



### Dear Parents/Guardians

Our thought for the week this week is: "When it rains, look for the rainbows. When it's dark, look for the stars." In these challenging times I thought this was nice to share with our school community. I hope as a school we always look for the rainbows and stars, doing all that we can to provide a welcoming, safe and 'normal' learning environment for our pupils. We do understand these continue to be very uncertain times and appreciate these would be anxious times for our pupils, with this in mind please see the article on the back page of our newsletter 'How to support your child if they are feeling anxious about Coronavirus'.

As I said last week, I have been extremely impressed with the way our pupils have returned to school and after nearly a full half term back I am delighted to say they are maintaining this purposeful approach. We asked every teacher to nominate pupils who have demonstrated an excellent attitude to learning and are exemplifying 'The Hillside Way'. These names were shared in form time at the start of the week and pupils should have received a postcard home. I then had the pleasure of awarding the overall winners with a 'Krispy Kreme' doughnut, I think it's fair to say these were well received by the pupils. Please follow us on social media to see more photos.

Can I remind everyone that we break up for half term on Thursday 22nd October 2020 and pupils return at their usual times on Monday 2nd November 2020.

**Mrs Amanda Ryan, Principal**



### School photographs

A reminder that it isn't too late to order your child's photograph from the Kittle website

[www.kittleorders.com](http://www.kittleorders.com) using the barcode slips which were given to pupils on the day photographs were taken; both ordering and payment can be done online.

**Mrs Snape**





## What are we reading...

This week all of Year 7 were lucky to experience our mobile library. Current restrictions on bubbles mean that usual methods of browsing for books aren't possible, but this hasn't stopped our English and literacy teams from ensuring our pupils have access to our great selection of reading books.

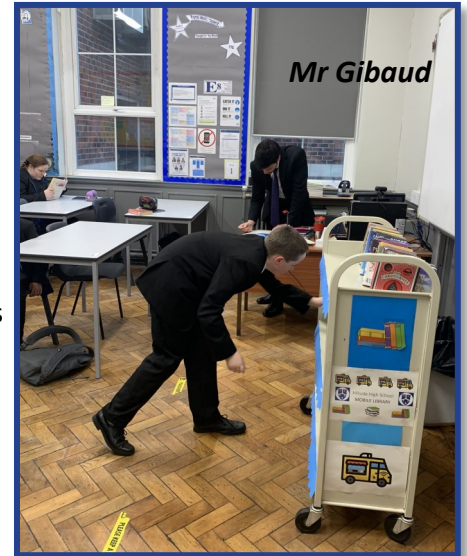
The mobile library includes novels hand-selected by the English team, and the delivered to the door of each form. Year 7 pupils were the first group to experience the mobile library and choose a reading book; pupils should read at least three times a week.

The mobile library will visit Year 8 and 9 pupils before the half term so that all pupils have a new book to read during the half term holidays. The mobile library will visit each year group regularly so pupils can return books they have finished and select their next great read.

This week, it's over to our wonderful Year 7 forms for an insight into their form time 'Register & Read'. During lockdown pupils in Year 6 were offered a copy of the fantastic novel 'Wonder', and this is the novel Year 7 form tutors are reading in class. Wonder tells the inspiring story of August Pullman. Born with facial differences that, up until now, have prevented him from going to a mainstream school, Auggie becomes the most unlikely of heroes when he joins his local school.

Mr Gibaud, English Assistant Subject Leader, said that his form 7TG have really engaged with the novel: "We love starting the day with Register and Read. It's a wonderful way of getting into reading for pleasure."

**Mrs Hinde**



## SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural) Corner

**Theme:** Anti-Slavery Day - Modern Day Slavery

**SMSC Focus:** Moral

**This week's assembly:**  
What is modern day slavery?

### Thought for the Week:

*"We thought slavery was a thing of the past. We haven't been paying attention." **Albert Einstein***

## Times Tables Rockstars

A massive well done to our TT Rockstars this week, they are:

### Year 7:

*Billy Wilson 7SR, Rositsa Staneva 7SR and Tilly Wallace 7TG*

### Year 8:

*James Conroy 8SDo, Jessica Rudd 8SDo and Ryan Jenkinson 8RLC*

**Miss Christian**





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OR



Open your phone's  
camera and hover over  
code to go to register

## Easy to get to!

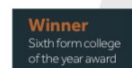
The College operates a convenient  
and cost effective daily bus service  
from Liverpool - equivalent to less  
than 50p per journey.



**Holly**  
Former Hillside Student

*"I loved my time at Hillside, and I'll always have lovely memories from high school. I decided to come over to this college because it has the best options of subjects I wanted to take, and it's obviously has a really good reputation for education in the area.*

*I wanted a new experience, and it still feels fresh and exciting coming over here to the Wirral every day even though it's really quick and easy to get to." ★★★★★*





# How to support your child if they are feeling anxious about coronavirus



It's understandable for children and adults to feel concerned or anxious about this virus and it is natural for parents to want to support and protect their children. You might do this in many different ways – giving them a hug, playing a game or having a chat. The most important thing is for your child to know that you are there for them, ready to help them if things get hard. We hope these tips help you support your child at this time.

- 1. Talk** to your child about what is going on. You could start by asking them what they have heard about coronavirus.
- 2. Try** to answer their questions and reassure them in an age appropriate manner. Remember, you do not need to know all the answers, but talking can help them feel calm.
- 3. Explain** to your child that it is natural to worry sometimes and everyone does it. This feeling, like all feelings, will come and go.
- 4. Don't** try to shield your child from the news, as it's likely they will find out somehow from school, being online or from friends.
- 5. Be aware** that your child will often copy your behaviour, so if you are feeling anxious or overwhelmed, you may need to limit how much you express this in front of them.
- 6. Reassure** your child that it is unlikely they will get seriously ill, and if they do feel ill you will look after them. Your child might be concerned about who will look after you if you catch the virus. Let them know the kind of support you have as an adult so that they don't feel they need to worry about you.
- 7. Give** some practical tips to your child about how they can look after themselves. For example, show them how to wash their hands properly, and remind them when they should be doing it.
- 8. Keep** as many regular routines as possible, so that your child feels safe and that things are stable.
- 9. Spend** time doing a fun activity with your child (e.g. reading, playing, painting, cooking) to help reassure them and reduce their anxiety. This is also a great way of providing a space for them to talk through their concerns, without having a 'big chat'. For activities ideas, visit our **starting a conversation with your child guide**.
- 10. Encourage** your child to think about the things they can do to make themselves feel safer and less worried. Help them find things that distract or relax them.
- 11. Be aware** that your child may want more close contact with you at this time and feel anxious about separation. Try to provide this support whenever possible.
- 12. Remember** to look after yourself too. If you are feeling worried, or anxious about coronavirus, talk to someone you trust who can listen and support you.

