



DATES TO REMEMBER



Parent Consultations
Tuesday 20th and
Wednesday 21st
October
 (Booking details coming soon)



SAVE THE DATE!

Headteacher Update Friday 25th September 2026

Another great week across the school! Our children have been working incredibly hard, and their enthusiasm for learning has certainly shone through.

We kicked off Monday with Tigers! 🐯 Did you know Nepal's wild tiger population has more than tripled, from 121 in 2010 to 429 today?

We explored how Nepal is protecting its tigers and considered a big question: how can people and wildlife safely share the same land?

This week also saw our individual and sibling photographs. There is something rather special about a photograph, it captures a moment in time that we can look back on for years to come. Funnily enough, I still have some of my own school photographs, and I thought I would share one from my middle school days with you. Looking back at old photographs like this always brings back so many memories!



Here's a little challenge for families: why not dig out an old school photograph of your own and show it to your children / grandchildren? Tell them about your school days, what you were like as a child and what has changed since then. After all, memories only truly live on when we share them. ❤️

We will shortly be writing home with details of how to book parent consultations, which will take place on Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st October. Please do try to book a slot with your child's class teacher. It is a great opportunity to talk about how your child is getting on and celebrate their progress.

Today, we finished the week with an amazing African Drumming Workshop and Performance! The children had a fantastic time experiencing African drumming, rhythm and movement. A huge thank you once again to our wonderful PTA for funding this experience, and to Cheikh from Rhythm Generation Drumming for delivering such a fantastic day.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Mr Graves
 Headteacher

WEEKLY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Little Owls 1	96%
Little Owls 2	99%
Barn Owls 1	99%
Barn Owls 2	97%
Tawny Owls	92%
Snowy Owls	99%
Eagle Owls 1	97%
Eagle Owls 2	97%

Whole School 97%

Target



The school day begins
at 08:40
Gates open at 08:30
School finishes at 15:00



Congratulations
to the following children
for being our latest



Stars of the Week

Little Owls 1

Joining in
October

Little Owls 2

Joining in
October

Barn Owls 1

Amber

Barn Owls 2

Josiah

Tawny Owls

Jude

Snowy Owls

Wyatt

Eagle Owls 1

George

Eagle Owls 2

Peyton





Over the summer holiday's Paige completed her water skills 1 & 2 badge and her stage 3 swimming badge!



Well done Paige!



Skye was determined to be self-sufficient on her pedal bike before starting Hillside First School.



She's doing super well and she's very proud of herself, as are Mummy and Daddy.





Hillside First School

"Where children are at the heart of everything we do"

Open Events

FOR CHILDREN STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2027

Tuesday 6th October - 09:00
Wednesday 14th October - 17:00
Tuesday 10th November - 09:00

Scan the QR code below to book your place or complete the booking form on our website.



We are very proud of our school. We would love to show you around and let you see what we do and how we learn.

There will be a presentation at 09:00 and 17:00 by our Headteacher, Mr Graves followed by a school tour.

www.hillsidefirstschool.org ~ 01202 822737



SCAN ME!

Do you need to apply for your child's new school place?

Is your child due to leave their current school in July 2027 and transfer to the next school in September 2027?



Dorset Residents Apply Now

Secondary applications - Closing date 31 October 2026

• Primary - Secondary School • Middle - Upper School

Primary applications - Closing date 15 January 2027

• Starting School • Infant - Junior School • First - Middle School

Dorset residents apply online at: dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/apply-school-place or call 01305 221060



Scan here



Hillside First School

"A SKY FULL OF STARS"

Reading WORKSHOP

Supporting your child's reading journey

All parents and carers welcome!

- Read
- Explore
- Imagine
- Belong
- Achieve

We are delighted to invite you to our Reading Workshop, designed to support you in helping your child become a confident, fluent and enthusiastic reader.

 **What we'll cover:**

- A brief overview of our **phonics programme** – how we teach children to recognise sounds, blend them together to read words and develop accuracy and fluency.
- How **phonics** links to the books your child brings home and how you can reinforce these skills through everyday reading practice.
- Modelling effective **1:1 reading strategies**, showing you how to make the most of your child's reading time at home.

 **We will also:**

- Share practical strategies for overcoming common challenges and supporting reluctant readers.
- Explore ways to keep expectations manageable, build positive reading habits and encourage your child without making reading feel like a chore.

 **Our aim**

For you to leave feeling informed, reassured and confident about supporting your child at home – with a clear understanding of how to help them when they are successful, when they make mistakes and when they need a little extra encouragement.

 **Thursday 15th October**
5.30 – 6.30pm

Together we make brighter futures

We look forward to welcoming you and working together to support your child's reading journey.

Hillside First School
"A Sky Full of Stars"



DORSET PARENT CARER COUNCIL BIG EVENT

Join us for a relaxed **FREE** information event for families with children with special education need and disabilities (SEND).

There will be lots of organisations attending that support children with SEND, such as:

- education & schools
- health support
- SEND support groups
- activities for children with SEND
- impartial advice and guidance
- and much more

We will also have a special stall at this event where you can learn more about the Government's proposed **SEND Reforms** and share your thoughts!

WEDS 30 SEPT

Kingston Maurward House, DT2 8PY

10am – 1pm

Free tea, coffee and relaxed spaces for a chat.

Meet & talk with local organisations. Hear their news and ask them questions

NO NEED TO BOOK!

Meet with other parents and carers

FREE PARKING ON SITE




Dorset SENDIASS

Dorset



Autumn *term*

UPCOMING EVENTS



September

Tuesday 1st
Inset Day

Wednesday 2nd
Inset Day

Thursday 3rd
First Day of Term

Monday 21st
Individual & Sibling Photographs

Wednesday 23rd
PTA AGM - new members welcome
18:00 at Hillside First School

Friday 25th
African Drumming Workshop



October

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

Monday 5th
Harvest Assembly

Tuesday 6th
New Parents Open Morning
09:00

Friday 9th
World Mental Health Day

Wednesday 14th
New Parents Open Evening
17:00

Tuesday 20th
Parent Consultations

Wednesday 21st
Parent Consultations



**Monday 26th -
Friday 30th**
Half Term



November

Monday 2nd
Inset Day

Monday 9th
Remembrance Assembly

Tuesday 10th
New Parents Open Morning
09:00

Tuesday 10th
PTA Event
Movie Night - Year R and Year 1

Wednesday 11th
PTA Event
Movie Night
Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4

Friday 13th
Mufti Day in exchange for tombola
donations for our
Christmas Fayre

Monday 16th - Friday 20th
Anti Bullying (Friendship Week)

Friday 20th
Children in Need

Friday 27th
PTA Event
Christmas Fayre



December

Friday 4th
PTA Event
Christmas Shop



Thursday 10th
Christmas Jumper Day
Children can wear a
Christmas jumper along
with non-school uniform

Monday 14th
Christmas Performances

Tuesday 15th
Christmas Performances

Wednesday 16th
Christmas Performances

Thursday 17th
Christmas Entertainment

Friday 18th
Christmas Party Day

FREE Mufti day
Children invited
to wear party
Clothes.

Friday 18th
Last day
of term





Hillside First School offers a wide range of after-school clubs to enrich children's learning and creativity beyond the classroom. From 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
	Computer Xplorers 15:00-16:00 (Year1-4)	Coming Soon
TUESDAY	BRS Football Club 15:00-16:00	Book here
	Mad Science 15:00-16:00 (Year 1-4)	Book here
WEDNESDAY	Lego Creators 15:00-16:00 (Year 2-4)	Book here
THURSDAY	Arts, Crafts & Mindfulness 15:00-16:00 (Year1-4)	Book here
	Gymnastics 15:00-16:00 (Year 3-4) 16:00-17:00 (Year R-2)	Book here
FRIDAY	Rocksteady Music School Lessons take place in school	Book here

Clubs starting at 3.00pm

The children will go directly to the club from the classroom and leave by the school's main entrance. If you have any questions, please contact the relevant club provider directly.

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

