



Dear Parents/Guardian

I hope you enjoy reading this week's newsletter. I love the story below about our Year 11s and the letter they have written to themselves every year. As Mrs McCarthy says school is about so much more than just your academic outcomes (although they are obviously extremely important) but the memories, milestones and moments of reflection are something we all remember when we look back at our time at school. I thought these letters were such a special way to celebrate this.

As we all know Hillside is a very inclusive school and this is something that is always commented on by visitors to our school, including Ofsted! I loved Miss O'Hara's assembly this week on Diversity. I totally agree with the 'Thought for the Week' and feel this exemplifies our school brilliantly. The diversity in our school is beautiful and certainly gives us strength.

Amanda Ryan, Principal

Letter to the Future

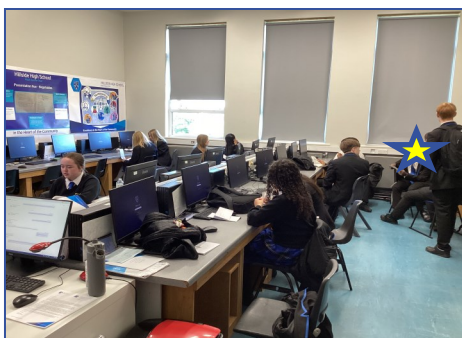
At Hillside, we believe that growth isn't just measured in grades—it's found in memories, milestones, and moments of reflection. That's why, over the last four years our Year 11 pupils have been writing letters to their "future selves".

Each year, from Year 8 through to Year 11, they have written letters to be opened just before stating their GCSE's. The letters include hopes, goals, daily experiences, challenges, and words of encouragement or advice. Carefully sealed and stored, they have remained untouched until last week. Mrs McCarthy dusted off the box and distributed the letters to form tutors. The Year 11's were then given time to read them during registration. What followed was a mix of laughter, nostalgia, and noticing a distinct improvement in handwriting!

This new tradition offers more than a trip down memory lane—it's a powerful reminder of personal progress. It gives pupils a unique chance to look back at the advice they once gave themselves and reflect on how their perspectives have matured.

We're proud to nurture not only academic growth but also emotional awareness and resilience. As our Year 11's move forward, we hope their own words from the past will continue to inspire confidence in the future.

Mrs McCarthy



Preloved Uniform and PE Kit

It's approaching the time of year where we say Goodbye to our Year 11 and we would love for you to pass on any 'Preloved' uniform, PE kits or drama kit to us. We know how hard lots of families are working just to make ends meet and sometimes the opportunity to have some 'Preloved' items from school is a massive help. Please drop off any items in the school office.

I would also like to introduce our Hillside Bear, I'm sure you will agree she's pretty cute and obviously made from a Hillside skirt. The pupils always admire her in my office and are keen to have more Hillside Bears. So if you have any skirts that are well worn or even damaged that aren't good enough to pass onto other pupils we would still love them, so we can make some more bears! It would be lovely for her to have some friends!

Mrs Ryan



Key Dates 2024-2025 For Hillside Pupils and Our New Year 6 Pupils

Friday 23rd May —Last Day of Term

Monday 2nd June —All Pupils Return to School

Thursday 26th June – Year 6 Transition Day & Year 11 Prom

Thursday 3rd July—Welcome Evening - 6pm Start for Year 6 Pupils and Parents

Friday 4th July—Festival of Sport Day

Thursday 10th July— Summer Community Evening—All Welcome

Wednesday 16th & Thursday 17th July—Summer Production 7pm

Friday 18th July—Last Day of Term

Wednesday 23rd July - Friday 25th July—Summer School for Year 6 Pupils

Wednesday 13th August—Uniform Collection for Year Pupils

Thursday 21st August - GCSE Results Day



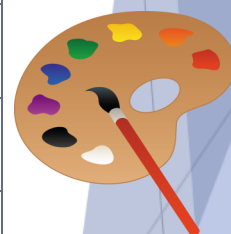
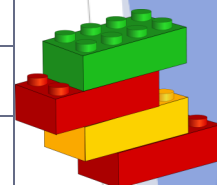
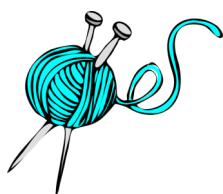
It's a roll-over – Let's try again when we get back! Someone has to get soaked!

WANTED	WANTED	WANTED	WANTED	WANTED
				
Hit more than 90% attendance on Monday – and Mr Edwards is in for a soaking on Friday!	Hit more than 90% attendance on Tuesday – and Mr Campbell is in for a soaking on Friday!	Hit more than 90% attendance on Wednesday – and Mr Beeson is in for a soaking on Friday!	Hit more than 90% attendance on Thursday – and Mr Wardle is in for a soaking on Friday!	Hit more than 90% attendance on Friday – and Mrs Ryan is in for a soaking! Come on – you know you don't want to miss that!
RISE & SHINE	RISE & SHINE	RISE & SHINE	RISE & SHINE	RISE & SHINE



Summer Term Clubs & Activities

Club	Location	Times
Lego Club See Miss Ellis	Sports Hall	Monday—2:45—3:45pm
Netball—All Years See Mr Clarke	Sports Hall/Cage	Monday— 2:45-3:45pm
Y7/Y8 Football Club See Mr Wellington	School Feld/Boole Stadium (School changing rooms first)	Monday— 2:45-3:45pm
Arts and Crafts See Miss Newsham	School Feld/Boole Stadium (School changing rooms first)	Monday—2:45-3:45pm
Dance Club—All Years	Sports Hall	Tuesday— 2:45-3:45pm
Y9/y10 Football Club See Mr Wellington	School Field/Sports Hall	Tuesday— 2:45-3:45pm
Chess Club	Sports Hall	Tuesday—2:45-3:45pm
Music Clubs See Mr Meakin	School Field	Tuesday—2:45-3:45pm
Rugby Club—All years See Mr Wellington	Drama Hall	Wednesday—2:45-3:45pm
Girls Football Club—All Years	LRC	Wednesday— 2:45-3:45pm
Crochet Club See Miss Mahoney	LRC	Wednesday—2:45-3:45pm
Drama Club	Paused at the moment for Oliver Rehearsals	Wednesday— 2:45 – 3:45pm
Art Club See Miss White	Room 35	Wednesday—2:45-3:45pm
MMA Club—All Years	LRC	Thursday—2:45-3:45pm
Badminton Club—All Years See Mr Clarke	LRC	Friday—2:45-3:45pm
Board Games	LRC	Friday—2:45—3:45pm



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.



Safeguarding, Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health

Cultural Diversity Day

This week at Hillside we celebrated cultural diversity in assemblies. Pupils were encouraged to reflect on their differences and celebrate them.

Diversity is all about the differences that make us unique—our race, religion, gender, ability, culture, and so much more. When people feel they can be their true selves, they contribute to a more vibrant and creative society. However when people feel pressured to hide who they are, it can lead to exclusion, loneliness, and discrimination.

By being authentic, you encourage others to do the same. When you show that you are comfortable with who you are, you create an environment where others feel safe to express themselves too. This helps to break down stereotypes and challenge discrimination.

Being your authentic self is one of the most powerful things you can do not just for yourself but for those around you. When you embrace your identity and encourage others to do the same, you help create a world where everyone is accepted and celebrated. So be brave, speak up and make a difference. Together, we can tackle discrimination and build a future where everyone belongs.

Miss O'Hara

Thought for the Week



Safeguarding

Please see the poster to the side to remind you of the Safeguarding Team here at Hillside. All members of staff have a safeguarding responsibility here at Hillside but these members of staff below have specific responsibilities in terms of responding to any safeguarding concerns. Please see our safeguarding information in the Pupil Handbook for further information.

DESIGNATED PERSONS FOR SAFEGUARDING



Mrs Jones
Strategic
Lead /
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead



Miss Sheils
Deputy
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead



Mrs McGing
Deputy
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead



Mr Campbell
Deputy
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead



Mr Smedley
Deputy
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead



Mrs Banks
Deputy
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead

If you are concerned about your own safety or well-being, or the safety and well-being of somebody else in school it is really important that you talk to one of these members of staff