



**Hillside Primary School and Nursery**  
**“Achieving Greatness Together”**



Friday 3rd November, 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

*It has been a very positive start to the second half of the autumn term with new opportunities and challenges. We embrace and promote a growth mindset. Pupils who possess a growth mindset are said to be able to rise to challenges and learn from the mistakes they make, rather than feeling distressed and defeated if they are unable to do or understand something.*

*We know that pupils who have a positive attitude towards their learning will make good progress and be successful. We encourage all our pupils to challenge themselves, embrace their mistakes as part of the learning process, value the importance of effort, respond carefully to feedback and take inspiration from others. We believe that this will help them to achieve, not only with us, but also in their future education and later as adults. How can you help at home? Please refer to page 2.*

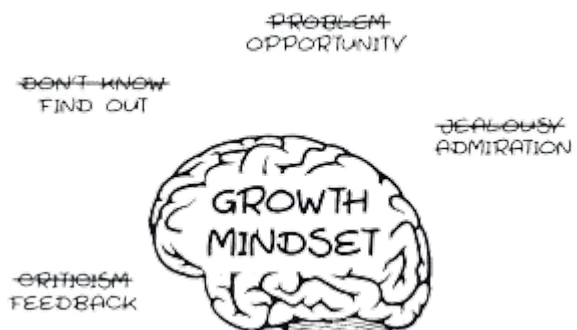
*Thank you to all the parents and carers that attended our open house session this week. We also received 95 responses to our parent survey. Working in partnership is extremely important to us. Please find the results and next steps on page 3. I'm looking forward to starting our Parent Council in a couple of weeks. Please email us if you would like to join. Your views really matter!*

*Thank you for your ongoing support.*

*Wishing you a wonderful weekend.*

*Best wishes,*

*Mrs Wass*





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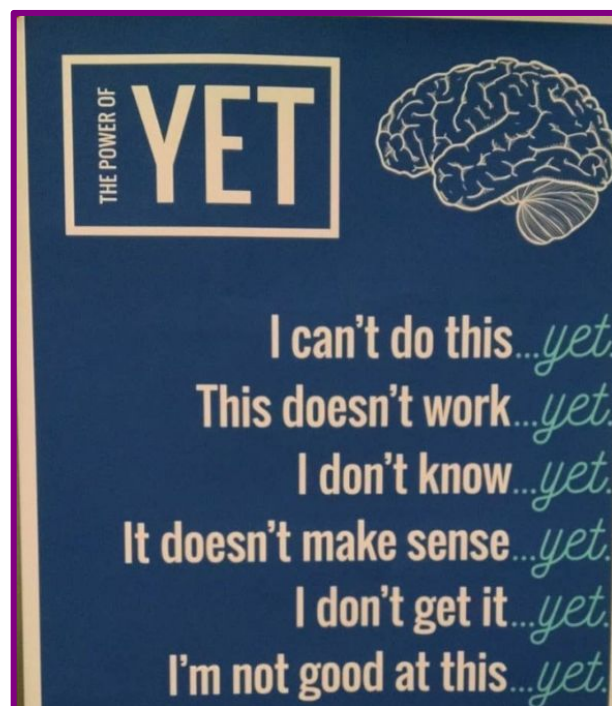


DEVELOPING A **GROWTH MINDSET**



<b>INSTEAD OF.....</b>	<b>TRY THINKING....</b>
I'm not good at this	What am I missing?
I give up	I'll use a different strategy
It's good enough	Is this really my best work?
I can't make this any better	I can always improve
This is too hard	This may take some time
I made a mistake	Mistakes help me to learn
I just can't do this	I am going to train my brain
I'll never be that smart	I will learn how to do this
Plan A didn't work	There's always Plan B
My friend can do it	I will learn from them

**Growing,  
believing and  
achieving at  
Hillside  
Primary  
School!**





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**Parental survey  
October 2023 - 95 responses**

My child is happy at this school 98%, My child feels safe at this school 93% , The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved 93%, My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively 90% including unknown, The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year. 97%, When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly 96%, The school has high expectations for my child 92%, My child does well at this school 97%, The school lets me know how my child is doing 99%, There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school 98%, My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school 89%, The school supports my child's wider personal development 94%, You would recommend this school to another parent 93%. **Thank you for this feedback!**

**Focused areas/ next steps:**

**Dealing with bullying concerns**

We are continuing to raise the profile of our zero tolerance approach to bullying. We have a planned Anti bullying week during 13th November, we are coming together to have discussions about what bullying means to us, how banter can turn into something more hurtful, and what we can do to stop bullying. We will also be providing support for parents and carers as you have a vital role to play. Check out our newsletters and social media for more information very soon!

**Clubs and activities at school**

From Autumn 1, we have expanded our before and after school club timetable to include a drama, netball, dance and art club. We have also increased the number of lunchtime clubs available. We will continue to explore new clubs and activities by working within and outside of the school community.

If you have any issues or concerns contact should be made as follows, starting with;  
Class Teacher in the first instance

Year Group Leader if unresolved by the class teacher( Miss Thompson- Reception, Miss Donnelly- Year 1 and 2, Mrs Cooper - Year 3 and 4, Mrs Hadgraft Year 5 and 6)  
Assistant Headteachers, Mr Laws or Mrs Mitchell, Deputy Head Mrs Kapovic or Headteacher Mrs Wass if the matter needs further attention.





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### Reading at home

Why reading support at home is important?

Reading at home with your children helps them to strengthen their language, vocabulary, and comprehension skills.

#### TEN AMAZING BENEFITS OF READING BOOKS

- Strengthens your writing skills
- Improves your memory and focus
- Enhances your imagination
- Increases your vocabulary
- Expands your knowledge
- Stimulates your brain
- Boosts your mood
- Deepens empathy
- Helps you relax
- Lowers stress



## Those Who Read Succeed!

Please talk to your child about the book they are currently reading and foster a love of reading culture at home.

Why read 20 minutes at home?

<b>Child A Reads:</b>
20 minutes per day
3,600 minutes per school year
1,800,000 words per year

<b>Child B Reads:</b>
5 minutes per day
900 minutes per school year
282,000 words per year

<b>Child C Reads:</b>
1 minute per day
180 minutes per school year
8,000 words per year

The average word count for a typical novel is anywhere from 70,000 to 120,000 words

Between 15 and 25 books a year!

3 or 4 books a year

Less than one book per year

Want to be a better reader? Simply read!



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### Outside of school achievements

We would love to hear about your child's achievements outside of school. Please email the information to:

[office@hillsideprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@hillsideprimary.co.uk)

### Hillside Heros

If you would like to praise a member of staff, please use this link:

<https://forms.gle/N5LMsWXPJvXht5CM6>

### Attendance

We understand that during the autumn term, when the weather changes, children can start to feel under the weather and do not attend school. If your child is feeling unwell, please support us in motivating them to attend. You can support your child by packing their school bag with lots of fluids, giving some pain relief, if necessary, and encouraging them to rest after school. Please be reassured that staff will always make sure that children are well looked after. For any further attendance support please do not hesitate to contact our office team. Please refer to page 6 for our attendance procedures. Is my child too ill for school?

[https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

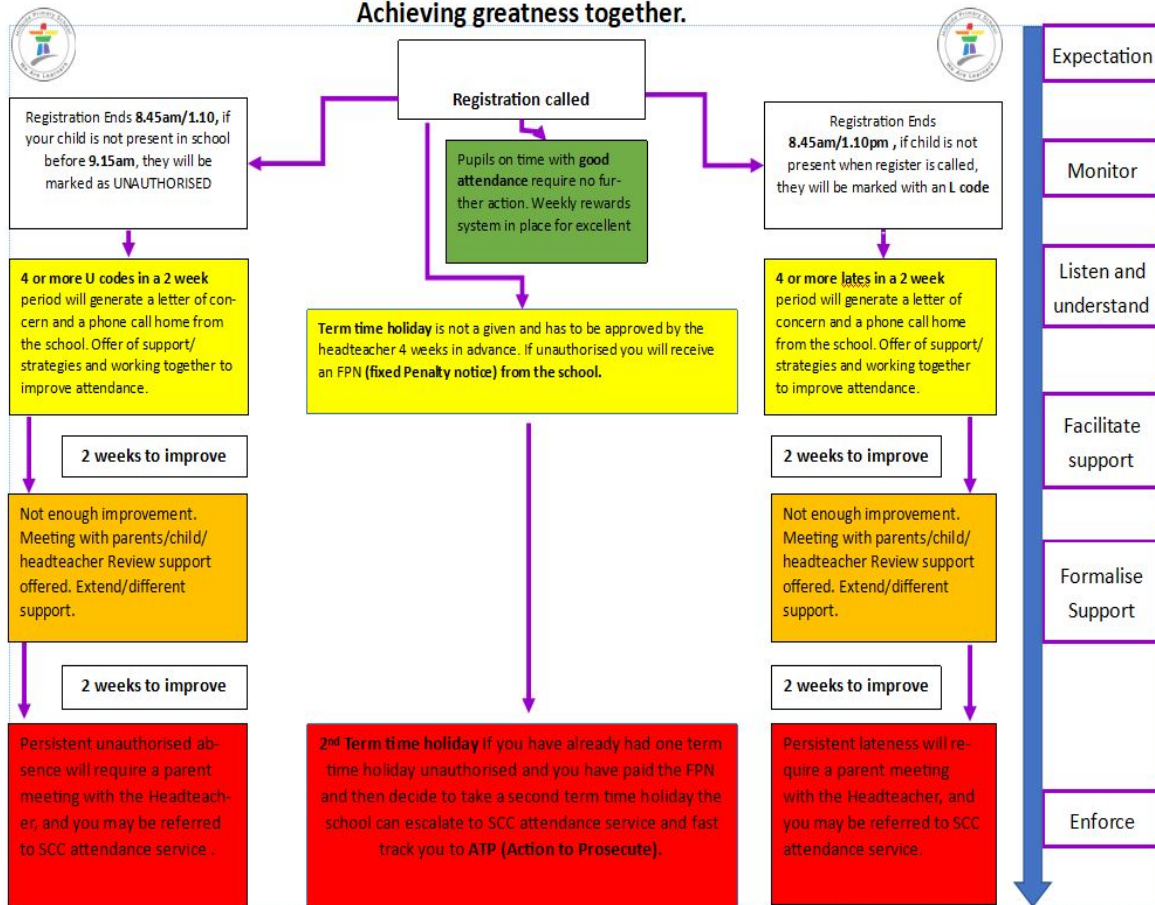
**Kingfisher 98.3%**, Butterfly 95.5%, Wren 94.4%, Osprey 94.2%, Seal 94.2%, Dolphin 93.8%, Ladybird 93.5%, Kestrel 92.1%, Badger 92%, Fox 90.9%, Puffin 90%, Deer 89.8%, Robin 88.4%, Squirrel 86.2%, Hedgehog 81.95

**Overall attendance is 91.7% Well done to Kingfisher for the best attendance this week!**





**Achieving greatness together.**





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### Governor update

Following the recent letter regarding Governors, we can confirm that Mrs Cuhan has been appointed as a Parent Governor.

*Welcome to Mrs Cuhan!*



### Diary dates

6th November - Individual photographs

Monday 13th November -  
Odd Socks Day / World Kindness Day

Friday 17th November -  
Children in Need- Non School Uniform ( spotty/ yellow items)

*Hillside's countdown to christmas dates are coming soon!*

### Remembrance Day

The red poppy is a symbol of both Remembrance and hope for a peaceful future. Poppies are worn as a show of support for the Armed Forces community. On Monday 6th November, to commemorate Remembrance Day, we will be having a whole school assembly where our Year 6 Senior Pupils will be selling poppies and other items linked to Remembrance. We would be grateful if you send some coins into school to buy some of our purchases; the proceeds will be given to our local British Legion office. Thank you in advance for your support.



### Consultation on Admissions Arrangements for 2025/26

In accordance with the Department for Education's School Admissions Code, The Active Learning Trust is required to consider Published Admissions Numbers (PANs) for all its schools on an annual basis. This information is on our website, [hillsideprimary.co.uk](http://hillsideprimary.co.uk).

