



Dear Parents/Guardians,

It has been a great first week back at school with so many activities taking place to support our pupils. We have had a particular focus on careers and apprenticeships, recognising that providing our young people with high quality information and guidance about the options available to them when they leave Hillside is so important. Please take the time to ask your child about these events and see what they have gained from the experience.

This week's newsletter also contains important information about Personal Development and I would encourage all parents to complete the consultation, link included in the article. We are really proud of the work of our school council and I am delighted that Mr Smith has shared information about the impact of their work in school.

Encouraging and celebrating reading is something we do every day at Hillside, recognising how important reading is for our pupils. World Book Day gives us the opportunity to join schools across the country in a day of celebration. We have several activities planned and it's going to be great to see how much sponsorship our pupils can raise in their sponsored reading challenge.

I need to share with you that Mrs Cross will be leaving us today to take up a new post as Vice-Principal at Halewood Academy. This is a very exciting and well deserved opportunity for Mrs Cross. I know you will all join me in wishing her every happiness and success in her new role. She will certainly be greatly missed at Hillside, where she has given over 20 years dedicated service and commitment to our children and their families.

Mrs Amanda Ryan, Principal

Apprenticeship Workshops

Pupils in Years 9, 10 and 11 took part in an apprenticeship information workshop hosted by Jake Croxton from Be More / The Apprenticeship Hub. During the session, pupils learned lots of information about what an apprenticeship is and the different local organisations who offer apprenticeships. Jake also talked to pupils about websites they can use to search for current vacancies and how they can apply for apprenticeships. If you would like to learn more about apprenticeships, please visit the websites below which contain information for both pupils and parents.

<https://be-more.info/>

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/>

Apprenticeship Clinic

All pupils in Year 9, 10 and 11 were given the opportunity to request an appointment with Jake to discuss specific questions about apprenticeships they had. Jake spoke to pupils in small groups about their career paths and discussed different apprenticeship opportunities. Pupils who attended the sessions said they felt they had a lot more understanding of apprenticeships and that it had helped them think about their futures and their next steps.

Post-16 Options – Did you know?

During Year 11, pupils must decide on the future of their education.

The Government's Raising the Participation Age (RPA) means that all young people in England will be required to continue in education or training until their 18th birthday. This doesn't necessarily mean staying in school. Young people can opt to study or train in any of the following ways:

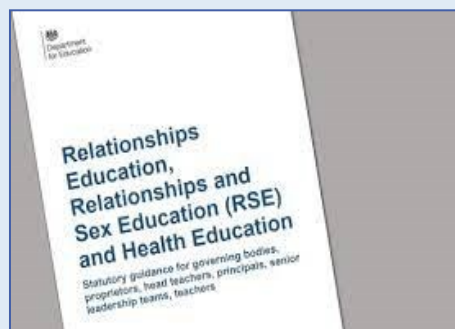
- by studying full-time in a school, college or with a training provider (many young people also take a part time job alongside).
- by working or volunteering full time, combined with part-time education or training .
- by taking up an apprenticeship or traineeship.



Personal Development at Hillside High School

Please take a look at the new look Personal Development section of the school website which contains information about the new statutory Relationships, Sex and Health Education Curriculum (RSE and HE) and how this is delivered at Hillside. Through the school's Personal Development Curriculum pupils will learn about the following topics:

- Health and Wellbeing
- Staying Safe
- Relationships Education
- Citizenship
- Finance and Careers



The Personal Development curriculum is delivered through subject areas and complimented through assemblies, themes for the week and additional "one off" sessions and workshops. Detailed information about the coverage for each year group can be found on the website along with the school's RSE and HE Policy and a link to a parental consultation survey.

https://www.hillsidehigh.co.uk/academy_information/personal-development/

Mrs Jones

School Council Impact

As a regular feature in our weekly newsletter, from now on we will be promoting the school improvements made by our school council. Each week, we will include something that has changed as a direct result of our pupils views and actions.

As a starter, our school stationery shop is now formally set up and situated in the LRC. Pupils can purchase different items that they require as part of their E8. This will now be the permanent home of the shop as pupils did not feel the previous position of the shop was helpful or allowed them the time to purchase goods. Hopefully, our pupils will now make use of the resource. Additionally, if pupils have any ideas in terms of items to add to the stationery shop, please see Mr Smith so we can update the stock.

Finally, a big thank you to Ewelina Gryzka who helped to set up 'Hillside Stationery'.

Mr Smith



Hegarty Maths

Top pupils for this week



Jessica Harrington	HaiYing Xue
Brian Leung	Julia Nicole Danao
Samantha Harrington	Holly Hart
William Okoro Iwuchukwu	Alex Langley
Emily Carroll	Lily Beesley
Chiedza Lameck	Jack McDermott
Lauren Grant	Amelia-Rose Garrity
Rosa Dwyer	Yonatan Asmeron
Scott Good	Benedict Imhontu
Joshua Rogers	Fiona Zhen

TT Rockstars

A massive well done to our

TT Rockstars


this week, they are:

Jacob Williams—7SW
Hai Ying Xue—7SW
★ Maria Peres—7LJ ★
Josh Williams -8TH
Tilly Wallace—8TH
Harry O'Leary—8RS

Mr Pattison

GCSE Pods

GCSE Pod For KS4 QUESTIONS ANSWERED ?	GCSE Pod For KS4 DIAMOND LEAGUE	GCSE Pod For KS4 TOP PODDERS
Samantha H, Year 11 - 123	Kemi A, Year 11 - 165	HaiYing X, Year 7 - 175
Kemi A, Year 11 - 98	Samantha H, Year 11 - 120	Eleanor C, Year 11 - 48
HaiYing X, Year 7 - 30	HaiYing X, Year 7 - 60	Samantha H, Year 11 - 37
<i>'Excellence in the Heart of the C PICCOLLAGÉ</i>	<i>'Excellence in the Heart of the C PICCOLLAGÉ</i>	<i>'Excellence in the Heart of the C PICCOLLAGÉ</i>



Top Podders are the pupils who have streamed the most pods.
Questions Answered are the pupils who attempted the most questions.
Diamond League - are the pupils who have answered with the most accurate

World Book Day

On Thursday 3rd March our school will be joining with schools across the country to celebrate World Book Day and a shared love of reading. This year we will be giving all pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 the opportunity to join in a sponsored reading challenge called 'Ready, Steady, Read', in which pupils will be encouraged to read for as many minutes as possible from Monday 28th February to Friday 4th March. Details of this activity have been given to pupils during form time and they have been supplied with the relevant materials for this challenge. We encourage all friends and family to get involved in sponsorship and help to earn Hillside free books for our wonderful Learning Resource Centre; your support will make a big difference. As well as our sponsored read, during the week there will be World Book Day activities running in our Learning Resource Centre and staff across the school will be sharing their love of reading with pupils. We will also be running a 24hour Bedrock reading challenge on World Book Day, as well as a competition to design a front cover for a favourite book.



Mr Gibaud



Key Dates 2022

- Year 10 Remote Parents' Evening:** Thursday 3rd March
- Year 9 Remote Parents' Evening:** Thursday 17th March
- Year 9 Options Evening**— Thursday 31st March

Parents' Evenings are managed and administered via our online parents evening system, School Cloud and can be accessed by following the link below.



bedrock learning

Weekly praise for our top Bedrockers!

<u>Top for weekly points earned</u>		<u>Top for weekly time spent on Bedrock</u>	
Rhys Deaves	9NW 83 points	Mohamad Kentar	8CSY 2.7 hours
Saffron Morris	9SDO 63 points	Brian Leung	9NW 1.7 hours
Caitlin Adamson	9SDO 63 points	Isobel Rogers	9SDO 1.5 hours

Safeguarding, Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health

Attendance and Punctuality

To start Spring Term 2 we wanted to give all members of our school community some reminders regarding our expectations in terms of attendance and punctuality. Now as we are returning to some normality it is important that we are focused on improving our whole school attendance.

If your child is unable to attend school, you will need to ring the school office on 525 2630 between 8.00-8.30am. Your call will be received by one of our admin team who will discuss with you the reason for your child's absence. *Please be aware that dependant on the reason and your child's current attendance there will be some challenge as to why your child is not able to come to school.

Each day at 9.30am the pastoral team will meet and establish who is absent and the reason why. Dependant again on the individual's attendance and the reason for absence the most likely outcome will be a member of the pastoral team visiting the home of pupils who are absent to discuss how we can get the young person back into school with as limited time absent as possible.

The following information is from the DfE website and it outlines the responsibilities that parents have in terms of school attendance.

You must make sure your child gets a full-time education.
Children must get an education between the school term after their 5th birthday and the last Friday in June in the school year they turn 16.
You'll be contacted by either:

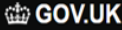
- the school - if your child is enrolled in school and does not turn up (even if they're only absent for a day)
- the council's education welfare officer - if they think your child is not getting a suitable education at home

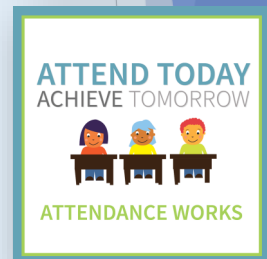
You can be prosecuted if you do not give your child an education. You'll normally get warnings and offers of help from the local council first.

When your child can miss school
You can only allow your child to miss school if either:

- they're too ill to go in- please note in line with school policy medical evidence will be required depending on your child's current and historic attendance.
- you've got advance permission from the school

There's [extra support available](#) if your child cannot go to school for long periods because of a health problem.





Some facts about school attendance

Government regard 95% as the minimum satisfactory attendance for a secondary school pupil.

Remember the only legally accepted reasons for not being in school are illness, holiday approved by school, or a day of religious observance.

Keeping children away from school for no good reason is a criminal offence.

Children with poor attendance often become the victims of bullying.

Some parents have been given a prison sentence for continually failing to send their child/children to school.

It is the school and not parents who decide whether or not to authorise absences; the parent's note is necessary because the reasons given need to be considered by the school.

80% attendance is the same as having a day off school every week.

Looking after other children, or shopping for new clothes, are not good enough reasons to keep your child off school. The schools will not authorise absences without a good reason for your child being off.

Top 10 Tips:

- Make school attendance non-negotiable unless there is a genuine illness – create good habit from the start.
- Make sure uniform is ready, especially after the holidays or weekend.
- Set the alarm clock early enough to allow plenty of time to get ready.
- Talk to your child about school life and if they are unhappy about any aspect, tell us as soon as possible so we can try to resolve the issue.
- Ensure medical/dental appointments are made out of school hours. If this is not possible, consider is this enough or your child to miss a whole day of school.
- If your child is under the weather, but well enough for school, send them in. If they are too unwell for school, we will contact you for them to go home.
- Talk to your child about how important it is to attend school every day.
- If you think your child is trying to avoid school, or certain days, can you find out why?
- Encourage after school activities and remember we have a free breakfast for all pupils, available from 8am.
- If your family are experiencing any difficulties, talk to your school who may be able to offer help.

Mrs Cross