

Hillside News

Hillside First School

where
children
are at
the heart of
everything we do



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

DATES TO
REMEMBER



Our Summer
Fayre
Friday 16th May
17:00 – 19:30



Headteacher Update Friday 2nd May 2025

What glorious weather we've enjoyed this week—our hottest day of the year so far! It's been wonderful to see everyone making the most of our playground and school grounds in the sunshine.

Over the weekend I reflected on two very different but equally inspiring events. First, the passing of Pope Francis reminded me of his powerful message to young people to "dream great things, to seek vast horizons...and to offer the best of themselves to the building of something better." Regardless of faith or background, his conviction and compassion have left an indelible mark on our global community. Then, watching the London Marathon coverage, I was impressed by the determination of every runner. Their stories of why they were running were a timely inspiration—and have prompted me to propose a new Friday after-school club: **Hillside Heartbeat**, a 20-minute, family-friendly aerobics session. Please complete the Google Form that Mrs Tarrant sent out by **Friday 16th May** if you and your child would like to join us for these drop-in sessions.

Yesterday, our Year 3 and 4 pupils returned to the heath for the latest Nurturing Nature session with Sarah Allen from the Urban Heath Partnership. The children explored plant anatomy and growth requirements, identified local heathland species, and learned about pollination and seed dispersal. They put their scientific skills to work through germination games, quadrat sampling (complete with tallies and bar charts), and even a nature-inspired craft activity. A huge thank-you to Sarah and her team for making science come alive outdoors!

Next week we'll mark our VE Day Picnic on **Thursday 8th May**—a mufti day, so please dress the children in red, white and blue if you can. We look forward to you joining us for the picnic in the afternoon. Thank you to everyone who has already submitted memories and photographs for our 80th Anniversary VE Day Memory Book; if you haven't had a chance yet, please do keep them coming.

Enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend, and we'll see you back at school on Tuesday 6th May.

Best wishes, Mr Graves

WEEKLY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Little Owls 1	93%
Little Owls 2	98%
Tawny Owls 1	100%
Tawny Owls 2	99%
Tawny Owls 3	93%
Snowy Owls 1	97%
Snowy Owls 2	99%
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

Sun Safety



With the improved weather, please remember to apply suntan lotion at home and send your child to school with a clearly named sun hat (if possible) and a refillable water bottle. Mrs Davis and our Eco Warriors are hard at work behind the scenes developing a comprehensive sun-safe policy and will share once completed.

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

Star
of the
WEEK

Little
Owls 1
Addison

Little
Owls 2
Tommy

Tawny
Owls 1
**Amelia-
Mae**

Tawny
Owls 2
Caitlyn

Tawny
Owls 3
**Elizah
Amelia**

Snowy
Owls 1
Fin

Snowy
Owls 2
Jackson

Snowy
Owls 3
Connor



Some photos from Snowy Owls 3 Heathland Visit



Summer term

UPCOMING EVENTS



May

Monday 5th

May Day Bank Holiday

Friday 2nd

Mufti Day in exchange for tombola donations for our Summer Fayre

Tuesday 13th

Little Owls School Trip
(Blashford Lakes)



Friday 16th

17:00 - 19:30

Summer Fayre



**Monday 26th to
Friday 30th May**

Half Term

June

Friday 6th



PTA Event - Ice-Cream Sale
To be purchased in advance in Arbor

Friday 13th

PTA Event

Someone Special Shop

Purchase a gift for a special person on Father's Day



Friday 13th



PTA Event - Ice-Cream Sale
To be purchased in advance in Arbor

Friday 13th

PTA Event

Mufti Day & School Disco

Reception - Year 1 15:00-16:30

Year 2 - Year 4 17:00-18:30



Friday 20th



PTA Event - Ice-Cream Sale
To be purchased in advance in Arbor

Thursday 26th



PTA Event - Ice-Cream Sale
To be purchased in advance in Arbor

Friday 27th

Transfer Day



July

Tuesday 1st

Year 2 School Trip
(Upton Country Park)



Thursday 3rd

PTA Event - Ice-Cream Sale
To be purchased in advance in Arbor



Thursday 3rd

PTA Event

Break the Rules Day



Friday 11th

Year 4 Leavers Service

Friday 11th

PTA Event - Ice-Cream Sale
To be purchased in advance in Arbor



Thursday 17th

17:00 - 19:00

Year 4 Leavers Party



Friday 18th

PTA Event - Ice-Cream Sale
To be purchased in advance in Arbor



Wednesday 23rd

Last day of term



JOIN US FOR

Hillside First School Fayre

16th May 5pm to 7.30pm

£1 entry
Children are free

All Welcome
Bring Friends and Family

BBQ
Bouncy Castle
Races
Rides
Games
Stalls
Bar
Raffle
and much much more

STEP INTO A WORLD OF

MAKE BELIEVE AND WONDER

-AT-

HILLSIDE COMMUNITY CIRCUS

performs

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)

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

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



Hillside First School offers a wide range of after-school clubs to enrich children’s learning and creativity beyond the classroom. From sports and dance to music and computing, there’s something for every child's interest and development.

Day	Club	Booking Information
MONDAY	Creative Dance 15:00-16:00 (Year R-2) 16:00-17:00 (Year3-4)	Book here for Year R-2 Book here for Year 3-4 Password: Hillside2025!!
TUESDAY	BRS Sports & Fitness Breakfast Club 08:00-08:30 (Year R-4)	Book via Arbor app
	BRS Sports & Fitness Lunch Club 12:00-12:30 (Year R-4)	Book via Arbor app
	BRS After School Football Club 15:00-16:00 (Year 1-4)	Book via Arbor app
WEDNESDAY	Computer Xplorers 15:00-16:00 (Year3-4) 16:00-17:00 (Year1-2)	Book here
THURSDAY	Forest School 15:00-16:00	Book here
FRIDAY	Rocksteady Music School Lessons take place in school	Book here
	Dodgeball 15:00-16:00 (Year1-4)	Book via Arbor app



Hillside Pre-School Breakfast & After School Club

Hillside Pre-School also offers a **Breakfast Club** and **After School Club** for children attending Hillside First School and Hillside Pre-School.

- Breakfast Club runs daily from 07:45
- After School Club is available:
 - Monday to Thursday: 15:00-18:00
 - Friday: 15:00-17:00



For more information, please contact Hillside Pre-School on 01202 820679 or visit www.hillsidepreschool.org