

Hillside News



**DATES TO
REMEMBER**



Friday 8th December

*Christmas Jumper Day
Christmas Fayre*

Tuesday 12th December

*Celebration of Achievement
Afternoon
15:00 – 16:00 straight after
school*

Thursday 14th December

Christmas Party Day

Headteacher Update 1st December 2023

Greetings! It's wonderful to step into December with the festive spirit continuing across our school and just 24 sleeps until Christmas! The school is buzzing with excitement as Christmas decorations have gone up across the school, including our indoor Christmas tree. In addition, our performance staging is ready to showcase the talents of our children during the upcoming Christmas performances.

Whilst watching the news this week, I was interested by a report highlighting the challenges some children faced in speech and language development during lockdown, due to a number of reasons. This underscores the importance of reading in unlocking doors for our children. At school, we prioritise reading through various initiatives, including phonics programs, daily reading lessons, library time, and an overarching emphasis on reading in our curriculum. Your continued support in fostering a love for reading at home, documented through your child's reading record, is invaluable and we really value this.

On Thursday, we had a visit from Liz West, our Trust CEO, who commended our school for the exemplary engagement, high expectations, and dedication displayed by our children. The sense of belonging felt by all children was also noted. I am, as always, very proud of the children and the whole staff team!

I wasn't expecting to see snow yesterday and I managed to capture the image below. This caused a lot of excitement amongst children (and adults). As the cold weather persists, please ensure your child is equipped with a warm coat, hat, and gloves.

Looking ahead to next week, some of our Year 4 children will be spreading joy by singing Christmas Carols at Verwood Care Home, and our annual Christmas Fayre on Friday 8th December, promises festive fun for all. A heartfelt thank you to our PTA for organising this special event. Additionally, the Christmas Story Writing Competition concludes on the same day, so encourage your child to participate if they haven't already.

Wishing you a fantastic weekend.

Healthy regards,

Mr Graves

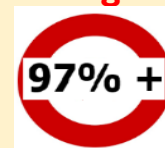


WEEKLY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Little Owls 1	93%
Little Owls 2	80%
Tawny Owls 1	99%
Tawny Owls 2	99%
Tawny Owls 3	98%
Snowy Owls 1	98%
Snowy Owls 2	97%
Snowy Owls 3	90%

Whole School 95%

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 1: 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!





HERE'S THE IMPACT OF READING 20 MINUTES PER DAY!

A student who reads

20:00

minutes per day

will be exposed to
1.8 MILLION
words per year
and scores in
90th PERCENTILE
on standardized tests

A student who reads

5:00

minutes per day

will be exposed to
282,000
words per year
and scores in
50th PERCENTILE
on standardized tests

A student who reads

1:00

minute per day

will be exposed to
8,000
words per year
and scores in
10th PERCENTILE
on standardized tests



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
office@hillsidefirstschool.org

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.

VERWOOD CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA

Saturday 2nd December 2023 4pm - 7pm
The Town Council wishes everyone
a very Merry Christmas

Christmas Light Switch on 4.30pm

Children's fair ride

Mulled wine

Face Painting

Fire service

BBQ

Verwood Concert

Brass Band

Carol singing

Forest FM

Candy floss & doughnuts

Elf in the Window comp (Prizes of vouchers to Odeon Cinema)

Glitter Face Painting

Meet Santa Claus & much more!

@VerwoodTown Council |

towncouncil@verwood.gov.uk | 01202 820880



Running club

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



Christmas at Hillside

Hillside First School
Christmas Fayre
All Welcome

8th December 5pm to 7.30pm

With lots to go including
Santa Storytelling
Life Crafts
Mrs. Claus Baking
Games Tombolas
Cake sale
Food and Drink
Stalls
and lots more




Christmas Shop
Thursday 7th December
Friday 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 Party
Thursday 14th December
FREE MUFTI
Children can wear
their Christmas
party outfits



**Christmas
Holidays**

Last day of term:
Thursday 14th December

Children return to school on:
Wednesday 3rd January 2024



Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 8th December

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



Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 13th December

Book your festive
lunch with
Chartwells by
Sunday 26th
November



**Christmas
Performances**

Our Christmas performances will be held
on the following dates in December:

Monday 11th December
09:15 - Year 3/4 Christmas Concert
13:45 - Year 1/2 Nativity & Carols

Tuesday 12th December
09:15 - Year 1/2 Nativity & Carols
13:45 - Little Owls Nativity

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

Tickets are £1 per person and limited to 2
per family due to the capacity of the hall.
Tickets will go on sale on
ParentMail during November.




Spring term



UPCOMING EVENTS

January

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Tuesday 2nd
INSET Day

Tuesday 23rd
National Handwriting Day



February

Friday 2nd
NSPCC Number Day

Monday 5th
Parent Consultations



Tuesday 6th
Safer Internet Day

Wednesday 7th
Parent Consultations

Monday 12th - Friday 16th
Half Term

Monday 19th
INSET day

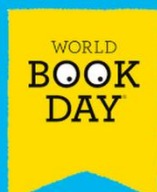
Friday 23rd
PTA Event - School Disco



March

Week Commencing 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



April




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

After School Clubs

DORSET CREATIVE DANCE

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 t: 07759 949 478
www.dorsetcreativedance.co.uk

RIPPA RUGBY

TO BOOK YOUR SPACE
VISIT 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
EMAIL STUART@RIPPARUGBY.CO.UK
CALL STUART ON 07899 268265

Poole Forest School After School Club at Hillside
Thursday 11th January - Thursday 21st March

Tools, shelter building, bushcraft, natural crafts, campfire cooking and much more. Ofsted registered for ages 5-11. Accept childcare vouchers.

est. 2019

FOREST SCHOOL POOLE

BOOK ONLINE
<https://forms.gle/VRb1265DTXSvk8y5>
www.pooleforestschool.com
marina@pooleforestschool.com

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

CODING | GAME DESIGN | ANIMATION

AFTER SCHOOL TECH CLUB

Computer Explorers

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

Department for Education