

Hillside News



Hillside Values

- Trying our best every day.
- Kindness and honesty always.
- Working as a Hillside Team.
- Using good manners.

Headteacher update:

Nursery have begun their topic of Space and have been busy learning about how astronauts travel into space as well as lots of new vocabulary linked to the topic. The role play has been very popular where we have been blasting off into space to see all of the planets. In maths they have been creating stories by sequencing and in literacy they have been learning the story roaring rockets.

Reception have been introduced to the story Oliver's Vegetables and have been talking about the vegetables they like. They also wrote about what they did during the half-term holidays, and in Maths they have been looking at the numbers 9 and 10.

Year 1 have had a fantastic week back. In English they have found sticks and used them in lots of different ways like a walking stick, a lollypop and even a wobbly bridge. They have then created a class book of sticks! In maths they have been introduced to counting to 50. They are doing amazingly at counting up but find counting back a little trickier- but they will get there! In design and technology they have experimented with how to make a structure stable by adding weights to get ready for creating their own pencil pot next week!

This week in Year 2, the children have been working very hard. In Maths, they have been learning to tell the time. The children have practised reading o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to on analogue clocks. They have also been solving simple word problems about time, such as working out when something finishes or how long an activity lasts. In English, the children have been writing factual sentences about the Amazon rainforest. They have learnt about the animals, climate and layers of the rainforest, and have written clear sentences using capital letters and full stops. Some children have added extra information to their sentences using conjunctions such as and and because. Well done, Year 2, for a fantastic week of learning!

Well done to Rosie, Marnie, Aleksander, Maya and Charlie who all participated in dance competitions last week. We are really proud of you all!

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Mrs Rebecca Fennell

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Rfennell'.

Headteacher

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General Information

Exciting News – Our New School Website Is Live!

We are delighted to share that our brand-new school website is now live! The site has been completely refreshed to make it easier for families to find everything they need in one convenient place. You'll find the latest news and updates, along with direct links to Hillside's social media pages to help you stay connected with school life. Our interactive calendar allows parents and carers to subscribe and sync events directly to their personal devices. The calendar also includes correspondence that has been sent home relating to individual events, ensuring that all important information is stored in one easy-to-access location.

A key feature of the new website is the Home Learning section. Here, parents can find guidance on how to support their child's learning at home, including curriculum information, helpful resources, and practical ideas to reinforce learning beyond the classroom. We are committed to working in partnership with families, and this section has been designed to make that support clear and accessible.

We encourage everyone to explore the new website and make full use of these helpful features.

Star Readers

A huge well done to **Purple Class**, who were awarded the Star Reader Cup in this morning's assembly!. This week, 67% of children in **Purple Class** read three times or more at home and recorded it in their reading records. Fantastic effort — keep up the great reading, **Purple class**.



Book Week

Next week is Book Week in school, ending on Friday 6th March with our exciting **Dress-Up Day!** Information about all the events taking place — including our special themed lunch menu on Thursday — has already been sent home. Please ensure you have updated your child's lunch order for **5th March via SchoolGrid**. If you are unsure or need further details, please visit our website: www.hillsideinfant.org.uk We're looking forward to a fantastic week celebrating reading!

Cake Sale – Friday 6th March

To celebrate the end of Book Week, we will be holding a Cake Sale on Friday 6th March at 3:15pm at the main entrance. We can't have a cake sale without cake — and we need your help! If you are able to bake and donate some treats, we would be extremely grateful. If baking isn't possible, shop-bought cakes are very welcome too. All proceeds from the sale will go towards raising vital funds for our school. If you are able to help set up or run the cake stall, please contact the school office. Thank you for your continued support!

Eat Them to Defeat Them – Season 8

Season 8 launches on 2nd March 2026! Did you know that 80% of children in the UK are not eating enough vegetables, with one third eating less than one portion of vegetables a day? Next week, we will be taking part in the Veg Hunters programme as part of the national Eat Them to Defeat Them campaign. Children will have the opportunity to try a range of exciting vegetables and take part in fun activities designed to encourage healthy eating habits.

For more information about the campaign, please visit: <https://eatthemtodefearthem.com/>

Let's work together to help our children become vegetable champions!

Nursery Admissions – September 2026

Does your child — or do you know a child — who will turn three before 31 August 2026? If so, they will be eligible to start Nursery in September 2026. Applications can be made directly via our website: www.hillsideinfant.org.uk The deadline for applications is the end of March. Applications received after this date will still be processed; however, those submitted by the deadline will be given priority. If you have any questions about the admissions process, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

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Healthy Eating & Birthday Book Donations

This week we would like to wish a very Happy Birthday to **Delilah, Esmerelda** and **Diego** who recently celebrated their special day!. As part of our Birthday Book Scheme, they kindly donated the following books to our school:

Honesty is my Superpower by Alicia Ortego
The Snow Queen by Hans Christian Andersens
The Very Hungry Worry Monster by Lara Ede & Rosie Greening



Important Dates

March	2 nd – 6 th March		Book Week
	Wednesday 4th		Author Visit - World book Week
	Thursday 5th		Special Menu World Book Day
	Friday 6th	3:15pm	Cake sale
	Friday 6th		World book day dress up day as an animal from a book
	Wednesday 11th	9am	Parent and Carer Coffee Morning with Mrs Fennell
	16th - 20th		Science Week
	Tuesday 17th	3:30pm - 7pm	Progress meetings – Reception, Year 1 & Year 2
	Tuesday 17th	1pm-4pm	Nursery Progress meeting (Frogs)
	Wednesday 18th	1pm-4pm	Nursery Progress meeting (ladybirds)
	Thursday 19th	3:30-5:30pm	Progress meeting - Reception, Year 1 & Year 2
	Thursday 19th	1pm-4pm	Nursery Progress meeting (Butterflies)
	Thursday 19th		Sublime Science Day
	Friday 20th	9am	Green Class assembly
	Monday 23rd	9.15	Hearing & Vision for Reception
	Wednesday 25th		School Nurse Reception Height and Weight Measurements
	Wednesday 25th		Year 1 - RAF Museum Trip
	Thursday 26th		Easter Bonnet Competition
	Thursday 26th	11:30am/3:30pm	Nursery term ends
	Friday 27th	1:30pm	Term Ends (no afterschool club)
Easter Holidays			
Monday 30th March – Friday 10th April			
Summer term			
April	17th April		Year 2 Pedestrian training
	22nd April		Class photos

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Achievements

<u>Nursery Superstars:</u>	<u>Purple Class Super Stars:</u>	<u>Red Class Super Stars:</u>
Archie	Esmeralda	Alice
Yuvigna	Benjamin	Maya
Naomi	De'andre	Rafael
	<u>Blue Class Super Stars:</u>	<u>Green Class Super Stars:</u>
	Reyaan	Luna
	Olivia	Eduardo
	Zaviya	Matteo
<u>Lunchtime Awards</u>	<u>Gold Class Super Stars:</u>	<u>Silver Class Super Stars:</u>
Gabriel	Emanuel	Marisa
Bianca	Virali	Nathaniel
	Eva	Matei
<u>Bonze awards</u>	<u>Bronze awards</u>	<u>Silver awards</u>

Weekly Class Attendance

Each week we award the class with the highest attendance. We aim for at least 96% attendance, as regular attendance helps children feel secure, build friendships, and make the most of their learning opportunities, supporting their wellbeing and overall development. This week, **Nursery All Day Class** were awarded the Attendance Bunny with 99.3% attendance. Well done, **Nursery All Day!**

GOLD CLASS 96.4%
SILVER CLASS 98 %
RED CLASS 92.1%
GREEN CLASS 94.6%
PURPLE CLASS 96.8%
BLUE Class 92.7%
N ALL DAY 99.3%
NAM 90.2%
NPM 95.1%

Attendance Ladder

