



## Dear Parents/Guardians

As we approach the end of the strangest half term ever I hope you are all keeping safe and well. I really value using the newsletter to communicate with you and I hope it gives you a small piece of 'normal' in your life!

In terms of keeping in touch, I hope all of our pupils have watched the short 'Elbow' film of some of the staff here at Hillside saying 'hello'.

If anyone is struggling to cope; which would be totally understandable in these circumstances, please see the helpline numbers included here and don't hesitate to use them.

Thank you to all of the parents who have started to engage with the 'MyED' school app. If I could ask for your support in downloading the app and starting to check it regularly, we can revert to this as our main means of communication with families. We must have your up to date mobile number: if you think this needs updating please ring the school office or email [admin@hillsidehigh.co.uk](mailto:admin@hillsidehigh.co.uk) to inform us.

On Friday we should break up for half term and although living in lockdown means it will be nothing like a normal holiday from school I would encourage you all to take a break from your school work. I recently read an article which spoke about using this time to learn new skills and to build our resilience in coping with change. If you follow us in Twitter and Instagram there are many examples of you, and the Hillside staff, doing this, which is brilliant and please continue to send us your photos - we really enjoy seeing what you are doing.

The uncertainty around school returning continues; although I am sure all families have realised that any return for pupils in Year 7-9 before the summer holiday is extremely unlikely. We are busy planning to allow our Year 10 pupils some kind of return to school before the summer but guidance for this is changing almost daily and I will communicate the plan with Year 10 parents as soon as possible. Year 10 parents should have received a letter this week, from our CEO Gary Kelly, giving our most up to date position.

Please keep safe, take care and enjoy half term next week.

**NEVER ALONE**

- NSPCC: 0808 800 5000 (24hrs)
- National Domestic Abuse Helpline: 0808 2000 247 (24hrs free)
- Mind: 0300 123 3393 (Mon-Fri 9-6)
- Victim Support: 0808 168 9111 (24hrs)
- Cruse Bereavement: 0800 808 1677 (Mon-Fri 9-5)
- ChildLine: 0800 1111 (24hrs)
- Action on Elder Abuse: 0808 808 8141 (Mon-Fri 9-5)
- Respect - Men's Advice Line: 0808 801 0327 (Mon-Fri 9-5or8pm)
- Samaritans: 116 123 (24hrs free)
- National Centre for Domestic Violence: 0207 186 8270

## Mrs Amanda Ryan

## Hillside Praise for Pupils

Our Home Learning Stars for week 8 are:



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**Year 7**  
Jessica H  
Bluebell E  
Nathan O

**Year 8**  
Liam B  
Kelsey T  
Nikos C

**Year 7**  
Jessica H  
Emma L  
Alfie D

**Year 8**  
Fiona Z  
Macey M  
Ashton B

**Year 9**  
Adam L  
Samantha H  
James W

**Year 10**  
Johnnie A  
Harry E  
Kelly L

**Year 11**  
Declan B  
Calli W  
Ahmad A

## Hello Year 10,

I hope you have all had a good week. I have been experimenting this week by planting some vegetables and herbs. This is a big deal for me as I do struggle to keep the simplest of house plants alive! I have also been reading the book Wonder and trying to pretend I have some photography skills. Have a look at the Art departments Instagram feed and see what you think! I'm thinking of you and your families all the time and wondering what you are up to. I hope you are all keeping safe and well.

There have been some excellent examples of Year 10 work sent in again this week. This makes me very proud and you should feel proud too. To any of you who have not returned work as yet please don't worry. We would love to see this but if you are unable to send this back we look forward to seeing this when we are back together. It is important to keep up with your learning however it is equally important to make sure you are giving yourself a break and enjoying time with your loved ones. We would have broken up for half term this week so please try and enjoy this as best you can in these difficult times. Do the things you love and that make you happy. I look forward to seeing you all and sharing stories soon but in the meantime take care and keep smiling!

Miss Roby



## Year 10

**Year 10** - Don't forget to check your emails every Monday morning to read through the work set for the week ahead. Your teachers check their emails daily so keep in touch with examples of your work or even just to say hello and let us know how you are getting on!

**Reading Extract** - Each week we will put a short piece of writing for you to read linked to a book that a member of staff at Hillside is reading. This week Mr Edwards has shared an extract from *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll which was written in 1865 but is still an excellent and humorous read with lots of hidden meanings.

### Lewis Carroll - *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* from CHAPTER V - *Advice from a Caterpillar*



The Caterpillar and Alice looked at each other for some time in silence: at last the Caterpillar took the hookah out of its mouth, and addressed her in a languid, sleepy voice.

"Who are YOU?" said the Caterpillar.

This was not an encouraging opening for a conversation. Alice replied, rather shyly, "I--I hardly know, sir, just at present-- at least I know who I WAS when I got up this morning, but I think I must have been changed several times since then."

"What do you mean by that?" said the Caterpillar sternly. "Explain yourself!"

"I can't explain MYSELF, I'm afraid, sir" said Alice, "because I'm not myself, you see."

"I don't see," said the Caterpillar.

"I'm afraid I can't put it more clearly," Alice replied very politely, "for I can't understand it myself to begin with; and being so many different sizes in a day is very confusing."

"It isn't," said the Caterpillar.

"Well, perhaps you haven't found it so yet," said Alice; "but when you have to turn into a chrysalis – you will some day, you know – and then after that into a butterfly, I should think you'll feel it a little queer, won't you?"

"Not a bit," said the Caterpillar.

"Well, perhaps your feelings may be different," said Alice; "all I know is, it would feel very queer to ME."

"You!" said the Caterpillar contemptuously. "Who are YOU?"

Which brought them back again to the beginning of the conversation.

