EXCELLENCE IN THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Well what a week this has been at Hillside! I am not exaggerating when I say this week has included some of the highlights of my career. Last night saw a return to face to face Parents Evenings, the first since the pandemic. For our Year 8 families it was their first Parents Evening at Hillside since their child joined our school almost 2 years ago, what a reminder of what we have all been through. It was such a positive evening and it was fantastic to welcome pupils and their parents into the building.

On Wednesday we launched our first event 'Equality Now' network. This event was the idea of Laila our Head Girl and followed on from the great work we did on International Women's Day. The event included speeches from a number of inspirational women, including Laila who shared a very moving and personal account of the challenges experienced by her mum. The other speakers were equally inspirational and I look forward to Mrs Wardale sharing more information and pictures in next week's newsletter.

A reminder: We are not in school on Monday and I look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Tuesday.

Amanda Ryan, Principal

School Council

Personal achievements

Our pupils' personal achievement was an area which recently came up as a School Council Agenda item. We seek to celebrate our pupils' achievements in the newsletter and via our social media platforms. We believe our pupils are an inspiration to others. Whether it is boxing, football, dance or another fantastic talent or achievement you have accomplished, we want to know. We have a wealth of talent at our school in both the pupils and staff and we would love to hear what you have achieved in your time away from Hillside. Please see Mr Smith or Progress Leaders to share any stories about successes you have so we can celebrate these as a school community.

Equality at Hillside

Following on from a very successful International Womens Day, Laila Houghton was very passionate about keeping the message regarding equality at the forefront of our minds. Following on from a School Council Leadership Team Meeting, Laila shared a vision of celebrating local women in our school and local community of which we have many heartwarming stories. This quickly became the beginning of the 'Equality Now Network' celebrating the lives of women.



Coding club



As a specific school council request, three of our hard-working Year 8 gentlemen have been busy planning a coding club to begin for other year groups to join in the not-too-distant future. Alex Gittins, Jacob Charman and Tom Donlevy have been using the school's different software and hardware packages to plan and lead a cross curricular coding club between Computer Science and Design and Technology. Keep your eyes out for more details on how to get involved. Keep up the great work boys.







Year 10 Work Experience

We were really excited for our Year 10 pupils to go out on work experience placements at the end of last term. We have not been able to offer work experience for a number of years due to Covid restrictions so it was great that businesses are once again able to welcome our pupils and give them an insight into the world of work. Pupils attended a wide range of different careers largely based on their own interests and what they felt might be the careers option for them in the future. This includes careers in Law, Sport, Gyms, Nursery to name a few and businesses such as CEL Solicitors, Derrys Gym, Yellow House, Kids Planet and Johnsons Toyota.

Work experience provided pupils with the unique opportunity to find out about the world of work and to meet people of various age groups. Some of the feedback from pupils about what they got out of their placements included

- · "experience of real-life working conditions"
- · finding out about particular jobs and careers by working with people who are doing these jobs.
- · getting to meet and learn to work with new people
- · discovering something about their own skills, talents and knowledge
- · understanding the connections between the subjects they study at school and the skills they may need in working life
- · building my confidence
- · taking on new responsibilities

We were very pleased to have a lot of positive feedback from employers about our year 10 pupils.

Lexi & Olivia

"They are really dedicated and hand on and a pleasure to have"

Michael M

"He certainly has been working hard, he's been an absolute pleasure to have. He's developed some lovely little relationships with our little ones already and just seems to take everything in his stride"

Charlie, Luca & Michael

"They have worked well alongside all staff, supported our caretaker with various tasks, maintained pitches, our outdoor area, carried out equipment checks, looked after the container with all our equipment in, supported the level 3 tutor with the delivery of practical session and took part when needed and overall just been great to have around the centre each day"



GCSE Pods

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 knowledge, the more correct responses, the more could amonds.







Kade G, Year 7 - 54

Year 11 Final Netball Match!!

On the last day of term Year 11 challenged Year 9 to a netball match! This will be the final time that the Year 11 netball team will play together! It was a very close match and Year 11 won 7-6. Well done to all our players and thank you to Leah Jones and Shayla Kelly, our Sports Leaders who helped out. The afternoon was finished off with doughnuts which were well deserved!











bedrock learning Weekly praise for our top Bedrockers!

Top for weekly points earned

8GW 157 points

Brian Leung 9NW 136 points

Lilia Campbell 9NW 126 points

Top for weekly time spent on Bedrock

Christopher Mercury 7LJ 3.6 hours

Ella Williams 7LW 3.6 hours

Mohamad Kentar 9NW 3.3 hours

Mr Gibaud

Hegarty Maths

Stevie Ellison



Top pupils for this week

Holly Hart
Jessica Harrington
Aliyah Perkins
Beth Scott
Brian Leung
Nancy

Scott Good
Samantha Harrington

Tia Leicester Ester Fani Lily Beesley
Natalie McNeill
Maisie Hampson
Daniel Morgan
Todor Radev
Konstantinos Foukis
Evie Duff
Chloe Fleming

Rhys Salleh

David Jenkins

TT Rockstars

A massive well done to our TT Rockstars this week, they are:

Jacob Williams—7SW
Hai Ying Xue—7SW
Tia Leicester—7LJ
Joshua Williams -8THe
Hary O'Leary—8TH
Tilly Wallace—8TH

Mr Pattison

Safeguarding, Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health



Teenagers are more at risk on the roads than they think. Most teenagers don't realise that they are more likely to be killed or injured in a road collision than any other age group. Here's how to help your teenager stay safe.

You could talk to your child and reinforce road safety messages to help keep them safe:

- stress the need to concentrate and be careful at all times
- warn of the dangers of distractions listening to music on their phone, texting, phoning or even chatting to friends while walking are big distractions
- keep talking about the dangers of traffic
- point out people who are endangering themselves
- encourage your teenager to practice judging the speed and distance of approaching vehicles on busy roads and identify safe gaps in the traffic
- stress that your child should never lose concentration and follow others blindly into dangerous situations

Cycling

It is a good idea to:

- buy and encourage your teenager to wear a cycle helmet, and something fluorescent and reflective to improve their visibility
- encourage your child never to take lifts on the back of a friend's bike
- ask your child never to listen to music while they are cycling
- make sure your child knows that cyclists must obey all traffic signs and traffic light signals

Bus safety

Some teenagers take the bus to school and back all the time, maybe even every day. In fact, they're probably so used to it, they do it without paying much attention. But not paying attention could cost them their lives. It only takes a moment's lapse of concentration to cause death or serious injury. So your children should always expect the unexpected and never take risks going to and from the bus or crossing roads nearby. You should remind them:

- just because they are not small children does not mean they should not use The Green Cross Code
- just because their friends are chatting doesn't mean it's safe for them

Peace of mind

For your peace of mind, have routines that you can both stick to. You could try discussing the following points and finding an answer for each of them:

- what will they do if they miss the last bus home?
- do they have a mobile (fully charged), a phone card, money or know how to reverse the charges if they need you?
- what should your teenager do if they have to stay behind at school?