

Headteacher Update 24th November 2023

I hope you have all had a super week! I am delighted to share some highlights from our recent school activities and provide details of a couple of the exciting events lined up in the coming weeks.

Special Assembly with Dog's Trust

On Monday, we were honoured to host Dog's Trust for a special assembly. Their engaging sessions with our Year I-4 children were both insightful and impactful. The programme focuses primarily on two key themes: Responsible Dog Ownership and Safe Behaviour Around Dogs. Their goal is to reach a range of audiences in order to influence and motivate changes in human behaviour so that we see an improvement in overall dog welfare.

Christmas Preparations

As we approach the festive season and with only 14 school days left there is a buzz around school as preparations start for the Christmas performances. It's heart-warming to witness the children enthusiastically rehearsing their Christmas songs. Be prepared for a delightful treat!

Christmas Story Writing Competition

We would love your child to participate in our Christmas story writing competition. Prizes await winners in each year group, and the entries will be shared with Bournemouth Hospital. Additionally, selected children will have the opportunity to visit Verwood Care Home and share their stories with residents.

Acknowledgments and Appreciations

A heartfelt thank you to Mr. Pearson for assembling the shed in our Reception playground. Your efforts are genuinely appreciated. We've also been fortunate to receive generous donations from The Rotary Club, Harold G Walker Solicitors, and Verwood Care Home. These contributions have enabled us to acquire valuable items for the children, including night wildlife cameras, tree rope ladders, tree balance beams, books, and gardening gloves. Once these arrive they will be shared and used by our children.

Upcoming Events

We have a series of exciting events lined up before the term concludes. Our Maths Information Event, led by Mr. West, will provide insights into our teaching methods and offer ideas for supporting your child at home. Additionally, please mark your calendars for our half-termly Celebration of Achievement afternoon on Tuesday, 12th December along with all the other festive events!

Have a great weekend.

Healthy regards, Mr Graves

DATES TO REMEMBER



Friday 8th December Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Fayre

Tuesday 12th **December**Celebration of Achievement
Afternoon
15:00 – 16:00 straight after

Thursday 14th December Christmas Party Day

WEEKLY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Little Owls I	95%
Little Owls 2	80%
Tawny Owls I	98%
Tawny Owls 2	96%
Tawny Owls 3	94%
Snowy Owls I	94%
Snowy Owls 2	91%
Snowy Owls 3	98%

Whole School 94%

Target



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

Maths Information Event

> Wednesday 6th December

Year R and I: 15:45 – 16:45

Year 2-4: 17:00 - 18:00

Please come along with your child and see how we teach maths at school.



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





Hot chocolate time!



Today we gathered to bid farewell to someone who has been an integral part of our school family for the past eight years. Mrs Harman is leaving us today.

As many of you know, Mrs Harman has been the heart and soul of our classrooms.

Over the years, Mrs Harman has become the go-to person for everything, from wiping away tears to extra phonics practice – truly a superhero in disguise. Our children have not only learned to read, write, and count but have also discovered the power of kindness, curiosity, and a well-timed joke.

But today, as we celebrate the laughter and learning that Mrs Harman has brought into our school, we also bid farewell as she embarks on an exciting new journey. Mrs Harman will be leaving us to pursue a career as a Speech and Language Therapist, helping even more young minds find their voices.

While we are sad to see her go, we are incredibly proud of Mrs Harman's decision to pursue her passion further. We know she will continue to make a huge impact on the lives of others, just as she has done here.

So, Mrs Harman, as you step into this new chapter of your life, remember that you take with you the love and admiration of every child you've nurtured, every colleague you've inspired and worked with.

Let's give a warm round of applause to the fantastic teaching assistant turned Speech and Language Therapist! May your journey be filled with as much laughter and joy as you've brought to our school.

Thank you, Mrs Harman.



The say

Christmas Story Writing Competition

Write a story with a Christmas theme.

Enter your story by Friday 8th December.

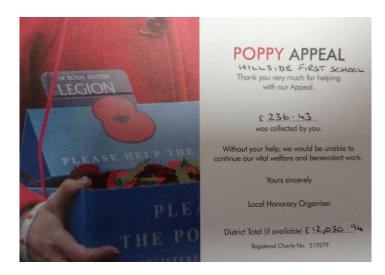
If you would like to submit your entry electronically, then please e-mail

There are lots of prizes on offer!
There will be winners from each year group as well
as an overall winner, which will be chosen by our
School Librarians.

Winning entries will be sent to Bournemouth Hospital.

Poppy Appeal £236.43 raised!

We have received the following thank you postcard from the Poppy Appeal. They advised that this was a phenomenal amount, thank you for your support!



Dogs Trust Assembly



Our new shed (thankyou Mr Pearson!)





A HUGE thank you to **Smart Home Technical Limited**:

https://www.smarthometechnical.net/

They have kindly donated a TV which will be the 1st prize in our raffle.

We really appreciated your support and this generous donation.



01202 794901 07956 940949 (emergency 07930 852903)

The works on our perimeter fencing has now been completed and we are very pleased with the finished product.









No running club this Tuesday

FREE ENTRY
Please note: some stall holders will only accept cas

stalls

Mr Graves is visiting another school in the Trust on Tuesday so will not be able to hold a running club on Tuesday unfortunately.

Running club will be back again on Tuesday 5th December.









Sunday 26th

November



Spring term

UPCOMING EVENTS

January



Tuesday 2nd INSET Day

Tuesday 23rd

National Handwriting Day

National Handwriting Day



Friday 2nd

NSPCC Number Day

Number

DOW



Parent Consultations



Wednesday 7th
Parent Consultations

Monday 12th - Friday 16th Half Term

> Monday 19th INSET day

Friday 23rd
PTA Event - School Disco



March

Week Commending Monday 4th

World Book Day week of celebrations

Thursday 7th World Book Day

Dress up as a character from one of your favourite books



Friday 15th

Comic Relief



Friday 15th Sponsored Bounce

Friday 22nd

PTA Event - Craft Friday

Thursday 28th Inset Day





Friday 29th March to Friday 12th April

> Easter Holidays

Monday 15th Children return to school

Friday 19th
PTA Event
break the rules day



Monday 22nd



Class and Year 4 leavers photographs









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

07:55-08:20 - Running club

08:00-08:30 – Sports & Fitness Breakfast Club

12:00-12:30 - Sports & Fitness Lunch Club

15:00-16:00 - After School Football Club

Thursday

15:00-16:00 - Rugby (Year R-4)

15:00-16:00 - Forest School (Year 1-4).

Friday

Lessons in school – Rocksteady

15:00-16:00 – Computer Explorers (Year 1-2)

15:00-16:00 - Dodgeball

