



HILLSIDE  
HIGH SCHOOL  
WADE DEACON TRUST



EXCELLENCE IN THE HEART  
OF THE COMMUNITY



# NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents/Carers

I can hardly believe I am writing my last newsletter message of 2025!

What a year it has been, there has been so much going on for our pupils and I hope our weekly newsletter gives you an insight into all the amazing opportunities our pupils have.

This week's newsletter includes our 'Lead Learners' a huge Well Done to them all.

As we finish the Autumn Term we say 'Goodbye' to three colleagues. Mr Edwards, Vice-Principal is leaving us to join Pensby High School. Mr Edwards has been at Hillside since September 2003 and has given over 22 years of dedicated service to school. I know Mr Edwards is thought of very fondly by our pupils and their families, many of whom he has taught. Mr Edwards has been my side since I became the Principal in 2013 and I am extremely proud of everything we have achieved together. It's hard to put into words how much we will all miss him. I know you will all join me in wishing him every happiness in his new role.



Miss Mason our fantastic Admin and Receptionist also leaves us to pursue her dream career path working in a children's nursery. Again we will miss Mrs Mason so much.

Last week we said goodbye to Miss Clayton, Progress Leader for Year 7. We wish her every success as she returns to teaching.

I am delighted to introduce Ms Owen who has taken over the role of Progress Leader for Year 7. Ms Owen is very excited to be picking up the year group and I know she is going to be a huge success with our Year 7 pupils and their families.

I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for 2026! I am already excited to see everything we are going to achieve, but before that I hope everyone can enjoy some well deserved and precious time with family and friends over the festive period.

Amanda Ryan, Executive Principal

## New Parent Governor

We are looking for a new Parent Governor to join our experienced team of Governors. If anyone is interested in finding out more please contact Ms Convey as [v.convey@hillsidehigh.co.uk](mailto:v.convey@hillsidehigh.co.uk) who will arrange a meeting with Mrs Ryan and Mr Cunliffe, Chair of Governors. Who will be able to tell you more about the role and the difference you can make to our school. Please do this by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026.



MEMBER OF THE WADE DEACON TRUST

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025

### Year 7



Julie-Anne F – Music  
Ian G - Computer Science  
Jason H - Spanish  
Sofia I – Art  
Albie K - PE  
Lilly M – Religious Studies  
Aayan M – Science  
Lucie P - English  
Marina R – Maths  
Millie V - Geography  
Lithuli W - Drama

WELL DONE

### Year 8



Rafael C - DT  
Lottie C - Drama  
Ruby-Lea C - Spanish  
Millie D - Art  
Bella E- Geography  
Poppy H - English  
Sadie K - PE  
Elizabeth L - Maths  
Lillia M - RS  
James M - History  
Gracie O'R - Music  
Mya-Rose R - Computer Science  
Mya S - Science

WELL DONE

### Year 9



Maram B S - Computer Science  
Charlotte C - Maths  
Daisi-Mae C – Religious Studies  
Matilda C - Drama  
Slaine D - History  
Blake G - Science  
William J-B - PE  
Evie J - Art  
Amelia McC - Spanish  
Roman McP - Geography  
Farhan M -Design Technology  
Albie O - Music  
Emily W - History  
Grace W - English

## Year 10



Iwinosa A- Computer Science  
Sidra A - History  
Florenta C - Spanish  
Megan C -Sports Science  
Lilly-Mae D - Hospitality  
Olivia H - Drama  
Content I - ICT  
Dayan K - Biology  
Iyla K - Science  
Talía N- Physics  
Michelle N - Chemistry  
Uche O- English  
Peace O-S - Photography  
Curtis O - Geography  
Betty R- Maths  
Phoenix S - Art  
Denys S - Business Studies  
Kayte W - 3D Art



# WELL DONE

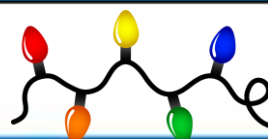
## Year 11



Shahd A A- Geography  
Stacey B - ICT  
Joseph C -Hospitality  
Nathan D S - Computer Science  
Sophia H J - English  
Jenson H - 3D Art  
Emmanuella I - Biology  
Queensley I - Sports Science  
Sophie L - Chemistry  
Frankie L - Art  
Tia L - Music  
Anita L - Photography  
John McC - Spanish  
Jessica McD - Science  
Jo-leigh O'C - Drama  
Malinsa W - Physics  
Jacob W - History  
HaiYing X - Maths



*Congratulations!*



# Year 7 Progress Leader

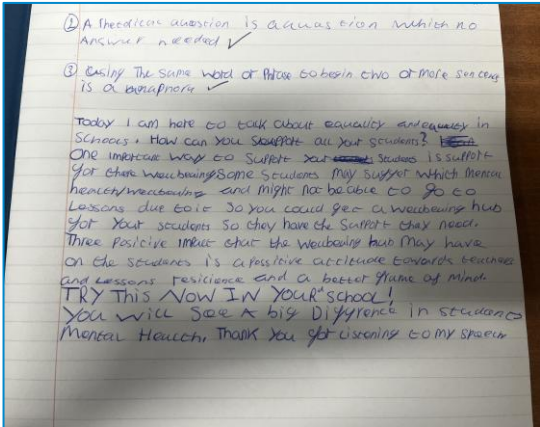
Hello Year 7,  
Well done for completing your first term in Hillside High School.  
My name is Mrs Owen and I am happy to return from maternity leave as your new Progress Leader.  
What an exciting journey you have ahead of you in Hillside and how lucky am I to be part of it!  
I am excited to get to know you all and help you celebrate your achievements and support you on your bad days.  
I hope you have an amazing Christmas holiday and get some well-deserved rest, but for now, be good, be kind an I'll see you in January!



Mrs Owen

## Well Done!

Kaci B, Year 9, completed outstanding work in her English lesson which highlights how our Wellbeing Hub is used to support pupils in school. Kaci's work highlights how the Wellbeing Hub is a short – term provision for pupils that struggle to attend mainstream school and how much it benefits the pupils' wellbeing. Amazing Kaci, well done you!



### Last Week's PE Star Performers



Khadija	Ali	7 RS
Jarda	Ammer	8 SA
Leo	Atherton	9 SAC
Owen	Balmer	7 JMe
Kaci	Beesley	9 JR
Kitty	Blamire	7 RS
Georgie	Bryning	10 RA
Mia	Carter	9 OM
Jack	Craney	7 JMu
Summer	Davies	7 CL
Tiffany	Duvall	7 JMe
Runor	Ememmah	8 HT
Riley	Isibor	7 RS
Michael	Jennings	9 EB
Maizie	Jones	7 CSY
Thomas	Kane	9 EB
Dayan	Kehinde	10 MC
Valentina	Knihs	8 SA
Amelia	McCall	9 TH
Billie	McKeown	7 RS
Amelia	Moorcroft	7 JMu
James	Mossman	8 RLC
Dylan	Muirhead	11 GMW
Curtis	Owens	10 RA
Phoenix	Salmon	10 SC
Isabelle	Seddon	9 EB
Chaya	Thupphimon	8 CR

## Standards and Expectations—School Uniform

Firstly, a huge thank you to all our parents/guardians and pupils who have started the school year looking so smart and wearing our school uniform with pride. We don't take this for granted and we still regularly receive compliments from the wider local community about how smart Hillside pupils look. Please see below for some basic reminders regarding school uniform and our expectations.

- Girls should wear white socks or black tights
- Jewellery is not permitted including any piercings. If pupils are seen wearing jewellery the teacher will confiscate this and the item will be placed in the school safe.
- Make- up should be minimal and discreet and false eye lashes, false nails and or nail varnish should not be worn. Pupils will be provided with wipes and nail varnish remover if they arrive in school with either.
- Blazers should be always worn on the corridors – pupils may remove blazers when working in classrooms.
- Outdoor coats or hooded jackets are not allowed to be worn in school and they should be removed as pupils enter the school building at any points during the school day e.g. after break and lunch.

Our uniform underpins our high expectations of pupils to follow 'The Hillside Way' and pupils should look smart, professional and ready to learn- which many do every single day.



## Dressed to Impress!

On Tuesday at 7:30am I saw Mr Kitching walking through the foyer with a Year 7 pupil who was wearing his costume ready for the Year 7 Christmas Disco (Which was at 3pm!). I was delighted they came to see me and we got a photo. It's made me smile all week!



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it's needed. This guide focuses on one issue of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SETTING UP NEW DEVICES FOR CHILDREN

At Christmas, millions of lucky children will be excitedly ripping the wrapping off new phones, tablets, computers or consoles. However, in the rush to let young ones enjoy their shiny gadgets, many parents neglect to set these devices up safely – increasing the chances of children going online and stumbling across adult content, making expensive downloads or installing unsuitable apps. A little time configuring the device properly can save a lot of anguish later. Here are our top tips to ensure that a dream gift on Christmas morning doesn't turn into a nightmare by New Year.

## PASSCODES FOR IPHONE/IPAD

If your child's getting their own iPhone or iPad, you can set parental controls that make it difficult for them to access inappropriate content or download expensive apps. Once the device is set up, go to the Settings app and tap Screen Time, then select Use Screen Time Passcode and enter a passcode. Keep it to yourself so your child can't switch the protection off.

## SCREEN TIME SETTINGS ON IPHONE/IPAD

Once you've set a Screen Time Passcode, you can adjust various safety settings. You could, for example, only allow communication with people from the Contacts app, place restrictions on App Store purchases and apply age limits to movies, music and web content. There are many more protective options available within the Screen Time settings section.

## FAMILY LINK FOR ANDROID

Parents can manage Android phones and tablets, as well as Google Chromebooks, through Google's Family Link app. This gives your child some independence (and their own Google account) but lets parents monitor which apps are being used, set limits on content and ensure that parental permission is required to install apps. Look for Family Link in the Google Play Store.

## ADD A CHILD TO FAMILY LINK

The easiest way to add a child's device to Family Link is to set it up with its own Google account. It's a good idea to create this before they use their new phone, tablet or Chromebook. Once they're logged in, open the Family Link app on your phone, press '+' in the top right and add a new family member using their Google account details. Then follow the on-screen instructions.

## FAMILY SHARING ON A MAC

Families using a Mac get similar screen time options to iPhone and iPad users. Again, if you're setting up a Mac for a child, make yourself the main admin and add them as a user. This is handled through Apple's Family Sharing service, which not only allows you to put controls on child accounts but share apps and other purchases with them too. Search 'family sharing' at <https://support.apple.com>.

## PLAYSTATION PARENTAL CONTROLS

With parental controls for the PS5, you'll need a PlayStation Network account (as the 'family manager') and the child will need their own account, which they should sign in with on the console. This all needs to be set up in advance, so you might want to do it before the big day. Go to [PlayStation.com](http://PlayStation.com) and search 'family account' for instructions.

## DISCUSS IT WITH YOUR CHILD

If you're planning to implement any kind of restriction or protection settings on your child's new device, we'd recommend having a discussion with your young one first about what these controls do, and what they are for. If you try to impose parental controls surreptitiously or with no advance warning, don't be surprised if your child tries to find a way around them.

## SET AN ADMIN ON PCS

On Windows PCs and laptops, it's important not to let your child share a general user account or be the main admin on the device. If you're booting up a new family PC or a child's own device, set it up using your own account details and you'll become the admin by default. Then set up children with their own separate account: Settings > Accounts > Family & Other Users > Add Other User.

## SET WINDOWS LIMITS

Once your child's account has been created, a parent admin can go back into the Family & Other Users menu and apply limits to it. These include restricting screen time, the type of games and apps that can be installed, web filters and more. Microsoft also includes reporting tools which, for example, can email you with a weekly summary of your child's activity on the device.

## TREAT AN XBOX LIKE A PC

The same control settings you use for a PC can be used to apply parental controls on an Xbox. Again, once your child is signed into the Xbox with their own account, you can then monitor and regulate their activity from a PC or web browser. Microsoft's dashboard allows you to manage voice communication through the console, so you can limit who can contact your child, for example.

## INSTALL XBOX FAMILY SETTINGS

If you don't have a PC, but your child does have an Xbox, it might be easier to use the Xbox Family Settings app for iPhone or Android. Here, you can restrict console screen time (particularly handy if the console is in a bedroom), restrict communication and monitor the types of game being played. There's also a feature where you can allocate spending money for games or in-game purchases.

## STAY VIGILANT

It's important to remember that none of these methods is 100% foolproof. Nobody will ever invent flawless filters or parental controls – not least because what's unacceptable to some parents is perfectly acceptable to others. So although devices' parental controls will help to keep your child safe online, they work best side by side with good old-fashioned parental vigilance.

## Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and writes regularly about internet safety issues.



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# The bread and butter thing.



## New Hub Opening: **HILLSIDE HIGH** from Wednesday 10 July

at Hillside High School, Breeze Hill, Bootle,  
L20 9NU.

- Get around £35 worth of food for £8.50
- Includes fresh fruit and veg, fridge favourites and cupboard staples.
- Open every Wednesday at 1.30pm.
- You need to become a member to use the hub but it's free to sign-up and book a slot - just follow these steps.
- There is no commitment and it's free to join.
- Everyone who signs up before 13 October 2024 will get their first order free.

## It's really easy to sign-up:



Text 07860 063 304 with your full name, postcode and the name of the hub you will be collecting from: "HILLSIDE"



Select the size of order you want to receive: Family £8.50, individual £5 or Large Family £17. There is a Vegetarian option available too.



You'll get a text every Monday to see if you want an order. Just reply "YES" by 10am the next day. Your order will be delivered to the HILLSIDE hub on Wednesday at 1.30pm.



Collect and pay for your goods from the HILLSIDE HIGH hub. (Don't forget - someone can collect on your behalf if you can't make it and Healthy Start Vouchers are also accepted).



£8.50  
bag of  
goodies!



## Bike Marking Events Coming Soon...

Did you get a new bike for Christmas?  
Why not get it marked and registered to  
protect yourself against theft

Please speak to your Safer Schools Officer for more  
information and dates.



## Bike Marking Events Coming Soon...

If you have a bike why not get it marked and  
registered to protect yourself against theft?

Please speak to your Safer Schools Officer for more  
information and dates.



### Baa Humbug it was not!

On Thursday 18th December our fantastic Performing Arts crew put on Hillside's Christmas pantomime and what a fantastic show it was! The tale of Scrooge was told with a few twists, many jokes and some fabulous dancing along the way. Mya Rose R managed to turn Scrooge into a grumpy, yet very likeable man with her humour and natural comedy timing. Faith P actually flew Scrooge around the stage as the ghost of Christmas past whilst Bella G entertained us all with her jingle bells as the ghost of Christmas present. Charlotte McV made the audience jump out of their seats as the ghost of Christmas yet to come and who could forget Tiny Tim? Beautifully and somewhat cheekily portrayed by Fahd A who only started Drama this year. There was so much talent on the stage between the actors, dancers and carol singers but a special shout out has to go to our Year 10 Performing Arts girls who reminded Hillside about the true meaning of Christmas. It was a special evening full of laughter, festive fun and a little bit of Christmas magic! A huge well done to all our wonderful Performing Arts pupils, as always you did us proud and made sure we ended 2025 on a high!

*Miss Brown*

