



Headteacher's Bulletin

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

Headteacher's message:

Dear Families,

As we reach the end of the Spring term, it is a pleasure to reflect on the many experiences that have enriched school life so far in 2026. Recent academic assessments show strong progress for all our children, and I would like to thank parents for their continued support, particularly reflected in the excellent attendance at last week's parents' evenings.

Our pupils have enjoyed a range of wider learning and community opportunities, including performing in our Spring Music Concert and representing Hillside in sporting competitions. Educational visits have also been a highlight, with Reception enjoying their Airport trip, Years 2 and 4 attending their residentials, and Year 5 taking part in the Frodsham Easter Journey alongside a Helsby High School taster morning.

Earlier in March, we welcomed inspectors to Hillside for our OFSTED inspection. Thank you to parents for the feedback shared during this time. I am extremely proud of the collective effort of our Hillside team, who worked tirelessly to reflect the strengths of our school. The full inspection report will be available for families to read early next half term.

I am pleased to confirm that James Malam will continue as Parent Governor. We also welcome Ben Powell as a Co-opted Governor and Sophie Butterworth as our new Local Authority Governor.

From after the Easter break, the cost of paid school meals will increase to £3.30 to reflect rising costs. Link Club prices will remain unchanged. Information about Easter Holiday Clubs is available on the school website.

I am also pleased to share that both our school kitchen and our before- and after-school Link Club have maintained their 5 Star Hygiene Rating. Well done to both Stacey's and Gill's teams for retaining this high standard.

Finally, well done to Year 2 for achieving the best attendance (98.3%) in March and to Reception Class for having the fewest lates. Good attendance is vital for academic success, and we continue to value your support in ensuring every child has the best opportunity to learn.

I wish you all a very Happy Easter and a belated Eid Mubarak to our families who recently celebrated Ramadan.

We look forward to welcoming the children back into school on Monday 20th April.

Adam Khan—Headteacher



Financial Support

Families in receipt of free school meals will have been notified of the change to how they access Easter Break voucher support.

If you're not in receipt of Free Schools Meals but need help with a sudden financial crisis, you can apply for the Crisis and Resilience Fund from 1 April. More information about the Crisis and Resilience Fund, and how to apply from 1 April 2026, can be found here: [Crisis and Resilience Fund | Cheshire West and Chester Council](#)

If families require support now, they can also visit the Council's cost of living support webpages which bring together information about financial help, advice services, and emergency assistance: <https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/benefits-and-welfare-help/cost-of-living>

There is also support available through the Holiday Activities and Food Fund (HAF): [Cheshire West Holiday Activities and Food \(HAF\) Programme | Cheshire West and Chester Council](#)

And on Live Well Cheshire West where residents can search for a range of services including food provision, activities, and more: [Home | Live Well Cheshire West](#)

Attendance/ Illness/ Lates—Statutory Reminder

We further want to remind parents/carers that you must contact the school office using the attendance line or email admin@hillside.cheshire.sch.uk each day of the child absence due to illness.

You must state what symptoms your child has, when they started to feel unwell, if doctor's appointment has been made and when they are likely to return to school. If you just state poorly, ill or not well the school office staff will contact you for further information. Please do not notify your class teacher as they may not see the message and the school office will contact you.

If a child is expected to be absent for a reason other than for illness/medical reason, a request for a leave of absence form should be completed. This form will be reviewed by the headteacher prior to any holiday/time off.

Cheshire West and Chester Council may issue Fixed Penalty Notices, a new National Framework for Penalty Notices for School Absence came into effect on the 19th August 2024, more information is included in the attendance policy and letter to parents available on the website (link below). Please take this into consideration for any absence from school.

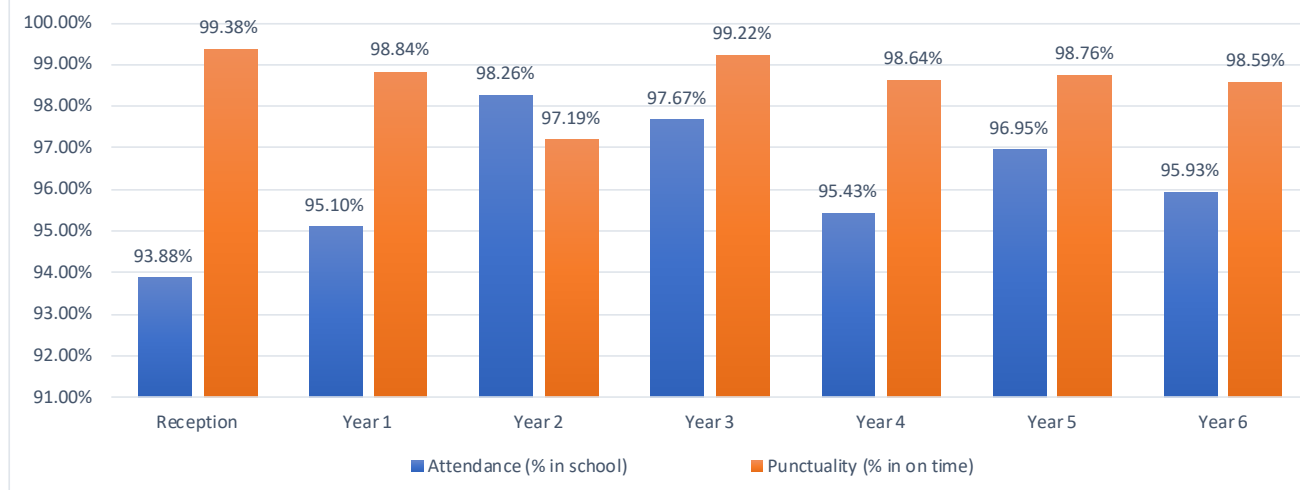
<https://www.helsbyhillside.co.uk/page/absence-and-illness-in-term-time-incl-forms-to-complete/5394>

Punctuality is important as arriving late can disrupt not only your child's learning but also that of their classmates. It can lead to missed learning, difficulty settling into the school day, and may cause your child to feel unsettled or self-conscious. **We kindly ask that you make every effort to ensure your child arrives on time, ready for registration at 8:45am.**

Important Dates:

01/04	Break up for Easter 2pm (after Family Easter Assembly 1pm).
20/04	Children back in for Summer 1 Term
22/04	Swimming sessions start for Y3/4
04/05	Bank Holiday Monday
08/05	Own Clothes Day (for FOH Spring Bingo)
11/05	Year 6 SATS Week
15/05	FOH Family Spring Bingo (After School)
22/05	School closes for Whit half Term at 3.15pm
01/06	Children back in for Summer 2 Term
02/06	Class Photos
08/06	Assessment Week
30/06	Sports' Day (02/07 reserve Sport's Day)
03/07 and 10/07	Own Clothes Days (for FOH Summer Fair Donations)
10/07	FOH Summer Fair
22/07	Break up for Summer Holidays at 2pm

March 2026 Attendance and Punctuality



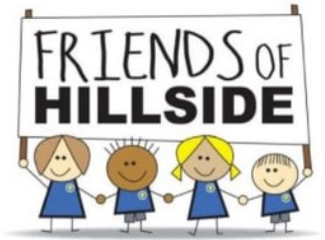
Friends of Hillside:

Thank you to everyone who has supported this term's Friends of Hillside (FOH) fundraising events. The after school Mother's Day Pop Up Shop was a great success, as was last week's Easter Tombola. Friends of Hillside aim to raise much needed funds to complement our children's school experience. They rely on the support of volunteer parents and are always keen to welcome new members. If you would like to join their team, please get in touch.

If you would like to support FOH by joining the school lottery, please use the link below.

friendsofhillsidefundraising@outlook.com

[Click here for school lottery!](#)



RAISE FUNDS BY COLLECTING REUSABLE CLOTHES

JOIN THE PROJECT TO ENTER

- ITEMS THAT CAN GO IN THE BAGS**
 - 1 ADULT AND CHILDREN CLOTHES
 - 2 BATH AND HAND TOWELS
 - 3 HANDBAGS & ACCESSORIES & BELTS
 - 4 PURSES AND WATCHES
 - 5 PAIRED, CLEAN UNDAMAGED SHOES
 - 6 JEWELLERY, COSMETICS (UNOPENED) AND ACCESSORIES
 - 7 UNWANTED GIFTS, PERFUMES & TOILETRIES, SOFT TOYS
- ITEMS THAT CAN'T GO IN THE BAGS**
 - 1 DIRTY, RIPPED OR WET CLOTHING, UNPAIRED SHOES
 - 2 WORK UNIFORMS, SCHOOL UNIFORMS & SPORTS SETS
 - 3 CARPETS, RUGS, MATS, CURTAINS, FANCY OUTFITS
 - 4 BRIC-A-BRAC, BOOKS & CDS/DVDS
 - 5 PLASTIC TOYS, BOARD GAMES & PUZZLES

IF YOU ARE UNSURE WHAT TO PUT IN THE BAGS STOP AND THINK WOULD YOU WEAR IT ?

PLEASE USE THE CLOTHING BAG PROVIDED.
YOU CAN ALSO USE ANY ADDITIONAL BAG IF REQUIRED.

COLLECTION DATE: **23rd April**

PLEASE REMEMBER - NO UNIFORM

To learn more about the Sammy's project and good causes he does, please go to www.donateclothes4sammy.org

is launched by Leukaemia & Myeloma Research
Project of the Children's Cancer Research Institute

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](#)



Chief Scouts

Well done to Josh, Kimaya and Tilly who received their Chief Scouts Silver Award – the highest achievement in Cubs. It's a testament to their determination, perseverance, and skill over many years and they should be incredibly proud!

Here they are all looking very proud around the campfire at Queen Charlotte's Wood (hence the dark background!).



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

Easter Break Activities:



Explore Nature, Art, Science and Technology across West Cheshire Museums at **Museum Explorers club!**

Come and make some exciting discoveries with us this Spring!

Victorian Toys: 8th April
Aboriginal Art: 15th April
11am-12pm & 12pm-1pm



Weaver Hall
Museum & Workhouse

Outstanding Owls: 9th April
Art Discover Day: 16th April
11am-12pm & 12pm-1pm



Grosvenor Museum

Eggy Experiments: 10th April
Investigating Seasons: 17th April
11am-12pm & 12pm-1pm



Lion Salt Works

Booking necessary, £5 per session. To book, pop in to see us or call:

Weaver Hall Museum: 01606 271646

Lion Salt Works: 01606 275066

Grosvenor Museum: 01244 972197

D.RSPORTS
Cheshire and South Education

ASHTON HAYES
PRIMARY SCHOOL

ASHTON HAYES EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB

ARTS, CRAFTS & SPORTS

6TH - 17TH



- **SCHOOL DAY**
8AM - 3.30PM
£25
- **EXTENDED DAY**
8AM - 4.30PM
£30
- **FULL DAY**
8AM - 6PM
£35

SIBLING DISCOUNT

20

% OFF

BOOK NOW - SPACES FILLING FAST!
DRSPORTSCLUBS.CO.UK
07739 424 270

West Cheshire Museums

CHILDRENS FREE CRAFTS

THIS SPRING BREAK!



Week 1

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday 7th & Wednesday 8th - Owl Masks @ Grosvenor Museum, Chester

Wednesday 8th & Thursday 9th - Easter baskets @ Lion Salt Works, Northwich

Thursday 9th & Friday 10th - Miniature hobby horse @ Weaver Hall Museum & Workhouse, Northwich

West Cheshire Museums

CHILDRENS FREE CRAFTS

THIS SPRING BREAK!



Week 2

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday 14th & Wednesday 15th - Story Cubes @ Grosvenor Museum, Chester

Wednesday 15th & Thursday 16th - Rainbows @ Lion Salt Works, Northwich

Thursday 16th & Friday 17th - Spring wreaths @ Weaver Hall Museum & Workhouse, Northwich