

HILLSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

ISSUE 7 - 2016/17

25/05/17



Welcome to our May Newsletter.

The first half of our summer term has been a busy one with many children taking part in SAT exams. Everyone has worked extremely hard and we are very proud of our children.

I hope that this newsletter provides you with valuable information and news about the life of our school. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns or queries.

Mrs K Schonau

P.E. — Battlezone Archery

Hillside had a fantastic time at the Battlezone Archery competition.

We took two teams and after a number of games our A Team came first. Well done to Ava, Alfie, Elliott and Kian.



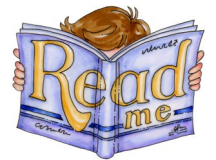
Baby News!

Congratulations to Mrs Wainwright and her family who welcomed baby Sylvie Lilian into the world on 30th April. We enjoyed her first visit to Hillside this week.



Reading Challenge

A reminder to try to read 5 times a week (3 times for nursery) to be in with the chance of winning a great prize!



Negative comments on social media about the school and/or staff can be demoralising. Please be reminded that we have your child's best interests at the heart of everything that we do and that all issues should be discussed in the appropriate manner. Staff are available each day at 8.50am and 3.15pm or by prior appointment to discuss any queries or issues that we may have.

Book Donations

Many thanks to the following pupils who have donated a birthday book this month — Lewis Maxfield, Mollie Ward, Daniel Lomas, Elias Lawton, Kate Wood, Megan Wood and Mr Gilman.



Date for your Diary - General Election

Reminder: as Hillside Primary School is used as a polling station, the school will be closed to pupils on Thursday 8th June 2017.

Late Pick-Ups

Please ensure that you collect your children on time from school, after school clubs and following trips. We realise that sometimes lateness is unavoidable, however for some it is a regular occurrence and unacceptable. Please ensure that you always collect your children at the specified time.

Parking

We have lots of trips booked during the next half term which means coaches on Field Avenue. Please ensure that you park courteously and considerately ensuring that both local residents and the coaches themselves have access and room to manoeuvre. On returning from trips children will always return to their classrooms and be dismissed through the usual exit.



Nursery Minibeasts

We have loved this term's topic on minibeasts. We have learnt all about different types of minibeasts, where they live and what they eat. The children have thoroughly enjoyed having the caterpillars in the classroom and watching them grow into butterflies. We have looked after them well and are now ready to be let go into the wild!



On Monday the 22nd of May we had our parents showcase. For this we went into the woods and did lots of activities including minibeasts hunt and making homes. The children loved showing all the adults what we get up to in the woods.



Reception News

Reception had a fantastic day at the Fenns Farm in Stockton Brook. Alison and Mark led the session which included an unnatural treasure hunt where we had to find camouflaged objects in the grass, a minibeast hunt through the meadow and a follow-up session back at the scout hut where we drew our favourite minibeasts.



Year 1 Healthy Eating

Mrs Green has been taking a group of Year 1 children out to learn about healthy foods and where vegetables grow. They have made their own fruit skewers and planted onion bulbs.



Year 1's Minibeast Hunt

As part of their science topic, Year 1 went for a minibeast hunt around the school grounds. They used magnifying glasses to get a closer look at the different minibeasts they found.



Year 3 Buzzing about bees!

Y3 had a visit from bee-keeper, Andy! We learnt about pollination and how to protect the bees in our country. We explored a real bee hive and tried on a bee-keepers uniform.



Y3 Forensic Investigators

There's been a robbery in Year 3! The classroom is in a terrible state but our forensic investigators are on the case! Who could it be? Everyone is a suspect!



Year 2 News

As part of our 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' unit, Year 2 made their own bowls of porridge! They chose their favourite toppings - we had some rather odd combinations! Year 2 then went on to write an incredible set of instructions- well done!



Year 2's topic this half term has been 'What were the people who lived in Stoke On Trent like 100 years ago?' To begin this topic, Mr Gilman came into school (although he isn't 100 years old!) to talk to the children about his childhood. They asked some fantastic questions, listened carefully and remembered a lot of information. Thank you Mr Gilman!



Year 2 have been learning about plants as part of their Science topic. We have grown different seeds- mung beans, maple peas and sunflower seeds in different conditions. The children have enjoyed observing the changes in the seeds- they were particularly surprised that the seeds in the dark grew!

A huge well done to Year 2 upon completing their KS1 SATS! They all worked extremely hard, performed to the best of their ability, but most of all didn't complain once! Well done - you're all amazing!

Year 4 Science—investigating circuits

Year 4 enjoyed predicting and investigating circuits that will and won't work. They have then had to explain the reasons behind their findings, using only the correct terminology!



Year 5 Fieldwork in Milton

Year 5 spent a morning collecting data in Milton. They conducted a traffic count, a survey, a land use map and measured noise levels. They then came back to school and compared what they had found to the data from Brooklyn in New York, finishing by writing up their findings on Digimap. A hard day's work!



Year 6 News

Year 6 enjoyed the two science workshops at the Manchester science museum. They learned about the wonders of light and the powers of electricity.

They have also completed their SATs this month and all members of staff involved with year 6 would like to say well done!

As a reward for their hard work throughout the year, they were taken to Alton Towers, which was a thrilling day for all.



Hockey Tournament

Years 3/4/5/6 have had a fantastic day at Ormiston Horizon. They represented Hillside fabulously, played some amazing hockey and won quite a few matches too! Well done Hillside!

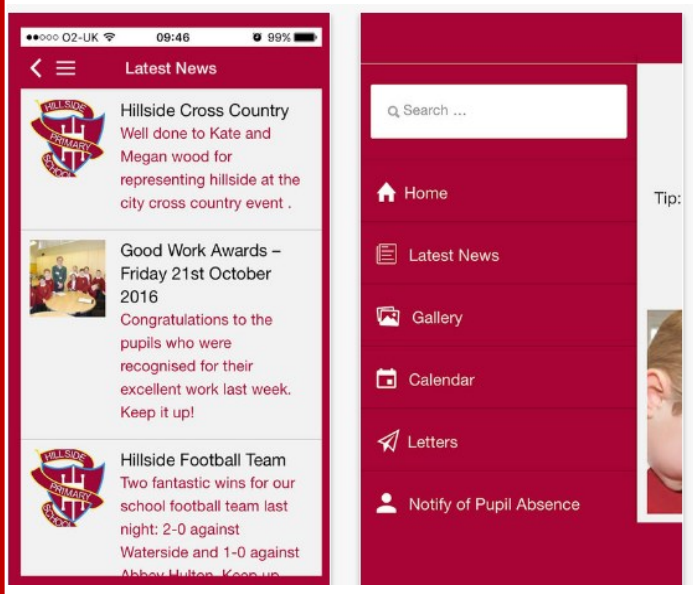


School App

Please visit the App Stores to find our new school App. The App is available on both Android and IOS platforms.

It is free to download and will further help to keep you up to date with news and events from around school.

Android	IOS
URL Link: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.hillsideprimary.app&hl=en	URL Link: https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/hillside-primary/id1168973310?ls=1&mt=8
Scan the QR code below: 	Scan the QR code below: 



PE Kit

Please ensure that your child wears the correct PE kit. See below as a reminder.

Nursery, Reception, Year 1 & Year 2

Maroon t-shirt with Hillside lettering, plain black shorts and black pumps. All fully labelled in a drawstring bag.

Years 3 to 6

Indoor kit: Maroon t-shirt with Hillside lettering, plain black shorts (no stripes or logos) and black pumps.

Outdoor kit: Maroon t-shirt with Hillside lettering, plain black tracksuit bottoms (no stripes or logos), maroon hoody with Hillside lettering and trainers. All items to be labelled with child's name and in a drawstring bag.

Remember to label all items of clothing with your child's name. Remember this includes PE kits / uniform / Forest Schooling kits / swimming kits and any other clothes/property brought into school.

Sun Protection

Our pupils will be spending more time outside during the summer term and hopefully we will enjoy a lovely summer. It is important to protect our children from sun damage therefore can you please ensure that you put high factor sun protector on your child before he/she comes to school in a morning. Children will also need hats to protect their heads. Water bottles are another essential piece of equipment, which can be replenished with chilled water from the water coolers in school.

Reminder:

Sandals are not appropriate footwear for school.



Letters / Newsletters

Would parents and carers please ensure that you keep letters and newsletters to hand and/or transfer the dates to your diaries/calendars to reduce the volume of telephone calls received in the school office relating to trips, after school clubs etc. for information of dates and times which have already been provided.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Emergency Contact Numbers and Addresses

Please inform the office as soon as any changes are made so that we have up to date information. Mobile telephone numbers for the main contact are particularly important as we continue to use the messaging service as a means of communication. It is important that you keep your details up to date.



Dates for your Diary

JUNE

Mon 5th	School re-opens following half term break
Mon 5th	Nursery Graduation / Y6 Leavers Photos
Tues 6th	Y3 educational visit to the Magna Science Adventure Centre, Rotherham
Tues 6th	PTFA meeting—all welcome 6.15pm
Wed 7th	Nursery educational visit to the Runway Visit or Park, Manchester Airport
Wed 7th	Y1 educational visit to Ford Green Hall
Wed 7th	Y3,4,5 e-Safety film making
Thurs 8th	School Closed—General Election (Polling Station)
Mon 12th	Y6 residential trip to Stanley Head—4 nights
Tues 13th	Reception Induction Meeting 3.20pm
Tues 20th	Y6 Awards Evening 6pm
Wed 21st	Y1 Showcase 2pm
Thurs 22nd	Sports Day—Infants am and Juniors pm (<i>note: changed from previous newsletter</i>)
Tues 27th	Reception Class visit to Frankie & Benny's, Trentham Gardens
Tues 27th	Songbirds rehearsal am—concert evening (<i>refer to letter for full details</i>)
Tues 27th	Y3 Showcase 2pm
Wed 28th	School Nurse Puberty Talk Y6
Thurs 29th	Reserve Sports Day
Fri 30th	Summer Fayre 3.30pm

JULY

Mon 3rd	Y2 educational visit to Llandudno
Tues 4th	Y5 educational visit to Potteries Museum
Tues 4th	New intake Nursery meeting 4pm
Tues 4th	Y4 Showcase 2pm
Mon 10th	Y5 Showcase 2pm
Tues 11th	Y4 educational visit to Coombes Valley
Wed 12th	Y2 Showcase 2pm
Thurs 13th	Excel Academy—Y6 Transition Day (<i>any queries should be referred directly to Excel</i>)
Thurs 13th	Whole School 'Move-Up' Day
Fri 14th	Inter-School Games Day
Thurs 20th	Summer Ball —(<i>full details to follow</i>)
Fri 21st	Y6 Leavers Assembly—2pm
Fri 21st	School closes at 3.15pm for the summer break



Details for specific events will follow in a separate letter. Occasionally dates/times may need to be changed so please keep an eye on the newsletters and other correspondence from the school.