

# Hillside News

DATES TO REMEMBER



Sponsored Bounce

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March



## WEEKLY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Little Owls 1 | 95% |
| Little Owls 2 | 98% |
| Tawny Owls 1  | 99% |
| Tawny Owls 2  | 99% |
| Tawny Owls 3  | 99% |
| Snowy Owls 1  | 98% |
| Snowy Owls 2  | 96% |
| Snowy Owls 3  | 99% |

Whole School 98%

Target



The school day begins at 08:40

Gates open at 08:30

School finishes at 15:00



FRIDAY 21 MARCH

WE'RE HOSTING A MUFTI DAY, AND WE INVITE CHILDREN TO WEAR OR ACCESSORISE WITH SOMETHING RED TO JOIN IN THE FUN! DONATIONS CAN BE MADE HERE:

[LINK](#)



Hillside First School

where children are at the heart of everything we do



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

## Headteacher Update Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025

What a great week we've had! The highlight for me was celebrating World Book Day on Thursday.

Our week kicked off on Monday with an assembly about drones. We learned how a town in Darlington is trialling drone deliveries from Amazon and discovered many other innovative uses—from delivering medicines to helping farmers analyse crop growth. The children were thrilled to have a drone film them during World Book Day, and we hope to share some of that footage with you soon. A massive thank you to **Smart Home Technical Limited** for their generous support to our school. You can find out more about them here: [Smart Home Technical Limited](#).

It was wonderful to see so many of you at Parents' Evening this week. We really value the opportunity to discuss your child's progress and work together to ensure they have every opportunity to reach their full potential.

World Book Day is always a special highlight of the school year. While we promote reading all year round, it's incredibly heart-warming to see the joy when children come to school dressed as their favourite characters. We had a full day of activities, including:

- A school assembly where each class shared interesting facts about an author they had researched.
- Book buddies, where classes paired up to read stories to one another.
- A visit from an author for children in Years R–2.
- Outdoor reading sessions, allowing the children to enjoy a good story in the fresh air.

I have detailed our "Story in a Jar" entries and winners below. Thank you also for your support with the children's costumes and for the fantastic entries into the competition. Reading is one of the greatest gifts we can give our children, and its importance cannot be overstated.

There was a great turnout at the school discos this week—many thanks to the PTA for organising and running these events.

Next week, we're excited about our PTA Sponsored Bounce on Friday. Thank you again for your ongoing support in raising sponsorship for this event.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Best wishes, Mr. Graves

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



Little  
Owls 1  
Rupert

Little  
Owls 2  
Millie

Tawny  
Owls 1  
Molly

Tawny  
Owls 2  
Cameron

Tawny  
Owls 3  
Lola

Snowy  
Owls 1  
Elsie

Snowy  
Owls 2  
Jayden

Snowy  
Owls 2  
Bridgette

Snowy  
Owls 3  
Darcie



# World Book Day 2025

Here are some of our Stories in a Jar, thanks for getting involved:



After a very difficult decision the winning entries for each year group are:

**Year R: Smeds and Smoos Honey**



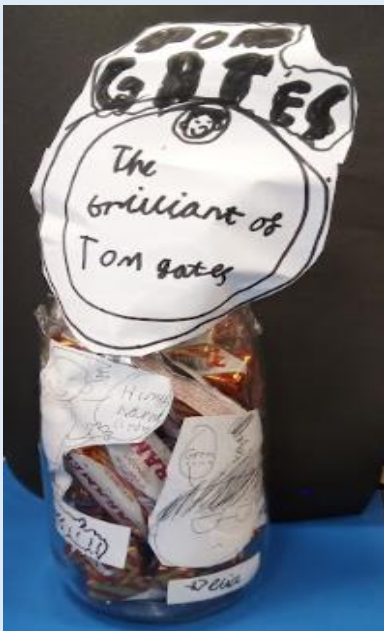
**Year 1: Stickman Ellie S**



**Year 2: Angelina Ballerina Margot**



**Year 3: Tom Gates Albert**



**Year 4: Monkey Puzzle Elsie**



A few **Book Buddies** photos

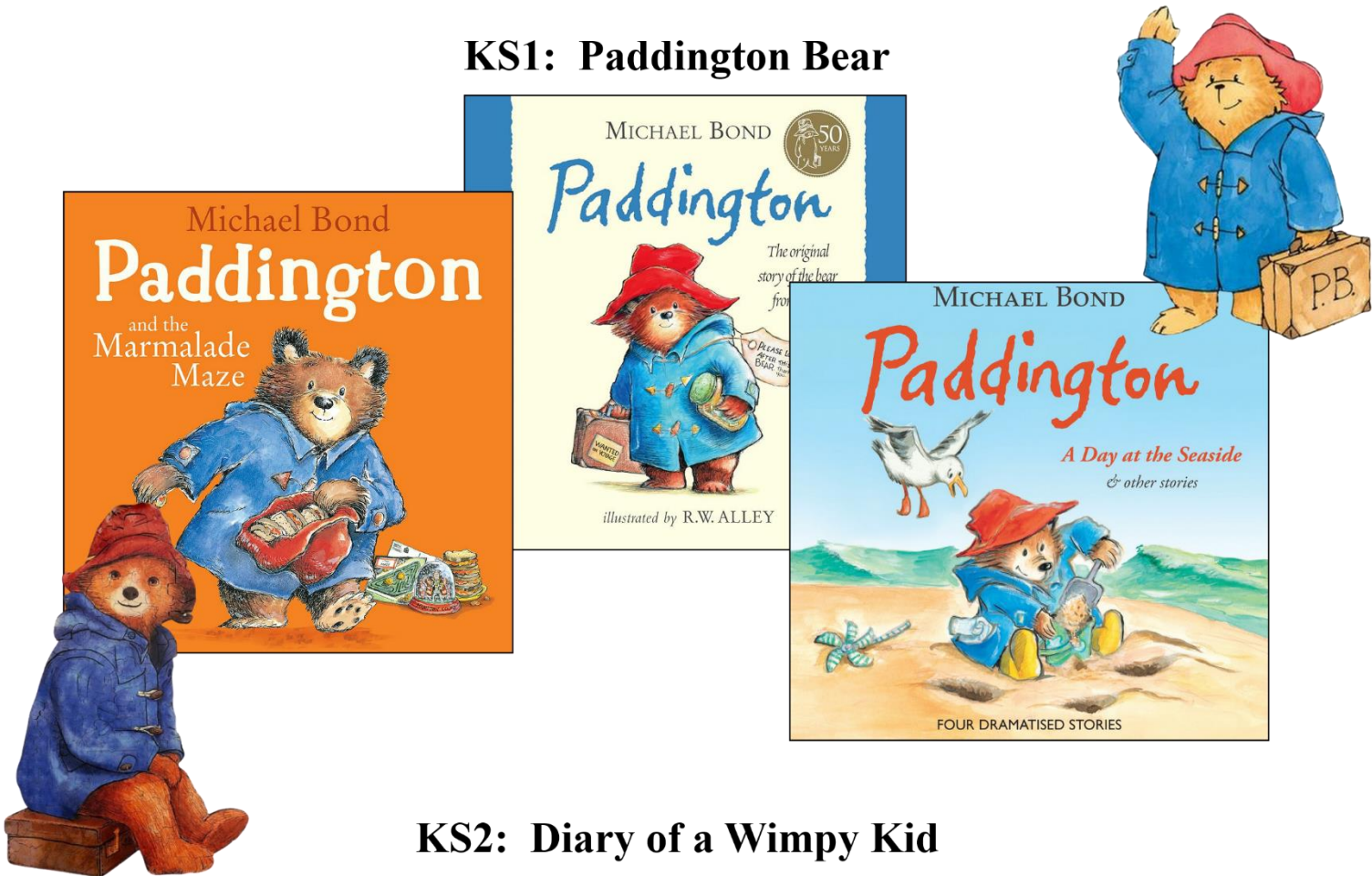




# Our favourite books

Our librarians challenged children from across the school to vote for their favourite book. The votes have been tallied, and the winners are:

## KS1: Paddington Bear



## KS2: Diary of a Wimpy Kid



STEP INTO A WORLD OF

MAKE  
BELIEVE

AND  
WONDER

-AT-

HILLSIDE COMMUNITY  
CIRCUS

*joins*

JULY 13TH  
FROM 1PM

AT HILLSIDE FIRST SCHOOL,  
VERWOOD, BH31 7HE

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS NOW  
FOOD AND DRINK WILL BE AVAILABLE BEFORE THE EVENT  
AND DURING THE BREAK.

[HTTPS://WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/HILLSIDE-COUNTY-FIRST-SCHOOL-PTA](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/hillside-county-first-school-pta)





**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)





**WE ARE  
NOW TAKING BOOKINGS  
FOR CHILDREN  
STARTING SCHOOL IN  
SEPTEMBER 2026**

**Hillside Pre-School is open term time, Monday - Friday and accepts children with both 15 and 30 hour funding. We have a Breakfast Club running from 7:45am, and After School Club running from 3pm, for both Hillside First and Pre-School children.**

To book a tour of our wonderful setting, which opened in April 1990, contact Mrs Ford on:

**01202 820 679**

**Email: [office@hillsidepreschool.org](mailto:office@hillsidepreschool.org)**

**or visit: [www.hillsidepreschool.org](http://www.hillsidepreschool.org)**

Click on the icons for a quick link to our social media pages, website and email →



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

## PARENT INFORMATION



'Let's Talk SEND' online events give people in Dorset with children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) a chance to come together and hear from the SEND team at Dorset Council.

The sessions always include plenty of time for questions and answers.

The next session is on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March, 11.30am – 12.20pm

Please book using this link: [Let's Talk SEND](#)