



Hilltop School Newsletter

Issue 7 2025-26

Welcome to the summer term. This term always seems to fly by very quickly with lots of memorable activities for the children. I want to use most of this newsletter to share details of key upcoming events.

Firstly though, it is time to share the usual summer reminders that all children must have a **royal blue sunhat in school every day**. They may wear bucket hats or legionnaires hats, both of which may be purchased from the school office or via Arbor. Please be aware that peaked hats without the flap at the back to protect the neck are not acceptable. From this week, children without hats on sunny days will only be permitted to play in the shaded areas during play and lunch times.

The weather is still a bit changeable and the children do sometimes begin the day wearing jumpers or cardigans which they take off as the day warms. Please make sure that your child's **uniform items are clearly labelled**. It is impossible for staff to keep tabs on unnamed cardigans and jumpers which children take off during the day especially if they are not in their own classroom at the time.



A huge congratulations to **Sundew** class who won our April Battle of the Bands competition in **Times table Rockstars**. Well done to every child who took part. The May competition is now open.

We can see the huge impact that regular times table practise is having on the children's accuracy and fluency. Our May competition is now running. It was a pleasure to hand out over 30 Times Table Champ badges at the end of last term. We are chasing up the missing badges with the factory and these will be distributed as soon as they arrive.

Our first special summer event is a **visit from JJ Pure Honey Beekeeper** for children in Years 1-4 this Thursday. This visit ties in with our Science learning this term. Please be assured that a full risk assessment has been completed and the bees will be locked away for the children to observe safely.

This will be followed on Friday by our whole school classic theatre production. This year, M&M productions are

bringing their touring **Jungle Book show**. The quality of these all singing, all dancing performances is fantastic, with full stage sets, special effects and high-quality actors. Please check that you have paid your child's contribution towards the cost of the performance via Arbor so that we can continue to offer the children these special shows.

On Thursday **21st May**, it is your turn to be entertained. All families are invited to join us for our **annual Poetry & Song picnic evening**. This year's selection of poems and songs have been inspired by the **National Year of Reading**. The playground gates will open from 5pm for picnicking on the top field with the performance beginning at 6pm. **Please could all children from reception to Year 4 be in school by 5:50pm**. Children should wear their full school uniform. Hot beverages and baked treats will be on sale before the performance.

Our final **Art Week** of the year will run from Monday 11th May. This will be followed by our **summer Art Exhibition** on the first Friday after half term.



Our **summer Book Fair** runs from **Tuesday 12th May** each morning from 8:30 and for fifteen minutes after school. Scholastic are offering a special *three for two* offer with this term's book fair. When selecting three books, the cheapest book is free. Hilltop still earns commission on each sale. We will not be accepting cash at the bookfair and parents have the option of paying online at the fair using the QR codes which will be on display in the hall, paying online at bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay or by purchasing Book Fair gift vouchers. You can find out more about the books available and confirm prices at

www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcase

Each of the children will have the opportunity to visit the bookfair with their class. They will bring home a Wishlist with details of a book they have seen and enjoyed. There is no pressure for parents to purchase these books. A huge plea, if you do pay for books online, please make sure that all of the details including the name of the book and your

purchase code are included on any slips sent into school. **All payment slips must be returned to the office or the class teacher by the morning of Friday 15th May** so that they can be processed and any books can be ordered in time for them to be delivered when the bookfair is collected. Late slips could mean that your child may have to wait longer for their chosen book.



We are joining schools across RBWM in this year's National Walk to School Week from 18th May. **Walk to School Week 2026** is a national initiative encouraging families across the UK to swap car journeys for walking — whether for the full school run or even just part of the way. Benefits of walking to school include:

- Improved physical health
- Increased independence
- Better concentration in lessons
- Reduced traffic congestion
- Lower environmental impact

Look out for more information about our inter-class completion in the coming weeks.

Events after half term – further details will follow closer to each event.

Class photographs are booked in for immediately after half term on Tuesday 2nd June. My preference would be for the children to wear their summer uniform. Children who would usually have PE on this day **should not** wear their PE kit.

Our **whole school sponsored fun run** will take place in school on Friday 5th June. All children should wear their PE kit on this day. Sponsorship forms will come home after the event.

Year 4 parents have already had some information about the **sleepover event** on Friday 26th June. Please remember to send in your child's hoodie order form by Friday 15th May. I will be sending out further information about this event next week. In the meantime, please could any parents who are feeling at all uncertain about the event come and speak to me directly.

Spots Day this year will be on Monday 29th June. This event involves all children from Reception. Parents and carers are invited to come along from 9:15 with the event starting at 9:30. As usual, families are invited to stay and picnic afterwards. Parents have the option of early pick up after sports day.

Middle school transition days for Year 4 pupils are 2nd & 3rd July. You should receive information directly from your child's middle school about these days.

We will be staging two performances of this year's **key stage 2 production of Wind in the Willows** in the morning and evening of Thursday 9th July. All Year 3 and 4 children are involved in this production and are expected to attend the evening performance. Thank you to all Year 4 parents who have been helping their children to learn lines. The KS2 team will send out information about costumes in due course. Tickets will be available closer to the date.

Attached to this newsletter are our **term dates for next year**. Parents with children attending schools within the Windsor Leaning Partnership Trust will have been informed of the decision for these schools to have a two-week autumn half term break. This matches the existing term dates for Trevelyan which is part of the Pioneer Trust. As a maintained school, our term dates are set by the local authority. Maintained schools are required to be open for 38 weeks each year. I would like to remind parents who may be planning family holidays to align with WLP or Trevelyan term dates that family holidays taken during term time will not be authorised and may result in a fine for parents.

Another quick reminder that we do not allow children to wear earrings of any style in school. Parents who wish to have their children's ears pierced should arrange for this at the beginning of the summer holidays so that there is plenty of time for the new holes to be healed by the start of the new school term.

Here are our latest attendance figures. We are slowly creeping closer to the DfE attendance expectation of 95%. 19.7% of children have attendance below 90% which means they are considered persistent absentees. This percentage relates to 28 children across the school. I am grateful to all of the families who have been working hard to have their children in school every day – Thank you!

	January Attendance	February Attendance	March Attendance	April Attendance
Reception	89.4%	90.3%	91.0%	91.5%
Year 1	94.5%	94.2%	94.6%	94.7%
Year 2	92.3%	93.4%	93.2%	93.2%
Year 3	93.8%	93.9%	94.3%	94.4%
Year 4	93.5%	94.2%	94.3%	94.2%
Whole school	93.7%	93.9%	93.8%	94.1%

Dates for the diary

Fri 22nd May – End of term 1pm pick-up

Mon 1st June – INSET Day

Please check the website calendar for Tiny Time and Parent Craft Dates.

Lynn Bima

April 2026

www.hilltopfirst.co.uk