



**HILLSIDE
HIGH SCHOOL**
WADE DEACON TRUST



Friday 13th September 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We have made a brilliant start to the year and I am delighted that our 'Strong Start' attendance message has been fulfilled by the vast majority of our pupils. We know that coming to school every day is the biggest factor in our pupil's fulfilling their potential.

In this week's newsletter it is my pleasure to welcome the new colleagues who have joined us this year. I am sure you will join me in making them feel very welcome at Hillside.

It was wonderful to welcome so many Year 11s and their families back to school on Monday evening for our 'Success in Core Evening'. The feedback from parents was extremely positive. We know that working with families is crucial so we can all work together to support our young people and ensure they achieve success in their final GCSE year at Hillside.

We are now looking forward to our next parental event which is our 'Welcome to GCSE Evening' 5.30pm on Monday 23rd September. It will be great to see all Year 10 and their parents at this evening. Before that we have our Open Evening next Thursday for any pupils in Year 5 and 6 who are considering Hillside as their secondary school. Please spread the word to any family and friends who may be interested.

Amanda Ryan, Principal

Thought for the Week

A reader lives
a thousand lives
before he dies.
The man who
never reads
lives only one.

- George R.R. Martin



Making the Most of our Knowledge Organisers

In our Newsletter we will be showcasing strategies for study using your knowledge organisers.

This week we have **quizzing!**

Have a go at what this could look like.

1. Turn to the first science page.
2. Try and come up with five one mark recall questions for this page.

You can use Revision Cards to write the question on one side and the answer on the other

You can buy your own Revision Cards from our LRC for £1.00.



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SELF QUIZZING

Use your knowledge organiser to make a mini quiz. Write questions using your knowledge organiser. Keep them simple 1 mark questions. Close your knowledge organiser and try and answer them. Remember you can repeat this quiz over and over to strengthen your memory.



Attendance—Hillside Makes a Strong Start

I would like to congratulate all of the pupils that have taken up our challenge of Start Strong. We have seen 100% attendance from over 589 pupils.

For those pupils who unfortunately have missed school for whatever reason, can I remind them of the importance of completing their Compulsory Catch-up. This is essential to fill the gaps in knowledge they will have and help them make better progress. As explained in last week's newsletter the link between pupils' final outcomes and attendance is clear.

This Friday is Freddo Friday, an opportunity to celebrate attendance with a Freddo!

Fridays are as important as any other school day, yet last year we did see a dip in attendance on a Friday. We are having a big push to improve this and ask for your support in ensuring your child is in school everyday.

Mr Edwards



ParentPay - Our Online Payment Service

Our only method of payment for all trip that are organised by Hillside High School is via ParentPay. The online payment platform also gives you the option to top up your child's dinner money account. To set up your online account you will need your activation code which is provided by school. Using the secure website, you will be able to pay online using your credit or debit card.

What are the benefits to parents and pupils?

- ParentPay is easy-to-use and will offer you the freedom to make online payments whenever and wherever you like, 24/7
- The technology used is of the highest internet security available ensuring that your money will reach school safely – offering you peace of mind
- Payments can be made by credit/debit card or Direct Debit.
- Full payment history and statements are available for you to view securely online at anytime
- Your children will not have to worry about losing money at school
- If your child comes to school without their lunch or cash, you have the option to top up their account so they still are able to purchase their lunch.
- Parents can choose to be alerted when their balances are low via email and/or SMS text

How safe is ParentPay?

ParentPay offers you the freedom to make payments whenever and wherever you like, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, safe in the knowledge that the technology used is of the highest internet security available. Once you have activated your account, you can make online payments straight away.

If you want to find out more about ParentPay go to:
www.parentpay.com/Parents

If you need your activation code please contact the Main Office on 0151 525 2630



ParentPay Trouble shooting—Please make sure you have activated your child's account before reading the following.

I have activated my account with the activation codes that Hillside High have sent me but I am still unable to log in.

Once you have activated your account with the username and password from Hillside High, ParentPay will ask you to choose your own username and password. After completing the set up, you must ensure that you then activate the email link that ParentPay have emailed to you. This is the final part of the set up that you will need to do. Once you have verified your email address, you will be able to sign in.

I am unable to activate my account as my email address has already been used with ParentPay.

If you currently have a ParentPay account or have previously used the website for another school or child, you will have to log in to your existing account with your email that is registered. If you can no longer remember your password, please click the forgotten password button after you have put your username in. ParentPay will then email you a link to change your password. Once you are logged in to your existing account, you will need to click 'add child' it will then ask you to input the username and password that have been issued by Hillside High. Once that is done, it will link all accounts together.

I already have a child at Hillside High School.

If you already have a child at Hillside High and you have activated their account, please log in to that account, click 'add child' and input the username and password that Hillside High have provided to you for your additional child. Once that has been done, Parentpay will merge the accounts together.

My payment isn't showing in my bank account

The first payment you make through ParentPay can take up to 10 working days to debit your bank account. Any payments made after this can take up to 5 working days to debit. ParentPay will always put the funds on to your child's account within 15 minutes of making the payment, regardless if the funds have been debited from your account. It is your responsibility to check funds are available to cover the payment.

My child's dinner account is showing a minus figure

We don't allow pupils to overspend on their dinner account. The only time their account will show as a minus figure will be an indication that the online payment hasn't been successful. ParentPay will show the funds on their account 15 minutes after the payment has been made online. Your child is able to spend the funds even though the money hasn't cleared your bank account. There is sometimes a delay in the funds being taken from the bank account, this can then result in a failed payment. ParentPay will deduct the failed payment back from their account resulting in a minus figure. As soon as you top their account up again it will clear the minus figure off their account.

A Warm Welcome to Our New Staff



"Hello, my name is Mrs Rice and I am very excited to be continuing my Hillside journey this year as an Early Reading Teacher. As part of my role I will teach English, Reading through Phonics and Fluency, and continue to develop the provision in the LRC (this is where you will usually find me!). I look forward to helping our pupils grow into successful young adults fostering a love of all things reading." **Miss Rice**

"Hi Everyone. My name is Miss Wharton although many of you will already know me from previous years. I am delighted to have completed my teacher training and be joining the Science department this year. I look forward to the year ahead!" **Miss Wharton**



"Hello All!, My name is Mr. Lambert and I am joining Hillside as Subject Leader for Art, Photography and Technology. I am a Liverpool fan, please hold your applause. I have worked as a teacher for over 8 years. Before working as a teacher I was an illustrator for Marvel comics, DC Comics, BBC and other companies. I look forward to meetings everyone over time and remember no matter who you are, everyone is CREATIVE!" **Mr Lambert**

"Hi everyone, my name is Miss Kelly and I am teaching Geography and maths. I am so glad to be continuing my journey at Hillside as a teacher, having previously worked here as a teaching assistant and trainee teacher! I cannot wait to share my love of Geography and Maths with all my students and hopefully inspire some wonderful new geographers and mathematicians."

Miss Kelly



"Hi, my name is Mrs Rayson, and I am thrilled to have joined the English team here at Hillside. This is my thirteenth year teaching English and I still very much enjoy hearing the unique perspectives of the pupils I teach." **Mrs Rayson**

"Hi everyone, my name is Mr. Meakin and I am excited to teach Music at Hillside High School. I am really looking forward to working at Hillside and have felt really welcomed into the Hillside community. I look forward to showcasing as much talent as possible and would encourage all of you to try learning a musical instrument!" **Mr Meakin**



"Hi everyone. I'm Miss Ellis and I will be working at the Wellbeing Hub this year. I am really looking forward to being part of the team and supporting pupils wherever I can in order to reach their full potential." **Miss Ellis**

"Hi, my name is Miss Gillen and I will be joining Hillside's team of Teaching Assistant's for the year ahead. I look forward to supporting and getting to know students to help them achieve their aspirations for the year." **Miss Gillen**



"Hi everyone, my name is Miss Newsham and I am excited to be on this new adventure at Hillside as a teacher assistant!" **Miss Newsham**



Safeguarding, Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health

International Literacy Day

I am thrilled to reflect on this week's assemblies in honour of International Literacy Day. These assemblies were not just celebrations but also a profound reminder of the power of literacy and its far-reaching impact on our lives and communities. International Literacy Day, observed annually on September 8th, is a global event established by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1966. The day serves as a celebration of the importance of literacy and a call to action to address the challenges that still hinder access to quality education for all.



Literacy is more than the ability to read and write; it is a cornerstone of personal and societal development. It empowers individuals to think critically, engage in meaningful conversations, and make informed decisions. In our rapidly evolving world, literacy skills are essential for navigating complex information and participating fully in society.

This week's assembly aimed to shine a light on these principles and to celebrate the progress we have made while acknowledging the ongoing efforts needed to improve literacy rates globally. One of the key messages of the assembly was the idea that literacy is a fundamental human right. We are incredibly fortunate to have access to a wealth of resources and educational opportunities in our school, but it is important to remember that millions around the world still struggle with basic literacy challenges. By understanding and appreciating the value of literacy, we are better equipped to contribute to efforts that support education and literacy initiatives both locally and globally.

As we move forward, let us carry the spirit of International Literacy Day with us every day. Let us continue to value our ability to read, write, and communicate, and to support initiatives that promote literacy and education for all. By doing so, we not only enrich our own lives but also contribute to a more informed, equitable, and compassionate world.

Miss Wright, Subject Leader English

SEND Communication Focus Group Sessions



Formby Library
Wednesday 11th September
10am - 11:30am

Dunes Splash World
Friday 20th September
10am - 11:30am

Crosby Library
Friday 13th September
10am - 11:30am

Maghull Town Hall
Monday 23rd September
10am - 11:30am

Online Virtual Focus Group
Monday 16th September
6:30pm - 8:00pm

Cambridge Family Wellbeing
Centre
Wednesday 25th September
10am - 11:30am



SCAN HERE TO REGISTER
OR CALL 0151 934 3733



Attendees at each
session also have
a chance to win a
£20 voucher in a
prize draw!



Key Dates 2024-2025

19th September—Open Evening

**23rd September—Year 10 Welcome to
GCSE—5.30pm - & Whole School Flu
Immunisations**

**9th October—World Space Week Community
Event**

**10th October—Year 7 Settling in Parent
Event—10:30am & 5pm**

