



HILLSIDE
HIGH SCHOOL
WADE DEACON TRUST

EXCELLENCE IN
THE HEART OF
THE COMMUNITY

Dear Parents/Guardians

It is my pleasure to share this week's newsletter with you and what a reflection of our school it is.

Yesterday we celebrated World Book Day and what an amazing day we had. Our young people loved seeing staff dressed up in a range of PjS and costumes, which let me tell you didn't disappoint. We had several activities taking place on World Book Day and throughout the week, with a whole school assembly on Tuesday where Ms Rice reminded us all of the benefits of reading.

Following on from my assembly last week I thought it would be nice to share with you some of the thoughts from our Muslim pupils about what Ramadan means to them. It was so lovely to hear pupils asking their Muslim friends about Ramadan and showing a genuine interest in why it's important to them. We have a number of pupils fasting and it's great to see our school community supporting them.

Amanda Ryan, Principal



Friday 7th March 2025

Attendance

We had a good week for attendance last week but sadly did not hit 91% on Friday to activate a magic Monday reward. Lets try again this week. Hillside 100, have you got the key to open the vault?

Mr Edwards



Breakfast Club

Come along to our fantastic breakfast club which is free of charge to all pupils.

Mrs McGing will be in the Dining Room everyday between 7:45am-8:20am serving delicious warm bagels.



admin@hillsidehigh.co.uk

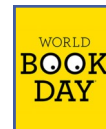
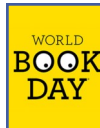


0151 525 2630

World Book Day

What an amazing World Book Week it has been at Hillside! I would like to thank all the staff for their support and creativity in making it such a memorable experience for our young people. I would also like to thank the pupils for their enthusiasm with getting involved with the activities on offer, it has been a joy to see such excitement about reading! Also to remind anyone that is entering our Book writing competition, entries need to be handed to myself by Monday 10th March. The winning entry will have their book published and be given the opportunity to attend a local primary school to share their story. I look forward to reading all of your wonderful works!

Miss Rice



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 – 3.45pm at the
school Main Office.**

Key Dates 2024-2025

12th March—Year 8 HPV Vaccinations

17th March—Year 10 Core Progress Evening—Invited Pupils.

**20th March— Year 9 Options Evening—
6.00pm-7.30pm. All Year 9 to attend in Full School Uniform**

4th April—Last Day of Term

22nd April—Back to School—Pupils Return

23rd April—Year 9 MenACWY Vaccinations

**24th April—Year 8 Progress Evening—4:15pm-6:45pm All Year 8 to
attend in Full School Uniform**

Thursday 21st August 2025 - GCSE Results Day



What is Ramadan to You?

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar, observed by Muslims worldwide as a month of fasting, prayer, reflection and community. During Ramadan, Muslims fast from dawn until sunset, refraining from eating or drinking. This practice is not only of worship but also serves to cultivate self-discipline, self control and empathy for those who are less fortunate. The benefits of Ramadan are numerous. It promotes spiritual growth, encourage charitable giving, and strengthens the community bonds as families and friends come together to break their fasts. Fasting during the month can also have physical benefits, such as the body improving metabolic health.

Personally benefits

Overall Ramadan is a time for personal reflection, spiritual renewal and fostering a sense of unity among the global Muslim community.

I think our celebration of Ramadan is full of happiness, love and kindness. As Muslims, we can eat the things we love until the sun rises in the morning the noon it is a call to prayer. Ramadan is important to me because it makes me a better person.

It is important because the Quran (The Muslim Holy Book) was first revealed to the prophet Muhammad. That actual night that the Quran was revealed is known as Lailat Ul-Qadr (the night of power). Ramadan is a time where Muslims seek forgiveness. In the hope of rewards of heaven from the mercy of Allah and it an opportunity to get closer to Allah.

Muslims are required to fast and give to charity to show kindness and patience and to strengthen their relationship with Allah.

Ramadan for me personally is a time to get closer to my religion, this isn't only during Ramadan this should be all times. It's also a time for Muslims to fast from sunrise to sunset but its also not just about not eating food, its also quitting your bad habits e.g. listening to music, smoking, swearing, lying etc. Muslims donate food, money or clothing depends what you prefer, its also a month filled with blessings.

5 Pillars of Islam

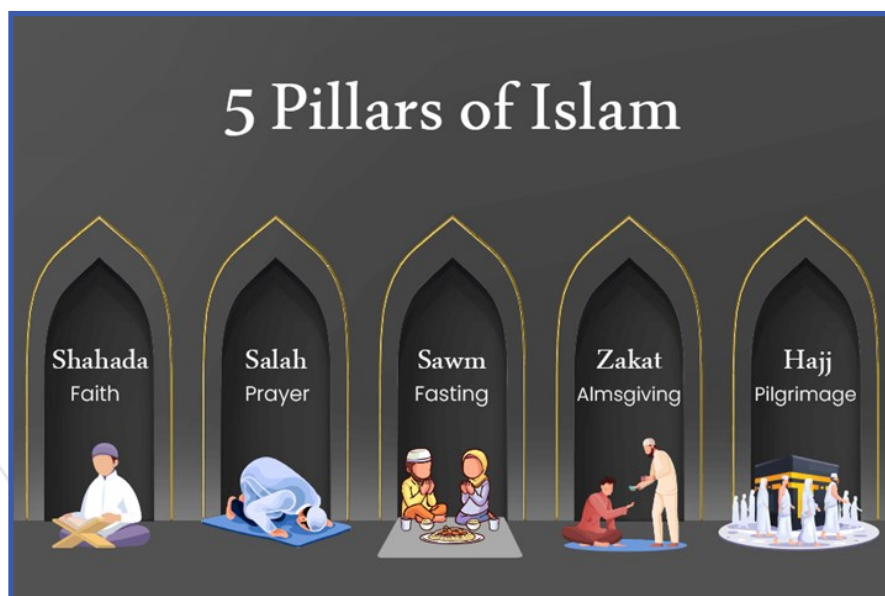
Shahada
Faith

Salah
Prayer

Sawm
Fasting

Zakat
Almsgiving

Hajj
Pilgrimage





This year Ramadan will start on the first of March. Ramadan is a religious occasion where the family gathers around the dining table. After I sometimes go with my father to the mosque to pray tarawih and fast from dawn to sunset. I am excited because I am waiting for the Ramadan and for Eid gift.

The month of Ramadan comes ever and all Muslims all over the world are waiting for it with great happiness. After Ramadan come Eid and Muslims go to the mosques to perform Eid prayers, wearing new clothes Muslim's also have what is called charity which is an amount of money given to the poor.



Ramadan is one of the most sacred times for Muslims. It is the month in which that the Holy Quran was sent down from heaven as a guidance for men and woman, a declaration of direction and a means of salvation.

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. That exact date of Ramadan changes every year. This is because Islam uses a calendar based on the cycle of the moon.

During the month of Ramadan, Muslims won't eat or drink during the hours of day light. This is called fasting.

However, children, pregnant woman, elderly people and those who are ill or travelling don't have to fast.



The month Ramadan approaches which represent great religious spiritual and social importance for millions of people around the world. It is also especially important for me because fasting during Ramadan is one of the pillars of Islam, through which Allah forgives the sins of every Muslim. I especially enjoy the fact that people of faith, gather together – young and old – to rejoice the goodness and blessings. During Ramadan I will go together with my friend to Mosque to pray and give thanks to God.



Ramadan is not just a month on the calendar, it is a time of spiritual rebirth, purification and inner transformation. It is like a light in the soul that awakens the best qualities in me: patience, mercy and gratitude. I wait for it with special trepidation because I know that there are days ahead when I will become closer to myself, close to people and most importantly, closer to the Almighty. Fasting is not just abstaining from food and water. It is a school of character when I learn to control my desires, get rid of the unnecessary, filter out the excess so that only purity remains in thoughts, in actions, in the heart. Every day of Ramadan is a test and at the same time a gift. It teaches me to be strong, but not tough; humble, but not weak; patient but not indifferent. But the most beautiful thing about this month is the atmosphere of goodness. The evening after is not just a meal, but a moment of unity when family and friends gather around the table when every piece of bread is shared with love. This is the time when smiles become more sincere and health becomes purer. These days, I especially feel that the world is based on mercy, mutual assistance and compassion. Ramadan reminds me of the most important things; life is not measured by how much you have but by how much you are willing to share. It teaches me to be better, to be a light for others, to seek happiness not in the external, but in the depths of my souls. And when the month comes to an end, I feel that I have become different, lighter, clearer, closer to who I am destined to be. Because Ramadan is not just a fast. It is a path to true freedom of the soul.



Mobile Phone and Portable Music Players in School

Our rules are clear on this:

- Electronic devices should not be brought to school at all.
- Mobile phones may be kept in a school bag but must be switched off at all times.
- Mobile phones should not be taken out during lessons, at break or lunchtime.

Our rules are clear on this:

•If you are seen with a mobile phone or an electronic device, the item will be confiscated and placed safely in Pupil Support. If this is the first occasion that your phone is confiscated it will be given back to you at the end of the day. On a second occasion it will not be given back to you until an adult family member comes to collect it.

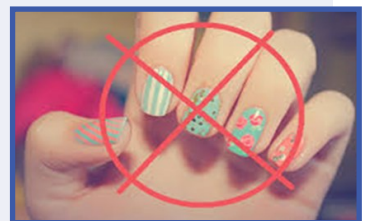
There are no excuses or exceptions to this rule including the reasons set out below

- I was just checking the time.
- I was just checking where my next lesson is.
- I was just seeing if my mum had messaged.
- I just needed to check something.



Jewellery, Make-Up and Nail Varnish

- No jewellery is allowed to be worn except a wrist watch. If you come into school wearing jewellery you will be expected to remove it, this includes earrings which you will be asked to remove.
- Hair bands/bobbles should be small, simple and black or navy.
- It is not appropriate for you to wear make-up, false eyelashes or sparkling tooth gems for school. You will be expected to remove any make-up.
- Nail varnish is not allowed in school and if you are wearing nail varnish you will be asked to remove it and if false nails are worn pupils may be withdrawn from lessons if the nails can not be removed.



RE-CYCLE YOUR OLD UNIFORM

We are always grateful for donations of good quality uniform including PE and Drama kits.

Also, if you have any no longer required text books, we can re-cycle those too.



Pride In Hillside

PIC•COLLAGE

School Uniform

At Hillside we have extremely high standards of uniform. This means that if you come to school without full uniform for any reason you will automatically spend the day away from other pupils working in isolation in our remove classroom. This is not a punishment, but a way of ensuring that we maintain our high standards at all times.

We expect all of you to wear full school uniform, including school shoes and blazer on their way to and from school. This is something we take very seriously as we believe you are ambassadors for our school at all times.

- Shirts tucked in at all times.
- Outdoor coats to be taken off when in the school building.
- Blazers worn at all times.
- Kilts should not be rolled up.
- No training shoes.

If you have any questions about uniform, please refer to your handbooks or ask a member of staff.

Outdoor coats, jackets and hoodies are not part of your school uniform and should not be worn in the school building:

- Take your coat off as you enter school in the morning.
- If you wear your coat to go out at break and lunch then you should not put this on until you are outside.
- At the end of the school day your coat should go on only as you leave the building and not as you are leaving the classroom.

If you have any questions about uniform, please refer to your handbooks or ask a member of staff.



Boys



Girls



Boys



Girls



All pupils need a suitable sized school bag. Big enough to fit A4 folders or books, and all Essential 8.



Safeguarding, Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health

World Book Day

What a wonderful week of reading it has been!

At Hillside, we read everywhere and we love an extra excuse to celebrate reading for pleasure, what better time to do that than World Book Week.

This week we have had a lot of fun activities going on around school to explore our theme 'Bedtime Stories'. On Thursday the children had the opportunity to sit back and enjoy listening to five different stories throughout the day.

We have also been running lots of exciting competitions across school, our pupils have had the opportunity to design next years National Book Token, to become an author or illustrator and to work as a team to 'collect the covers'.

Staff has been just as busy designing doors and donning their best book character costumes or pj's! It is always a joy to see the excitement on the pupils faces during these special events!

Well Done to everyone involved it has been a super week!

Miss Rice

Thought for the Week

