



# Hillside Specialist School & College

Providing exceptional education for all students

## MAY NEWSLETTER 2023

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 26 MAY - LAST DAY OF TERM 3.10pm finish
- 29 MAY-2 JUNE - HALF TERM
- 5 JUNE - SCHOOL RE-OPENS FOR PUPILS
- 20 JULY - LAST DAY OF TERM 3.10pm finish
- 21 JULY - INSET DAY
- 1 & 4 SEPTEMBER - INSET DAY
- 5 SEPTEMBER - SCHOOL REOPENS FOR PUPILS



## SchoolSpider

If your child is going to be absent from school it is important that you let school know the reason that they are not going to be in school.

You can let us know by completing an online absence form on school spider.

This can be completed at any time and school will get a notification.



What an amazing day we had for popstar day and we managed to raise an amazing £506.48 for cash for kids.

Thank you for all your sponsors and donations which helped us to support this amazing charity



For the first time in Hillside history, four of our pupils have gained their Level 2 Functional Skills English qualification. This requires passing three separate exams (writing, reading and speaking/listening) and gives our pupils an equivalent of a GCSE 4 in English. These same pupils will be hoping to repeat their results in their Level 2 Maths exam this week. Amazing results!

## REMINDER

Please remember to book school meal's for next term

# CLASSROOM NEWS

## Class 3

Class 3 have loved our story this half term, 'The journey home from Grandpas' by Jemima Lumley, we enjoyed playing with the cars and garages, train tracks and we even had a car wash! We used vehicles to drive through paint making lots of patterns, we practised using a pincer grip to colour in tractors, hot air balloons, buses. We even had a go at making and flying paper airplanes. In maths we have been learning about position so putting things 'on', 'in', 'out' and 'under' singing our own 'in and out' song to park up the vehicles. We especially enjoyed our counting lessons looking at trains and counting cars as they sped down ramps.

In PSHE we have been looking at how we are all so different, we have different hair colour, different skin colour etc but we learnt that we all special in different ways.

Sculpture has been our topic in art, so we have been exploring and manipulating clay, learning different ways to use clay, using different tools, adding different textures and then made some amazing clay vehicles.

We have loved music this term, listening to different rock songs, using choosing boards to select instruments and making LOTS of noise too. We have also enjoyed our RE topic learning all about the celebration of Ramadan, we gave money to the poor, helped the community by washing the dishes, tried lots of different food, watched fireworks and listened to the call to prayer. Our favourite lesson was when we did some Mehdi patterns on our hands. We really have been busy; PE with Paul, weekly visits to the Children's centre and our very special Coronation celebration with a street party and parade. Have a lovely half term!



## Class 12

Class 12 have had a very busy half term. Our class works in two different groups to best fit the needs of the pupils. Our first group has been raising tadpoles this half term! We have loved setting up their habitat, taking care of them and recording the changes as they grow in our Science lessons. We have also carried this topic on as we used Colourful Semantics to write about the frog life cycle in English, used frogs to work on numbers in real life scenarios in Maths and we have practiced our Art & DT skills through drawing and modelling activities. In addition, we have been working towards completing our ASDAN Towards Independence qualification.

Our second group is preparing to leave Hillside and has had a busy half term of Functional Skills exams. Pupils have sat Level 2 exams in ICT, Speaking & Listening, and Maths. We have been so impressed with the pupils' determination and focus during this busy time. We are certain all of your hard work will pay off when the final results come through. In addition to exams, pupils have been participating in work experience placements at Royal Preston Hospital and onsite with our Site Supervisors. Finally, we have been on trips to the Manchester Museum, Chetham Library and Wild Discovery animal park, all of which go towards our ASDAN PDP Gold qualification.



## Class 4

Class 4 have had a busy and exciting half term!! Following the engagement model, we have explored lots of sensory toys, made requests using either petri dishes, Photo symbols or sentence strips. We have also been learning how to say 'more' in Makaton. Everyone seems to want to ask for more of the big fan!!

We have been looking at the colours of the rings on the Olympic flag and we have been reading the sensory story linked to the tortoise and the hare.

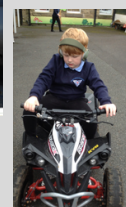
We mustn't forget that we have also celebrated the coronation of our new King too!



## Class 2

This half term we have been busy learning about our topic 'Journeys'. Each week Class 2 have enjoyed exploring different vehicles that came to visit us at school. We have been learning about time in maths and embracing our sensory story 'The Journey Home from Grandpas'.

In music we went under the sea and loved singing to a range of songs. The props were loved by everyone, especially the water.



# CLASSROOM NEWS

## Class 10

Class 10 have enjoyed walking around Witton Park for PE this half term. For English we have read and listened to Rime of the Ancient Mariner. In Maths we have practised money word problems.

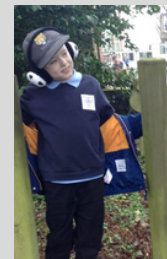
Our Science has focused on light and we have enjoyed experimenting reflecting light. For Geography we have learnt about towns and cities and different types of farms. In Art we have been drawing landscapes, including outside at the park.

We have enjoyed going on various trips such as horse riding, Newman College, the Museum of Lancashire and a STEM day at UCLAN. Have a good half term!



## Class 5

Class 5 have had a wonderful Summer Term so far. A stand-out day was when The Curious Creature's roadshow came to visit, and we got the chance to look and feel snakes and a tortoise- there was even a spider skin! We also had lots of fun learning about King Charles' Coronation, through a lovely Coronation Sensory Story. We explored multisensory art activities and made crafts to hang on branches and decorated Hillside trees to represent London landmarks- they looked amazing! Then, on Friday 5th May, we had a parade around the trees, waving flags, dancing and dressed in our wonderful crowns, then a school party in the school Hall, with a TA and a pupil dressed as the King and Queen, for all the children to meet. We had such a special time sharing these wonderful activities together with other classes! We hope you have a good half term break and we're all looking forward to all the fun of the Summer! Christy and Class 5



## Class 8

Class 8 have been working hard this half term. They have been learning about lots of different festivals from around the world and listening to stories about them.

On a Friday each week, they have been visiting another school where they have been taking part in curling, they really look forward to this each week.

2 class members went along with Tracey, the teacher in Class 9, to play in a curling tournament and Hillside WON!  
Amazing achievement!

We have been looking at different jobs in our community and thinking about what people do in these roles. We have also shared what we might want to do when we are older.

An excellent 1st half to the summer term and lots more exciting learning and experiences ahead for the next half term.

## Class 13

What a busy half term we have had! Our ASDAN modules have kept us busy, with plenty of community visits such as The Station Café in Longridge and Walling's Ice Cream Parlour. We've also been enjoying some camp fire sessions, cooking hot dogs and smores. In our cooking sessions we've been making a range of tasty hot snacks, such as muffin pizzas and toasties. We all enjoyed the Coronation celebrations, parading around the school grounds and attending our street party - with a couple of surprise royal guests!

All of our pupils in Class 13 have been working so hard in the run up to accreditation deadlines and exams - we're very proud of you all, so we hope you all enjoy the break.

Have a lovely half term,  
James and the Class 13 team.



# CLASSROOM NEWS

## Class 1

Our topic this half term has been 'In the Jungle'. In our Literacy lessons we have been reading the book 'Rumble in the Jungle' - the children have enjoyed meeting different wild animals as we journeyed through the jungle! In Maths we have been learning about money. We sang '5 currant buns in a baker's shop' and exchanged pennies for real cakes and buns! We have had fun exploring shopping role play; buying fruit and veg and ice creams at the ice cream stall. We have enjoyed our new dough disco session, 'Down in the Jungle' and have been learning a range of songs on the jungle theme in our daily music and movement sessions.

In the afternoons we have created artwork on the jungle theme, including paper plate snakes, lion masks, butterfly prints and handprint monkeys. With regard to sensory exploration, we have enjoyed water play whilst washing muddy swamp animals, mooched in swamp play with jungle animals in chocolate angel delight and explored dried peas/frozen peas jungle play! In PE sessions we have been enjoying our songs from the Carnival of the Animals by Saint Sans as part of our warm up. We have been practising freezing when the music stops and moving again when the music plays.

We have really enjoyed our time outside in the warmer weather of late, and have especially liked going for walks exploring the school grounds 😊

## Class 9

Our semi-formal curriculum theme this half term has been Festivals around the World. In English, we have read the story "Rameena's Ramadan". Through this text, we have explored the Islamic festivals of Ramadan and Eid.

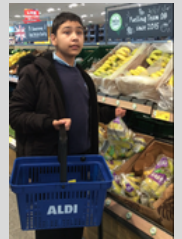
The pupils enjoyed celebrating the Coronation of King Charles by joining in with the whole school parade and afternoon tea party.

The focus for our Maths lessons has been money. We have been learning to sort coins, identify the value of different coins and combine coins to make different amounts. We have generalised our learning to practical situations when visiting the tuck shop and during educational visits to Aldi and Sainsburys supermarkets.

In PE lessons, we have played different games. Pupils have also accessed running club each week and we have continued to take part in regular walks around the school grounds.

In RE lessons, we have looked at different features found inside a church.

As part of their Asdan award, Key Stage 4 pupils have been involved in choosing a class pet - a hamster which they have named Jilly. The pupils are going to help to look after Jilly during the next few weeks.



## Sports update



On 5th May, two pupils (Kaden and William) entered the Lancashire Special Schools Swimming Gala. Both pupils did really well and won lots of medals. Very well done to both.



On 16th May, eight pupils visited Sir Tom Finney Community High School in Preston to play a curling match. Hillside won the match 17 – 11. We look forward to more fixtures in the future.





# SCHOOL NEWS



## King Charles Coronation Celebration – Hillside School and College – 5th of May 2023

What a day it was!!



Everyone got involved in what was a fabulous day of celebrations, from a musical parade with drums and tambourines, singing, waving flags and dancing to a Royal visit from the King and Queen themselves, famous landmarks of London made by the children and staff to a right Royal knees up at our street party with treats and sweets aplenty, we even had a 'real' throne and photo booth!

There was an abundance of smiles and happiness around school, it was so great to see the effort everyone had made to come together and celebrate such an important historical moment!



The winners of the best decorated tree, as judged and verified by our very own Darren Kirkby were....

1st – Class 11 – London Bus

2nd – Class 3 – Big Ben



*Staff news*

We are pleased to welcome to the team - Samantha, Kaci and Susan who have joined us at TAI's

We say goodbye to Danielle who will be missed by all the team



A huge thank you to the school council who have donated £50 to school from money they raised at the weekly tuck shop 😊

And finally.....

It's great to see that we have been able to achieve so much this half term. Pupils have been involved in our whole school celebrations for the Coronation and have had fun at our street party. Hillside pupils have achieved sporting success this term and we are also very proud of those pupils that have gained external qualification through sitting their functional skills exams. I would also like to thank pupils, parents and staff for their continued support with fundraising for school and for your donations for Cash for Kids.

Enjoy half term week.

Paul Leaper - Headteacher



## Have a great half term

