

# HILLSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

ISSUE 4 - 2018/19

31/01/19



**Welcome** to our first Newsletter of 2019. The children have returned after Christmas with determined attitudes and have settled well into the Spring term.

We hope you find the following information useful and informative. Please take note of the dates on the back page.

*Mrs K Schonau*

## Reading Rocket Challenge

This half terms reading challenge began on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January. Well done to those children who have taken up the challenge; it is so lovely to see such enthusiastic and motivated readers in school. The children have chosen cinema and Flip out prizes for the draw so remember to keep your child's reading diary up to date for your child to be in with a chance of winning.



## Rock Stars

Times Tables Rock Stars is continuing to engage and motivate children to learn their times tables. The online programme is being used from Y2 to Y6 and there is a club currently running in school for year four children on a Tuesday lunchtime with Mrs Wainwright.

The leader board for the most correct answers during this academic year so far is as follows:

1. Lewis (Y6)
2. Kamsie (Y4)
3. Imogen (Y4)
4. Bella (Y4)
5. Harry (Y4)
6. Morgan (Y4)
7. Lillie (Y4)
8. Amy (Y6)
9. Cole (Y4)
10. Luke (Y6)



## Parking Issues

Parents and local residents have expressed concerns about illegal and unsafe parking. Local residents have experienced difficulty leaving and entering their properties and concerns have been raised that cars are being parked unsafely on pavements. If an ambulance or fire engine needed access to a local home, this could actually put lives at risk. We do appreciate that the majority of our parents walk or drive responsibly to school and these are isolated instances.

The children are precious and unsafe parking could result in a serious injury or worse. Our only concern is to create a safer environment for the children, as they arrive at or leave school and one where children's safety outside school is a greater priority than convenient parking that could put children's lives at risk, and would please ask that we all work together to achieve this.

Thank you for your co-operation.



Well done to the 81 pupils who were awarded in our 100% assembly for the Autumn term. An amazing 34% of the whole school!

They each received a certificate and were entered into a draw to win a cinema voucher. **Harry Y3** was the lucky winner.



## House Team Winners

Well done to the **Red Team** for winning the Autumn term team treat once again. They were rewarded with an afternoon in the woods. They loved playing games, exploring the woods and creating with clay.



Thank you to Caron Thom, our Go Wild play leader for leading the afternoon.

## Football

Our school football team have played two weeks of fixtures since coming back after Christmas. With a few new faces, the team have had to adapt to new positions and tactics but have done brilliantly so far, particularly during a 3 nil win against Hanley St Luke's. With one fixture week left, it's all to play for!



## Netball

A big well done to our Year 5 Netball team who took part in a tournament at Fenton Manor. The children played a number of games, gaining in confidence along the way. They eventually finished 4th and should be very proud of their achievement.



## Important Reminder: Peanut/Nut Allergies

There are children and staff in school who have a severe food allergy to peanuts/nuts. It is important that we avoid this food as best we can to prevent serious allergic reactions. We are asking for your help to provide these children and staff with a safe school environment.

Any exposure to peanuts/nuts may cause serious allergic reactions that require emergency medical treatment. To reduce the chance of this occurring we are asking that you do not send any peanut or nut containing products to school with your child for the break time snacks, in their lunchboxes or at any other times.

We appreciate your support of these procedures. Please contact Mrs Schonau if you have any questions.



## Bananagrams—The Rules:

Bananagrams is a word game wherein lettered tiles are used to spell words. The tiles are placed in a pile on a table, face down. Each player takes 15-20 tiles (depending on how many children are playing). Everyone turns their tiles face up at once and starts to make words, creating little free-form Scrabble boards around the table. No proper nouns are allowed, otherwise any pattern goes, as long as your words link up. The moment the first person uses up all their tiles, they shout "Peel!" and everyone has to grab another letter. This goes on until all 144 tiles are used. At any stage before the game is over a player can rearrange their letters to form new words or scrap other ones. The winner is the first to use up all their tiles.



## Hillside Bananagrams Championships

We are holding our own Bananagram Championships in school for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. The children have received a Bananagram assembly in school and will begin their in-class battles before the end of half term. During the first week back (after half term) the children from years 3 and 4 will play against each other and the children from Years 5 and 6 will battle to be crowned a Hillside Bananagram Champion.

## Reminder

Boots are not part of our school uniform and should not be worn in school. If your child wishes to wear boots to walk to school please provide shoes to change into once they arrive in school.

## Sickness:

The School Nurse has advised us that if your child has sickness or diarrhoea then they should not return to school until 48 hours after their last episode.



**Nursery** have been learning all about growing since they have been back from the Christmas break. During this time they have sown their own seeds, planted their own beanstalk and been observing the plants that have started to shoot in the woods. The children are very excited to see them growing and quite often take a look independently and comment on how they are growing, remembering that we need to give them water too. We are hoping to be sending some very big beanstalks home when they have reached the castles!



As part of our topic, **Reception** visited Milton Parish Church to find out more about this special place for Christians. Mr Such came with us and told us so much information about the history of the church and what all of the special objects were for. We learned a lot and particularly enjoyed our treasure hunt. We found 22 crosses and lots of candles.



**Spring 1 in Year 2**—It has been a very exciting half term in Year 2 with lots of exciting events happening keeping us busy. We have been reading 'Meerkat Mail' by Emily Gravett and we have written fantastic postcards in the first person! We have been amazing scientists this half term, and we have learnt all about animals including humans. We have created our own posters and presented them to the class – Miss Walker was extremely impressed with our scientific vocabulary! We really enjoyed researching our animal types using the I pads too! We are extra lucky this half term as we are having PE on a Thursday where we are learning all about the sport of cricket. We are improving our catching and throwing, and learning how to think tactically!



**Year 1** have been thoroughly enjoying the start to 2019 and have been working extremely hard in lots of areas of learning! In Maths we seem to have almost cracked our 2s, 5s and 10s following Rock Star Day! In English we have written our own version of 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' using adjectives to describe our own animals. We have learned how to login and create our own work on the laptops and have talked about why we use avatars (little cartoon characters) instead of our photograph and are beginning to understand how to stay safe online. Our topic on Hot and Cold started with recorded weather reports (there are definitely some budding actors amongst us!) and we have been back to the woods to observe seasonal change in our wellies! Phew! What a busy, fun start to the year!



**Year 5** enjoyed learning about the job of a tree surgeon and carrying out research in the woods, as part of the Christmas Tree workshop.



**Year 3** have made a fabulous start back after Christmas. They have been excited to take part in cricket during PE, ran by a specialist coach. Here they can be seen practicing their throwing and catching skills.



**Year 6** were visited by a representative from Excel this month. They came in to see how children were progressing with their out-of-school science, maths and English projects and reminded children that there were prizes to be won for taking part.

Children have been particularly enthused by their English topic this month; Rock, Paper, Scissors has proven to be very popular with the class and some of the writing they have produced has been nothing short of exceptional!



#### **Artwork in Year 4**

Year 4 have been enjoying creating artwork based on the style of Megan Coyle. They practised their collaging skills using paper and pages from magazines and papers. After looking at pictures of the Liverpool skyline they drew their own silhouettes. They can't wait to see them on display.



## What's On ..... Here are reminders of forthcoming events

### FEBRUARY

Tues 5th	Safer Internet Day
Tues 5th	Return date for school photograph orders
Mon 11th	Reception Class Screenings
Tues 12th	Y3 Showcase 2pm
Fri 15th	Bookstart Story Session—Nursery and parents 2.15pm
Fri 15th	School closes at 3.15pm for half term break
Mon 25th	School re-opens
Tues 26th	Y5 visit to Cannock Chase Museum
Thurs 28th	Y5 Showcase 9.15am

### MARCH

Mon 4th	World Book Week
Tues 5th	'Treasure Island' theatre performance for whole school in hall
Mon 11th	British Science Week
Mon 11th	Nursery visit to Hoo Farm
Tues 12th	Y2 visit to Knowsley Safari Park
Tues 12th	Dance Extravaganza at Victoria Hall 6.00pm
Wed 13th	Y4 visit to Liverpool
Thurs 14th	Paralympic Event with Nigel Edwards
Fri 15th	Comic Relief Red Nose Day—full details to follow
Thurs 21st	Reception Class Assembly 9.15am
Fri 22nd	Final payment due Y6 residential
Mon 25th	The Big Pedal week
Wed 27th	Recorder Festival 12.30pm
Thurs 28th	Y4 Class Assembly
Fri 29th	Nursery Showcase—Mother's Day theme 11am—(full details to follow)

### APRIL

Tues 2nd	Parent Consultations—by prior appointment (full details to follow) from 1.30pm
Thurs 4th	Y1 visit to Peak Wildlife Park
Thurs 4th	Y2 Class Assembly 9.15am
Mon 8th	Final payment due Y3 residential
Thurs 11th	Y1 Class Assembly 9.15am
Thurs 11th	School Disco—(full details to follow)
Fri 12th	School closes at 3.15pm for Easter Break
Mon 29th	School re-opens for the Summer Term

### MAY

Thurs 2nd	School closed one day only—Local Elections
Mon 6th	School closed one day only—Bank Holiday
Thurs 9th	Y3 overnight residential visit to Shugborough OEC
Mon 13th	SATs week Y6 Mon-Thurs
Thurs 23rd	Photographs—Y6 leavers and Nursery Graduation
Fri 24th	School closes at 3.15pm for half term break

### JUNE

Tues 4th	School re-opens
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*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.*

#### COMMUNICATION:

- These diary dates are sent out monthly on the **newsletter**—please transfer them into your diaries.
- Prior to each event a **letter** will be sent with further details.
- All events are included in the **App calendar**.
- All events are included on the **website calendar**—you can download this from the calendar page.  
Website address: [www.hillsideprimary.org.uk](http://www.hillsideprimary.org.uk)