

# Hillside News

**DATES TO  
REMEMBER**



**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>  
September**  
KS2 visit to the Solar Farm

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October**  
PTA School discos after  
school  
15:00 – 16:30: Year R – I  
17:00 – 18:30: Year 2, 3  
and 4

**Hillside First School**

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



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



## Headteacher Update

Time flies when you are having fun and this week has raced by! We have certainly had a range of weather conditions which resulted in me needing to unblock an outside drain and fix a leak from my office roof. On a brighter note, our newly set-up table tennis table is ready to provide the children with hours of entertainment. Thanks to Mrs Sait (our Site Manager) and Mr Middleton (Site Manager at Emmanuel Middle School) for putting this together and the PTA making this possible. We are still awaiting delivery of some of the extra play equipment that we ordered before the summer holiday but hopefully this will arrive soon for our children to enjoy.

Due to the hall being out of action on Monday for school photos we went to a remote assembly which brought back some memories of the approaches we had to employ during the national lockdowns. This week we focused on our value of perseverance with the story of Gerald the Giraffe. I have been impressed with the use of language across the school this week and reference to our values (Respect, Ambition and Perseverance) from our children. An example was the children in Year 1 when they were reading The Little Red Hen story and linking this to perseverance.

I hope the year group welcome videos that were shared via Parentmail were useful and if you have any questions or queries then please get in touch.

We were fortunate to receive a training session from MyTime Young Carers this week. This commendable charity provides invaluable support to young carers, individuals under 18 who offer care to a family member. They may be looking after a parent, sibling, or grandparent. To learn more about their incredible work, visit: <https://www.mytimeyoungcarers.org/>

Next week we look forward to our Reception children joining us in assembly and a school visit to the local solar farm for our Year 3 and 4 children.

I can't finish without mentioning the Men's Rugby World Cup. Another victory for England and another game, this time against Chile, at the weekend.

That is all for this week, have a great weekend.

Healthy regards,

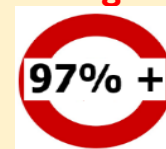
Mr Graves

## WEEKLY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Little Owls 1	98.7%
Little Owls 2	96%
Tawny Owls 1	96.1%
Tawny Owls 2	93.9%
Tawny Owls 3	95.2%
Snowy Owls 1	97.3%
Snowy Owls 2	89.7%
Snowy Owls 3	96.5%

**Whole School**  
**95.3%**

**Target**



**The school day begins  
at 08:40**

**Gates open at 08:30  
School finishes at 15:00**

**World Mental Health  
Day  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October**



Children can wear yellow to school on this day to support this worthy cause for a suggested donation of £1 to the World Mental Health Charity via Parentmail or cash to class teacher.

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



**Hot Chocolate time!**





Please make a note of these upcoming events in your diary

# Autumn term

# UPCOMING EVENTS



## September

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup>**  
Inset Day

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup>**  
Inset Day

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup>**  
Individual & Sibling Photographs



**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>**  
New Parents Open Morning  
09:30 - 11:30

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>**  
KS2 classes - Solar Farm Visit



## October

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
New Parents Open Morning  
09:30 - 11:30

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup>**  
Harvest Assembly



**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>**  
World Mental Health Day

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup>**  
PTA Event - School Disco

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup>**  
Parent Consultations



**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>**  
Parent Consultations

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>**  
Year 3 / 4 trip to Fishbourne

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup>**  
PTA Event - Craft Friday

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> - Friday 27<sup>th</sup>**  
Half Term

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup>**  
Inset Day



## November

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup>**  
Remembrance Assembly

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>**  
New Parents Open Evening  
17:00 - 19:00

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup>**  
New Parents Open Morning  
09:30 - 11:30

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>**  
Friendship Week Assembly

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>**  
Flu Immunisation

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup>**  
Children in Need

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup>**  
Reception, Year 1 and 2 Movie Night

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
PTA Event  
Mufti day in exchange for tombola prizes for the Christmas Fayre



**Friday 24<sup>th</sup>**  
Year 3 and 4 Movie Night



## December

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>  
& Friday 8<sup>th</sup>**  
PTA Christmas Shop



**Friday 8**  
Christmas Fayre

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup>**  
Christmas Jumper Day  
Children can wear a Christmas jumper along with non-school uniform

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup>**  
Christmas Performances

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>**  
Christmas Performances

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>**  
Christmas Performances

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>**  
Christmas Party  
FREE Mufti day  
Children invited to wear party clothes

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>**  
Last day of term





# After School Clubs



**HILLSIDE FIRST SCHOOL  
AFTER SCHOOL DANCE CLUB**

Fun and creative dance classes for children attending Hillside First School  
Password for booking: Hillside2023!

Booking opening soon through our website!

**Monday 3pm - 4pm Reception, Years 1 & 2**  
**Monday 4pm - 5pm Years 3 & 4**

e: [info@dorsetcreativedance.co.uk](mailto:info@dorsetcreativedance.co.uk) t: 07759 949 478  
[www.dorsetcreativedance.co.uk](http://www.dorsetcreativedance.co.uk)

**TO BOOK YOUR SPACE  
VISIT [RIPPARUGBY.CO.UK](http://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](http://RIPPARUGBY.CO.UK)  
EMAIL [STUART@RIPPARUGBY.CO.UK](mailto:STUART@RIPPARUGBY.CO.UK)  
CALL STUART ON 07899 268265**

Hillside First School are pleased to offer the following clubs:

## Monday

15:00-16:00 – Computer Explorers (Year 3-4)  
15:00-16:00 – Creative Dance (Year R-2)  
16:00-17:00 – Creative Dance (Year 3-4)

## Tuesday

08:00-08:30 – Sports & Fitness Breakfast Club  
12:00-12:30 – Sports & Fitness Lunch Club  
15:00-15:50 – After School Football Club  
~~15:00-16:00 – Tennis (Year 2-4)~~

## Thursday

15:00-16:00 – Rugby (Year R-4)

## Friday

Lessons in school – Rocksteady  
15:00-16:00 – Computer Explorers (Year 1-2)  
15:00-16:00 – Dodgeball (awaiting booking details from BRS).

For more information, please refer to the letter sent out on Monday.

CODING | GAME DESIGN | ANIMATION

**AFTER SCHOOL TECH CLUB**

**15:00-16:00**  
**MONDAY Y3-4**  
**FRIDAY Y1-2**

**£8 per session**  
10% OFF for siblings

**CLICK OR TAP HERE TO BOOK NOW**

**HILLSIDE FIRST SCHOOL**

# Hillside School Routines



## School Times

**Before 08:30** - Children and parents should not be on the school premises.

**08:30** - The school gates are opened.

**08:40** - The school gates are closed.

**08:40** - School begins with registration.

If you arrive at school after 08:40, please report to the office to sign in.



## Office Hours

The office is open from **08:30 - 16:00**. There is a telephone answer phone service available outside these times and messages are dealt with daily. If you need to speak to the Headteacher about an issue that cannot be dealt with by the class teacher, please make an appointment with the office staff.



## Gates

The front entrance gates are always kept closed. All other gates are locked all day from 08:40 - 14.55 approx. Thank you for securing these gates as you leave the premises.



## Visitors

All visitors to the school, including parents, must report to the main office.



## Safe Parking

We would like to remind parents about the importance of parking safely around the school.

- We try to encourage a **one way system** around the school between 08:30 and 15:00. Where possible, please travel **up** Hillside Road and return **down** through School Close and St. Stephen's Lane.
- When parking around the school **DO NOT PARK or STOP on the YELLOW ZIG ZAG LINES, ON THE ZEBRA CROSSING OR THE DROP OFF ZONE IN THE MORNING.**
- We are fortunate to have a drop off zone. Try to use this rather than parking in the locality which can become congested. Why not park a little bit further away from the school and enjoy the walk to school?
- Please park with consideration to other members of our neighbourhood.

**Please walk those extra steps and support our children's safety when parking and driving.**



## Collection at the end of school

**15:00** – School ends and parents should be ready to collect the children at this time. At the end of the school day children may take a few minutes to collect their things from the cloakrooms and classrooms.

Parents should collect their children from their classrooms.



***No child should leave the school premises until they have been met by the appropriate adult unless prior arrangement has been made with the school.***

***If someone else is collecting your child, please let the school know. Teachers cannot hand children over to another adult without parental permission.***





## Avoid taking your children on holiday in term time

Sometimes Parents/Carers are surprised to receive a penalty notice. As the new term begins, Dorset County Council is reminding parents and carers that taking children out of school during term time, without permission from the headteacher, could result in prosecution.

The county council may issue a penalty notice of £60 for unauthorised absence, which if not paid within 21 days, will double to £120. If this remains unpaid, parents will be prosecuted in the magistrates' court.

The law regarding school attendance was clarified last year when the Supreme Court ruled in favour of the Isle of Wight Council in prosecuting a father for taking his daughter out of school without permission. It ruled that parents must ensure their children attend school regularly, and that 'regularly' means 'in accordance with the rules prescribed by the school'.

There is clear evidence that missing school can lead to lower academic achievement. Taking a child on holiday in term time can also interrupt the learning of the whole class, with teachers having to spend time helping children catch up when they return.

Find out about school attendance on [dorsetforyou.com](http://dorsetforyou.com).

## Lateness

When your child arrives late at school, he/she misses the teacher's instructions and the introduction to the lesson.

Your child may also feel embarrassed at having to enter the classroom late. Punctuality is important for children to start the day off well.

If your child arrives at school after registration, please report to the school office, where they will be asked to sign in.

The school monitors lateness. If a child is constantly late, this will be identified and handled appropriately.



# Hillside First School Absence Procedure

## Reporting Absence

If your child is too ill to attend school, please contact us by telephone on 01202 822737 **before 09:30**. Office hours are 08:30 - 16:00. An answer phone facility is available outside these hours. Failure to do so can result in an unauthorised absence.

Please do this for each day your child is away (unless you have informed us that s/he has been signed off by the doctor for an extended period of time.)

## Holidays

Following the changes to the Attendance Regulations, schools are no longer able to grant leave of absence during term time unless there are 'exceptional circumstances'. Under these regulations, holidays are not considered exceptional circumstances.

Exceptional circumstances are:

- Bereavement. Up to 3 days for a close family bereavement. (Close family is the child's great grandparents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, sibling (brother/sister), cousins, mother, father, carer and guardians.)
- Any major incident in the lives of the parents or carers of the child, causing practical difficulties for a child getting to school, will be given up to 3 days leave of absence.
- Any family crisis. Up to 3 days.
- Close family wedding. Up to 2 days per year.

All other exceptional circumstances need to be discussed with the Headteacher. All applications for leave of absence during term time must be made by letter to the Headteacher.



# SCHOOL information

## Drop off and pick up routines

We have been reviewing the drop off and pick up routines as a school in relation to our school car park which tends to experience high traffic throughout the day. We would like to ensure everyone, especially our young children are safe.

When dropping off and picking up, we kindly request that you use the designated pathways and avoid walking through the car park area. This would help to ensure the safety of everyone involved.

We greatly appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this matter.



We are excited to announce that we will be hosting a special Harvest Festival for the children on **Monday 9th October**. In the spirit of giving and community, we would appreciate any food donations you can kindly spare which we will take to a local Food Bank.

If you are able to help, we kindly request donations of the following items by Friday 6th October:

- Canned goods
- Pasta sauce
- Long-life milk
- Long-life juice
- Cereal
- Biscuits
- Tea bags

Thanks in advance for your generosity and support.

