



## HILLSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

WADE DEACON TRUST

Friday 30th September 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This week's newsletter really does give a 'snapshot' of all the exciting things which are going on at Hillside. In just one week in school our Year 11 pupils benefited from an excellent 'Success Evening', with other pupils having the opportunity to attend the Legends match at Anfield.

Year 11 parents/guardians need to make a note of all the key dates for Year 11 which are included in this week's newsletter. As I mentioned last week the first 'Success Evening' of the year was fantastic. We know that working together to support our young people is key to their success and this was exemplified on this evening.

We are looking forward to our annual Book Fair which takes place next week. We constantly speak about 'Reading is Power' at Hillside and the Book Fair provides our young people with an ideal opportunity to purchase books which will be of interest to them. It also benefits the school as the more books we sell the more free books we are given for school.

**Amanda Ryan, Principal**

## Year 11 Success in Core

Last Monday we held the first of our Year 11 support workshops to help our pupils and their parents in preparation for the external exams. Thank you to all those who attended, over 150 pupils and parents came along to the event. The event began with a session in the Drama Hall which focused on the link between work ethic and wellbeing. We explored the difference between good and bad stress and how early preparations can help prevent difficulties in managing workload nearer to the exams.

Pupils then went onto attend workshops which included:

- Science - Pupils worked with their parents to improve their understanding of mark allocation on exam questions based on the top ten tips!
- English - Mr Gibaud shared valuable revision strategies for managing large amounts of content; modelling the creation of revision cards from resources such as: quotation bank, GCSE pod and knowledge organisers
- Maths - Pupils and parents had the opportunity to develop strategies in order to stretch learning beyond the classroom. A variety of methods were shared to develop learning. Parents/Guardians had the opportunity to work along side their child on SPARX maths to see first-hand how it works and the major benefits it has on pupil learning.

Pupils who attended received free stationery to support their home study and a variety of revision materials and guidance to help them learn different study techniques. This included our easy to follow study bookmark.

A big thank you to all staff, pupils and parents; working together in Year 11 is definitely the key to success!

**Mrs Wardale**



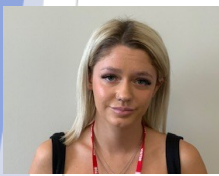
# Footgolf Fun!



On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September, pupils from Hillside High School had the opportunity to take part in a footgolf event at Aintree Golf course. Pupils used their footballing skills to navigate their way around a 9-hole course kicking the football into the various holes in the least number of shots possible. The afternoon was great fun for our pupils and gave them the opportunity to showcase the wide array of school's games values, such as determination, respect, fair play and teamwork.

**Mr Ward & Mr Clarke**

## A warm welcome to our new staff



"Hi everyone. My name is Miss Kay, I have just graduated from a Chemistry degree at Liverpool University. I'm looking forward to working here as a teaching assistant and joining the Hillside community."  
**Miss Kay**



"Hi Everybody! I'm Mr. Banyard. I have just finished studying psychology at the University of Liverpool and I'm excited to help the students here at Hillside as a teaching assistant."  
**Mr Banyard**



"Hi Everyone, my name is Miss Meredith, I have just graduated from University where I studied Children, Schools & Families! I am very excited to be joining Hillside as a Teaching Assistant and looking forward to helping students in any way I can!"  
**Miss Meredith**

*Welcome!*



### Weekly praise for our top Bedrockers!

#### Top for weekly points earned

Faith Neile	9GW 240 points
Alfie Maklin	9GW 133 points
Bianca-Elena Tarsa	8MH 119 points
<b>Mr Gibaud</b>	

#### Top for weekly time spent on Bedrock

Tilly Wallace	9TH 5h, 26m
Kimberley Hughes	9RLC 2h, 44m
Ruby Murray	8MH 2h, 31m

## GCSE Pods

**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 knowledge, the more correct responses, the more diamonds.

**GCSE Pod**  
For KS4

TOP 🏆 PODDERS

*Anita L, Year 8 - 48*

*Emily T, Year 11 - 34*

*Brian L, Year 11 - 29*

'Excellence in the Heart of the C-PIC-COLLAGE

**GCSE Pod**  
For KS4

DIAMOND LEAGUE

*HaiYing X, Year 8 - 100*

*Brian L, Year 10 - 46*

*Lacey-Leigh P, Year 10 - 45*

'Excellence in the Heart of the C-PIC-COLLAGE

**GCSE Pod**  
For KS4

QUESTIONS ANSWERED ?

*HaiYing X, Year 8 - 50*

*Dimka N, Year 10 - 31*

*Lacey-Leigh P, Year 10 - 31*

'Excellence in the Heart of the C-PIC-COLLAGE



# 100% Attendance!

On Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September, pupils from across the year groups at Hillside attended the Liverpool Legends game at Anfield stadium. Liverpool were playing against Manchester United and came from behind to win the game 2-1. The pupils who attended were drawn from a hat as they all have 100% attendance in school this year. A good time was had by all. Make sure that you keep your 100% attendance target in mind as there will be more exciting opportunities available throughout the year, available to pupils who meet this target. Hillside 100, you have to be in it to win it.

*Mr Smith*

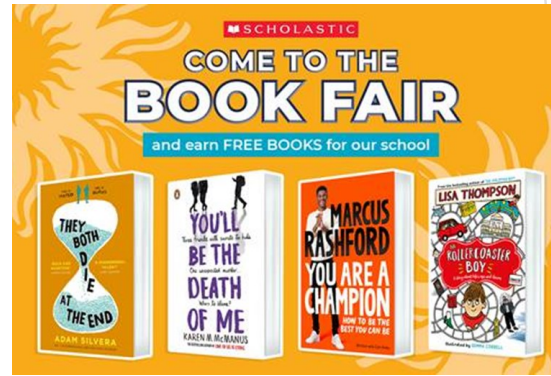


**WELL DONE!**

## Come to our Book Fair!

We are excited to announce that Hillside will once again be hosting the Scholastic Book Fair. This will take place in the main foyer of the school from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>-Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October. Each class in Years 7, 8 and 9 will get the opportunity to visit the fair during lesson time and to fill out a 'book wish' slip to be entered into a prize draw to win a free book. Pupils can purchase books at lunchtime and at the end of each day during the week; these purchases can be made by cash or card. You are more than welcome to come to the book fair yourself at the end of the day to make a purchase for your child. Every purchase made at the book fair will contribute to free books for our school, so thank you in advance for your support.

*Mr Gibaud*



### Year 11 Key Exam Dates

In response to pupils feedback we have scheduled 3 opportunities to complete practice exams in English and Maths.

- w/b 26.09.22 English and Maths Predictor Exams
- w/b 28.11.22 until the end of term Predictor exams for all subjects
- 19.01.23 Predictor exam results day
- 19.01.23 English and maths parent/guardian progress meetings
- w/b 06.03.23 English and Maths Predictor Exams
- w/b 15.05.23 provisional date for the GCSE exams beginning

Additional support will be put in place each time we mark pupils practice exam papers.

**Make regular study the norm to reduce the bad stress**

Contact Year 11 Progress Leader Mrs Symes for any further information on [c.symes@hillsidehigh.co.uk](mailto:c.symes@hillsidehigh.co.uk)



### Year 11 GCSE Support

Additional study support includes:

- Period 6 lessons
- Saturday & Holiday School
- Parent support
- Fully Funded tuition
- Mindfulness and wellbeing support.
- One to one careers advice
- LRC open break, lunch and after school with tutors available for guidance and support.
- Fully funded revision guides for English, maths and science.
- Academic mentoring
- Free study resources
- Walk & Talk workshops

We offer a range of interventions, tuition programmes and additional support for pupils in Year 11.

**The most crucial part to success in Year 11 is 100% attendance to all lessons.**

Contact Year 11 Progress Leader Mrs Symes for any further information on [c.symes@hillsidehigh.co.uk](mailto:c.symes@hillsidehigh.co.uk)



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 of many issues 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 GROUP CHATS

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### BULLYING

Unkind comments or images which are purposely aimed at an individual can be shared freely in a group chat – allowing and often encouraging others to join in the bullying behaviour. If this content is shared in a group of their peers (especially a larger group), it serves to amplify the hurt, embarrassment, anxiety and isolation that the victim feels.

#### EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: starting a new group, for instance, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one child doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss or share images from an event that everyone else but them attended.

#### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by your child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some chat apps have a disappearing message function, so your child may be unable to report something they've seen because it can only be viewed once or for a short time.

#### SHARING GROUP CONTENT

It's important to remember that – while the content of the chat is private between those in the group – individual users can easily share a message, photo or video with others outside of the group or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something your child intended as private becoming public (and potentially going viral) is higher if there are people they don't know well in the group.

#### UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Within larger group chats, it's more likely your child will be communicating with people they don't really know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly toward your child. It's wise for young people not to share personal details and stay aware that they have no control over the messages and images they share after they've put them online.

#### NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications. Every time someone in the group messages, your child's device will be 'pinged' with an alert: potentially, this could mean hundreds of notifications a day. Not only is this highly distracting, but young people's fear of missing out on the latest conversation results in increased screen time as they try to keep up with the chat.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

#### CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats are often an arena for young people to gain social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse, which could upset others in the group. Encourage your child to consider how other people might feel if they engaged in this behaviour. If your child does upset a member of their group chat, support them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

#### GIVE SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Remind your child that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded in a group chat, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their hurt feelings and help to put them back in control by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. On a related note, you could also empower your child to speak up if they're in a chat where others are being picked on.

#### BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If your child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block the users sending the material, report them to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could be putting a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise to your child that it's OK for them to simply leave any group chat that they don't feel comfortable being a part of.

#### PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Discuss the importance of not revealing identifiable details like their address, their school or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they lose control of where it may end up and how it might be used.

#### AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their true identity to gain a child's trust – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure your child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and, especially, to never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

#### SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Having a phone or tablet bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be a massive irritation and distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to your child that they can still be part of the group chat, but that it would be healthier for them to turn off or mute the notifications and catch up with the conversation at a time which better suits them.

### 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.



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