



# Hillside High School

*Excellence in the Heart of the Community*



Friday 4th October 2019

## Wade Deacon Trust

Dear Parents/Guardians

I hope you enjoy reading this week's newsletter which is full of stories about the achievements of our pupils at Hillside. Well done to all the pupils who feature in this edition, they have all worked hard to achieve success, be it in the netball team or in their recent music exams.

Please take the time to read this week's articles which include an overview on our 'Working on Writing' which will help your support your child in this vital area. The information on emotional wellbeing and mental health is also important to us all as we support our pupils through their teenage years.

Last night was the second in our series of Year 11 Evenings and it was lovely to welcome so many Year 11s and their families to this fantastic evening, which equipped them with the strategies and resources to achieve the very best in their GCSEs.

**Mrs Amanda Ryan**

**Word of the Week**

**'Disavow'**

to refuse to accept responsibility

**Year 7 & 8  
Homework  
Science**

## A Focus on Learning

This week we have asked our pupils why taking their exercise books home is useful. Here is a quote from Kelly Leung in Year 10 about how she has found it beneficial to be able to take her exercise book home.

Bringing my book home for work has encouraged me to do more revision at home as my book is the main resource of my knowledge. It allows me to continue lessons at home which is very convenient. Instead of having separate work at home and in class more of the work is in one place which really helps when it comes to revision. Also, within books are the resources from class so during homework sessions there isn't as much need to go looking for (sometimes unreliable) sources of information.

**Mrs Wardale**

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

### This week's theme: World Space Week

Next week is World Space Week which this year is marking the 50th anniversary of the moon landings, which happened in July 1969. Mrs. Daly remembers it well when she was in Year 4 at the time and everybody was so excited. She even watched the black and white images of the event on a small TV in the classroom! Why don't you ask your family members if they remember where they were when Neil Armstrong said the famous words "one small step for man and one giant leap for mankind".

## Career of the week

**Career:** Architect

**Skills:**

- Communicating with people
- Persuading people and taking the lead
- Designing
- Budgeting, planning and organising
- Time management

**Average Salary:** £46,800

**Useful Subjects:**

Maths, English, Physics, Art and design, Graphic communication

For more information please see  
[www.myworldofwork.co.uk](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk)

*'A Commitment to Excellence'*

*Exceptional Values*

*Exceptional Learning & Teaching*

*Exceptional Achievement*



## Working on Writing Assembly

This week's assembly has been based on ways in which we can improve the quality of our written work. Last year we launched a writing initiative called the WOW Zone to help our pupils produce the highest quality written work. The WOW Zone is a written activity that pupils should expect to do in most subjects at least once every two weeks. Pupils are expected to work in silence, as research suggests that some silent work allows the brain to make the links needed for learning. Pupils will receive support and guidance from their class teacher to use ambitious vocabulary to produce written work of an excellent standard.

Excellent written work is fundamental to Hillside and working on developing skills as writers will enable pupils to make better progress. Since the launch of the WOW Zone, all curriculum areas have embedded the initiative into their planning and subjects including: art, design technology and maths as well as history, geography and English have produced some outstanding work. The thought for the week this week was from science fiction writer Octavia E Butler who said, "You don't start out writing good stuff. You start out writing rubbish and thinking it's good stuff, and then gradually you get better at it. That's why I say one of the most valuable traits is persistence." Butler was a famous writer who wrote many award winning science fiction books but suffered from writers' block; but she persisted and eventually overcame this. Our pupils can learn from this: that when writing, keep trying, redrafting and improving the work so that they produce the best written work that they can.

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### Top Tips for Writing

- 1** Be clear about your purpose
  - Why am I writing?
  - What do I want to achieve?
- 2** Start with a plan
  - Keywords
  - Bullet points
  - Mindmap
- 3** Guide the reader
  - Firstly, secondly
  - In addition, to further develop
- 4** Check your work every three or four lines

**The Hillside Way**

**Take pride in your work and presentation**

Mrs Miller

Here are the Hegarty Maths names:

- Year 7 — Jessica Harrington 7SE & Matilda Bardhi 7SE
- Year 8 — Ashton Beard 8AMR & Fiona Zhen 8SAC
- Year 9 — Laila Houghton 9DH & Erin Newall 9MW
- Year 10—Annie Sweeney 10SD & Luke Thorbinson 10TH
- Year 11—Calin Rees 11SR & Katie O'Neill 11TG

Here are the TT Rockstars names:

- Year 7— Jessica Harrington 7SE, Megan Menagh 7RLC & Nathan Oyobagie 7SE
- Year 8— Joshua Dickinson 8AMR, Harvey Evans 8AMR & Michael Holland 8SAC





## Netball—Year 7, 8 & 9

Year 7 and 8 netball teams have made a great start to the season. They played Litherland on Tuesday and narrowly missed out winning, by one goal.

Next match Maghull, Year 7, 8 and 9 at Hillside. All welcome to support the teams.

**Mrs Austin**



## ABRSM & LCM Music Theatre

We had some impressive results in music exams, which took place just before the summer holiday.

LCM Music Theatre: Annie Thompson, grade 3 (distinction), Abbie Brough, grade 3 (merit), Jasmin Morgan-Taylor grade 4 (merit).

ABRSM instrumental exams (all passes unless otherwise indicated): Charlotte Carr, grade 2 piano and grade 2 violin, Kelly Leung grade 2 piano and grade 4 jazz clarinet, Joseph Zhang grade 2 piano (merit) and grade 2 violin.

Well done everyone!

**Mr Harrison**



## Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health

As a school we are always looking at new ways in which to support our pupils and all members of our school community in terms of supporting emotional wellbeing and mental health, building resilience and encouraging pupils to reach out for support if they feel they need it. As part of this, Pupil Support which is looked after by Mrs Helm, will have a real focus in supporting pupils with emotional wellbeing and mental health as well as being a practical base for support with other aspects of school life. There is literature in Pupil Support with articles that pupils can take away in relation to improving their emotional wellbeing and dealing with typical teenage issues. Pupils are welcome to take the information away or read it in Pupil Support.

In addition to this Pupil Support has a 'Worry box'. The Worry Box will be a facility for pupils to write down any worries that they may feel they would like some help with but are not able to ask in person. The idea is that pupils can post their worries and they will be picked up and shared with the most appropriate adult in school who can help. The only condition is that any anonymous worries will not be able to be dealt with so it is important that pupils make sure they include their name.

Hillside also has a school counsellor from a company called Brighter Horizons4 U. The professional counselling service is available 1 day a week and pupils can access this service for a variety of school based and non-school based issues. Referrals to the counsellor can be made through your child's Progress Leader or a member of the safeguarding team. There is a waiting list, but we know that this is not as long as some other professional counselling services and we will prioritise these in most need.

If any parents/guardians or pupils have any ideas or suggestions on how we can further support pupils in terms of emotional wellbeing and mental health, please feel free to contact: the relevant Progress Leader, one of our safeguarding team or me directly.

Mrs Cross



### Thought for the week

*That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind.*

*Houston, Tranquillity Base here. The Eagle has landed.*

*Here men from the planet Earth first set foot upon the Moon. July 1969 AD. We came in peace for all mankind.*

Neil Armstrong

### Key Dates 2019

<b>WSW Community Event:</b>	Thursday 10th October 6.00pm
<b>Year 7 Parent Event:</b>	Thursday 10th October 10.30am & 5.00pm
<b>Year 9—Welcome to GCSE:</b>	Wednesday 16th October 5.45pm
<b>Presentation Evening</b>	Thursday 24th October 7.00pm, Bootle Town Hall
<b>End of term:</b>	Thursday 24th October 2.45pm

