



HILLSIDE
HIGH SCHOOL
WADE DEACON TRUST

EXCELLENCE IN
THE HEART OF
THE COMMUNITY

Dear Parents/Guardians

This has been another busy week at Hillside. Year 11 have sat their P2S3 examinations. They have worked so hard for these and I hope this combined with their determination and strong attendance will be reflected in their results.

Preparations are well underway with Year 10 for their Work Experience which starts on Monday. I wish them the best of luck and know they are going to have a great experience of work and great time too.

Last night was Year 9 Options Evening and it was lovely to see so many of our Year 9 pupils and their families attend. This marks a really exciting next step for the year group. As I said to them, it is the first time since they started school when they were 4 that they have had choice over the subjects they study.

On Tuesday I had the honour of joining Year 9 and 10 pupils to listen to our guest lecture delivered by Mr Canter. I think it's fair to say we all found this very emotional and it will certainly be one of those moments which stays with me for a lifetime.

This week I also had to break the news to Year 10 that Miss Roby is leaving us at Easter. Miss Roby has been the year group's Progress Leader since they joined us in Year 7 and I really do appreciate this is a massive change for the pupils. Miss Roby has secured a job in another school, which really was an opportunity too good for her to miss. I know you will all join me in wishing her the very best of luck in this new role. Mrs McCarty the current Progress Leader for Year 11 will become the new Progress Leader for Year 10, she is a very experienced pastoral leader having taken several year groups through their 5 year Hillside journey. In the short term whilst Mrs McCarthy has Year 10 and Year 11 to lead she will have another colleague supporting her to ensure no year group misses out. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Miss Roby, Mrs McCarthy or Mr Campbell.

Amanda Ryan, Principal

News
BEST OF LUCK



We will miss you

News

Friday 21st March 2025

Attendance

Sadly another Magic Monday was not launched because we did not hit our Friday attendance target of 90.5% - come on - I'm sure we can do it this week!

Attendance is still vital in the run up to Easter - the learning never stops at Hillside and whilst we are all looking forwards to a rest - lets have 100% attendance for the next two weeks!

Year 11 had their P2S3 Exams this week - and I was delighted to see all forms achieved 100% attendance on the first day - a magnificent achievement that will be rewarded next week!

Mr Edwards



SPRING BACK

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

#BEHERE

EXCELLENCE
IN THE HEART
OF THE
COMMUNITY



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Mr Canter – Holocaust Speaker

On Tuesday afternoon 20 Year 9 and 10 pupils stayed behind after school to listen to a guest speaker, Mr Canter, deliver a fascinating and emotional story about his mother's survival of the Holocaust.

Many past pupils may find the name to be familiar as Mr Canter's mother, Anita Canter, used to regularly attend Hillside and speak to pupils about her war time experiences. When Anita passed away, Mr Canter's belief in the importance of education as well as a desire to continue his mother's legacy led to him recounting her story once more at Hillside.

The pupils were captivated as Mr Canter spoke of his mother's childhood in Denmark and what happened when it was occupied by the Nazis in the 1940s. The Danish resistance movement managed to evacuate 7,220 of Denmark's 7,800 Jews by sea to Sweden, Anita Canter being among those who fortunately made it out by boat, but not before being held captive in a prison camp where she and other Jewish prisoners was forced into humiliating acts to amuse the Nazi guards.

At the end of the talk pupils were given the opportunity to ask questions and Mr Canter was so impressed by the respectful and insightful questions that the pupils came up with as a result of what they'd learned about.

It really was a fantastic and emotional way to end a Tuesday and really brings home the power of education.

Anita Canter died in 2016, survived by her husband, two children and six grandchildren. Her life and work remain an inspiration.

Mr Rayson



Mindful March 2025

SATURDAY

1 Set an intention to live with awareness and kindness

8 Eat mindfully. Appreciate the taste, texture and smell of your food

15 Stop. Breathe. Notice. Repeat regularly

22 Notice something that is going well, even if today feels difficult

29 Choose a different route today and see what you notice

SUNDAY

2 Notice three things you find beautiful in the outside world

9 Take a full breath in and out before you reply to others

16 Get really absorbed with an interesting or creative activity

23 Tune into your feelings, without judging or trying to change them

30 Mentally scan your body and notice what it is feeling

MONDAY

3 Start today by appreciating your body and that you're alive

10 Get outside and notice how the weather feels on your face

17 Look around and spot three things you find unusual or pleasant

24 Appreciate your hands and all the things they enable you to do

31 Discover the joy in the simple things of life

TUESDAY

4 Notice how you speak to yourself and choose to use kind words

11 Stay fully present while drinking your cup of tea or coffee

18 Have a 'no plans' day and notice how that feels

25 Focus your attention on the good things you take for granted

32 Focus your attention on the good things you take for granted

WEDNESDAY

5 Bring to mind people you care about and send love to them

12 Listen deeply to someone and really hear what they are saying

19 Cultivate a feeling of loving-kindness towards others today

26 Choose to spend less time looking at screens today

33 Choose to spend less time looking at screens today

THURSDAY

6 If you find yourself rushing, make an effort to slow down

13 Pause to watch the sky or clouds for a few minutes today

20 Focus on what makes you and others happy today

27 Appreciate nature around you, wherever you are

34 Appreciate nature around you, wherever you are

FRIDAY

7 Take three calm breaths at regular intervals during your day

14 Find ways to enjoy any chores or tasks that you do

21 Listen to a piece of music without doing anything else

28 Notice when you're tired and take a break as soon as possible

35 Notice when you're tired and take a break as soon as possible



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

Music Exam Results



Five Hillside pupils passed their ABRSM music exams recently, they are:

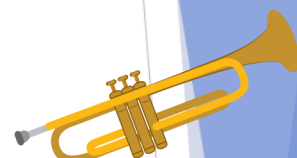
Stevie E, Year 11: Piano grade 2 (Merit)
Sofia S, Year 8: Piano Grade 1
Emily C, Year 11: Jazz Alto Sax Grade 4
Tilly W, Year 11: Jazz Trumpet Grade 3
Arthika S, Year 11: Jazz Trumpet Grade 3

Great results, well done everyone!



Mr Harrison

WELL DONE!



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.



Key Dates 2024-2025

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





E8

Pen / Pencil
Ruler
Pencil Case / Bag
Purple Pen
Timetable
Calculator
Drama / PE Kit
Knowledge Organisers



Safeguarding, Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health

Earth Hour 2025

This week we have been preparing to celebrate Earth Hour. This takes place on Saturday 22nd March between 8.30 - 9.30pm. We are encouraging the whole school community to mark this occasion by switching lights and other appliances off for the hour - to recognise that small changes can have a big impact on helping the planet!

Mr Edwards

Thought for the Week

**All we have to do
is to wake up
and change**

Greta Thunberg



Earth Hour 2025

Earth Hour is a global event that takes place annually to raise awareness about climate change and encourage people to take action.

This year, the event takes place on March 22nd from 8:30pm to 9:30pm.

It's a time for us to switch off our lights and any other electronic devices to reduce our energy consumption for one hour.

By doing this, we are symbolically showing our commitment to the planet and the fight against climate change.



Earth Hour 2025

