



Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am delighted to share this week's newsletter which is a real celebration of the amazing pupils who were last half term's Lead Learners. This is a huge achievement for these pupils. They have been nominated by a specific subject as the pupil who has best demonstrated The Hillside Way, and shown an exemplary attitude to learning in that subject. As I always say to the pupils, this is a great achievement and one they should be extremely proud of. It gives me great pleasure to see the pupils wearing their Lead Learner star badges. For many pupils, their blazers are starting to include an impressive collection of badges they have been awarded in school. Well done to all our Lead Learners.

As I write this we are busy preparing for next week's Children's Mental Health Week and have a range of activities planned for our pupils. There has never been a more important time for us to focus on supporting our pupils and their mental health. Please have a read of the back page of this newsletter and ask your child about the activities which are going on in school next week.

Mrs Amanda Ryan, Principal

Holocaust Remembrance Assembly

Last week the Performing Arts department led assemblies in the build up to Holocaust Memorial Day on Thursday 27th January. Actors from across all of our years groups came together to create a piece of drama that helped our pupils to understand what happened during this dreadful period of time, and promote the important message that human cruelty and suffering such as this can never be allowed to happen again. Laila Houghton took the words of one Holocaust survivor and turned them into a moving, informative piece of drama which helped our pupils to understand just how dreadful life in the concentration camps was. The performance ended with the message "do not stand by" in the hope of encouraging our pupils to speak out if they see anyone being mistreated at any time.

A huge thanks to our performers who gave up their time to rehearse and came into school early each day in order to perform: Laila Houghton, Rhianna Sloan, Hannah Weedall, Peter Cass, Evie Leppert, Molly Cook, Lacey Leigh Turner, Cerys Parry, Tempe Fraser, Ava O'Toole, Ethan Richardson, Jo Leigh O'Connor, Raymond Imhontu, Sophie Lamb.



We have a technical team!

The Performing Arts Department would like to say a huge thank you to David Dawson, Joshua Dickinson and Vincent Zhen for forming our Tech Team and working with us for all of our recent performances and assemblies. After being approached by Miss Brown the boys agreed to take on the challenge and were given a crash course in lighting, sound and visual effects. They have supported us at all of our recent events, often coming in early or giving up their own time to do so. Thank you boys, we couldn't have done it without you!



Miss Brown



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Year 7—Lead Learners



- Libbiella Sands - Art
- Kayla Bloxham - Computer Science & Religious Studies
- Joel Corson - Design Technology
- Sophie Lamb - Drama
- Emily Morgan - English
- Jack McDermott - Geography
- Anita Liang - History
- Harry Dagnall - Maths
- Krzysztof Makowski - Music
- Bright Asemota Obanor- Science
- Queensley Igbinedion - Spanish
- Lennon Evans - Physical Education



Year 8—Lead Learners



- Katherine Roberts - Art
- Stevie Owens - Computer Science
- Ella O'Hara Alcock – Design Technology
- Ava- Rose O'Toole – Drama
- Mya Turner – English
- Tilly Wallace – Geography
- Charlie Booth – History
- Kiera Cooke – Maths
- Kye Tyrell – Music
- Lexie Daniels -Religious Studies
- Alexander Gittins – Science
- Stevie Ellison – Spanish
- Tamika Birkett – Physical Education



Year 9—Lead Learners



- Caitlin Adamson – Art
- Alex Boyd – Computer Science
- Leland Conlan – Design Technology
- Jessica Rudd – Drama
- Lana-Mai Robinson – English
- Warren Coudis – Geography
- Matilda Bardhi – History
- Ryan Jenkinson – Maths
- Bluebell Evans – Music
- Daria Maria Tudorache – Religious Studies
- Chantal Bazuaye – Science
- Isobel Rogers – Spanish
- Rhys Perkins – Physical Education

Year 10—Lead Learners



Rosa Dwyer – Art
Ava Ashcroft – Business studies
Michael Davies – Computer Science
Vincent Zhen – Design Technology
Molly Cook – Drama & Geography
Niccole James Jenkinson – Dance
Evie Duff – English
Benita Fani - Hospitality and Catering
Amelia Woodhall – History
Thomas Grant – ICT
Fiona Zen – Maths
Maria Aleksieva – Music
Chiedza Lameck - Religious Studies
Kira Little – Science
Julia Knih – Spanish
Kymberley Corderio – Photography
Millie Jones – Sport Studies
Karina Ormando Medieros – 3D Design



Year 11—Lead Learners



Harri Moran—Art
Richard Enebeli—Business Studies & ICT
Lewis Bell—Computer Science
Nancy Lloyd—Design Technology
Erin Newall—Drama
Laila Houghton—English
Charlie Byrne—Geography
Aliyah Perkins—History
Beth Scott—Maths
Krithika Sivanathan - Music
Caitlin White—Religious Studies& Science
Ava Ashcroft - Spanish
Lydia McCarthy—Photography
Beth Scott—Sports Studies
Nancy Lloyd—Travel and Tourism
Melissa Fagan—3D Design

Safeguarding, Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health

Hillside does...Children's Mental Health Week

From 7-13 February 2022, schools, youth groups, organisations and individuals across the UK will take part in Children's Mental Health Week. This year's theme is **Growing Together**.

Growing Together is about growing emotionally and finding ways to help each other grow. Challenges and setbacks can help us to grow and adapt, and trying new things can help us to move beyond our comfort zone into a new realm of possibility and potential. However, emotional growth is often a gradual process that happens over time, and sometimes we might feel a bit 'stuck'.

For Children's Mental Health Week 2022, we will be encouraging children (and adults) to consider how they have grown and how they can help others to grow.

We will be marking this and promoting the event through a number of activities during the course of the week.

The Place to Be website <https://www.place2be.org.uk> has a lot of useful information with regard to practical support in improving children's mental health, and also outlines the charities campaign for Children's Mental Health Week.

In addition to the above, we would also recommend the following websites for support in terms of children and young people's mental health:

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>

<https://www.annafreud.org/>

<https://charliewaller.org/>

kooth.com

Here at Hillside, we also commission a professional counselling service with Brighterhorizons4u who are in school 2 days per week. If you would like to find out more about this service please contact your child's Progress Leader for further information.

Below is a snapshot of the activities that we have planned for next week, and we look forward to sharing some of the highlights with you in next week's newsletter.

- **Friday 11th February** – non- uniform day with the theme 'Dress to express'. £1 pupil donation with funds raised going to the Place2Be
- A brunch hosted by Mrs Ryan for School Council to talk to her and senior staff about opportunities for promoting and improving Mental Health at Hillside.
- Progress Leader's assemblies to focus on improving mental health and taking care of the mind
- Mental Health market place open each day of the week at lunchtime with a range of activities including art therapy and meditation
- End of week celebration to take place at lunchtime on Friday 11th February

Mrs Cross

