

Hillside Newsletter

Rushey Way, Lower Earley, Reading, RG6 4HQ. Tel 0118 9755771



October 09 2018

Headteacher

Mrs Morris

Deputy Head

Mr Pearman

Assistant Head

Mrs Dixon

Foundation Leader

Mrs Attewell

Phase 1 Manager (Y1-3)

Mrs Cairney (Y2)

Phase 2 Manager (Y4-6)

Miss Ezard (Y5)

**Inclusion Manager
(SENCo)**

Mrs T Clarke

Letters recently sent out:

- Year 1 Research Study
- PTA School Disco
- Year 2 Swimming
- Year 5 Swimming

Head's Update:

Dear Parents and Carers,

There's lots to celebrate and share with you in this news update.

Firstly, congratulations to our year 3 and 4 football team who were the winners of their group in the Wokingham Football Tournament, and are through to the next round of the competition. Well done to all involved and a great celebration of collaboration.

Last week, it was wonderful to invite extended family members for our Grandparents event. It was fabulous listening to grandparents reading their favourite stories, sharing photographs of when they were younger and taking part in arts and crafts activities. Grandparents travelled far and wide to take part in the event and stories were read in several languages. Thank you to Miss Ezard and Mrs Cairney for organising the event.

I appreciate that there were some disappointed grandparents who turned up on the day, or submitted their reply slips late and were unable to join in the event. I understand that this must have been frustrating, but for safeguarding and organisation purposes we had no choice. We had the exact number of chairs and tables set out and class lists had been organised with which children were coming out of class. Please note deadline dates for future events as we have to prioritise the safeguarding and organisation of pupils to ensure events run smoothly and safely.

Thank you to our PTA for holding a successful AGM. It was fantastic to see new faces join and to hear how much money you have raised for the school.

WE NEED YOU

We are recruiting for volunteers to hear children read during the afternoons. If you or your relatives can offer anything from an hour each week we will offer training and support to hear reading. As you will have read in previous newsletters, reading is one of our school improvement priorities and part of our work is to ensure all children read frequently and we need your help with this. Please let your child's class teacher know if you can help.

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There will be a training session on '**hearing children read**' on Friday 2nd November at 2.30pm and Thursday 8th November at 2.30pm, ready to start hearing readers after half term. Hearing children read is such a pleasurable activity and I'm sure you will enjoy it as much as the children will enjoy reading to you.

PTA

The PTA School Disco is on Tuesday 16th October. The PTA will be available Tuesday 9th – Friday 12th October from 3.00-3.30pm under the gazebo, next to the Tyres, for you to purchase tickets. Alternatively, you can put the money in a clearly marked sealed envelope in the post box outside the school office. No change will be given.

Reminders

Once again we will be acting as a donation point for this fantastic charity. A box will be in the front reception from **18th October**, with a list of new or 'as new' toys and gifts that are suitable for children aged 0-16 years. For example, colouring pens, crayons, colouring books, Art and Craft items, cuddly toys, games, hats, gloves, sports equipment, sweets, chocolates etc. Also, vouchers for teenagers, bags, make-up and more...

HELP!!!

This is a strange item to have in our newsletter but I need to send out a plea hoping you, or someone you know, can help the school. For many years, we have needed to replace the windows in one of the Year 4 and one of the Year 5 classes and also the Year 4 and 5 external doors. These are the few remaining windows and doors that were not replaced during our expansion 6 years ago and are getting to be beyond repair. Unfortunately, we do not have the budget to replace these items and Mrs Morsman, our School Business Manager, has been tirelessly writing to local companies to see if they could help us to replace the items, even if not all immediately, then on a gradual replacement programme, however so far nobody is able to support our request. As you will see from the doors on this side of the school, they are in poor condition, and the windows are rotting and let in very little ventilation, which meant those classes were unbearably hot during the Summer term.

Can you, your company help us by sponsoring a window? If you can, we will be happy to advertise your business on our website and our Facebook page. If we get enough sponsors, we will also advertise on a banner outside the school entrance. Please contact finance@hillside.wokingham.sch.uk.

Thank You

Thank you to Ms Denyer for donating two Android tablets to the school. We will be getting these set up to support the learning of specific children at Hillside.

Thank you for your support with the Book Fair last week, we made £1345 with roughly £560 for Hillside to spend on books for the school!



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Upcoming Events:

Date	Event	Date	Event
8 th – 12 th Oct	Year 6 Bikeability	18 th Oct	Y1 – Walk around Earley trip - Geography
11 th & 12 th Oct	School Photographer	18 th Oct	Y3 – Trip to Pitts River Museum
12 th Oct	Y5 Cake Sale – 3.10pm – 3.30pm	19 th Oct	Y2 Cake Sale – 3.10pm – 3.30pm
15 th Oct	Nursery Open Evening – 4.00-7.00pm	22 nd – 26 th Oct	HALF TERM
16 th Oct	PTA School Disco	29 th Oct	INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
16 th Oct	Allotment AGM – 7.00-8.45pm (Family Centre)		

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is protecting vulnerable children or adults from abuse or neglect. It means making sure people are supported to get good access to an education, health care and stay well. It is making sure that people are supported to have full and happy lives. Safeguarding should make sure that people get the support they need to make the most of their lives and get their full equal rights.

If you have any concerns about a child's safety, please speak to one of our Safeguarding Leads.

Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility.

Safeguarding Leads

Mrs Morris
Mr Pearman
Mrs Attewell
Miss Czornij

Plea – We are after any children's audio CDs to encourage a thirst for reading. We are asking for any unwanted audio books. Please drop any donations to the school office for Mr Pearman. Thank you.