# Hillside News



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

### **Headteacher Update**

We have had another fantastic week at school, with a continued focus on our core values during assembly. This time, we delved into the significance of respect, a principle that is in both one of our school rules and British Values. We engaged in thoughtful discussions about what respect really means, its importance, and the ways in which we can show respect both within ourselves and to others.

On Wednesday morning we held our first open morning for prospective parents for the next academic year. I was very proud walking around our school, with happy, engaged children, enjoying their learning. We received lots of positive feedback which was great to hear.

In our Reception classes, our young learners have been immersed in listening to poems, starting learning some of the initial sounds in phonics and recognising patterns! Meanwhile, in Year I, there has been a focus on writing and the use of adjectives and I have been very impressed with how hard they have all been working. Year 2 children have been enhancing their geographical skills with map work by using keys and looking at compass directions. They have also been learning about the weather in different parts of the United Kingdom. In a fascinating educational visit, Year 3 and 4 children paid a visit to the local solar farm in Verwood. The magnitude of this facility, equivalent to 64 football pitches, boasting over 70,000 individual solar panels, and providing renewable energy for approximately 8,500 homes, left both children and adults in awe. A huge thank you to Tracy Linney from the Earth Energy Education team for making this visit possible. Tracy has also been following up with workshops in class today.

Looking ahead to next Wednesday at 11:00, two Year 4 students and I will be featured on Forest FM radio, where we plan to discuss and promote our school. Please tune in if you are available at this time and I'll be sure to share a recording of the session once it is available.

As a bit of a tradition now, I must once again acknowledge the Men's England rugby team. They secured an impressive victory against Chile last weekend and are now gearing up to take on Samoa on 7th October. In addition, the Women's England rugby team are playing Canada this Saturday. Wishing them both the best of luck!

Have a great weekend.

Healthy regards, Mr Graves

## DATES TO REMEMBER

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

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

### WEEKLY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Little Owls I	99.6%
Little Owls 2	97%
Tawny Owls I	97.9%
Tawny Owls 2	92.2%
Tawny Owls 3	92.4%
Snowy Owls I	93%
Snowy Owls 2	94.8%
Snowy Owls 3	97.4%

Whole School 96%



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

World Mental Health
Day
Tuesday 10th 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**:



Little Owls have started joining us in assemblies this week and will have their first stars of the week next Friday!







A few pictures from the Year 3 / 4 educational visit to the Verwood Solar Farm.













### **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 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.





# **UPCOMING** EVENTS

September

Friday 1st Inset Day

Monday 4th **Inset Day** 

Monday 18th

**Individual & Sibling Photographs** 

Wednesday 27th

**New Parents Open Morning** 09:30 - 11:30

Thursday 28th

KS2 classes - Solar Farm Visit

### October

Tuesday 3rd

**New Parents Open Morning** 09:30 - 11:30

Monday 9th

Harvest Assembly

Tuesday 10th

World Mental Health Day

Friday 13th

PTA Event - School Disco

Monday 16th

**Parent Consultations** 

Wednesday 18th

Parent Consultations

Thursday 19th

Year 3 / 4 trip to Fishbourne

Friday 20th

PTA Event - Craft Friday

Monday 23rd - Friday 27th

Half Term

Monday 30th **Inset Day** 



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

Wednesday 8th New Parents Open Evening

17:00 - 19:00

Monday 13<sup>th</sup>

**New Parents Open Morning** 

Tuesday 14th Friendship Week Assembly

> Thursday 16th Flu Immunisation

Friday 17th 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 24th



Thursday 7th & Friday 8th PTA Christmas Shop



Friday 8 Christmas Fayre

Friday 8th

Christmas Jumper Day Children can wear a Christmas jumper along with non-school uniform

Monday 11th

**Christmas Performances** 

Tuesday 12th

Christmas Performances

Wednesday 13th **Christmas Performances** 

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>

Christmas Party FREE Mufti day Children invited to wear party clothes

Thursday 14th Last day of term











### 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). Starting after half term.

