

DATES TO REMEMBER

Celebration of Learning Event
Wednesday 9th December, 3.00pm

A lovely opportunity to share in your child's learning and celebrate their hard work and progress.

Headteacher Update Friday 13th November 2026

This week, we came together for a special Remembrance Service to remember all those who have helped to bring peace and keep others safe. The children showed great respect and thoughtfulness as we took this time to remember. Throughout the school, the children have also been busy creating some beautiful poppy artwork and crafts. It has been wonderful to see their creativity, care and enthusiasm as they have explored the meaning of Remembrance through their artwork.

Little Owls have had a lovely week full of celebrations, creativity and learning! The children have been exploring birthdays and celebrating Kipper's birthday. They have enjoyed making their own party hats, designing their perfect party in Drawing Club and using our role-play area to host their very own celebrations! We have also been learning about different festivals, including Diwali. The children had great fun creating Rangoli-inspired artwork using paint and tissue paper, exploring lots of beautiful colours and patterns. As part of our learning about Remembrance, the children made their own poppies, which we proudly displayed in the classroom as a way of remembering and showing our respect. In Maths, we have been focusing on the numbers 4 and 5. The children have been particularly excited about this as we are all either 4 or 5 years old!

Year One has had another fantastic week of learning! In English, the children have continued exploring the story of The Three Little Pigs. They have been sequencing the key events and using actions to help them retell the story with confidence and enthusiasm. In Art, they have been introduced to the artist Piet Mondrian and have enjoyed exploring his artwork and discovering his distinctive style. The children have also had a wonderful time at Forest School! They have loved jumping in muddy puddles and getting creative with natural materials to produce some beautiful autumn-inspired artwork.

This week in Year 2, we have been busy with lots of exciting learning! In Maths, we have been developing our mathematical skills by comparing number sentences. In English, we have been exploring expanded noun phrases and adverbs to describe the beast! We also took time to reflect on Remembrance Day by creating beautiful poppy paintings. We are very proud of our work and have displayed our poppies around the classrooms for everyone to enjoy.

This week, Year Three and Four has been busy across a range of exciting topics. In Art, the children created thoughtful pieces to commemorate Remembrance Day, taking time to reflect on its significance. In English, they have wrapped up their imaginative non-chronological reports, showcasing their creativity and writing skills. Meanwhile, in Geography, the class has kicked off a brand-new topic all about mountains, exploring how these towering landforms are made and where they can be found around the world.

Another lovely week of making memories, exploring new ideas and learning together!

Mrs Palmer

WEEKLY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Little Owls 1	95%
Little Owls 2	92%
Barn Owls 1	97%
Barn Owls 2	97%
Tawny Owls	98%
Snowy Owls	96%
Eagle Owls 1	97%
Eagle Owls 2	97%

Whole School 96%

Target



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



Odd Socks Day

Monday 16th November

Children are invited to wear odd socks with their usual school uniform.

Congratulations

to the following children for being our latest

Stars of the Week

Little Owls 1
TJ

Little Owls 2
Toby

Barn Owls 1
Alexander

Barn Owls 2
Evelina

Tawny Owls
Millie

Snowy Owls
Louis

Eagle Owls 1
Millie

Eagle Owls 2
Margot



Art Creations

This week, the children have been busy creating some wonderful artwork across the school! From thoughtful poppy artwork and crafts for Remembrance, to colourful Rangoli-inspired creations in Reception to celebrate Diwali, and Year 1 exploring the distinctive style of artist Piet Mondrian, the children have shown fantastic creativity, enthusiasm and imagination. We are so proud of their beautiful work and the care and thought they have put into their creations!

















A book we love



Mrs Andrews – 'Some Dogs do'

My favourite children's book is 'Some Dogs Do' by Jez Alborough. I read this book to all three of my own children and it became a regular bedtime routine for many years.

Even though they are now grown up, they all still remember the words to the story. It is about a dog that can fly but no-one believes him. He feels very sad until one day he learns something surprising. It is written in rhyme and I love rhyming books. It is an uplifting and happy story that brings a smile to my face every time I read it.



Free Parent/ Carer session: 'An Introduction to Autism'



What is the session about?

The session was co-developed with parents of autistic children, a SENCo, Dorset Parent Carer Council and Specialist Teachers and Educational Psychologists from Dorset Council.

It will help you to:

- Understand what autism is and how it may impact young people and families
- Learn some practical strategies to support an autistic child/young person
- Please note, this is a general information session, so we won't be able to discuss individual children or schools

Who can attend?

Anyone from the community, this could include people:

- with an autistic child
- with a child undergoing an assessment for autism
- who are interested in learning more about autism

Where and when?

Via **Teams** - There are two sessions a term and 50 spaces available for each session.

To book a place, please fill in this form and pick the session that suits you best:

Please click on this Link or scan the QR code above:

The session will be delivered by either an Educational Psychologist or a Specialist Teacher from Dorset Council

Hillside Pre-School
Celebrating 35 Years
Verwood
Established 1990





WE ARE NOW TAKINGBOOKINGS FOR CHILDREN STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2027 & 2028

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 us on:
01202 820 679
Email:office@hillsidepreschool.org
or visit: www.hillsidepreschool.org

Fundraising Christmas Events









Save The Date



Christmas Performances

Our Christmas performances will take place on these dates:

Friday 11th December
09:15 - Eagle Owls 2 & Snowy Owls
14:00 - Little Owls

Monday 14th December
09:15 - Eagle Owls 1 & Tawny Owls
14:00 - Barn Owls

Tuesday 15th December
09:15 - Barn Owls
14:00 - Eagle Owls 2 & Snowy Owls

Wednesday 16th December
09:15 - Little Owls
14:00 -Eagle Owls 1 & Tawny Owls



Tickets are free of charge. Due to the capacity in the hall, these are limited to 2 per family. Reserve your tickets in the shop on Arbor from **Monday 16th November at 18:00**

Alderholt CHRISTMAS TREES

07500 925487
07787 123479

9:30am until 4:30pm

from 20th Nov



Saturday 5th December

10:30 am - 12 noon

Verwood Methodist Church

Join Nick The Vic, Suzannah & the fab TREE HOUSE team for a morning full of fun Christmas craft activities. Make some great decorations for the church tree - and some for your own. Expect cool craft, Christmas music, drinks & biscuits - and all for FREE! To register a place please visit: **www.nickthevic.co.uk** and click on 'Crafty Christmas'

Hope to see you there!

Verwood Methodist Church
Vicarage Road
Verwood BH31 6DR

Autumn term

UPCOMING EVENTS

'where children are at the heart of everything we do'

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

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

Friday 13th
Children in Need

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

Monday 16th
Odd Socks Day

Tuesday 17th
PTA Event
Movie Night
Year 2, 3 and 4

Friday 27th
PTA Event
Christmas Fayre

December

Friday 4th
PTA Event
Christmas Shop

Friday 4th
Rocksteady Concert - 14:00

Wednesday 9th
Celebration of Learning Event - 15:00

Thursday 10th
Christmas Jumper Day
Wear a Christmas jumper along with non-school uniform

Friday 11th
Christmas Performances

Monday 14th
Christmas Performances

Tuesday 15th
Christmas Performances

Wednesday 16th
Christmas Performances

Thursday 17th
Christmas Entertainment

Friday 18th
Christmas Party Day
and Chartwells Christmas Lunch
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
TUESDAY	**BRS Football Club** 15:00-16:00	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