graves

WEEKLY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Little Owls 1	94%
Little Owls 2	95%
Tawny Owls 1	100%
Tawny Owls 2	100%
Tawny Owls 3	96%
Snowy Owls 1	94%
Snowy Owls 2	98%
Snowy Owls 3	98%

Whole School 96%

Target



The school day begins at 08:40

Gates open at 08:30
School finishes at 15:00



3rd - J R R Tolkien

4th - Isaac Newton

8th - Elvis Presley

15th - Martin Luther King Jr

27th - Wolfgang A Mozart

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



The Book Nook



Little Owls 2: We love Paddington books because they are really funny. We have a big Paddington bear in the classroom and we like reading to him!



Meet our heroes



Just a reminder to send in your child's achievement for inclusion in the 'Hillside Heroes' feature of our newsletter.

If you would like to share a photo and a short explanation of something your child is proud of—whether it's earning a swimming badge, creating artwork, learning to ride a bike, or mastering a times table—please send it to office@hillsidefirstschool.org for consideration.

We'll post the submissions in the order they're received.

This will be limited to one submission per academic year, per child.

Spring term



UPCOMING EVENTS

January

HAPPY ★ NEW ★ YEAR

Monday 6th
INSET Day



February

Monday 3rd

Year 3 Snowy Owls School Trip
(Winchester Science Museum)

Thursday 6th

Year 4 Snowy Owls School Trip
(Winchester Science Museum)

Monday 3rd - Friday 7th

Children's Mental
Health Week

Friday 7th

NSPCC Number Day



Tuesday 11th

Safer Internet Day



Monday 17th - Friday 21st

Half Term

Monday 24th

INSET day



March

Week Commencing

Monday 3rd

World Book Day
week of celebrations

Monday 3rd

Parent Consultations
(15:30-19:00)

Wednesday 5th

Parent Consultations
(15:30-17:30)

Thursday 6th

World Book Day

Dress up as a character
from one of your favourite books

WORLD
BOOK
DAY

Friday 21st
Comic Relief



April



Monday 7th to
Monday 21st April

Easter
Holidays

Tuesday 22nd

INSET Day

Wednesday 23rd - Friday 25th

Year 4 Residential Trip
(Hooke Court)



Monday 28th

Class and Year 4
leavers photographs





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 or 01202 822737

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: Hillside2025!!

Bookings now open through our website!

Mondays 3pm Reception, Years 1 & 2

Mondays 4pm Years 3 & 4

e: info@dorsetcreativedance.co.uk t: 07759 949 478
www.dorsetcreativedance.co.uk

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