



# NEWSLETTER

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026

## Dear Parents/Carers

**Welcome back to the summer term.** It has been a pleasure to see pupils return with renewed focus and enthusiasm for learning. This newsletter highlights key information for the term ahead, including our *Thought for the Week* inspired by exploration and ambition. Knowledge Organisers for Term 3 have now been distributed to all Year 7–9 pupils, and we encourage families to spend time looking over the learning planned for this term. With end-of-year examinations approaching for all year groups, we take inspiration from the recent success of the Artemis II mission — a reminder that with preparation, resilience and belief, even the seemingly impossible can be achieved.

### *No Dream Is Too High*

“One truth I have discovered for sure: When you believe that all things are possible and you are willing to work hard to accomplish your goals, you can achieve the next ‘impossible’ dream.

No dream is too high!”

**Buzz Aldrin**

**Mrs Wardale, Vice Principal**

## PE Star Performers

Mitchel	9 SAC
Daniel	9 SAC
Nyla	7 CL
Logan	9 TH
George	7 HP
James	9 SAC
Oliver	8 RLC
Andrei	9 OM
Riley	7 RS
William	9 KBH
Zack	9 KBH
Brodee	7 CL
Lexi	7 HP
Victor	8 HT
Joseph	7 JMe

### Last Weeks PE Star Performers



WELL DONE!



**Congratulations**  
Winner of Year 11,  
Period 6 Attendance  
raffle is Marina A -  
11NK



## Brilliant Breakfast

As part of our celebrations for women's History Month, we held Hillside's very first Brilliant Breakfast to fundraise for the King's Trust. On 26<sup>th</sup> March, we brought together over 30 Hillside families for a Brilliant Breakfast to Change a Girl's Life.

The money raised went to The King's Trust to provide free courses, grants and mentorship, giving young women facing hardship the confidence and support they need to step into work and launch the future they deserve.

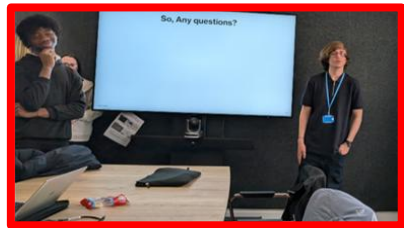
Our families enjoyed a wide selection of breakfast choices whilst watching some of our fantastic singers and musicians perform and everyone left with a Women's History Month themed goody bag. It was a fantastic opportunity for families to relax and chat and take a pause from busy schedules while supporting a much deserved cause.





## Year 10 Work Experience Success

Our Year 10 pupils recently completed two weeks of work experience, and we are incredibly proud of the way they represented the school. Throughout their placements, pupils demonstrated enthusiasm, maturity and a strong willingness to learn, making a positive impression in a wide range of workplaces.



We have received an overwhelming amount of positive feedback from employers, who praised pupils for their excellent attitudes, reliability and professionalism. Many employers commented on how well our pupils adapted to new environments, communicated with staff and customers, and took responsibility for the tasks they were set. This feedback reflects the high standards we expect and the commitment our pupils showed throughout their placements.

Work experience plays a vital role in pupil's personal and professional development. It allows them to gain first-hand insight into the world of work, develop key employability skills such as teamwork, time management and communication, and build confidence outside the classroom. Importantly, it also helps pupil's make informed choices about future pathways and career aspirations.

We are especially pleased to share that a number of pupil's have already secured part-time employment as a direct result of their positive contributions and strong work ethic during their placements. This is a fantastic achievement and highlights the real value of work experience in preparing pupils for life beyond school.

Well done to all our Year 10 pupils for making the most of this opportunity and for being such positive ambassadors for the school.





"The Artemis II mission didn't just return four brave astronauts home, it showed that others can go back to land, then live, on the moon."

**Science and Technology**  
**editor Tom Clarke**

As we return refreshed for the summer term, this quote reminds us that belief alone is powerful — but belief combined with **preparation, perseverance and effort** is what truly turns dreams into reality.

Buzz Aldrin didn't walk on the Moon by chance. Success came through years of learning, teamwork, resilience and careful planning. The same is true for us in school. Whether we are preparing for end-of-year exams, completing coursework, or supporting others in their learning, this term is about being **ready to shine**.

This message feels especially relevant as we look to real-world inspiration. Earlier this month, NASA's **Artemis II mission successfully sent humans around the Moon and safely back to Earth**, the first crewed lunar mission in over 50 years. The mission did not happen overnight. It followed years of testing, learning from setbacks, and building confidence step by step — proving that even the most ambitious goals are reached through consistent learning and preparation.

As a school community, the summer term is our moment to do the same. Each revision session, lesson, conversation, and act of kindness is part of our preparation for success. No goal is "too high" when we approach it with commitment, belief, and support for one another.

### **Reflection Questions:**

- What felt "*impossible*" to you at the start of this year that now feels more achievable?
- How do you think preparation and practice help the Artemis II mission succeed, and how can the same approach help your learning this term?
- What is one goal you want to work towards before the end of the year — and what small steps can you take this week?
- Who supports you when learning feels challenging, and how can you support others?

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**Buzz Aldrin**

