



Headteacher Update

Well, it has been another exciting week here at Hillside! Our children in Reception have been enjoying the story of The Gingerbread Man, Year I and 2 have continued their work learning about the Great Fire of London and Year 3 and 4 have been writing some festive Limericks!

It is certainly feeling a lot like Christmas across the school, with classroom decorations going up, our wonderful entrance decorations (thank you Mrs Tarrant!) and the arrival of a very cheeky elf that is causing mischief across our school! The children have also been increasing their preparations for the Christmas performances that will be taking place during the last week of term. Finally, we have our Christmas Fayre this evening between 5-7pm and look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible. Again, a huge thank you to our superb PTA, who have organised everything!

I would just like to make you aware that the Trust wide attendance policy has been updated and can be found here:

https://www.hillsidefirstschool.org/about-us/attendance

As a Trust, attendance at school is very important and has an impact on how well children do both socially and emotionally as well as academically. I have included a poster below to highlight the impact on children of missing time off school. Of course, we fully appreciated there will be times when children are too poorly to attend school, but we would like to see them at all other times. Ofsted's target attendance for school's is at least 97%.

I would be most grateful for any further feedback for your preferred method of delivery for our next information evening. Please could you complete the Google Form below:

https://forms.gle/9dSkLQPyQkptypAe6

I have enjoyed reading the Christmas story writing competition entries so far, the deadline for further entries is Monday 12th December. There are lots of prizes on offer and the winning entries are going to Great Ormond Street hospital.

Finally, we are opening our doors again on Thursday 8th December 15:00 -16:00 for our Celebration of Achievement afternoon. Please come in once the children have been dismissed, you are welcome to visit the whole school.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Healthy regards,

Mr Graves

Hillside First School, where children are at the heart of everything we do.

Friday 2nd December 2022

201202 822737

☑ office@hillsidefirstschool.org https://www.hillsidefirst.dorset.sch.uk/

Upcoming Events / Key Dates

Friday 2nd December 17:00 - 19:00

School Christmas Fayre







Thursday 8th December Celebration of Achievement afternoon



Monday 12th December

Christmas Story writing competition entry deadline



PLEASE SEE FURTHER DETAILS BELOW FOR THE WHOLE OF THE **AUTUMN TERM.**

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Whole School 94.2%

YR - 95.1%

YI - 93.5%

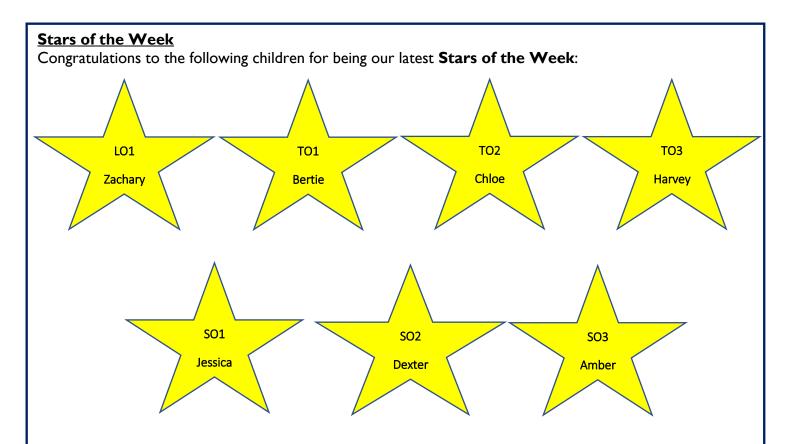
Y2 - 93.3%

Y3 - 94.7%

Y4 - 94.8%

Target 97% +

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



Our Stars of the Week enjoying Hot Chocolate Friday:



Attendance Facts

Understanding Your Percentage Attendance

100%	0 days missed	Fantastic attendance!	
99%	2 days missed	Well done—you are at or above the School Target	
98%	4 days missed		
97%	6 days missed		
96%	8 days missed	At 96% and below you are	
95%	10 days missed	just below target—make	(• •)
94%	12 days missed	sure you do not miss any more days	
93%	14 days missed	At 93% and below your attendance is becoming	(· · ·)
92%	16 days missed		
91%	18 days missed	worryingly low.	
90%	19 days missed	At 90% and below you are Persistently Absent— school will support you and your family to help this improve	
89%	21 days missed		
88%	23 days missed		
87%	25 days missed		
86%	27 days missed		
85%	29 days missed		

Make every school day count!







'KIDS FIRST', with a lot of help, have organised an afternoon of fun and Christmas cheer for all those families who may just need a little bit of help and support from the community at this expensive time of the year. At Verwood Memorial Hall between Ipm - 5pm on the 22nd December let us help make a Christmas memory, with something to eat, music and entertainment and much much more. Let's give the kids what each and everyone of them deserve.

Kids First

Hope to see you there.



Clubs

Rippa Rugby (Year I-4) https://www.ripparugby.co.uk/







Tennis Club starting after Christmas for Year 3 and 4. Further details and how to book available here:

https://www.live4tennis.co.uk/service-page/mon-3-4pm-hillside-first-jan-feb-23