



HILLSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

WADE DEACON TRUST

Thought for the Week



Friday 10th January 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas break. It has been a pleasure to welcome our pupils back this week. Can I say a massive thank you to all our families in supporting your child to return to school in what has been at times very challenging weather.

A highlight of my Christmas was our Christmas production, it was an absolute joy to see pupils from all year groups perform to such an exemplary standard. The performance which was the perfect mixture of hilarious and poignant, reminded us about the true meaning of Christmas. I hope everyone who was able to join us, enjoyed it as much as I did. A massive well done to all our pupils who were part of this amazing performance.

Amanda Ryan, Principal

Key Dates 2024-2025

16th January—Year 10 Progress Evening

20th January—Year 11 Mock Results Day

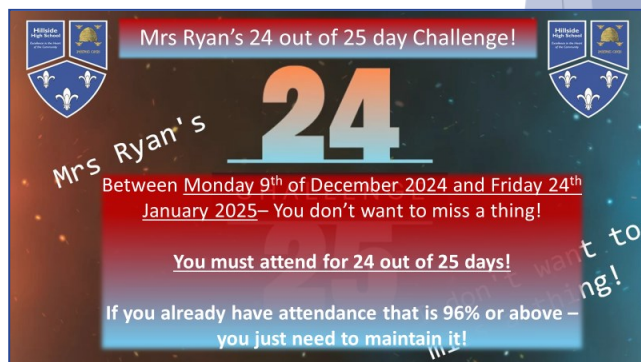
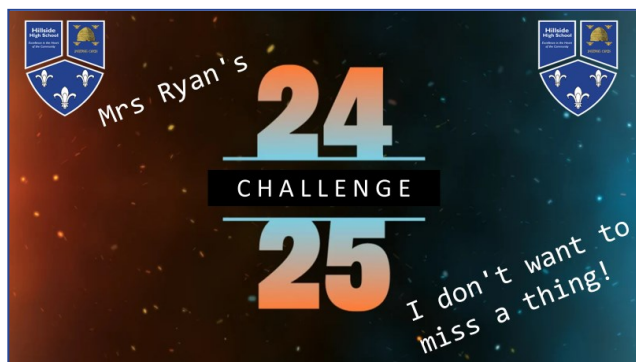
22nd January—Year 11 English & Maths Progress Evening

27th January—Year 11 Core Progress Meeting

Attendance - Let's Spring Back in January!

Welcome back to a frosty start in January. We appreciate it may have been difficult to get to school but many still made it and didn't miss a thing. We are still running Mrs Ryan's 24/25 Challenge for the next 2 weeks and details of the exciting trips for those who qualify will be released shortly. More exciting things to reward good attendance are on the way now that the elves have gone back to Santa's workshop!

Mr Edwards



admin@hillsidehigh.co.uk



0151 525 2630

Join us for the Celebration

We are excited to bring you the delicious food menu to celebrate the arrival of the Chinese New Year, and we hope you'll join us in making this a memorable occasion for everyone. Whether you are honoring your own Chinese heritage or simply enjoying the beauty of the traditions, our menu will offer a wonderful opportunity to connect with the other pupils, learn, and share in the joy of the season.

Mark your calendars and prepare for a joyful, prosperous, and vibrant Chinese New Year!

Chinese New Year
New Years Day
Wednesday 29th January

Menu
Monday 27th January
Sweet & Sour Chicken (Halal)
Rice
£2.03

Wednesday 29th January
Chicken & Mixed Pepper in Black Bean Sauce (Halal)
Rice
£2.03

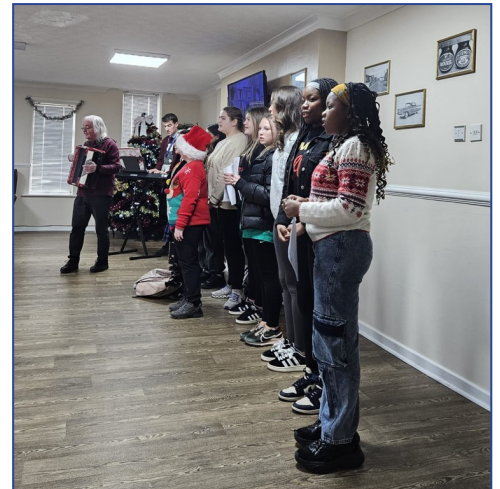
Friday 31st January
2 Giant Spring Rolls, Deep Fried served with Sweet Chilli Sauce—Vegetarian
£1.50

Year of the Snake

Hillside Choir Visit to Abbeydale

On Thursday 19th December, Hillside's choir paid a special festive visit to Abbeydale nursing home. Our choir sang a range of Christmas carols to the residents of Abbeydale accompanied by Mr Harrison on the accordion. The residents were absolutely delighted by the performance and even joined in with the carols and festive songs that they knew. The staff at Abbeydale send their thanks to our pupils for making the festive period at their nursing home extra special.

Miss Collins



Hillside Pantry

We are working with the charity MCKS who are funding the food for the pantry. MCKS is a Charitable Foundation and partners with schools to provide school pantries on a regular and permanent basis. They provide food, toiletries and sanitary supplies for those in need.

Hillside Pantry will be open to any families who have a child at Hillside. You will be given a food hamper containing some essentials listed below.

Items available include

- Tinned meals
- Breakfast cereal
- Tea / Coffee
- Long Life Milk
- Biscuits
- Pastas / Rice / Noodles
- Tinned vegetables
- Long life bread



Toiletries such as soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorant are also available.

Please bring your own shopping bag to collect items.
Any questions – please contact the school office.

If you are unable to collect on Friday - please contact the school office to make arrangements for collection at another date.

**The Hillside Pantry is
open every Friday from
1pm – 3.30pm at the
school Main Office.**

Oh Holy Night

December was one of the busiest months in the Performing Arts calendar as pupils and staff worked hard to spread Christmas cheer throughout our school community and made sure we ended the year with a bang!

Mr Meakin & Miss Capstick spent many hours rehearsing Christmas carols and all our favourite Christmas songs for a number of performances throughout the month with the choir. The first was when we came together with pupils from Christ Church to perform at Hillside's Christmas Fair in early December. They donned their Christmas hats and festive jumpers to ensure all who attended were entertained as they shopped and enjoyed the festivities. The choir then visited Abbeydale Nursing Home to spread some Christmas cheer amongst their residents. Of course, Mr Harrison couldn't turn down an opportunity to get out his accordion and tagged along to support, bringing smiles to the faces of the whole nursing home when he gave a personal rendition of Happy Birthday to one of the residents. Mr Meakin and the choir returned to school with smiles on their faces and said it was a truly heart-warming experience and nice to give something back to our local community.

The choir then came together with the drama department for our annual Christmas performance and what a lovely evening it was! The show was opened with a visit from our ugly sisters to get the fun started followed by a lovely performance from the Key Stage 3 dancers. Miss Oliver had choreographed a contemporary piece to Sia's "Snowman" which they performed beautifully. After some thoughtful readings delivered by our Year 11's and a moving dance routine from Frankie, Kaitlyn and Eva it was time to get to share the Christmas story. This year we decided to go back to the traditional Christmas nativity with our own Hillside twist.

The journey to Bethlehem began with our fantastic Year 7's taking their stage for their first performance at Hillside. Over twenty Year 7 pupils played the roles of travellers heading to Bethlehem for the census. Miss Brown was absolutely delighted to welcome our new actors to join the cast and was very impressed with their confidence on stage. Bella Gallagher portrayed the role of the Angel Gabriel with finesse as the choir accompanied her in her beautiful delivery of "The Angel Gabriel". Raymond I and Jo Leigh O'C took on the role of Mary & Joseph and told their story with warmth and grace. The show ended with Ray delivering a rendition of Oh Holy Night so beautifully it actually snowed in Bethlehem! The cast and crew were delighted to end such a busy term on a high and achieved their mission of spreading Christmas cheer and reminding our community of the true meaning of Christmas!

Special shout out to Tom D, Jack G and Alexander G who ran the tech box on their own, you were ever the professionals as always boys, thank you!

The Performing Arts Team are excited for the term ahead, keep your eyes peeled for details of the Summer production, they will be released soon. As always, a huge thank you to all our fantastic pupils who make up the cast and crew who continue to do us proud, you are what team Hillside is all about. Let's see what exciting things are ahead for you all in 2025!

Miss Brown



Safeguarding, Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Presentation Evening

It has been my pleasure to lead our assemblies this week. Rather than talk about New Year's Resolutions, as I often do in the first assembly in January, I have challenged all our young people to think about how they can be a Prize Winner at next year's Presentation Evening. It was an honour to share with our pupils the film we had made from Presentation Evening in November and for them to have a real sense of how amazing Presentation Evening is. Of course for many of our pupils they have already been prize winners and attended a Presentation Evening with their families.

Please look out for the film which will be sharing on our social media platforms next week.

If your child was a prize winner you can access the photos via the orange link below. I am sure you will agree the photos from the evening are amazing.

[Awards Evening](#) - click on the link and log in using your child's Outlook 365 details.

I look forward to seeing who our prize winners will be next November!

Mrs Ryan



WE'VE DONE IT!

