# Friday 23rd October 2026

# Headteacher's Newsletter

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

Dear Families,

It is hard to believe that we are already halfway through this half term. Since returning after the break, school has been full of energy, enthusiasm and plenty of memorable moments. It was wonderful to come together for our Harvest Service at St Paul's Church and to welcome so many parents into school for last week's parents' meetings. Thank you for the positive conversations, kind words and ongoing partnership. Working together makes such a difference to the children's experience at Hillside.

As always, there is lots to look forward to over the coming weeks. Parents and carers are strongly encouraged to attend our **Cyber Security Parent Information Session, led by Detective Andrew Kevan here at school at 2.15pm on Friday 13th November.** As technology continues to play an ever-greater role in children's lives, keeping them safe online has never been more important. This session will provide invaluable guidance, practical advice and up-to-date information about the online risks children may encounter. **Please note: this is a parent-only session and is not suitable for children.**

We are always looking for ways to make lunchtimes enjoyable, engaging and inclusive for all children. With limited playground space and the wetter weather approaching, we would love to expand the range of indoor activities available to our Key Stage 2 pupils. As many families may be having a pre-Christmas tidy-up, we wondered whether you might have any of the following items tucked away at home:

- Board games suitable for children aged 7-11
- LEGO sets or loose LEGO pieces
- Small world figures and accessories
- Other tabletop games and activities

These resources make a real difference and provide children with opportunities to develop friendships, creativity and problem-solving skills during some of their break times. If you have anything you would like to donate, please send it into the school office.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all families who have supported **Friends of Hillside** events so far this year. The Welcome BBQ and last night's School Disco were fantastic examples of our school community coming together, and we are incredibly grateful to the volunteers who give their time so generously. Please take a moment to read the latest Friends of Hillside newsletter to see more of the wonderful work they do in supporting our children and school.

We currently have a vacancy for a Parent Governor and would love to hear from anyone who may be interested in helping shape the future direction of Hillside. It is a rewarding opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to our school community. **Please email the office with your expression of interest and we will get in touch with you.**

As half term arrives, and after a week of blustery autumn weather, I would like to thank you for your continued support throughout what has been a busy and successful start to the school year. I hope you all enjoy a happy, healthy and restful break with family and friends, and **we look forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday 3rd November** for an exciting half term ahead.

Adam Khan **–** Headteacher

*Key Dates for the Second Half of Autumn Term*

| Date | Event |
|---|---|
| 10th November | Reception 2027 Open Morning |
| 12th November | Flu Vaccinations |
| 13th November | Parent Cyber Security Meeting - 2.15pm |
| 13th November | Children in Need – Spotty Non-Uniform Day |
| 19th November | Y3/4 Bikeability (19th – 25th November) |
| 20th November | Break the Rules Day |
| 2nd December | Year 2 Christmas Journey |
| 7th December | Reception 2027 Open Day |
| 9th December | Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day |
| 14th December | Rocksteady Christmas Concert – Invited families |
| 15th December | KS1 Nativity (2.00pm) and KS2 Production (6.00pm) – tickets tbc |
| 16th December | KS2 Production (2.00pm) and KS1 Nativity (6.00pm) – tickets tbc |
| 17th December | Family Celebration Assembly - Invited families |
| 18th December | Chaplin's Christmas Pantomime |
| 18th December | Carols Around the Tree (1.00pm) – all families welcome |
| 18th December | School Closes for Christmas (2.00pm) |