



NEWSLETTER

Friday 2nd October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has marked the start of our Year 11 examination period, and it has been fantastic to see so many students arriving early to school to revise and prepare. We have challenged our students not only to be present, but to fully engage with their learning, and they have certainly risen to that challenge. Year 11 are demonstrating real determination and commitment, setting themselves up for future success.

Across other year groups, we are also seeing increased attendance at our after-school clubs and enrichment activities. These opportunities play a vital role in developing confidence, resilience, and skills that will support our young people both in school and beyond. We are eagerly looking forward to our production of Annie in the coming weeks. There is an incredible amount of talent at Hillside, and this performance will undoubtedly showcase the creativity, dedication, and hard work of our students and staff.

As always, I would like to remind families that if you are experiencing any challenges in getting your child into school, please reach out. We are here to help. Miss Phillips is currently organising two important support events with external agencies on 5th October and 2nd November, providing families with access to additional guidance and assistance. Miss Miller is also offering further support over the coming weeks as we continue working together to remove any barriers to learning and ensure every child can achieve their very best. Thank you for your continued support, and I wish everyone a restful weekend.

Many thanks

Julia Anderson-Nicholls
Principal

PE STAR PERFORMERS OF LAST WEEK

PE Star Performers of last week



Leighton C
Portia-Leigh C
Finley F
Jason H
Connor D
Eva-Rose G
Oliver F
Lillia M
Bradley K
Erin H
Lily G
Valentina K
Anthony M
Mia G
Emma C
Mason C
Blossom A
Isla H
Victor O
Summer D
Summer S
Mia-Lily R
Moise N
Ella H
Nevaeh R
Ajmal A Z
Jake R- K
Eloise S
Frey P
Sara C
Matilda S
Carter F
Luna-Rose B
Joshua L
Ava-Esra S
Amelia McC

SCHOLASTIC TRAVELLING BOOKS

YOUR NEXT FAVOURITE READ IS WAITING
 OVER 200 BOOKS TO CHOOSE FROM

THE BOOK FAIR IS HERE ON:

Enter the BBFC Create the Card Competition!
 We're offering 12 to 16-year-olds the chance to design the official BBFC Black Card for The Hunger Games: Sunrise on the Reaping, in collaboration with Lionsgate.

THE HUNGER GAMES **bbfc** **Lionsgate** **Deadline: 18 October 2026**

NEW BOOKS. NEW WORLDS. NEW FAVOURITES

Discover more books online!
www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases

Payment at our Book Fair
 Please check with your school for the best way to pay for your books. You may pay by card at the fair via our digital till or card reader, or by cash. If you prefer to pay by cash, please bring your own change. All payments are subject to availability.

HELP EARN FREE BOOKS
 Scholastic is one of the largest providers of free books to schools via our Readwell scheme which helps to ensure that no child is left without a book to read. Every time you buy from the Book Fair, you help to make a difference by supporting literacy in your child's writing. Last year, with your help, we gave over 25,000 worth of free books to schools nationwide, which students used to read and enjoy.



National curry week, we will be offering a special dish every day alongside our takeaway menu, including chicken tikka masala and chicken katsu curry, all our chicken is Halal so everyone can enjoy our specials, we are also going to do a special vegetarian option on Friday !

Family Law Drop-In

Morecrofts SOLICITORS

A free drop-in session with **Morecrofts Solicitors**, where you can ask any questions relating to family law and receive free, confidential advice from experts in the subject.

No need to book

Morecrofts can advise on:

- Separation or Divorce
- Child Protection
- Child Arrangements
- Domestic Abuse Support

10am - 12 noon

Friday 2nd October
Friday 6th November
Friday 4th December

Kingsley & Co
Stanley Road
Bootle
L20 3EH

www.morecrofts.co.uk

SOFT LANDING
PARENT & CARER DROP-IN

Support for pupils who are finding it difficult to get into school.

Come and join us for a friendly drop-in session. Meet our team, have a coffee and a biscuit, and find out how we can work together to support your child.

All welcome

MHST Mental health support and wellbeing advice	SEND Co Support with additional needs and SEND support	Counsellor A safe space to talk	Pastoral Team Guidance, support and next steps	Attendance Team Help to overcome barriers to attendance
Social Brokers - Outreach Practical support in the community	Erven in the Community (EiC) Wellbeing, mentoring and opportunities	School Nurse Health advice and support	Safeguarding Team Information, advice and support to keep your child safe	

Dates: Monday 5th October and Monday 2nd November 9:00am - 11:00am

Location: Board Room

- ✓ Get advice
- ✓ Explore support
- ✓ Ask questions
- ✓ Work together

Calculate your way to success-Calculate skills week 4

HILLSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Converting between Fractions, Decimals and Percentages (1)

Fraction	Decimal	Percentage
$\frac{5}{100}$	0.05	5%

Home – calculate – EXE

Fraction to Decimal - Press fraction button, type in fraction

Press EXE, Press Format. Scroll to Decimal, Press EXE

Decimal to Percentage – x 100

Press EXE, Press Format Scroll to Decimal, Press EXE

Write $\frac{5}{100}$ as a decimal

Write $\frac{5}{100}$ as a percentage

Friday Finish Line- Homework

Helping every student stay organised, stay on track and finish the week strong

We know that managing homework alongside lessons, activities and family life can sometimes feel like a lot. To make things simpler, we are continuing with the **Friday Finish Line**, a clear approach to helping students organise their time, complete homework regularly and avoid work building up.

KS3 Guide: Spread Sparx Across the Week			KS4 Guide: Organise Homework by Subject	
Day	Homework	Reading	Day	Subject
Monday	Non-Core Subjects	20 minutes	Monday	English
Tuesday	Sparx Maths	20 minutes	Tuesday	Maths
Wednesday	Sparx English	20 minutes	Wednesday	Science
Thursday	Non-Core Subjects	20 minutes	Thursday	Option H & A
Friday / Weekend	Sparx Science	20 minutes	Friday / Weekend	Option B & C

Students can use these guides to plan their week, check upcoming deadlines and make sure that homework from each subject is given dedicated time.

Reach the Friday Finish Line

The goal isn't to spend every evening worrying about homework. It is exactly the opposite.

By planning ahead, breaking work into manageable chunks and completing a little each day, students can arrive at the **Friday Finish Line** knowing what has been completed and what, if anything, needs finishing over the weekend.

All homework will be set on **Arbor**, so parents and carers can keep track of what has been set, check upcoming deadlines and help their child reach the **Friday Finish Line**.

FRIDAY FINISH LINE

HOMEWORK ON TIME

Every homework task helps you move ahead. Pupils who complete homework make 5-8 months of extra progress

EEF

Sparx Learning



Word of the Week

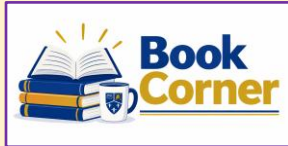
Word of the Week

Diligent

[DIL-uh-juhnt]

(adj). showing care, effort, and persistence in doing one's work (The diligent student carefully checked his work before handing in his essay).

Root: diligere - meaning 'to value or take care' + suffix: -ent - meaning 'characterised by'



Book Corner

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

The Book Thief is a heart-breaking and heart-warming story about the realities of fear, war and loss growing up in Nazi Germany during World War Two. It is narrated from quite an unusual perspective, and balances between the type of humorous stories we would expect in childhood and the truly harrowing events of war.

I would recommend The Book Thief because it is a powerful and emotional story that explores friendship, courage and the power of words. It is interesting because it shows what life was like for ordinary people during World War II and encourages readers to think about how people can show kindness during difficult times.

This book would appeal to people who love history, but also those who don't mind the challenge of emotive, serious themes. Year 9+

Mrs Rayson



SPORTS LEADERS 2026

I am delighted to announce the Sports Leaders for 2026. The role of a sports leader is very important within Hillside and it takes much consideration for the PE department to select its leaders. They will be key helpers in extracurricular clubs taking on roles such as umpire, referee, coaching, sorting equipment etc. Sports Leaders will also be involved in Primary School events running multi-sports competitions. This is a fantastic honour to be selected for this role and is something that will look excellent on your CV in the future. Well done to all Sports Leaders 2026!!

Mrs Austin

The 2026 Sports Leader team are:

- | | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Leo A-10SAC | Mitchel A-N-10SAC | Charlie H-10JMa | Michael J-10EB | |
| Josh L-10TH | Oliver H-10EB | Zach M-10MCa | Roman McP 10JMa | |
| Albie O'B-10TH | Elliott S-10SAC | Thomas K-10EB | Gracey G-10EB | Amelia McC-10TH |
| Isabelle S-10EB | Ava S-10SAC | Tish L-10EB | Peggy E-10EB | |
| Abbey S-10EB | Lillie W-10MCa | Grace W-10EB | Ava Lilly W-10SAC | Slaine D-10TH |
| Matlida S-10EB | | | | |



Pupil Leadership Committees: Your Voice, Your Ideas, Your School!

We are incredibly excited to introduce our brand-new **Pupil Leadership Committees** – giving pupils across the school the opportunity to have their say, get involved and make a real difference to school life and our wider community.

Each committee is led by **at least three Year 11 prefects**, who will work alongside pupils from other year groups who are passionate about a particular area. Whether they want to support others, raise money for great causes, celebrate different cultures or make our environment a better place, there is a committee for everyone!



Wellbeing Committee – Care, Support & Looking After One Another

Our Wellbeing Committee is all about making sure pupils feel **supported, valued and cared for**. The committee will explore ways we can promote positive mental health across school, raise awareness of important wellbeing issues and organise activities linked to **Mental Health Awareness**. From sharing helpful messages and organising awareness activities to thinking about how we can make school an even more supportive place, this committee is all about **looking out for one another**.

Aspiration Committee – Think Big, Dream Big!

The Aspiration Committee will help pupils look beyond the school gates and discover the wider world. They will take the lead on exciting events linked to important global days, including **International Men's Day, International Women's Day, World Peace Day and World Teachers' Day**. Expect opportunities to celebrate inspirational role models, explore different perspectives, learn about world issues and discover people who have made – and continue to make – a difference. The message? **Your future has no limits!**

Charity Committee – Giving Back

The Charity Committee will be helping Hillside become a school that **makes a difference beyond our own community**. Pupils will help organise fundraising events and activities supporting **local, national and international charities**. From whole-school challenges and themed events to creative fundraising ideas, the committee will be looking for fun ways to get everyone involved. Most importantly, pupils will learn that **even small actions can make a big difference**.

Environment Committee – Making a Difference Where We Live

The Environment Committee is all about **taking care of our school and our community**. Pupils will have the opportunity to organise school and community litter picks, promote eco-friendly behaviours and find creative ways to make our surroundings cleaner, greener and more enjoyable. And it isn't just about picking up litter! The committee could also get involved in **gardening, planting and improving areas around school**. Their mission is simple: **look after the place we share**.

Culture Committee – Celebrating Who We Are

Our Culture Committee will celebrate the **amazing diversity of our school community**. Pupils will help organise exciting events celebrating different cultures, festivals and traditions through **art, food, music and other creative showcases**.

The committee will also play an important role in **welcoming new pupils arriving at our school from different parts of the world**, helping them feel included, valued and part of the Hillside community.

Because one of the best things about our school is that **we don't all have to be the same to belong**.

Young Leaders. Big Ideas. Real Impact.

The Pupil Leadership Committees are about much more than attending meetings. They give pupils the opportunity to **develop leadership skills, work as a team, organise events, listen to others and turn their ideas into action**.

Most importantly, they give our pupils a genuine opportunity to help shape the school and community they are part of.

We can't wait to see what they achieve!

Watch this space... our pupil leaders have plenty of ideas!

Mr Rayson



World Space Week 2026: The Rocket Revolution

This week, every year group joined an assembly to mark **World Space Week** (4 to 10 October). This year's theme is **Rocket Revolution**, and students discovered that rockets affect their lives far more than they might think.

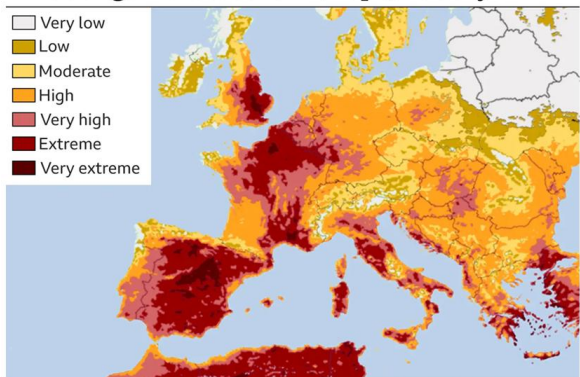
Once, only a few governments could launch rockets, and launches were rare and extremely expensive. Today, commercial companies launch regularly, rockets can be reused, and universities and smaller nations can reach space too.

Most rockets carry satellites, scientific instruments and communication and Earth observation equipment rather than people. Students considered what would happen if all satellites suddenly disappeared. Every morning we rely on them when we check the weather, use maps, send messages or stream music.

Satellites track storms, monitor floods, detect wildfires, observe climate change and support emergency services. UK Met Office forecasts rely heavily on satellite observations.



Fire danger forecast for Europe, 19 July



Careers and the future

The space sector needs engineers, scientists, software developers, technicians, designers and environmental and communications specialists. The UK industry supports thousands of jobs and continues to grow. Students imagined how space technology might bring better internet access, smarter transport, faster disaster response and new scientific discoveries.

Questions to take home

- Could space become as accessible as air travel?
- Should more countries have access to space?
- How can we explore space while protecting Earth?
- We would love students to discuss these at home.

Thank you to everyone for their thoughtful contributions. The next great idea in the rocket revolution could come from one of our own classrooms!

Mr Wardale