



HILLSIDE
HIGH SCHOOL
WADE DEACON TRUST



EXCELLENCE IN THE HEART
OF THE COMMUNITY

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to everyone who joined us this week for our Expectations for Learning Policy information evening, our Year 11 Success Evening, and our Open Evening for prospective parents and students. It has been a fantastic week of working in partnership at the heart of our community, demonstrating our shared commitment to excellence and the success of every young person.

We have also been delighted to see so many of our Year 11 students making such a positive start to the academic year. Large numbers have been attending revision sessions in the library before school with staff and then staying for Period 6 after school. Their dedication, commitment, and determination to succeed have been truly impressive. We are now looking forward to welcoming many of them to Saturday School as we end another productive week on a high.

As we move into next week, our key focus is attendance. We are aiming for every student to achieve 100% attendance. Research and experience consistently show that attendance below 96% can have a significant impact on a student's final GCSE outcomes. This is a message I have been reinforcing through assemblies and conversations around school, and it is one that remains critically important.

We ask for your continued support in ensuring that your child attends school every day and arrives on time. By working together, we can provide our students with the very best opportunities to achieve their full potential. Where attendance concerns arise, we will continue to work closely with families and carry out home visits where appropriate, helping to identify and overcome any barriers through a strong partnership approach.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all the staff and students whose hard work, professionalism, and enthusiasm have made this week's events run so smoothly. Their efforts have showcased the very best of our school community. Thank you for your ongoing support, and I wish you all a wonderful weekend.

Many thanks

Julia Anderson-Nicholls
Principal

Friday 18th September 2026

Hillside High School Pantry

We are pleased to remind all families that we have a **fully stocked school pantry** available to support anyone who may need a little extra help. We understand that times can be challenging, and we are here to support our school community in any way we can.

If you feel this could be helpful for your family, please don't hesitate to visit the **school office** and simply let a member of staff know that you would like to collect a box of items from the pantry. There is no need to book or explain our aim is to make this support as easy to access as possible.

The pantry is regularly stocked with a wide range of useful food items, including:

- Breakfast cereals (we currently have a large supply!)
- Tinned vegetables such as tomatoes, peas, and carrots
- Tinned meals including curry and other ready-prepared options
- Juice and drinks
- Biscuits and snacks
- Crisps
- Pasta
- Rice
- Cooking sauces



We are proud to be able to offer this support and encourage any families who may benefit to make use of it. Please remember, this service is here for **everyone in our school community** no matter how big or small the need.

PE STAR PERFORMERS

Natalie L	Jack D
Nancy P W	Lucie P
Jacob H	Sonny W
Daisy-Ann D	Axl Hook W
Brooklyn C	James W
Charlie C	Isla O'C
Khadija A	Tommy J

PE Star Performers of last week



OF LAST WEEK

Blossom A	Reuben J
Cornell G-M	Joshua L
Emma G	Ryan P
Lucy E	Isabelle S
Callum C	Matthew G
Harry W	Mya S
Oliver H	

That Bread and Butter Thing – Food Club

Hillside High School are proud to run a weekly food club with That Bread-and-Butter Thing. For £8.50 you will receive three bags of shopping including fresh items such as meat, cheese and vegetables. For more information – please see this link - <https://www.breadandbutterthing.org/>

To sign up – please follow the instructions in the image below. You don't have to use every week. Each Monday at 12.00pm you will receive a text asking to if you would like to order that week. Simply reply YES if you would and ignore if you don't want to place an order that week. Collections / payments take place on Wednesday at 1.30pm at Hillside High School.



Make life a little bit easier - Join us.

It's really easy to join Bread and Butter. Everyone is welcome, there's no fee, no contract, you can dip in and out as you need and the membership rules are really simple.

Text us to join!

Text 07507 237 311 with your full name, postcode, and the name of the hub you will be collecting from.

HILLSIDE

Word of the week:

Exacerbate (verb)

[ig-ZAS-er-bayt]

to make a problem, situation, or negative feeling worse (The heavy rain **exacerbated** the flooding, making the roads even more dangerous).

Root: *acri/acer* - meaning 'sharp, bitter, or harsh'

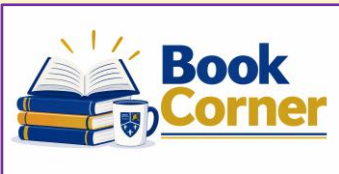
The Princess Diaries by Meg Cabot

Mia Thermopolis is a pretty ordinary teenager living in New York – until she discovers that she is actually a princess! Suddenly, she has to deal with royal lessons, school, friendships, family drama and the pressure of being a princess, all while trying to work out who she really is.

This was one of my favourite books when I was younger. I loved how funny and relatable Mia was, and I remember really enjoying the mix of school life, friendships, family and all the drama that comes with being a teenager – with the added bonus of discovering you're secretly a princess!

I'd recommend it to **Year 7–9 students**, particularly anyone who enjoys funny, light-hearted stories about friendship, school, family and a little bit of romance.

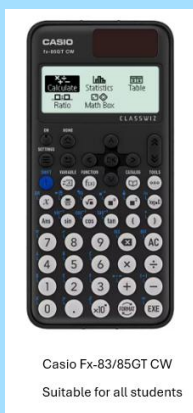
Miss Gallagher



Calculate your way to success

We strongly recommend that all students use the same model of calculator to ensure consistency and familiarity as they progress through school. Parents can purchase this calculator via **ParentPay**.

We will be sharing our top tips on how to get the best from these calculators on social media and in lessons each week. Thank you for your support in helping us prepare students for success.



Casio Fx-83/85GT CW
Suitable for all students



Casio fx-991CW
More suitable for Higher GCSE and A Level Maths

HILLSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Calculate your way to success week 2:
Simplifying Ratios

(b) Write 24 : 60 as a ratio in its simplest form.

Home – calculate – EXE

Write the ratio as a fraction -

Press fraction button, type the first number

Press down arrow, type the second number

Press EXE

The top of the fraction is the first part of the ratio, the bottom is the second.

In this example the answer would be 2:5

(a) Write the ratio 15 : 35 in its simplest form.

Write the ratio 32 : 24 in its simplest form

Rewards & Recognition: Celebrating Success at Hillside!

At Hillside, we believe that **getting it right every day matters** – and we want to make sure that pupils who work hard, show kindness, demonstrate our Hillside Way values and maintain excellent attendance are recognised and celebrated!

That's why we're excited to introduce some of our **new Rewards and Recognition prizes**, designed to celebrate the fantastic things our pupils are doing in lessons and around school.

Celebrating Success Every Week

At the end of our weekly assembly, every year group will have **10 minutes dedicated to celebrating pupil success**.

During this time, Progress Leaders will present three special awards to pupils who have impressed us during the previous week:

Progress Leader Award

Awarded to a pupil who has been **exemplary or has particularly impressed their Progress Leader**. This could be for their attitude, behaviour, effort or the positive contribution they have made to school life.

Achievement Award

Awarded to a pupil who has achieved **exceptional academic success through effort, determination and a commitment to achieving excellence**.

Hillside Way Award

Awarded to a pupil who has **excelled in our Hillside Way values**, such as resilience, kindness, respect and responsibility.

These awards give us an opportunity to shine a spotlight on pupils who are making a difference through the choices they make every day.

Spin the Wheel!

Every pupil who achieves **100% attendance for the week** is automatically entered into our exciting '**Spin the Wheel**' raffle!

Lucky winners could take home or enjoy some fantastic prizes, including:

- Chocolate bars
- Sweets
- Something from our mysterious '**Fun Box**'
- **Jump the Queue** vouchers
- Access to our brand-new **Rewards Room**
- Our **Rewards Room** is a particularly exciting addition. Winners can bring a friend along at lunchtime to enjoy their lunch, relax and play games including **FIFA, Minecraft and Zoo Tycoon on our Xbox 360!**

