

28th March 2017

Dear Parents and Carers.

It was wonderful to see so many families at our recent parents' evening. We hope you enjoyed viewing your children's work and found the meeting with your child's class teacher useful. If you have not yet been able to meet, please contact your child's class teacher to arrange a mutually convenient time.

As you will be aware, this half term's value has been **Learning**. As part of embedding this value, as a whole school, we have been focusing on the function of the brain, what the different parts of the brain are responsible for and how to keep our brain healthy, your children may have come home to discuss this with you. I especially hope your children have discussed the evidence on how the brain reacts to screens and how this impacts on sleep and learning. We have challenged our Phase 2 children to act responsibly and not have screens (TVs/iPads/kindles/x box/phones etc.,) an hour before they sleep. We hope you are able to help us with this. We would love to know your views on this and whether you notice a difference. Next term's value is **Independence** and the focus will be responsibility. Please see the values newsletter for more information.

Thank you for all you contributions for Comic Relief. We managed to raise £ 256.38.

We have been modelling one of our values, the value of collaboration across some of our local schools including Hawkedon and Radstock. Alongside Hillside, various staff have been working collaboratively to improve our approaches to teaching. Last week, Years 2, 6 and EYFS met to quality assure assessment levels, and other staff have met regarding different projects including improving reading systems and marking and feedback. This collaboration (HRH) has proved to be very beneficial as staff are able to learn from each other.

Finally, on behalf of all the staff at Hillside we wish you a wonderful Spring holiday.

**Mrs Morris** 

Headteacher

### **LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Headteacher
Mrs N Morris
Deputy Headteacher (Acting)
Mr D Pearman
Leader of Teaching and Learning
Miss A Barnwell
Leader of Early Years
Mrs M Attewell
School Business Manager
Mrs J Morsman

#### **MANAGEMENT TEAM**

Mr D Pearman

Manager of Foundation
Mrs C Srodawa
Manager of Phase 1
Mrs L Short
Manager of Phase 2
Miss E Crye
SAFE GUARDING OFFICERS
Mrs N Morris

### REMINDERS

#### **CAR PARK**

Taxi' are **NOT** allowed into the car park during pick up/ drop off times as this causes congestion at these busy periods.

#### YEAR 3

Parents please stay with your child until the doors are opened by a member of staff at the start of the day for both Health & Safety and Safeguarding purposes.

### **SWIMMING KIT**

Please note that telephone calls will **NOT** be made to parents for forgotten swimming kit. Your child will still have to walk to the centre to watch the rest of the class.

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



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## YEAR 4/5 PRODUCTION — Alice

The Year 4/5 production of 'Alice the musical' was fantastic. The children thoroughly enjoyed performing to their audience and it shows how we definitely have some X Factor auditionees in the midst.

Thank you also to the parents for some truly amazing costumes.



## WASMA—(<u>W</u>okingham <u>A</u>rea <u>S</u>chools <u>M</u>usic <u>A</u>ssociation)

On Sunday 19th March, 13 of our children performed with many other Wokingham schools at The Hexagon. We had 3 soloists and a dance group who all performed to an audience of 1,200 people.

Well done to all of the children and a big 'Thank You' to Mrs Cairney who helped to organise this event for our children.



#### YEAR 4 WATER CYCLES

Year 4 found out all about Water cycles and made these wonderful models.









### **SCHOOL DINNERS**

Unfortunately we have a number of debtors on our school dinner accounts. When pupils go into debt the school is liable for settlement.

In the last year it has cost us over **£500** to settle outstanding payments.

As we are sure you will all appreciate, school budgets are already limited and we cannot afford to lose revenue to cover these debts.

Effective from 18 April 2017, we will **NO LONGER** be able to provide school dinners where accounts do not have a credit balance.

Please ensure you check your child's account regularly and keep it topped up.

#### **REMINDER**

### **INSET DAY**

Friday 31st March is an INSET Day so school is closed. The first day back of the Summer Term is Tuesday 18th April 2017.

Please be reminded we have new Facebook and Twitter pages. Please follow us.





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#### **VACANCY**

We currently have a vacancy for a:

Clerk to Governors, required to work approximately 80-100 hours per year, payable at Grade 5 enhanced hourly rate of between £11.96 - £13.12 dependent upon experience.

We are looking for an experienced Clerk for our Governing Body. The successful candidate will be required to prepare for, attend and produce accurate minutes for approximately 3 evening meetings per half term (approximately every 6 weeks during term time); provide full support service and advice to the Governing Body; maintain confidentiality at all times; liaise with the School Business Manager to ensure that all Governance procedures are maintained to SVFS standards. Training and support will be provided.

#### **THANK YOU**

I would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents who came into read in their home language. The children thoroughly enjoyed listening to the stories.

#### AFTERSCHOOL CLUB

We are delighted to be starting our own AfterSchool Club from Tuesday 18 April 2017.

The Club is open Monday-Friday , term time only, from 3.15pm - 6.00pm and offers up to 30 pre booked places.

The cost is £3.75 per hour (or part of) per child and includes a drink and snack. Children who are booked for the whole session will be offered a nutritionally balanced healthy tea between 4.40pm-5.10pm.

The Club will be run by two existing members of Hillside Staff and three Reading University students who we have appointed after a successful interview process.

We aim to provide a welcoming, safe, stimulating and fun environment with equipment for both indoor and outdoor play, arts & crafts and a homework/quiet reading area.

For an application pack please contact the school office.



Dates to remember			
Date	Event	Date	Event
30th March	Last day of term	15th May	Y6 residential talk to parents
			3.30pm-4.00pm
31st March	INSET DAY (school closed)	18th May	Celebrating Diversity Evening
			6.00pm-7.30pm
18th April	Summer 1 Term starts	26th May	INSET DAY (school closed)
19th April	Y6 SATs Talk to parents	29th May-2nd June	HALF TERM
	6.00pm-7.00pm		
1st May	MAY DAY HOLIDAY	5th June	Summer 2 Term starts
	(school closed)		
12th May	FS Parent Assembly 9.15am—9.45am	22nd June	Y2 Parent Assembly 9.00am-9.30am

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### **OPEN EVENINGS**

The following schools have informed us that they will be holding the following Open Evenings for current Year 5 pupils/parents, who will be joining Secondary School in September 2018.

**KENDRICK SCHOOL, London Road, RG1 5BN—**a girl's state school with academy status, and a successful 'outstanding' school.

Open Evening to be held on THURSDAY 27th APRIL 2017, 5.00pm-8.00pm

See website for further details— www.kendrick.reading.sch.uk

**READING SCHOOL, Erleigh Road, RG1 5LW—**a boy's state school for academically able boys.

Open Evening to be held on THURSDAY 27th APRIL 2017, 3.00pm—7.30pm

See website for further details—www.reading-school.co.uk

#### PTA

The 'Trolls' Cinema Night was a great success with over 200 children attending and a fantastic £ 643.53 raised!

Confirmed upcoming events are:

'Mini' Spring Fair—Friday 28th April

3.00pm-4.30pm

Disco—Thursday 25th May

Summer Fair—Saturday 1st July

Please look out for the PTA Newsletter which will contain all the details for the above after the Easter break.

### **GETTING TO KNOW YOU**

5 minutes with ...... Mrs Smith

Length of time at Hillside: 2 years 9 months

If you were not a Parent Support Advisor what would you be? A Detective

Favourite past time: Spending time with my family

Favourite meal: Liver, Bacon, mashed potato,

peas and gravy

Favourite film: Dumbo

Favourite book: Tuesdays with Morrie

Strange fact: I was a Disco Dancing Champion in

1978 with Len Goodman School of

Dancing.

Any pets: No