



Hillside Specialist School & College

Providing exceptional education for all students



EASTER NEWSLETTER 2024



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Wednesday 27th March
LAST DAY OF TERM
- Monday 15th April
SCHOOL REOPENS
- Monday 6th May - May Day Closure
- Tuesday 7th May - INSET
- Wednesday 8th May
SCHOOL REOPENS
- Friday 24th May
LAST DAY OF TERM



SchoolSpider

Please make sure you download the school spider app. We send important messages through the app



COFFEE TIME!

**PSFA COFFEE MORNING & MEETING
WEDNESDAY 17TH APRIL
9.30-12PM**

PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

**HELP US SOAR TO NEW HEIGHTS
APPLY NOW!**

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE



We need your skills to help improve education for children in our school

Please contact Carol in the office for a chat about the role

01772 782205



STAFF NEWS

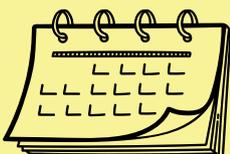
We are pleased to welcome to the team:
Emma Ormand, Sarah MacFarlane, Charlotte Conchie & Luca McDonald-Romero

Goodbye & Good Luck to:

Colin Davies & Charlotte Antrobus

Happy Retirement to

Sue Nutter who has been at Hillside for 19 years!



REMINDER:

SCHOOL REOPENS ON MONDAY 15TH APRIL

SCHOOL NEWS



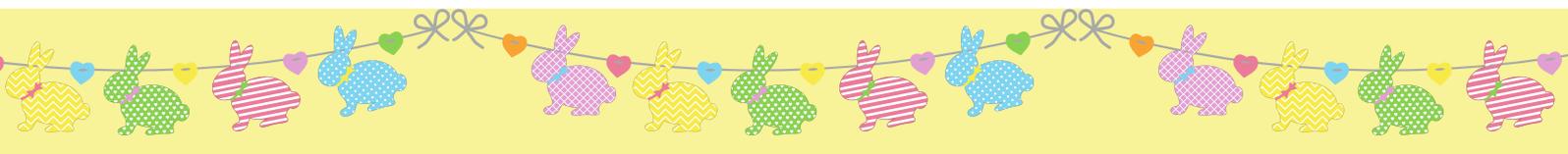
Thank you!

To Cheryl who kindly donated all these colourful rolls of paper. The pupils are delighted to use them!



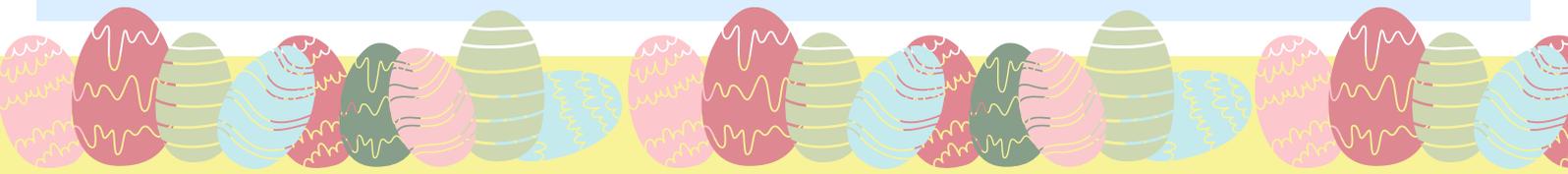
Terry from BioScapes installed a Nature Arc today. Lot's of Pupils were able to get involved and help install it. The Nature Arc will not only look beautiful, it will also provide a habitat for lots of different insects similar to a bug hotel. Terry brought some worms and even a frog for the pupils to learn about which really captured their interest.

A big thank you to BioScapes for the donation and for Jenna at Tilia Homes for organising it.



Class 3

We have had a very busy half term exploring and learning about Spring and the lifecycle of animals. Our sensory stories included the Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle, we loved tasting lots of foods just like the caterpillar especially lots of different fruits. We have been trying to learn the Makaton signs for butterfly and caterpillar, used our symbols to request foods, painted a giant caterpillar adding the days of the week and even posted food into our giant caterpillars' mouth. It was amazing to watch the caterpillar change into a beautiful butterfly. We have even been looking out for the first signs of Spring when we have been out to play; daffodils, buds and lambs in the field next door. In maths we have learnt exchanging coins by setting up a role play shop, visiting the tuck shop and our trip to the local supermarket each Friday and learning about heavy/light using a bag of shopping. In science we looked at lifecycles, we especially loved exploring the 'frogspawn' and making a butterfly lifecycle using different pasta shapes. During our PSHE lessons we have been learning to look after ourselves learning about exercise, healthy eating, personal hygiene and our feelings. We have had lots of fun tuff trays, had a go at cooking jammy biscuits and Easter treats. Have a look at some of the things we have got up to this term. Have a very hoppy Easter!



CLASS NEWS



Class 9 have been focusing on employment and jobs this half term. We have been taking part in work experience around school, helping Darren and Dan with jobs that need doing to keep our school tidy. We have been focusing in on jobs through our other subjects too. In Maths, we have been builders and have been building and measuring a variety of different things around class. In English we have been focusing in on our writing and sending letters to people around school, then taking turns to deliver them as part of 'Hillside Post'. We have also started our own mini enterprise where we have been making our own Easter carrots and filling them with chocolate treats. We hope to sell these so that we can raise money to buy a blackout tent for our class.

We have also enjoyed weekly shopping trips to Sainsbury's where we have been focusing on being out in the community and our independence skills.

Class 1 have had a lovely half term learning about 'people who help us'. Our sensory story has focused on firefighters and the children have really engaged with our story props. We are now exploring the book, 'Superhero like you', which is about a little girl who wants to be a real life superhero like her Mum! In phonics we have been completing activities focusing on sound discrimination, including identifying everyday sounds and instrumental sounds, and more recently we have enjoyed the rhyming game 'silly soup'! Children have continued to enjoy learning their letter sounds and we have been exploring feely bags containing objects beginning with that sound each week. In Maths one of our favourite number rhymes has been '5 little firemen standing in a row'. Each week we have enjoyed learning about different people who help us and have had fun dressing up as firemen, doctors and police! We are now completing some Easter crafts and sensory play activities to finish off our busy term!

This half term in Class 5 we have been busy learning about the seasons through lots of sensory experiences. The children have really enjoyed our sensory story, Four seasons in one day! and exploring the props and tuff tray activities.

In phonics we have continued with listening to and identifying environmental sounds, the children are doing really well with this. In Maths children have explored coins and exchanged for favoured items.

Class 5 team



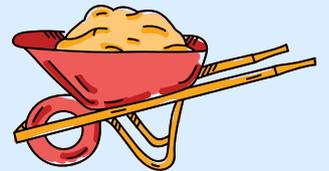
CLASS NEWS



Class 12 have been very busy this half term. We have been working on expanding sentences in English and handling data in Maths. In Science we have been exploring magnets and we have also been working hard to complete our ASDAN folders, studying Desmond Tutu and his work to promote racial equality in South Africa. We are working on making a display based around Desmond Tutu's famous words 'We are the rainbow people'.

The students have really enjoyed their work experience each Thursday at Adam's Activity Ark where they have been helping to clean out, groom and feed the small animals and planting seeds in the polytunnel as well as learning about Health and Safety in the work place. They have also had great fun making music with the Lancashire Music Club, using keyboards, guitars, a ukulele and exciting sound apps on the iPads.

Have a wonderful Easter from everyone in Class 12!



Class 8

Our curriculum theme this half term has been 'The World at War'. In English lessons, we have read "The Lion and the Unicorn" by Shirley Hughes – a story about a boy evacuated to the countryside during the second world war.

We enjoyed celebrating World Book Day, some of the pupils dressed up as their favourite characters from Roald Dahl's "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory".

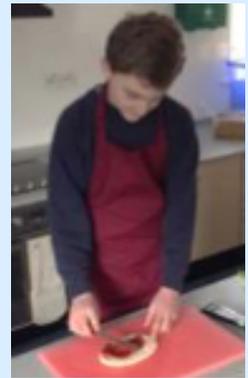
In Maths, we have been learning about money – recognising and combining coins. Pupils have continued to access weekly visits to Aldi supermarket to practice using money during a community activity.

The focus for our Science lessons this half term has been animals. We have been matching animals to their young and looked at grouping and describing animals.

In PE, some of the pupils have taken part in games activities alongside pupils from another class. We have also accessed five swimming sessions during the Spring Term.

The pupils have continued to work towards their ASDAN qualification looking at different jobs that people do around school.

In Food Technology, pupils have chosen and prepared different snack meals including pizza, pasta, spaghetti and beans on toast.



CLASS NEWS



Class 6 have had a great half-term. They have been busy learning about the four seasons and have really enjoyed our class story 'Four Seasons in One Day'.

In English, the children have been using adjectives to describe the different seasons and talking about how they make them feel. The children also looked at the different clothes that needed to be worn during each season and different equipment that may need to be used when out an about in different weathers.

In maths, the children have been learning about weight and focused specifically on heavy and light. They used their hands to feel and compare the weight of two different objects to help them predict which was the heaviest and which was the lightest. They then used the balance scales to check if their predictions were correct. The children are now really good at identifying heavy and light objects.

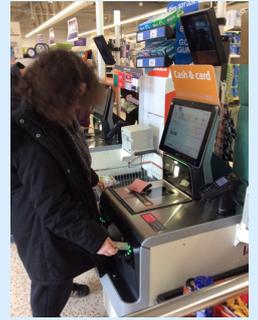
Throughout this half-term, the children have worked really hard to create some super art work. They used a range of natural resources and craft materials to create a picture representing each of the seasons. The children created blossom pictures to represent spring, beach pictures to represent summer, spiky hedgehog pictures to represent autumn and snow themed pictures to represent winter. It was lots of fun!



CLASS NEWS



Class 14 have had a great half term. Our AQA focus for this half term has been making choices at shopping. The students have been making their own weekly meal planner, writing their own shopping lists then visiting the local supermarket to collect the items they have chosen. The students have gained lots of confidence whilst at the shop and some students are now shopping independently. We have also been practicing our reading and writing skills in English, reading a book called supermarket zoopermarket. We have also been working on our ASDAN printing, using scrap materials to create different pictures. We have also really enjoyed our intensive interaction sessions, building our interaction skills with each other and having lots of fun. The students have all had a great time swimming at Nick's pool, playing ball games and pushing each other on the floats. In math's we have been looking at 'how many?' connected with our shopping lists, looking at how many items on the list and how much does it cost. All the students have been working really hard and we are all looking forward to the summer term so we can venture out and practise our communication and independence skills in the local community.



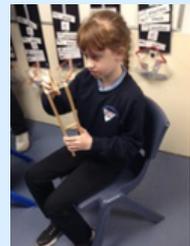
Wow! What another quick and busy half term it has been. Class 7 have had lots of fun exploring and learning all about the 'Victorians'.

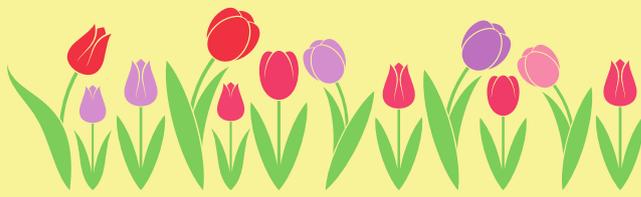
We have enjoyed a variety of texts during our English lessons, including 'Victorian Adventure' and 'Queen Victoria's Underpants'. We continued to explore the topic in our History, DT and music lessons, delving into different aspects of the Victorian era; learning about who the Victorians were, who Queen Victoria was, Victorian life, inventions, clothing and toys. The children loved exploring different Victorian toys, investigating mechanisms and making their own moving toys.

During Math's we have been learning all about capacity, temperature and weight through hands-on practical activities.

The children loved having another opportunity to work with Superball Ball this half term for PE, developing team building skills and most importantly having fun!

We hope you all have a lovely half term break,
Kelly and the class 7 team.





Class 10

We have been very busy this term participating in many community visits to assist in completion of our Asdan accreditations, we have visited the local food bank and helped pack parcels ready to be delivered to those who need support, we have taken part in trampolining and cycling for both indoor and outside sports in the community.

In English we have been reading Charlie and the Chocolate factory, we have had great fun inventing our own sweets, chocolates and drinks and designing our own chocolate house; some had lickable wallpaper and melted chocolate coming out of the taps in the bathroom. We have been developing our knowledge of adjectives, adverbs and fronted adverbials when writing creatively about our creations.

In Maths we have been learning about tally charts and line graphs as well as furthering our number skills by completing long division both with and without remainders. In Science we have been exploring sound and vibration; playing different instruments and making our own instrument, we researched the human ear and how it helps us hear the sound through vibration, following on from this we have been learning about animals and humans, comparing skeletons, bones and muscles. we have also found out about nutrition and a balanced diet for both animals and humans.

In Art we have been creating world war 2 propoganda posters using a variety of methods such as painting, sketching, collaging and using media.

This half term we have been learning all about life cycles! We have enjoyed our sensory story 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and watching the journey that the caterpillar takes.

In maths we have been learning about money and what the coins look like. We have even been to Aldi on a weekly basis to put our money skills to the test. We all loved it.

We have been out in the community a lot this half term and have been going to gymnastics and the children centre. What an experience!



Thanks , Class 2 team



Class 4 have had another busy half-term and a lot of fun 😊

We have explored fiction texts in English and completed phonics, reading, writing, speaking and listening.

Congratulations to Jakey, for the winning KS2 book cover design on world book day. Well-done 😊

Congratulations to Frank for some fantastic reading whilst looking through the book stall on World Book Day. Well-done 😊



During Maths we have practiced number and geometry.

In Science we have investigated plants.

During PSHE we explored feelings.



In PE we have each made progress with our confidence during weekly visits to a swimming pool in Longridge and in gymnastics at Bamber Bridge.

As part of our creative curriculum we have compared Victorian toys to modern, and explored music.

In RE we have explored Christianity.

Have a great Easter everyone from Class 4 😊

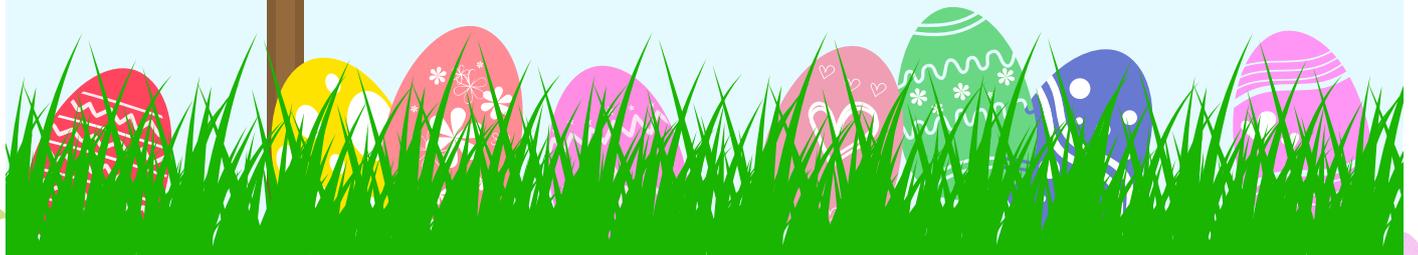
Can I thank all staff, parents, guardians and pupils for their hard work, support and contributions to the recent Ofsted Inspection, in particular those staff and parents who completed the questionnaire. I am very proud of the pupils contribution to the process and we received some very positive feedback from the inspectors over their two day visit. Our staff have worked very hard in the lead up towards the inspection.

We are awaiting the publication of the final report on the Ofsted website which can take up to 30 days, so we hope to circulate the report to you all soon after the Easter break.

Enjoy the Easter break.

Regards

Paul Leaper - Headteacher



FUNDRAISING NEWS



Thank you to everyone who supported our Chocolate Bingo event



We have raised an amazing **£271.70** for the School Council!



 support our school
join our lottery!
Sign up today at www.YourSchoolLottery.co.uk/play

For every ticket sold 76% goes towards school and prizes. If you would like to take part please go to <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/> to join. £1 per ticket!