

# HILLSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

ISSUE 5 - 2018/19

28/02/19



**Welcome** to our February Newsletter which, as ever, is packed with celebrations and reminders. We have an exciting few weeks ahead of us with lots of lovely activities planned.

We hope you find this newsletter informative- please take note of the dates on the back page.

*Mrs K Schonau*

## Internet Safety:

There have been a few parents and children mentioning the MOMO challenge. We are not talking to the children whole-school about this (although it has had to be mentioned in a couple of classes as appropriate) as we don't want to draw attention to it or scare children in any way. We would appreciate it if parents discuss it individually with their children.

### **Top Tips:**

- Tell them MOMO isn't real
- Be present at all times when they are online
- Talk about what they are watching online
- Check parental controls on each device used

However, police have appealed to parents to not simply focus on MOMO, urging them to:

- ensure they know what their children can access online
- if something upsets them, make sure they know to switch off the screen and tell an adult
- ensure children understand the importance of not giving personal information to anyone they do not know
- tell their children no-one has the right to make them do anything they do not want to do

National Online Safety has also produced this useful poster which has great information and helpful tips to keep safe online (posted on Hillside App).



## 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 Y4 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. Kamsie (Y4)
2. Lewis (Y6)
3. Imogen (Y4)
4. Charlie (Y5)
5. Morgan (Y4)
6. Bella (Y4)
7. Theo (Y5)
8. Lillie (Y4)
9. Harry (Y4)
10. Mika (Y4)



## Parking outside school

We quite often see instances whereby parents are parking on the yellow zig zags outside the school gates, and even parking across the school gates. This is dangerous and will potentially cause an accident. Please always park safely and considerately.

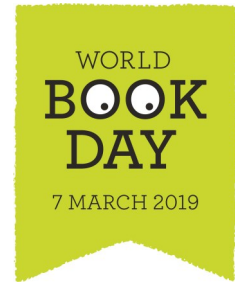


## Warmer weather:

- a reminder to ensure that all uniform, accessories and PE kits are clearly labelled with your child's name.
- a reminder to ensure that your child has a water bottle in school each day (water dispensers are available in school).

## **World Book Week:**

World Book Week is nearly here and as always Hillside are going to celebrate in style. This year is the 22nd year that there has been a World Book Day; the official date is 7th March, 2019; however we will begin our reading events from Monday 4th March and continue them for a whole week. The main aim of the week is to encourage children to explore the pleasures of books and reading, to celebrate authors and illustrators and to use the books they read as inspiration for their own writing.



You should have all received a detailed letter of all the amazing events that are taking place in school during the week. Here is a small reminder of some of the important dates that you will need:

### **Monday 4th March**

Book Tasting in class

Teacher Swapsies: Teachers swap classes to read a story to another class.

### **Tuesday 5th March:**

Theatre company performing Treasure Island.

Parents are invited into school to share a story with their child. (From 2:45 onwards)

### **Wednesday 6th March:**

Book Swap Day– children bring a book to school to swap.

Book Boxes– children to bring their book boxes into school.

### **Thursday 7th March:**

Children to come to school in their pyjamas with their favourite soft toy.

Children to bring their favourite book to school on this day.

Mystery Reader: Mystery reader will continue in all classes throughout the school on this day.

### **Friday 8th March:**

World Book Day story writing competitions within classes.

### **Other Reading Activities:**

Reach for the Stars Challenge: Achieve all ten reading activities to win a prize.

Shelfies: Children to take a selfie with their favourite story from their book shelf.

Gifted Books: Children will all receive a gifted book from school to enjoy.

## **Bananagrams**

This term we have held our own Bananagrams Championship. Bananagrams is an addictive word game wherein lettered tiles are used to spell words- like Scrabble but without the board. The children began by playing Bananagram games in class to determine the 'best players' within their class. These children then went on to compete against other children from different year groups to crown an ultimate winner from lower and upper key stage 2. The following children were the overall winners and were awarded with an electronic dictionary and thesaurus; they are very excited to try their new gadget out in class.

Year 3/ 4 winner: Megan

Year 5/ 6 winner: Alex



### **Boys Shoes:**

We are seeing boys coming into school wearing pumps/ trainers, even though they are black they are emblazoned with sports brand logos such as Nike or Puma etc. Please be reminded that the policy is for children to wear **'Sensible black shoes (not training shoes or boots)'** and in fairness to all this policy must be adhered to.

### **Haircuts/ styles:**

Recently we are seeing boys having hairstyles that do not follow our policy: **'During term-time pupils are asked not to have fashion hairstyles which include: shaved, dyed or streaked hair, patterns, mohawks, lines and tramlines. Hair braids, tinsels and feathers should not be worn.'** Please consider whether your child's hairstyle contradicts this policy.

### **Science Homework**

Thankyou to everyone who contributed responses to the monthly science homework challenge. Hopefully you have enjoyed discussing the questions with your children and helping them to develop their scientific thinking. Each month, certificates are awarded to a response from each year group which impresses our science ambassadors. Science challenges will continue to be sent at the beginning of each month, with the deadline for contributions being the last day of each month.



### **Outdoor Gym Equipment**

Our equipment has been in place for some time now and is a great asset to the school. On the whole parents and children refrain from using it without the supervision of a school member of staff- thank you.

A gentle reminder to all that it should not be used before or after school without the presence of a supervising member of school staff.

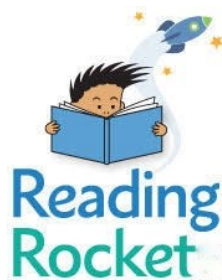


### **Willow Workshops**

The school council from this year and last year have had a wonderful opportunity to spend the money they earned from the community bid last year. They've worked with a lady called Rachel to build willow domes in our outdoor area. We can't wait to play in them in the summer term!



## Reading Rocket Challenge



This half terms reading challenge began on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February and will finish on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

We had a record number of children achieving the Reading Rocket for the previous half term. Our highest amount of children previously was 67. This half term we had a record number of 87 children reading five times a week. This is just incredible!

The following table represents the percentage of children who are achieving the Reading Rocket in each class.

Class	Percentage of Children Achieving the Reading Rocket
Nursery	38%
Reception	50%
Year 1	44%
Year 2	33%
Year 3	50%
Year 4	30%
Year 5	30%
Year 6	17%

The children chose cinema vouchers as the prize and the winners were:

Rec/KS1: Alex S (Rec)  
KS2: Harvey (Y4)



Our nursery children have just started to take reading books home and to get into the habit of sharing books with their family members. To award the children that are reading regularly (three times per week) we have given each child a small prize and they were put into a prize draw to win a book.

The winners for Nursery were:

Mason, Harry and Dexter



Well done to those children who have taken up the challenge; it is so lovely to see such enthusiastic and motivated readers in school.

## Book Bench

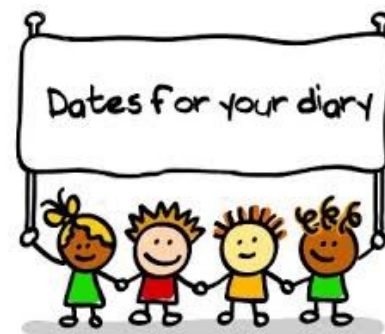
The Book Bench project is well underway. Mr Frost kindly offered to draw the chosen design on to the bench and Mrs Green and Miss Pinnington have been organising and overseeing the painting of the back of the bench and the handprints of all our wonderful children that have been placed on the back and on the sides. A small team of more able and talented artists have been chosen from year 3 to year 6 to paint the front of the bench. The images below demonstrate the work so far.



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

### MARCH

Mon 4th	World Book Week
Mon 4th	Classroom Book Tasting
Tues 5th	'Treasure Island' theatre performance for whole school in hall
Tues 5th	Parents share a story or poem with their child 2.45pm
Wed 6th	Book Swap & Book Box Day
Thurs 7th	World Book Day—dress up in pyjamas, bring favourite book and soft toy
Thurs 7th	Mystery Readers in school
Fri 8th	Class storywriting competition
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)
Mon 18th	Hillside celebrates 'British Science Week'
Mon 18th	'Spring Rock Off' - Rock Band event at St Paul's Primary School 1pm
Wed 20th	John Muir Club participants activity day at Stanley Head OEC
Thurs 21st	Reception Class Assembly 9.15am
Fri 22nd	Final payment due Y6 residential
Mon 25th	The Big Pedal week
Thurs 28th	Y4 Class Assembly
Fri 29th	Nursery Showcase—Mother's Day theme 11am—(full details to follow)



### APRIL

Mon 1st	Parents Meeting Y1 Phonics Screening 3.20pm
Tues 2nd	Parent Consultations—by prior appointment from 1.30pm (full details to follow)
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	Y6 visit to Alton Towers
Fri 24th	School closes at 3.15pm for half term break

### JUNE

Tues 4th	School re-opens
Tues 4th	Y4 visit to Coombes Valley Nature Park
Thurs 6th	Reception class visit to Imagine That, Liverpool
Tues 11th	Y3 visit to Gladstone Pottery Museum
Mon 10th	Y6 at 4 night residential visit to Stanley Head OEC
Tues 25th	Y2 visit to Llandudno
Tues 25th	Y6 visit to Manchester Museum of Science

### JULY

Thurs 4th	Y1 visit to Ford Green Hall
Fri 19th	School closes at 3.15pm for the summer break

#### 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)

*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.*