

# Hillside Newsletter



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

**February 22 2018**

**Headteacher**

Mrs Morris

**Deputy Head**

Mr Pearman

**Foundation Leader**

Mrs Attewell

**Phase 1 Manger (Y1-3)**

Mrs Short (Y1)

**Phase 2 Manger (Y4-6)**

Mrs Sheriff (Y6)

**Inclusion Manager**

**(SENCo)**

Mrs T Clarke

**Parent Support Advisor**

Mrs Horwood

## **Letters recently sent out:**

- Year 5 Residential –  
Whitemead Forest Park
- 500 Words Story Competition
- Mother's Day Secret Present  
Room
- Year 4 Residential
- Year 5 Mayan Day Visitor
- Year 6 Expectations Parent  
Talk
- Year 6 Residential – Call of  
the Wild

## **Head's Update:**

Dear Parents

There has been such a positive response to the last News Letter, requesting your support with improving reading outcomes and progress for your children. Thank you to all the parents that have taken on board the recommendations and are listening to your children read more frequently and using the pre-learning regularly.

Book week is fast approaching, and during this special event we will be focusing on stories from around the world. To launch this event, we are having some professional African story tellers and drumming workshops for each year group. A letter with more details will be sent out shortly.

Finally, as you are aware we practised our Lockdown Procedure before Half-Term. Please be reassured that this was practised in a very supportive and low key manner and the children responded with a very calm and sensible attitude. This will be a procedure, like our Fire evacuation procedure, that we will practice regularly throughout the year.

## **NSPCC**

The NSPCC returned to school before half term to thank the children for their amazing fundraising. Together you raised £1399, which is so important to the charity. The children at Hillside have benefitted from the initial assemblies led by the NSPCC, not just the work they do to support children affected by abuse but also in terms of keeping themselves safe and understanding the potential dangers regarding social media. You can see that without the fundraising, it would be difficult for the charity to do their work so a huge thank you.

## **Punctuality**

Please be reminded that your children must be in school for 8:50 am. The classroom doors open at 8:45 am (Foundation at 8:40am) to allow you to drop off siblings before registration begins. Arriving a few minutes late to school doesn't seem like much, but when we ask the children how they feel about being late, this is what they say.....



**WOKINGHAM  
BOROUGH COUNCIL**



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'I miss the beginning of the lesson so I don't understand what the lesson is about'

'I feel different to everyone else'

'I feel embarrassed when I walk into the class late'

'Everyone stares at me if I'm late'

From a teacher's point of view, it interrupts the learning of others and means they have to spend time going over the start of the lesson so the late children understand the objective. We often have to console upset children as they don't like being late.

I'm sure you will join us in wanting all our children to be in school on time, to avoid feeling like some of our children have described above. We can all run late on occasions, but persistent absence can really affect children's achievements and well-being and we monitor this very carefully. With this in mind, and as it is statutory for children to arrive to school on time, we will be meeting with all parents who arrive late to discuss improving punctuality. Thank you to the many, many parents that do respect punctuality and being in school on time to start lessons.

## **Reminders**

### **Secure Post Box**

Please can we remind parents to use our secure post box located on the wall outside of reception. You can put all of your return slips for trips, payments, uniform requests, absence requests etc. in the post box, which is locked and emptied twice daily at 9.30am and 3.45pm. Any items put in the post box should be sealed and clearly labelled. This will reduce your queuing time in the reception area, which is often very busy at these times. Can you also please ensure that any money given into the school office is placed in a clearly marked envelope. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

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## **Mother's Pamper Morning/Afternoon**

To show we appreciate all you lovely Mums, we would like to invite you to our Mothers Pamper Day. There are two opportunities for you to come and be pampered by your children. Due to limited spaces and not wishing to impact on teaching and learning time, tickets will be given on a first come, first served basis. The sessions will take place at 9.15am and 2.45pm and drink, biscuit and a massage will be provided by your child/children. A letter providing more details and a reply slip will be sent home separately.

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## Upcoming Events:

Date	Event	Date	Event
26 <sup>th</sup> February	Nursery Open Evening 3.30pm – 7.00pm	1 <sup>st</sup> March	World Book Day (Dress up)
27 <sup>th</sup> February – 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Travelling Book Fair	2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Year 2 trip to Marwell Zoo
1 <sup>st</sup> March 6pm	Year 6 Expectations Talk for parents	9 <sup>th</sup> March	Mums pamper morning/afternoon
2 <sup>nd</sup> March 3:30pm	Year 6 Expectations Talk for parents	11 <sup>th</sup> March	WASMA at the Hexagon

## Leighton Park

Interested families from Hillside Primary School are warmly invited to any or all of these events. Places can be booked online at [www.leightonpark.com/visitus](http://www.leightonpark.com/visitus), by calling 0118 987 9608 or by emailing [admissions@leightonpark.com](mailto:admissions@leightonpark.com).

Event	Date	Time
Weekday Open Morning	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	10.30am-12.30am
Weekday Open Morning	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	10.30am-12.30pm
Taster Day for Year 7	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	8.15am-3.25pm/6.00pm

## Weekday Open Mornings

Our weekday open mornings include a pupil led tour, an opportunity to meet staff and students within different departments and talks by the Head, Nigel Williams, and the Head of Lower School (Years 7-8), Adrian Stewart.

## Taster Day for Year 7 Entry

Every year we offer children from Years 4, 5 and 6, who may be considering joining us in Year 7, the opportunity to visit Leighton Park for a Taster Day. This is a chance to sample life on the Park and to learn something new in the classroom, whilst getting to know the school and the people who may become future friends and teachers. The Taster Day runs from 8.15am with a flexible pick up time of either 3.25pm or 6.00pm.

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## Safeguarding

Safeguarding is protecting vulnerable adults or children 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 Leads

Mrs Morris  
Mr Pearman  
Mrs Attewell  
Miss Czornij