



### Dear Parents/Guardians

As you read this we will be starting the last week of this academic year and what a year it has turned out to be!

We break up on Friday 17th July and pupils should be engaging with their Home Learning until this day. After this it is officially their summer holidays and whilst it wouldn't feel like a normal summer holiday I do hope you can all enjoy some kind of break.

I know this period of time away from school has gone on for much longer than many of us ever imagined and this can take quite a toll on us all. We have lost our 'normal' and had to adjust to a very different life. So I thought it was timely to share 'Dr. Seuss' 5 Lessons in Life' as I think that they provide some excellent reminders for us all.

We are very much looking forward to all pupils returning in September. We are busy planning to ensure we can do this safely for all pupils and staff. As I have said previously, all pupils will return in full school uniform so please feel free to move forward with purchasing uniform. In the autumn term pupils in Years 7-9 will not have practical drama lessons so I would not purchase a new drama kit for your child just yet. In addition to the usual 'Essential 8' pieces of equipment, all pupils will need to bring their own, clearly labelled, water bottles to school in September so this is something you may wish to purchase now.

Wednesday 2nd September will be the start of term for pupils in Year 7 and 11, with pupils in Year 8, 9 and 10 returning on Thursday 3rd September. More detailed information about start times and our plans for re-opening school to all pupils will be sent to parents in due course.

In the meantime if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact your child's Progress Leader, or me, Mr Edwards or Mrs Wardale. [a.ryan@hillsidehigh.co.uk](mailto:a.ryan@hillsidehigh.co.uk) - [m.edwards@hillsidehigh.co.uk](mailto:m.edwards@hillsidehigh.co.uk) - [s.wardale@hillsidehigh.co.uk](mailto:s.wardale@hillsidehigh.co.uk)

### Mrs Amanda Ryan

#### Hello Year 10

I hope you and your families are all keeping safe and well and that you have had a good week. This term really has flown by and as we go into our last week of the summer term and Year 10 I want you to all remember how far you have come in these really strange and uncertain times. I know some of you will have really enjoyed this time and the independent study however I also know that many of you will have found this really difficult. Personally for me it has been really strange to not see you all and see colleagues everyday.

It has been lovely again to see lots of Year 10 work on social media, keep it up. Also I know so many of you have been doing other activities and projects throughout lockdown. These range from arts and crafts to sports and learning new skills. Lots of you have been helping younger siblings with their home learning too. I would love to see some pictures of these activities or the things you have created, so please send me any pictures or videos of what you have been doing. I would love to see these on Instagram and Twitter too!

This week I have been keeping busy and have been on some walks round my local area. I have been trying to avoid the rain as much as possible. I have also been reading quite a bit this week and I'm really hoping to start another book which Miss Doran has kindly lent me. It isn't only you guys who have been doing some home learning I have also been using this time to educate myself and have undertaken some online courses. I like to think we never stop learning and I know I certainly learn new things every day.

As some lockdown restrictions have started to ease please remember that everybody is different in these times and some may not feel ready or may not be able to venture out yet. On the other hand some people are more than ready to start spending more time outside of their houses. Let's just remember to be kind and considerate to everyone. I really hope that the good that has come out of this really sad situation continues. Our community has become much stronger and hopefully kinder as a result and long may that stay.

It won't be long now until we are all back together in school. In the meantime as always if you need anything at all we are just a call or email away.

Take care and keep smiling!

**Miss Roby**

### Progress Leaders

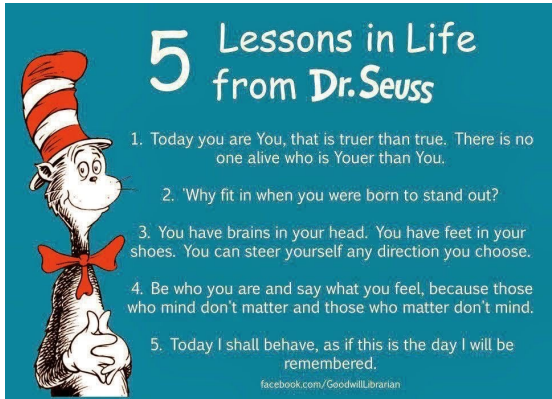
Year 7 Mrs Harper - 07957 661 065

Year 8 Miss Doran - 07983 686 303

Year 9 Miss Banks - 07930 821 910

Year 10 Miss Roby – 07930 821 644

Year 6 & Year 11 Mrs Mc Carthy - 07950 509 609





## A Kestrel for a Knave

*A Kestrel for a Knave* by Barry Hines was first published in 1968. Troubled teenager Billy Casper lives in a Yorkshire mining town. His life holds little interest or meaning for him until he finds a kestrel hawk. Billy teaches himself falconry and begins to work with Kes. Through this relationship he begins to learn about trust, responsibility and love.

Billy's teacher has persuaded Billy to share what he has learned about falconry. Billy has never before shown much interest in class so his teacher is surprised at his specialist knowledge and vocabulary.

Harshly unsentimental, this novel tells the story of the remarkable relationship between the desperate Billy, a friendless boy living in a soulless northern town, and the equally destructive, fierce kestrel, Kes, which he raises from the nest.

*'I started training Kes after I'd had her about a fortnight, when she was hard panned, that means her tail feathers and wing feathers had gone hard at their bases. You have to use a torch at night and keep inspecting 'em. It's easy if you're quiet, you just go up to her as she's roosting, and spread her tail and wings. If t'feathers are blue near t'bottom o' t'shaft, that means there's blood in 'em an' they're still soft, so they're not ready yet. When they're white and hard then they're ready, an' you can start training her then.'*

*'Kes wa' as fat as a pig though at first. All young hawks are when you first start to train 'em, and you can't do much wi' 'em 'til you've got their weight down. You've to be ever so careful though, you don't just starve 'em, you weigh 'em before every meal and gradually cut their food down, 'til you go in one time an' she's keen, an' that's when you start getting somewhere. I could tell wi' Kes, she jumped straight on my glove as I held it towards her. So while she wa' feeding I got hold of her jesses an'...'*

*'Her what?  
'Jesses'.*

*'Jesses. How do you spell that?'*

*Mr Farthing stood up and stepped back to the board.*

*'Er, J-E-S-S-E-S'.*

*As Billy enunciated each letter, Mr Farthing linked them together on the blackboard.*

*'Jesses. And what are Jesses, Billy?'*

*'They're little leather straps that you fasten round its legs as soon as you get it. She wears these all t'time, and you get hold of 'em when she sits on your glove. You push your swivel through.'*

*'Whoa! Whoa!'*

*Mr Farthing held up his hands as though Billy was galloping towards him.*

*'You'd better come out here and give us a demonstration. We're not all experts you know.'*

*Billy stood up and walked out, taking up position at the side of Mr Farthing's desk. Mr Farthing reared his chair on to its back legs, swivelled it sideways on one leg, then lowered it on to all fours facing Billy.*

*'Right, off you go.'*

