



Thursday 18th December 2025

Headteacher's Bulletin

With kindness, respect and gratitude, together we aim high in all we do

Dear Families,

Our Autumn Term 2025 has come to a joyful and festive close!

We hope the children have loved taking part in our Key Stage 1 Nativity, "Born in a Barn", and the Key Stage 2 Pantomime, "Aladdin Trouble". They truly are a talented bunch, and these performances will be wonderful additions to their happy school memories. Today, the fun continued with Chaplins' Visiting Panto—something I'm sure you'll hear all about later! Not forgetting the surprise visit of a certain Father Christmas at the KS1 Christmas party.

Tomorrow, we invite all Hillside families to join us for **Carols Around the Tree at 1:00pm**. We hope this will be a lovely way to end the term together.

A heartfelt thank you for the thoughtful gifts and cards given to staff from children and families—we truly appreciate your kindness.

Please also take a few moments to complete this [parent survey](#). Your feedback is invaluable in helping us celebrate what's working well and identify ways we can make Hillside even better.

Finally, on behalf of the entire Hillside team of staff and governors, I'd like to wish our extended Hillside family—parents, grandparents, volunteers, staff, and most importantly, our amazing children—a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday, 6th January 2026.



More
performance
photos on last
page

Reception 26 Admissions

Please note that the admissions deadline for places in for our Reception 2026 class is the 15th January. Information on key dates can be accessed [here](#) and applications can be accessed [here](#).

A special tribute

We are proud to share a lasting tribute to our dear friend and longstanding governor, Terry O'Neill, who sadly passed away earlier this year. Terry's dedication and support for Hillside over many years made a significant difference to our school community, and we wanted to honour his memory in a meaningful way.

This week, Terry's wife Margret O'Neill joined Ted and Kate (Year 2), along with our Chair of Governors Jo Taylor, to unveil a commemorative plaque and a sapling Christmas tree planted next to our school sign on Chester Road. This tribute will serve as a reminder of Terry's commitment and kindness for generations to come.

We are grateful to Mark Edwards at Baines Memorials and Frodsham Christmas Trees at Dobers Farm who helped make this possible and hope that this special place will bring comfort and inspiration to all who pass by.





180 Christmas Dinners!

Last Wednesday, our super Kitchen team served our children and staff over 180 Christmas Dinners—thanks to Stacey and team. Thanks also to Friends of Hillside for providing Christmas crackers.



Rocksteady!

On Monday, we were treated to a thumping performance of Rock classics from our three RockSteady Bands.



Jay's Guitarists and Violists

Last Friday, our guitarists and violinist performed a magical medley of Christmas hits at our celebration assembly. Thanks Jay for leading and supporting them so well.



Jacob (Y5)

Congratulations to Jacob Kendrick was awarded the school's season ticket for Cheshire Phoenix basketball match last Sunday for an excellent attitude towards PE and always giving 100% effort.



We are always very happy to share our talented children's in and out-of-school achievements.



Eryn (Y6)

Well done to Eryn who won a silver medal at her Gymfinity gymnastics competition last week and is quite rightly feeling very proud!

Indy (Y5)

We are pleased to share that despite not winning, Indy's Four Villages T-Shirt design has received a special commendation from the organisers at Helsby running Club. They will be visiting school shortly to give the school and Indy a prize.



Ho Ho Helsby Returns with Hillside in Full Festive Spirit

After last year's weather forced the cancellation of HoHo Helsby, we were thrilled to take part again this year. With a magical 'Narnia' theme, the Hillside float proudly paraded a record 50 Hillsiders, spreading festive joy throughout the village.

At St Paul's, our choir gave a brilliant performance alongside our younger Singalong group, delighting the audience with seasonal songs. A huge thank you to Hillside staff who make all this possible and to Jacky Keating, who hosted the musical programme at St Paul's and led our Hillside band—bringing festive cheer to everyone in attendance.



Thank you!

Being a central part of our community, supporting family and friendships is an important part of our school vision. We would like to thank the following members of our community for making our Ho Ho involvement possible:

- ◆ Mark Avis for the use of the float, hay bales Tractor and float assembly
- ◆ Ann Faulkner for the use of Meadow Farm to assemble the float and provide staff with mince pies.
- ◆ Jacky Keating for hosting the St Paul's music performances.
- ◆ Friends of Hillside who raised £370 on the Teddy Tombola at the scout hut and Mrs Potts for organising.
- ◆ Hillside staff who worked late on the Thursday before setting the float up and Sunday morning for taking it all down!
- ◆ Staff and volunteers who kept our children safe both on the float and marshalling.





Festive Fun Run Success

Last Friday, the whole school enjoyed a magical moment with (fake) snow as everyone took part in the Hospice of the Good Shepherd Festive Fun Run. A huge thank you for your generous donations to this wonderful local charity, and special thanks to Mrs Cooke and Mr Newman for spreading festive cheer in their Santa suits!



Good luck Steve!

We wanted to thank Steve Roberts for teaching piano lessons here at Hillside for over 10 years. Jacky Keating will be taking over with Steve's pianists in January.

Friends of Hillside:

Thank you to Michelle, Holly, and all the FOH parent volunteers who have organised so many fantastic fundraising events this year—and of course to all our families who have supported us by taking part. Your generosity has already helped Hillside purchase new computing equipment, a sensory light box, Geography, History, Literacy and phonics books, and contributed towards the cost of the pantomime (including ice creams). Please attached FOH newsletter.



We have recently acquired a few new Hillside parent volunteers. If you would like to join in the team effort, please get in touch.

friendsofhillsidefundraising@outlook.com

[Click here for school lottery!](#)



Contact details:

Please contact the school office to notify or request absence at: admin@hillside.cheshire.sch.uk

or call 01928 722 991

Website links: [School website](#) [Absence request](#)

[Administering medicine consent](#) [Lunch Menu](#)

[Family Support Information](#) [Full School Diary](#)

[Free School Meals](#)

Link Club

We now have places available in our before and after school provision. If you would like to use this provision or would like further information please email us at:

linkclub@hillside.cheshire.sch.uk more information can also be found on the [school website](#)





KS1:
Born in a Barn



KS2:
Alladin Trouble



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