



# HILLSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

WADE DEACON TRUST

EXCELLENCE IN  
THE HEART OF  
THE COMMUNITY

Friday 28th January 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thursday was Holocaust Memorial Day, and as a school we have taken the time this week to remember the millions of people killed in the Holocaust and subjected to Nazi persecution. Between 1941 and 1945, six million Jewish men, women and children were murdered by the Nazis and their collaborators. Their attempt to murder all the Jews in Europe shook the foundations of civilisation. It has been extremely poignant to see our pupils taking the time out of their busy days to look at our display and reflect on the photos. Assemblies performed by our pupils for their peers have made us all stop and reflect on the Holocaust, and the role we all have to play in preventing anything like this ever happening again.

Other news from Hillside this week have included the re-opening of the LRC for pupils to use at break, lunch and after school. This has been well received by pupils and it has been a joy to see so many pupils in there studying. The LRC is a work and study space and I would encourage all pupils to think about using it. I know the after school provision can be extremely helpful to parents who are trying to juggle family and working life, so if you would like your child to stay at school until 3.45pm to study and work on the numerous online platforms available to them, the LRC is there. There is no need to book a place, pupils can attend any evening, they just need to follow the guidelines included in this newsletter.



On Monday we had a brilliant session with School Council Representatives who feed back the most recent school council proposals to the Leadership Team. As always when we ask our pupils, we get brilliant responses on a range of topics which will help improve our school further. Myself and the Leadership Team are excited to work with the pupils to get their suggestions up and running. Watch this space....

Mrs Amanda Ryan, Principal

## ParentPay - Our online payment service

For any future trips that are organised at Hillside High School, ParentPay will be our preferred method of payment. The online platform also gives you the option to top up your child's dinner money account. We have recently sent home activation codes to all of our parents who have not yet set up their online account. Using the secure website, you will be able to pay online using your credit or debit card.



## What are the benefits to parents and pupils?

- ParentPay is easy-to-use and will offer you the freedom to make online payments whenever and wherever you like, 24/7
- The technology used is of the highest internet security available ensuring that your money will reach school safely – offering you peace of mind
- Payments can be made by credit/debit card or also through PayPoint
- full payment histories and statements are available to you securely online at anytime
- Your children will not have to worry about losing money at school
- Parents can choose to be alerted when their balances are low via email and/or SMS text

## How safe is ParentPay?

ParentPay offers you the freedom to make payments whenever and wherever you like, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, safe in the knowledge that the technology used is of the highest internet security available. Once you have activated your account, you can make online payments straight away. **If you want to find out more about ParentPay go to:** [www.parentpay.com/Parents](http://www.parentpay.com/Parents)

If you need a new activation code please contact the finance department on 0151 525 2630 option 4.



[admin@hillsidehigh.co.uk](mailto:admin@hillsidehigh.co.uk)



0151 525 2630

## Favourite Number Junk Model Competition

...And the winner is

After a very fierce competition Harry Dagnall of 7SW was awarded the trophy for his fantastic junk model of the Number 8.

Harry explained that he really enjoyed creating models with lego. He has a real love of beautiful cars, especially the fast ones and family was important to him too.

All of the award winning students are pictured here with their certificates. There were 20 winners in all across the whole of year 7. Congratulations to everyone!

Mrs Thornton



## Hillside Games Round 4 – Sweets in a Jar Challenge

Form Group	Running total
11JM	21
Staff	15
8TH	15
8CSY	14
7SW	12
7LW	11
8The	11
11RM	11
11KL	10
11MW	9
8RS	7
10SAC	7
7NK	6
10SA	5
9RLC	4
8GW	3
10KR	2
10LB	1
11DH	1
7LJ	1
9NW	1
9SDo	0
9SO	0
9DT	0
10SC	0

Welcome back everyone, hope you all had a fantastic break!

Santa & his naughty elf came round just before Christmas to administer the 4<sup>th</sup> round of the Hillside Games, which was guess the number of sweets in the jar.

11RM took the points with a 'sweet' guess of 180. The actual total was 189 and so as they were the closest out of every form, edging out 8 TH who guessed 200, they take 10 points moving them up the overall leaderboard. 8 TH take 8 points with 10 SAC bagging 6. The remaining points went to 8GW and 8CSY.

A massive thank you to all who made an effort to guess!

**Round five is Where is Tasmania?  
Room 38  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**

Do you know your pyramids of Giza from your leaning tower of Pisa???



## GCSE Pods

**GCSE Pod**  
For KS4

**TOP PODDERS**

**HaiYing X, Year 7 - 56**

**Eleanor C, Year 11 - 28**

**Kevin J, Year 11 - 18**

*'Excellence in the Heart of the C.PIC·COLLAGE'*

**Top Podders** are the pupils who have streamed the most pods.

**Questions Answered** are the pupils who attempted the most questions.

**Diamond League** - are the pupils who have answered with the most accurate

**GCSE Pod**  
For KS4

**DIAMOND LEAGUE**

**HaiYing X, Year 7 - 172**

**Anita L, Year 7 - 86**

**Samantha H, Year 11 - 14**

*'Excellence in the Heart of the C.PIC·COLLAGE'*

**GCSE Pod**  
For KS4

**QUESTIONS ANSWERED ?**

**HaiYing X, Year 7 - 86**

**Anita L, Year 7 - 60**

**Samantha H, Year 11 - 12**

*'Excellence in the Heart of the C.PIC·COLLAGE'*

## Hegarty Maths



Mr Pattison

### Top pupils for this week

- |                       |                |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Jessica Harrington    | Madison Willis |
| Brian Leung           | Isobel Rogers  |
| Issy Rae              | Nicolly Faria  |
| Kira Little           | Osawe Lawrence |
| Joshua Rogers         | HaiYing Xue    |
| Daria-Maria Tudorache | Lily Beesley   |
| Fiona Zhen            | Lucie White    |
| Miley Brodie          | Sissy Staneva  |
| Bobby Petkov          | Kenzie James   |
| Evie Duff             | Hannah Watson  |

## TT Rockstars

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

- Jacob Williams—7SW
- Hai Ying Xue—7SW
- Maria Peres—7LJ
- Josh Williams -8THE
- Tilly Wallace—8TH
- Harry O'Leary—8RS

## Learning Resource Centre

I am pleased to announce the reopening of the Learning Resource Centre (LRC)- the school's library and study space. The LRC will be open to all pupils at break, lunch and after school to get ahead on homework, read privately or do any revision they wish to during these times. As well as being open for private study, the LRC will be supported by our new team of Reading Representatives from Years 7-9, who will be assisting in organising after school clubs and activities to promote reading and learning. Reading Reps will also be responsible for helping to keep the library organised and up- to- date. We have already had a great response from pupils across all year groups, with many pupils using the LRC productively in their spare time, and we look forward to seeing pupils really get the most out of this fantastic resource.

Mr Moore  
Academic Mentor for English



### Guidelines

- ◆ The LRC is run by Mr Moore supported by Mr Richardson.
- ◆ You must sign in on entry.
- ◆ The LRC is a silent study/reading space.
- ◆ The LRC is NOT an eating/drinking space.
- ◆ The LRC has 30 seats, including computer stations, once filled we are full and closed.



**STATIONERY SHOP**  
Items of stationery available for purchase Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays inside the LRC from 8.30am.

**STATIONERY SHOP PRICE LIST**

Black pen	10p	Rulers	30p	Revision cards	40p
Black glitter pen	50p	Pencil grip	70p	Sticky post-it notes	50p p/pack
4 colour pen	£1.50	Sharpener	£1	Animal post-its	80p
Purple pen	10p	Small rubbers	25p		
Pencils	10p	Large rubber	40p		
Highlighters	30p	Pencil top rubber	15p		
Clear pencil case	1.40	Maths set	£2		
Coloured pencil case	1.50	Metal maths set	£2.50		
Mechanical pencil	40p	Notepad	1.50		

### Guidelines

- ◆ You can loan books; this might not be available every break and lunch due to staffing but is after school.
- ◆ The computers are NOT FOR GAMING - they are for study only. You will be asked to leave if you are on games.
- ◆ You need to bring your own headphones for using GCSE Pod.
- ◆ The only door for access and leaving is the one near the dining room.



## School Council

Our second round of school council proposals were brought to the leadership meeting this week and suggestions for school improvement were put to Mrs Ryan and the team. The presentation was led by our environmental leader Afia Sekyi Amah and Head girl Laila Houghton. They were joined by three of our pupil school council representatives from Years 8, 9 and 10 who shadowed the prefects and observed the process with a view to take a lead on presenting the next round of results. Mrs Ryan and the leadership team were very impressed by the suggestions put forward by the pupils across the whole school and look forward to working together to action the changes proposed. It is a pleasure to witness these young individuals articulate their views of our school and describe how they appreciate the hard work and care our staff provide. Please look out for further, specific information on school improvement as a direct impact of school council and feedback from the process within form time and assemblies.

Mr Smith



# Safeguarding, Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one app of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

Snapchat is a photo- and video-sharing app which also allows users to chat with friends via text or audio. Users can share images and videos with specific friends, or through a 'story' (documenting the previous 24 hours) visible to their entire friend list. Snapchat usage rose during the pandemic, with many young people utilising it to connect with their peers. The app continues to develop features to engage an even larger audience and emulate current trends, rivalling platforms such as TikTok and Instagram.

### CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

Even if your child only connects on the app with people they know, they may still receive friend requests from strangers. Snapchat's links with apps such as Wink and Hoop have increased this possibility. Accepting a request means that children are then disclosing personal information through the Story, SnapMap and Spotlight features. This could allow predators to gain their trust for sinister purposes.

### EXCESSIVE USE

There are many features that are attractive to users and keep them excited about the app. Snap streaks encourage users to send snaps daily, Spotlight Challenges give users to the chance to obtain money and online fame, and the Spotlight feature's scroll of videos makes it easy for children to spend hours watching content.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some videos and posts on Snapchat are not suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's Discover function lets users swipe through snippets of news stories and trending articles that often include adult content. There is currently no way to turn off this feature.

### SEXTING

Sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature makes it easy for young people (teens in particular) to share explicit images on impulse. While these pictures do disappear – and the sender is notified if it has been screenshotted first – users have found alternative methods to save images, such as taking pictures with a separate device.

### DAMAGE TO CONFIDENCE

Snapchat's filters and lenses are a popular way for users to enhance their 'selfie game'. Although many are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beautify' filters on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations and create feelings of inadequacy. Comparing themselves unfavourably against other Snapchat users could threaten a child's confidence or sense of self-worth.

### VISIBLE LOCATION

My Places lets users check in and search for popular spots nearby – such as restaurants, parks or shopping centres – and recommend them to their friends. The potential issue with a young person consistently checking into locations on Snapchat is that it allows other users in their friends list (even people they have only ever met online) to see where they currently are and where they regularly go.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### TURN OFF QUICK ADD

The Quick Add function helps people find each other on the app. This function works based on mutual friends or whether someone's number is in your child's contacts list. Explain to your child that this feature could potentially make their profile visible to strangers. We recommend that your child turns off Quick Add, which can be done in the settings (accessed via the cog icon).

### CHOOSE GOOD CONNECTIONS

Snapchat has recently announced that it is rolling out a new safety feature: users will receive notifications reminding them of the importance of maintaining connections with people they actually know well, as opposed to strangers. This 'Friend Check Up' encourages users to delete connections with users they rarely communicate with, to maintain their online safety and privacy.

### TALK ABOUT SEXTING

It may feel like an awkward conversation (and one that young people can be reluctant to have) but it is important to talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting. Discuss the legal implications of sending, receiving or sharing explicit images, as well as the possible emotional impact. Emphasise that your child should never feel pressured into sexting – and that if they receive unwanted explicit images, they should tell a trusted adult straight away.

### CHAT ABOUT CONTENT

Talk to your child about what is and isn't wise to share on Snapchat (e.g. don't post explicit images or videos, or display identifiable details like their school uniform). Remind them that once something is online, the creator loses control over where it might end up – and who with. Additionally, Snapchat's 'Spotlight' feature has a #challenge like TikTok's: it's vital that your child understands the potentially harmful consequences of taking part in these challenges.

### KEEP ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Profiles are private by default, but children may make them public to gain more followers. Your child can send Snaps directly to friends, but Stories are visible to everyone they have added, unless they change the settings. If they use SnapMaps, their location is visible unless 'Ghost Mode' is enabled (again via settings). It's prudent to emphasise the importance of not adding people they don't know in real life. This is particularly important with the addition of My Places, which allows other Snapchatters to see the places your child regularly visits and checks in: strangers, bullies and groomers could use this information to engage in conversation and arrange to meet in person.

### BE READY TO BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does connect with your child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending explicit images to them, your child can select the three dots on that person's profile and choose report or block. There are options to state why they are reporting that user (annoying or malicious messages, spam, or masquerading as someone else, for example).

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



Sources: Status of Mind Social media and young people's mental health | UK in a blue - Children's Commissioner Report | <https://support.snapchat.com/en-US/https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com> | <https://www.independent.co.uk> | <https://mail.bbc.com/technology/snapchat-stable-snap-maps/europe-trust-safety-commissioner>, 2017, Young People and Sexting - Attitudes and Behaviour Research Findings from the United Kingdom, New Zealand and Australia.