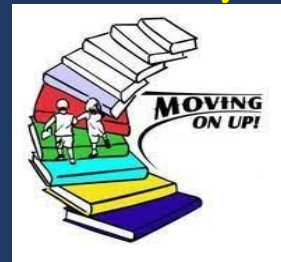


Hillside News

DATES TO
REMEMBER



Friday 27th June
Transfer Day



Current Year 4 will attend
their new school on this
day

Hillside First School

where
children
are at
the heart of
everything we do



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



Headteacher Update Friday 20th June 2025

Well, what a scorcher this week has been! To keep everyone safe and comfortable, we've limited the time spent outdoors and appreciate your support with water bottles, sun hats and sunscreen. Luckily, we have five air-conditioned classrooms where the children can cool off when needed. At the moment, the forecast for Sports Morning looks cloudy—fingers crossed we dodge the rain—and the children are busy fine-tuning their practice in preparation for the big event!

Yesterday I had the pleasure of accompanying Tawny Owls 2 on their heathland visit, and Tawny Owls 1 joined this morning. The children were absolutely delightful: they learned about our local heathland habitat, tried their hand at bark rubbings, studied lichens through magnifying glasses, and created colour palettes as they explored. A huge thank-you to the Urban Heath Partnership, Dorset Council for organising everything, and to our amazing volunteers who accompanied the groups. I've included some photos below so you can see the fun for yourselves!

We were also thrilled to welcome many of our new families and their little ones who will be joining us in September for a 'Stay and Play' session yesterday morning. There was a real buzz of excitement around the school—so lovely to see!

You should have received a parents' questionnaire today. We'd be very grateful if you could spare a few minutes to share your views [here](#).

We have lots to squeeze into this final half-term, including transition information sessions next week:

4:00 pm for current Reception and Year 1 families
5:00 pm for current Year 2 and 3 families

Friday will be our official transfer day. I'll send home a letter after the transition meetings with all the final details.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend,

Mr Graves

WEEKLY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Little Owls 1	88%
Little Owls 2	97%
Tawny Owls 1	93%
Tawny Owls 2	93%
Tawny Owls 3	93%
Snowy Owls 1	98%
Snowy Owls 2	99%
Snowy Owls 3	97%

Whole School 95%

Target

97% +

The school day begins
at 08:40

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

Sports Day Morning



Tuesday
24th June

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



Year 1's heathland visit





What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE KIDS



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

As its name suggests, YouTube Kids is a child-friendly version of Google's online video-sharing platform. Its colourful user interface is designed with young people in mind, and it offers a curated, family-friendly experience with features like age-based content settings and parental controls.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT BYPASSING FILTERS



YouTube Kids is less likely to show inappropriate material than YouTube, but there have been reports of the app showing age-inappropriate content to young viewers. One investigation found that YouTube Kids had shown videos that promote skin bleaching, weight loss, drug culture and firearms to children as young as two, as inappropriate content had bypassed the platform's algorithms and human moderators.

BE WARY OF ADVERTISING



Like Google's regular YouTube app, YouTube Kids features pervasive advertising before a video plays. While these adverts are designed to be family friendly and are subject to a strict review process, it's worth noting that YouTube Kids collects information around children's viewing to inform targeted content and advertisements.

DESIGNED TO BE ADDICTIVE



YouTube Kids is designed to be addictive. The platform's design features, such as the constant stream of new videos and the reward system of points or virtual stickers, can be very engaging and make it difficult for children to switch off. Research has shown that spending too much time using digital services such as YouTube can lead to screen addiction, affecting children's daily routines, studies, and even their social lives.

SETTINGS CAN BE CIRCUMVENTED



YouTube Kids offers built-in parental controls, enabling you to set screen time limits and curate the content children are able to view; however, children are often more tech-savvy than we think. They can easily bypass or tweak these settings if they have access to the associated Google account password, thereby exposing themselves to age-inappropriate and potentially dangerous content.

AI-GENERATED MISINFORMATION



There is also a risk of children accessing videos that contain disinformation and misinformation. A BBC investigation found that some YouTube channels are using artificial intelligence (AI) technology to create misleading 'scientific' videos that are recommended to children as educational content. These videos included conspiracy theories and ideas that lack scientific backing.

DATA COLLECTION RISK



While there are limits on the data that YouTube can collect on children under 13, children can still inadvertently give away sensitive information when using YouTube Kids. The platform collects data on children's viewing habits, content searches and location, which YouTube and third-party advertisers can use.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PARENTAL CONTROLS



YouTube Kids offers several settings that allow you to manage what content children can view. For example, you can choose what level of content you want them to access, such as 'Preschool' or 'Younger'. You can also turn off the search function, so that only those videos approved by the YouTube Kids team themselves will appear on a child's recommendations list.

SET TIME LIMITS



The built-in parental controls let you keep a tab on how long children spend watching videos. You can set a timer that limits screen time and disables the YouTube Kids app once a specified length of time has been reached. It's also worth speaking to children about the dangers of spending too much time on YouTube, to ensure they remain focused on other, more important activities.

CHECK WATCH HISTORY



YouTube Kids has made it easy for you to keep an eye on what the children in your care have been watching on the app. By clicking on the 'Recommended' icon at the top right of the home screen, you can see which videos they've been viewing, and how much of each. If a child watches YouTube Kids while signed into a Google account, you can check their history through Google's 'My Activity' page.

WATCH TOGETHER



It's important that you try to make YouTube Kids a fun and positive experience for children. One way to do this is by introducing watching sessions, where you all gather around and share the most enjoyable videos that you have recently watched. This can be a great way of giving you both new things to talk about and of keeping an eye on what they're watching.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced journalist with more than 10 years of experience covering the technology industry. Previously a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly is now a freelance journalist, editor, and copywriter. Her bylines include Forbes, TechRadar, Tes, The INQUIRER, The Metro, Uswitch, and WIRED.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/youtube-kids-2025>



Meet our heroes



Dexter's gymnastics competition results:

- 1st place on floor
- 1st place on vault
- 2nd place on parallel bars
- 2nd place on rings
- 4th place on pommel horse

1st place overall



Fantastic Dexter, well done!

★ ★ ★ Millie recently joined Swish Theatre School.

She is currently rehearsing for a parents performance later this month. She loves attending and gaining good stars for each category.



We are very proud of her!

Amazing Millie, well done!

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



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

Tuesday 24th
Sports Day

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

Monday 21st
Year 4 Leavers Assembly 14:00

Wednesday 23rd
Last day of term



Hillside Ice Cream Fridays

£1 per treat

Week 1 - 6th June - Fruit Splits

Week 2 - 13th June - Rainbow Lollies

Week 3 - 20th June - Bubblegum Swirl

Week 4 - 26th June - Fab

Week 5 - 3rd July - Cola Bottles

Week 6 - 11th July - Rockets

Week 7 - 18th July - Strawberry Cone

We will be selling one type of lolly each week.
Pre Orders only on Arbor plus note the deadline date is the Sunday before the sell each week.

The PTA will be serving
Hot and Cold drinks
on 24th June for Sports Day

We will be open from 8.45 am
to 9.05 am
and also during the break.

All Drinks £1

BREAK the RULES DAY

Rules to be broken include:

- No nail varnish
- No trainers
- No crazy hair
- No different glasses
- No temporary tatoos
- No unhealthy snacks
- No juice drinks
- No teddies
- No make-up or face paint
- No hats

Here's how it works

When?
Thursday
3rd July
2024

For one day only you can choose how many rules you want to break.
50p PER RULE
Can be pre booked and paid for on Arbor.
GO NUTS BREAK THEM ALL.

STEP INTO A WORLD OF

MAKE BELIEVE AND WONDER

-AT-

HILLSIDE COMMUNITY CIRCUS

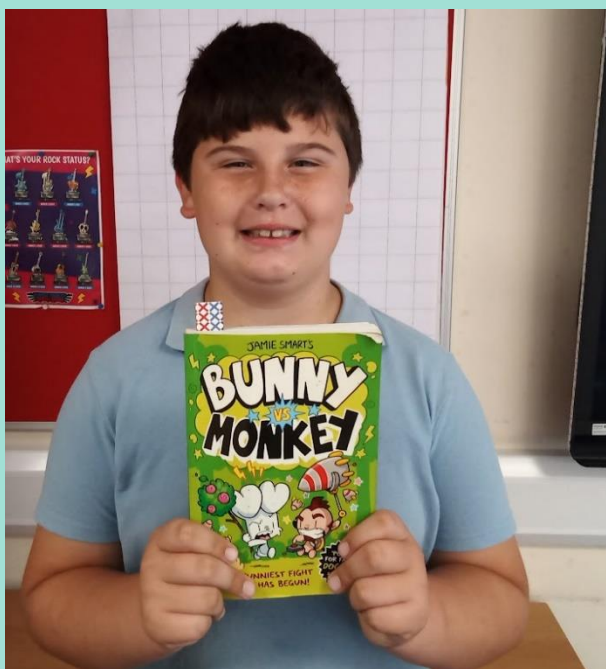
joining
JULY 13TH
FROM 1PM

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)

The Book Nook



Bunny vs Monkey by Jamie Smart is a graphic novel about a monkey is being naughty and the bunny is trying to keep everything clean. The monkey makes a big chicken to fly around and put stinky stuff everywhere. It's really funny and a really good comic book.

Ben



Join Nick The Vic & the TREE HOUSE Team at Verwood Methodist Church for some fun in the sun in the Summer Holidays ...



**TREE HOUSE
FUN GAMES
MORNING**

**SATURDAY 16TH AUGUST
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM**

Games in the garden for children at school aged 5-12 years



Parachute Games!



Water Games!



Ice Cream!

If your child would like to come then please email Suzannah (treehouse@nickthevic.co.uk) by Friday 1st August to register a place. There is no charge for this event.

Parents will sign their children in and out but will not be able to stay for the duration of the event. TREE HOUSE is a part of the children and youth ministry of Verwood Methodist Church. All our team are Safeguarding-trained and DBS-verified in accordance with the Safeguarding Policy of the Methodist Church.

For more info please contact Suzannah or check out the website below.

Verwood Methodist Church, Vicarage Road, BH31 6DR

www.nickthevic.co.uk/treehouse



**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



Joining the Summer Reading Challenge

Children sign up through their local library and receive a sticker booklet. They set a reading goal and borrow books of their choice during the summer, collecting special stickers. Children who complete the Challenge are presented with a medal when they have read 6 books, and a certificate is sent to school in the Autumn term.

The Challenge starts on Saturday 5 July



How the Summer Reading Challenge benefits children:

- significantly improves reading confidence and independence
- ensures students are ready for their return to school, preventing the summer reading 'dip'
- aids the successful transition between year groups and key stages

Schools online author event with Gareth P. Jones to launch Story Garden

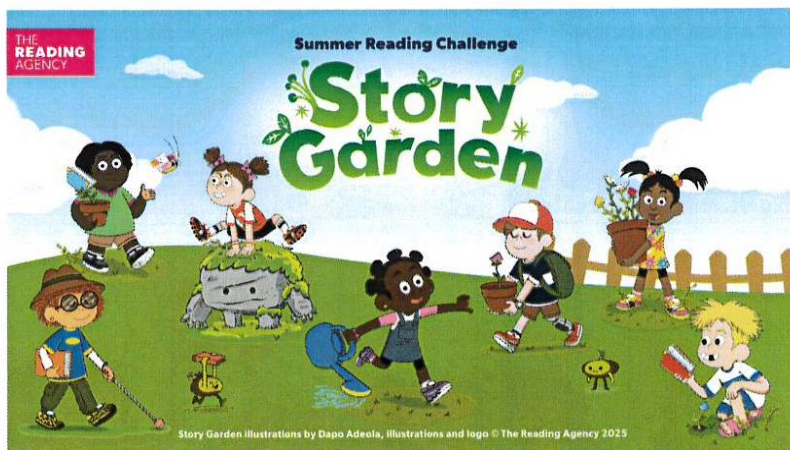
Thursday 3 July 9.15 - 9.45 am



[Book your place for our online launch event](#)

What next

- display posters in your school
- send a newsletter to parents and carers with information about the Challenge
- talk to students about Story Garden during assembly time
- visit the Summer Reading Challenge School Zone for more information and free resources



2025 Summer Reading Challenge, Story Garden - Adventures in nature and the great outdoors

This year's exciting theme will inspire children to tap into a world of imagination through reading, exploring the magical connection between storytelling and nature.

The Summer Reading Challenge is a FREE holiday activity for children. It's all about reading for fun, aiming to improve children's reading skills and confidence.



We value your support in helping us to promote the Summer Reading Challenge and therefore we will be pleased to:

- attend an assembly to talk about the Summer Reading Challenge
- provide an electronic promotional flyer for emailing to parents and carers
- provide a PowerPoint presentation to explain the Summer Reading Challenge to children in an assembly or classroom situation. We will notify you when it is available

To ensure all children hear about Story Garden, library staff would be delighted to visit an assembly to talk to children about the Summer Reading Challenge.

Assembly visits are available between 23 June and 16 July

[Book your assembly visit](#)



The Summer Reading Challenge is developed by The Reading Agency and delivered in partnership with public libraries.



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 (Year 3-4)	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 (Year 3-4) 16:00-17:00 (Year 1-2)	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 (Year 1-4)	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