

Hillside News

DATES TO
REMEMBER



Last day of term

Friday 4th April
2025

END OF
TERM



WEEKLY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Little Owls 1	96%
Little Owls 2	98%
Tawny Owls 1	96%
Tawny Owls 2	100%
Tawny Owls 3	99%
Snowy Owls 1	98%
Snowy Owls 2	96%
Snowy Owls 3	95%

Whole School 97%

Target



The school day begins
at 08:40

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



Celebration of
Achievement
Event

Wednesday 2nd
April.

Straight after
school.

Hillside First School

where
children
are at
the heart of
everything we do



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



Headteacher Update Friday 28th March 2025

This week has flown by! We hope you can attend our Celebration of Achievement Event immediately after school next Wednesday. We've changed the day this week as some families couldn't make it on Tuesday, though we understand this might mean some cannot attend on Wednesday.

This week, I had the pleasure of sharing a story with each of the Little Owls class, which is always a joy. The children were very engaged and enjoyed participating. We highly value reading—just 20 minutes a day can have a significant impact on their success at school and beyond. Thank you for your continued support, and please keep encouraging your children to listen to stories, read with you, and share the love of storytelling.

Just a reminder to send in your Hillside Heroes submissions. Whether it's a sporting achievement, riding their bike, tying their laces, a drawing they're proud of, writing their name, playing a musical instrument, picking up litter, or even cleaning a car... we would love to hear from you.

I'm also sharing a link to ParentKind, which offers some interesting webinars that might be of interest:

<https://www.parentkind.org.uk/your-pta-expert/parent-webinars>

Finally, congratulations to all our rockstars who performed for a live audience of the whole school, parents, and staff this afternoon as part of the Rocksteady Concert—what an awesome effort!

Have a great weekend!

Mr. Graves

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



Little
Owls 1
Chloe

Little
Owls 2
Jesse

Tawny
Owls 1
Paisley

Tawny
Owls 2
Bella

Tawny
Owls 3
Ethan

Snowy
Owls 1
Indiana

Snowy
Owls 2
Eliza

Snowy
Owls 3
Oliver



The Book Nook



Snowy Owls 2

All of Snowy Owls 2 are loving reading the Dave Pigeon books by Swapna Haddow at the moment. Here are some things we like about them.

It's funny ~Chloe

There are different characters in each book ~Brigitte

It's fun to read and exciting ~Josh

They are full of description ~ Eliza

I like the speech bubbles ~ Louisa

I never really liked pigeons but it inspired me to like them ~Noah

It makes you want to read more ~Leo C



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.



Meet our heroes



Erika recently achieved her 25-metre swimming milestone.



After her first attempt two months ago, she showed great perseverance and ultimately succeeded.



Amazing...very well done Erika!

Over the weekend, Bertie and Jude chose to spend some time near their home picking up litter.



It was entirely their decision, and their effort made a real difference in keeping

Well done Bertie and Jude!



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 10th
Year 1 School Trip
(Museum of East Dorset)

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



Friday 28th
PTA Event
Mufti Day & School Disco
Reception - Year 1 15:00-16:30
Year 2 - Year 4 17:00-18:30



March

Week Commencing
Monday 3rd
World Book Day
week of celebrations

Tuesday 4th
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 14th
Sponsored Bounce



Friday 21st
Comic Relief

RED
NOSE
DAY

Monday 24th
PTA Event
Someone Special Shop
Purchase a gift for a special
person on Mother's Day



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



STEP INTO A WORLD OF

MAKE
BELIEVE

AND
WONDER

-AT-

HILLSIDE COMMUNITY
CIRCUS

joining

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 or 01202 822737

www.hillsidefirstschool.org





**ARE YOU
LOOKING FOR A
PRE-SCHOOL
PLACE FOR YOUR
CHILD?**

Open Morning Friday 4th April



Join us for an Open Morning at Hillside Preschool on Friday 4th April from 10am - 12pm. Come and explore our warm, welcoming environment, meet our friendly team and discover what makes us a fantastic place for your child to learn, play and grow!

Booking is preferable – please call 01202 820 679 or email office@hillsidepreschool.org to register your attendance.

We look forward to meeting you!





**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

or visit: 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 t: 07759 949 478
www.dorsetcreativedance.co.uk

A photograph of five young girls in purple long-sleeved shirts and black leggings performing a dance routine on a stage. They are holding long, colorful ribbons (blue, green, yellow, purple) that are trailing behind them in the air.

**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

A graphic design for a school club poster. The background is a dark green color. At the bottom, there are several stylized, grey silhouettes of evergreen trees of varying heights and shapes.