



# Hillside News

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022

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<https://www.hillsidefirst.dorset.sch.uk/>



## Headteacher Update

Today is my 100<sup>th</sup> day as Headteacher at Hillside and I have genuinely loved every minute! Our school is just incredible, every day the children amaze me with their enthusiasm for learning and their hard work. The staff team continue to work incredible hard for the children. You, as parents and carers, have been fantastic and very supportive of the school and me, which is greatly appreciated. Our Academy Committee has also been working hard for the school.

Well, it has certainly been another busy week! Councillor Matthew Parker came to visit us during our assembly on Monday and presented us with a cheque for £250! This is going to go towards our Creative Media suite...more news to follow soon! On Tuesday, I went with Mrs Andrews and 20 excited Year 4's to visit the Verwood House Care home. The children sang Christmas songs and then spoke to some of the residents over squash and biscuits. It was a very rewarding experience and great to get out in the local community again. Yesterday, our children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 were visited by Fire Fighters and a Fire Engine and learnt about fire safety! All very exciting!

I would like to say another huge thank you to the PTA for organising and running such a fantastic Christmas Fayre and to everyone that was able to attend and made donations. In total we raised over £1,700 which is brilliant news!

This week we have had some cases of Strep A across the school and have taken guidance from the Health Protection Team to ensure we are taking all the necessary measures to keep our children safe. This is paramount for us, and I encourage you to read through the information below, if you haven't done so already. We have implemented extra controls in terms of cleaning across the school, reminding children to wash hands, catch it, bin it, kill it. I will of course write to you each day between now and the end of term to keep you updated on case numbers across the school.

As a result of the rise in cases yesterday I needed to take the decision to cancel the Celebration of Achievement afternoon. I am sorry, as I know a number of children were really keen to show off their home learning and work, but I felt this was the best decision. We will of course reschedule this for after Christmas. As things stand, I am keen to carry on with the Christmas performances next week and will monitor the situation carefully. There will be some extra control measures for you when you visit school and we will need you to sanitise your hands when you enter and exit the school.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Healthy regards,

Mr Graves

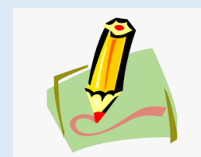
*Hillside First School, where children are at the heart of everything we do.*



## Upcoming Events / Key Dates

**Monday 12th December**  
Christmas Story writing  
competition entry deadline.

**It would be great to have a few  
more entries please.**



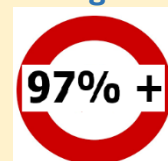
We have included some of the dates for the Spring Term below in order to give you as much notice as possible. There will be further dates added and we will keep you updated.

## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

**Whole School 94%**

YR – 94.4%  
Y1 – 93.5%  
Y2 – 93.5%  
Y3 – 94.1%  
Y4 – 94.7%

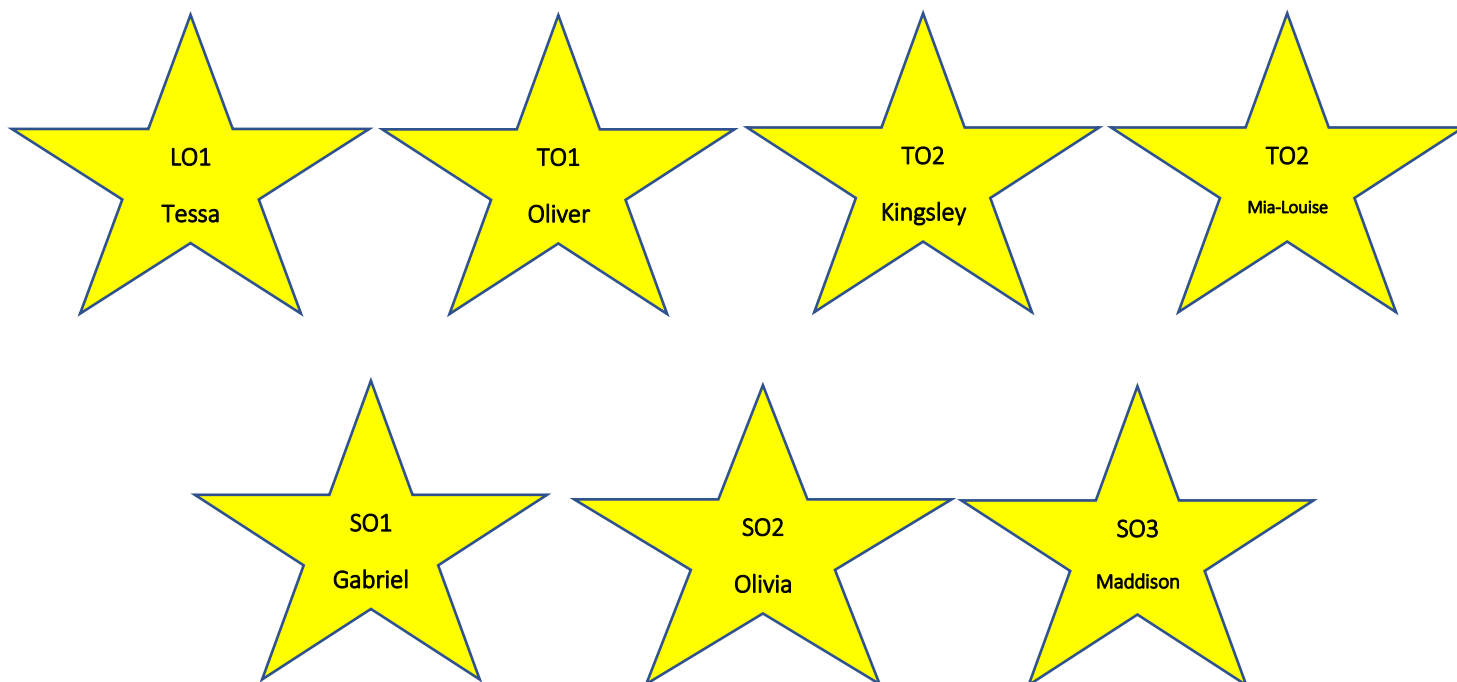
**Target**



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

## **Stars of the Week**

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



Our Stars of the Week enjoying Hot Chocolate Friday:







### **School Drop Off Zone**

If you are using all the drop off zone and are the first few cars, please could you drive to the end of the zone to allow other cars in. We have been experiencing a bit of back log of cars the last few days and it would be great to keep the traffic moving. If you need to stop and come in, then please use the parking spaces. Thanks for your support with this.



We would like to thank Cllr Matthew Parker for presenting us with a cheque for £250 in our whole school assembly this week. Cllr Matthew Parker undertook some fundraising for the local schools last year as part of his Mayor duties and has kindly donated £250 to Hillside to spend on our ICT suite. We are very grateful, thank you.

The children had a lovely time at **Verwood House Care Home** this week. They enjoyed chatting to residents and entertaining them with their Christmas songs. A very big 'Thank You' to Verwood House Care Home for inviting us.



Year 1 and 2 with the Fire Fighters and Fire Engine. It was all very exciting!



## Strep A

### WHAT THE ILLNESS LOOKS LIKE:

<b>Scarlet Fever</b>  <b>You can get more information here:</b>  <a href="https://www.nhs.uk">Scarlet fever - NHS (www.nhs.uk)</a>	<p>Symptoms include sore throat, headache, fever, feeling sick and vomiting. After 12-48 hours – the red rash with pinhead spots can develop. The spots can appear on the chest and stomach and may spread across the body. The skin may feel like sandpaper. You may also see a strawberry tongue and flushed cheeks. Anyone with suspected symptoms should speak to their GP. Antibiotics are usually issued.</p> <p>Children need to stay off for 24 hours after starting antibiotics. If antibiotics are not prescribed by the GP children will need to stay away from your setting for 2-3 weeks as they may still be infectious.</p> <p>Cases who are still infectious (e.g. within first 24 hours of antibiotics or until fully recovered if antibiotics not taken) should avoid people in vulnerable groups. This includes people with chronic illness such as cancer or diabetes, who are immunocompromised, or who have had very recent influenza or chicken-pox infection. All suspected cases of scarlet fever should seek medical care, either via NHS 111 or their GP.</p>
<b>Impetigo</b>	<p>Impetigo is a skin infection. It will start with red sores or blisters. These will burst quickly and leave crusty, golden-brown patches.</p> <p>Anyone with signs of impetigo should speak to their GP. They should stay at home for two days (48 hours) after starting antibiotic treatment or until all lesions have crusted over / healed.</p>
<b>Strep Throat</b>	<p>Strep throat is an infection in the throat and tonsils caused by bacteria called group A <i>Streptococcus</i> (group A strep). It is spread by talking, coughing, or sneezing. It can only be diagnosed by swabbing the throat and running a test on the swab. Cases can attend the setting when they no longer have a fever AND have taken antibiotics for at least 24hrs.</p>

### COMPLICATIONS:

In very rare situations, GAS can cause a more serious infection (Invasive Group A Strep). This is when the bacteria get into parts of the body where it is not normally found, such as the lungs or bloodstream. Children who have Flu or chickenpox at the same time as a GAS infection are more likely to develop this serious infection. However, you can reduce the spread of all infections by practicing good hand and respiratory hygiene and other standard infection control measures.







UK Health  
Security  
Agency

NHS

# Should I keep my child off school?

## Yes

### Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

## No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

### Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.



# Christmas at Hillside

## Christmas Fayre

Friday 2nd December  
5.00pm-7.00pm

50p entry per adult (children free)

**Lots to do for the whole family**

Santa storytime • hot dogs • raffle • tombola • games  
Mrs Claus baking • elf crafts • face painting  
and much more...

## Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 9th December

Children can wear a Christmas jumper to school with non-school uniform

## Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 14th December

Book your festive lunch with Chartwells by Sunday 4th December

## Christmas Party

Thursday 15th December

Children can wear their Christmas party outfits

## Christmas Shop

Wednesday 7th December  
Thursday 8th December

Buy Christmas gifts for parents, carers, grandparents at £2.50 each. Limited to 2 per child. Available to purchase in the shop on Parentmail!

## Christmas Holidays

Last day of term:  
Thursday 15th December

Children return to school on:  
Wednesday 4th January 2023

## Christmas Performances

**Monday 12th December**  
09:15 - Year 3/4 Christmas Concert  
13:45 - Little Owls Nativity

**Tuesday 13th December**  
09:15 - Year 1/2 Nativity & Carols  
13:45 - Year 3/4 Christmas Concert

**Wednesday 14th December**  
09:15 - Little Owls Nativity  
13:45 - Year 1/2 Nativity & Carols

Tickets available in the shop on Parentmail



# Spring term

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## January

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>  
INSET Day



Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>  
National Handwriting Day



## February

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>  
Safer Internet Day

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> - Friday 17<sup>th</sup>  
Half Term

Friday 17<sup>th</sup>  
Random Act of  
Kindness Day

Monday 20<sup>th</sup>  
INSET Day

Be  
Kind.

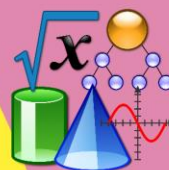


## March

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>

WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY  
2 MARCH 2023

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>  
British Science Week



Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>  
International Day  
of Mathematics

Friday 17<sup>th</sup>  
Comic Relief

RED  
NOSE  
DAY

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>  
World Poetry  
Day



Thursday 30<sup>th</sup>  
Last day of term

## April

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> - Friday 14<sup>th</sup>  
Easter Holidays

Monday 17<sup>th</sup>  
Children return to school

[www.hillsidefirstschool.org](http://www.hillsidefirstschool.org) ~ 01202 822737 ~ [office@hillsidefirstschool.org](mailto:office@hillsidefirstschool.org)

## Clubs

**Rippa Rugby (Year 1-4)** <https://www.ripparugby.co.uk/>



TO BOOK YOUR SPACE  
VISIT [RIPPARUGBY.CO.UK](https://www.ripparugby.co.uk/)



**TAG, TOUCH & CONTACT RUGBY COACHING & GAMES**

**ONLY £5 PER CHILD\***

**DESIGNED TO DEVELOP CORE RFU VALUES OF SPORTSMANSHIP, TEAMWORK, RESPECT, DISCIPLINE AND ENJOYMENT.**

**For children ages 4-13 years old.**



\*School subsidy may apply.

TO BOOK YOUR SPACE  
VISIT [RIPPARUGBY.CO.UK](https://www.ripparugby.co.uk/)  
EMAIL [STUART@RIPPARUGBY.CO.UK](mailto:STUART@RIPPARUGBY.CO.UK)  
CALL STUART ON 07899 268265



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**COACHING CONSULTANCY AVAILABLE**

**WHAT IS RIPPA RUGBY?**  
It's Tag, Touch and contact based Rugby games designed with the objective to develop skills such as catching, passing, invasion, evasion, spatial awareness and decision making. Rippa Rugby develops communication skills and improves overall fitness levels. Above all it's great fun. Our aim to make our sessions the most rewarding activity your child will participate in all week.

**WHO IS IT FOR?**  
It is for school children (both boys and girls) aged between 4 and 13 years old during the following times;

- During and after school/pre-school
- School holidays
- Rugby themed birthday parties

**HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?**  
It's only £5 per session per child per hour (school subsidy may apply). Visit our website for more information.

**OUR PHILOSOPHY**  
To develop the RFU 'Five C's' within a child in line with National Curriculum standards which includes;

- Competence and skill development
- Confidence to take part in sport and games
- Connection with other children to develop strong friendships
- Creativity to try something different and not be afraid of making mistakes
- Caring character and encouraged to support and look after each other

**COACHING CONSULTANCY**  
We also offer a coaching consultancy for teaching staff and developing coaches at competitive rates.

Provision of coaching services at Rugby themed parties.

All our coaches are DBS Cleared, First Aid trained and RFU Level 2 Experienced Age Group Coaches.

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**Tennis Club** due to start after Christmas for Year 3 and 4 if enough children sign up. Further details and how to book available here:

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