



Hillside News

Friday 16th June 2023

☎01202 822737

✉ office@hillsidefirstschool.org

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



Headteacher Update

Well it is certainly hot, hot, hot at the moment! The children are coping incredibly well and carrying on as usual. Thanks for your support supplying the children with a hat, drinks bottle and applying sun cream before school.

Our Summer Fayre last Friday was a huge success and we raised nearly £1,700! A huge thank you to everyone that supported the event and to the PTA for organising everything!



We have had a busy week full of assessments across the school. These assessments are used by the teaching staff as part of their end of year assessment which will be shared in the children's reports at the end of this term.

Our Reception children enjoyed their Wheels Day where they were able to bring in their bike or scooter to carry out checks, clean them and ride them around the playground. Please see photos below.

This week Mrs Sait had a company in to complete a tree survey across our school site. We were very excited to find out the history of a particular tree which is quite incredible. Please find further details below.

Looking ahead to next week, the children will have M & M Productions visit on Thursday and they will be performing The Secret Garden experience and Year 1 and 2 have their visit to Russell Cotes museum.

I hope you all have a great weekend.

Healthy regards,

Mr Graves

'Where **children** are at the **heart** of **everything** we do'

Date for your diary:

Sports Day

Wednesday 28th June AM



WEEKLY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Little Owls – 90%
Tawny Owls 1 – 94.7%
Tawny Owls 2 – 91.3%
Tawny Owls 3 – 97.1%
Snowy Owls 1 – 98.7%
Snowy Owls 2 – 97.5%
Snowy Owls 3 – 92.3%

Whole School 94.5%

Target



The school day begins at 08:40

Gates open at 08:30

School finishes at 15:00

I would really appreciate some help clearing more of the outside area on **Wednesday 21st June 17:00 – 19:00** if anyone is available (even for 10-15 minutes) please.

If you can help please could email the school office:

office@hillsidefirstschool.org



Stars of the Week

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



Our **Stars of the Week**!



The fossil tree

100 million years ago great dinosaurs roamed the plains and forests of North America. One such dinosaur was Tyrannosaurus Rex King of the predators.

Palaeontologists, scientists that know about fossils, study the fossils of the dinosaurs and the fossils of the other plants and animals that were living at the same time as the great Tyrannosaurus. The first Tyrannosaurus Rex fossil was found 121 years ago in Montana, USA by the fossil hunter Barnham Brown.

37 years later, in 1939, across the world in Japan, Shigeru Miki found the fossil of a type of tree which grew at the same time as Tyrannosaurus Rex, 100 million years ago. The scientists named this fossil tree *Metasequoia Glyptostroboidea* and they wondered what it might have looked like.

Amazingly, only two years later, a botanist called Wang Zahn wondered up a lost valley in the Sichuan Province of China and found a grove of *Metasequoia Glyptostroboidea* growing wild in the forest. This was during the Second World War, so not much could be done straight away.

In 1946, after the war was over, Elmer Merrill, Director of the Arnold Arboretum in Boston, USA paid for an expedition to go into the hills, find the lost valley and collect seeds from the trees growing there.

Large bags of seed were brought back to America.

In 1948 Elmer Merrill made up lots of small bags of seed and sent them to places that grew trees all around the world. A bag with 6 seeds in it was sent to England and one of those seeds was planted in the gardens in the middle of Bournemouth.

The tree was given a new name, the Dawn Redwood. It was a beautiful tree which went a lovely golden colour in the Autumn and lots of people wanted them. Plant nurseries started to grow them, and people bought them to go in their gardens.

In 1965 when your school was built the people wanted to plant a special tree to commemorate it being opened. They chose one of the wonderful new Dawn Redwoods and planted it in front your school.

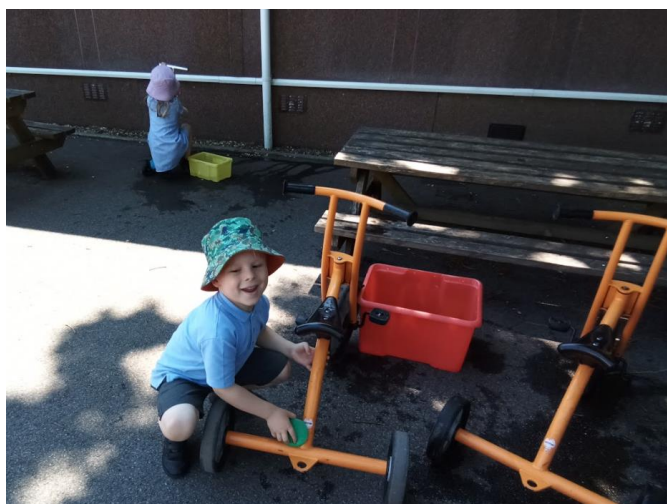
If you look out of the window you can see it – a tree which once lived with dinosaurs growing in the car park of your school.

How special is that?

Mark Hinsley, Tree Advice



Little Owls Wheels Day!



PTA

Fundraising News

Summer Term 2023

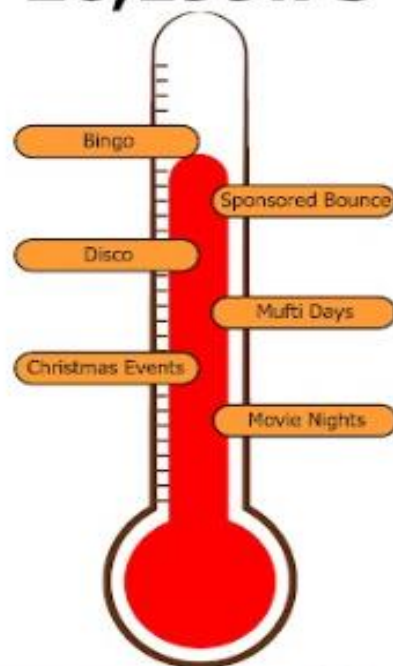
Thank you!

We are very grateful to our Hillside families for supporting our school community events this year.

All the money raised at fundraising events, such as mufti, disco, sponsored bounce, bingo night and summer fayre goes back into the school to purchase resources for your children. Our biggest fundraiser so far this year was the sponsored bounce. Not only did the children enjoy taking part, but this event raised a fantastic £1868.30, which will go towards our new Creative Suite.



TOTAL raised so far
£6,199.73



Our NEW Creative Suite



Thanks to all the amazing fundraising this academic year so far, we have been able to purchase the following resources for your children: robots, lego, dressing up unit, Christmas gifts, phonics books, library books and King's Coronation sunflowers.

Funds have also gone towards garden items for our forest classroom and equipment for the Creative Suite, which the children are enjoying using for our after school creative club.

A big thank you goes to our PTA volunteers for all your hard work organising these events.

Available during the next academic year, during and after the school day:

PIANO/KEYBOARD LESSONS

LESSONS FOR YOUR CHILD



Kate Hawker
PIANO TEACHER

Would you like to learn how to play the piano or keyboard?

- With an expert knowledge of music both practical and theory.
- Able to tailor lessons to meet students' diverse needs as well as being engaging and fun.
- Play for pleasure or follow graded examinations (ABRSM)



**Music Teacher for
36 years in Dorset Schools
Student Mentor
ECT Mentor**

The benefits of playing piano

Music lessons can help develop your child's reading and mathematical skills.

Research shows it also develops their concentration, listening, creativity and increases confidence and self-esteem.

For more information contact Kate Hawker -
Email: hawkerk1@gmail.com • Or call: 07798 794947



Bee Talk

Local beekeeper Totty will get us buzzing about bees. Learn fun facts about bees, honey and smelly feet! Suitable for ages 4+. It's going to be UN-BEE-LIEVABLE.



Verwood Library

Friday 30 June
4:00pm - 5:00pm

Book in library or via phone on:

For more information  **01202 822972**

Children under 8 must be accompanied by a parent or carer.



@DorsetLibraries



DorsetLibraries



dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libraries

Summer term



May

Monday 1st
May Day Bank Holiday

Friday 5th

Mufti Day in exchange for tombola donations for our Summer Fayre



Wear red, white and blue for the King's Coronation.

Monday 8th

King's Coronation Bank Holiday

Friday 12th

Little Owls School trip to Blashford Lakes

Tuesday 23rd

KS2 Orienteering morning

Friday 26th

Break the rules day



Monday 29th

Verwood Carnival

**Monday 29th May
to Friday 2nd June**

Half Term



June

Monday 5th
Inset Day

Friday 9th
17:00-19:30
Summer Fayre

Friday 16th

Ice-Cream Friday
Our PTA will be selling ice-creams every Friday until the end of term

Wednesday 28th
Sports Day



UPCOMING EVENTS



July

Friday 7th
Transfer Day

Monday 10th - Wednesday 12th
Year 4 Residential Trip to Hooke Court



Dates to be confirmed
Year 4 Leavers Assembly

Wednesday 19th
Year 4 Leavers Party

Friday 21st
Last day of term



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

Clubs

Rippa Rugby (Year 1-4)

<https://www.ripparugby.co.uk/>

Rippa Rugby is continuing during the Summer Term. Please use the link above to book a space.



RIPPA RUGBY

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
CALL STUART ON 07899 268265

New Club: Creative Dance Club

Booking now open via:

www.bookwhen.com/dorsetcreativedance

Password: Hillside2023



DORSET CREATIVE DANCE

HILLSIDE FIRST SCHOOL
AFTER SCHOOL DANCE CLUB

Fun and creative dance classes for children attending Hillside First School
Starting after half term!

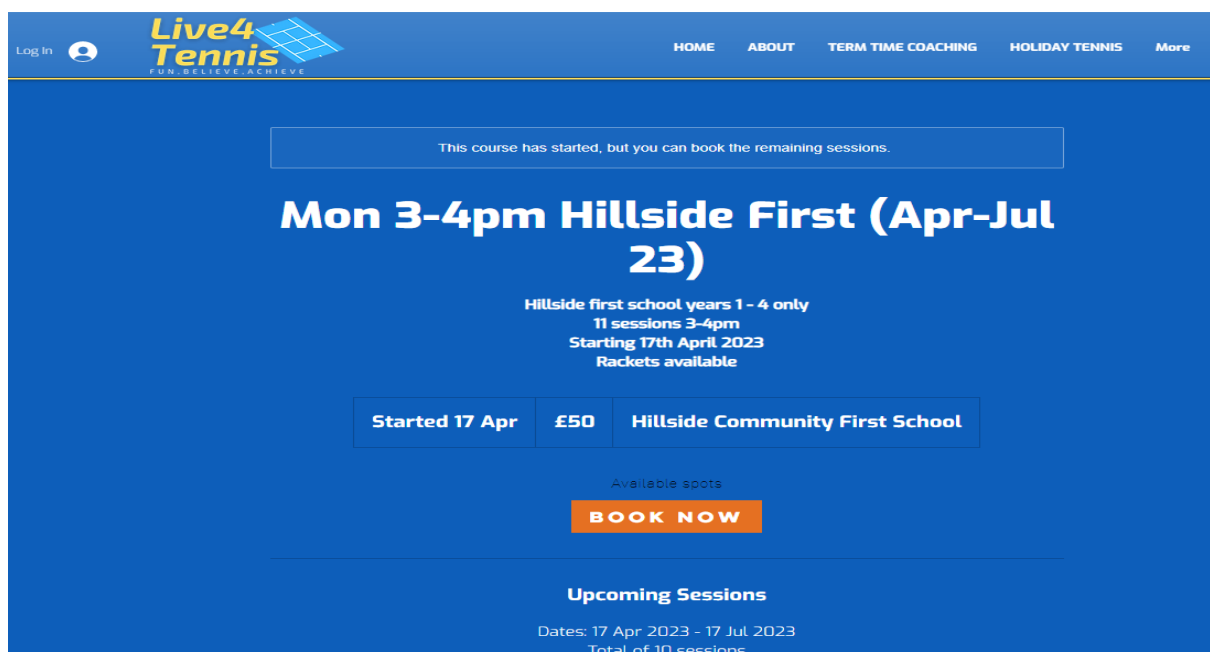
Booking opening soon through our website!

Monday 3pm - 4pm Reception, Years 1 & 2

Monday 4pm - 5pm Years 3 & 4

e: info@dorsetcreativedance.co.uk t: 07759 949 478
www.dorsetcreativedance.co.uk

Tennis Club



Log In

Live4Tennis
FUN. BELIEVE. ACHIEVE

HOME ABOUT TERM TIME COACHING HOLIDAY TENNIS More

This course has started, but you can book the remaining sessions.

Mon 3-4pm Hillside First (Apr-Jul 23)

Hillside first school years 1 - 4 only
11 sessions 3-4pm
Starting 17th April 2023
Rackets available

Started 17 Apr £50 Hillside Community First School

Available spots

BOOK NOW

Upcoming Sessions

Dates: 17 Apr 2023 - 17 Jul 2023
Total of 10 sessions