



Newsletter  
2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

Welcome back to school! I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and would like to wish you all a very happy, healthy and peaceful new year. Thank you once again for your support with our Christmas festivities – it was wonderful to see so many of our families attending the nativities, Christmas Fayre, church and Carols on the Playground.

**Christian Value**

This half term our Christian Value is Perseverance and Endurance. We recognise that life is sometimes difficult, painful and full of obstacles but can be strengthened by friends, family and God's unending love and faithfulness.



**Thesaurus Day – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January**

We will be celebrating by dressing up as a word. There will be a prize for the best 'word/costume/child' in each class. We are also having a themed lunch for the children to enjoy, if they would like to.

**Colder weather & snow**

Please make sure your children come to school in appropriate coats and footwear for the weather. We will aim to get the children out to play and in the fresh air whenever possible and therefore need to ensure they are properly dressed for whatever our weather 'throws' at us in the next few months. We will do our utmost to remain open this winter. However, in the event of a school needing to close, we will post a notification on Class Dojo; if you need any support connecting to the APP please do not hesitate to ask for support. You will also be able to check on: [School Closures | Bradford Council](#)

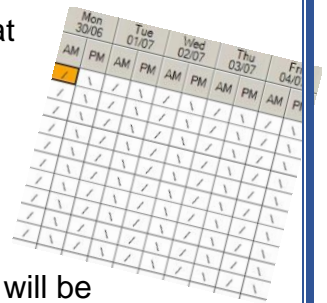
**School Uniform**

At Hill Top we believe that wearing the correct school uniform develops a sense of belonging and pride. This also extends to our PE kits; therefore, could you please ensure that your children are wearing the correct PE kit. Children must wear navy or black tracksuit bottoms, a jade coloured t-shirt and a navy or black plain hoodie / sweatshirt or their school jumper and not branded sportswear. If your child attends P.E. days in school wearing branded items, they will be asked to change into spare PE kit that we keep in school. We do have a limited amount of (pre-loved) PE kit available in school for you to purchase for 50p. Thank you for your support.



## **Attendance**

We would like to thank you for your continued support in attendance and arriving at school on time. Currently our attendance is 94.2%, which is below our target for whole school of 96%, so we need your support to ensure your child/ren are in school every day.



Regular attendance at school is vitally important. Please contact school as soon as possible if your child is absent either via telephone (01274 678386) or by emailing the office. Attendance will be monitored closely this year and parents will be contacted if children's attendance falls below 97%. Holidays will only be authorised in special circumstances. Holidays taken that include more than 3 school days, will be subject to a penalty notice, in line with the guidance from Bradford Council and the DfE. [Family holidays during school term time | Bradford Council](#)

## **Parking Outside School**

We are extremely worried about the inconsiderate parking and driving that is happening outside school. It is increasingly busy at the start and end of the day. Please consider the dangers to the children and do not to park on the zigzags outside school – they are there to keep everyone safe. Please also consider our community and neighbours by not parking across their driveways.



## **Online Safety**

Many children will have received new phones, tablets, computers or consoles as gifts for Christmas and as a parent or carer you play a key role in helping your child to stay safe online. Please look at [Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#) for advice and resources to support you as you support your child to use the internet safely, responsibility and positively.



## **Free School Meals**

Whilst we know that all children in Reception and Key Stage 1 are entitled to a free school meal – this is known as the Universal Free School Meal offer – it is very important that they, as well as the parents of any Key Stage 2 children, still register via the [Bradford Council Website](#) if you receive any of the following benefits:-



- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit with an annual income of less than £16,190, provided they are not receiving Working Tax Credit
- the 'Guaranteed' element of the State Pension Credit
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 (you will need to apply directly to the school or call the Education Service on 01274 439393)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income threshold of less than £7,400

**If you do have entitlement to a free school meal, we can offer you a £25 voucher each July towards the purchase of a Hill Top winter coat, fleece or uniform.**



### **After School Clubs**

We are running a range of after school clubs which will start next week. Please look out for letters, dojo messages etc. in the next few days. Places can be booked on Parent Pay:

Clubs include:

<b>Day</b>	<b>Led By</b>	<b>Club</b>	<b>Year Group</b>
Monday	Jimmy's Martial Arts	Martial Arts	Years 1-6
Monday	Miss Dawson	Art Club	Years 1-2
Tuesday	Bradford City	Football	Years 1-2
Tuesday	Miss Dawson	Art Club	Years 3-6
Wednesday	Bradford Bulls	Fencing	Years 3-6
Thursday	Bradford City	Football	Years 3-6
Thursday	Bricktopia	Lego Club	Years 1-6
Friday	Bradford Bulls	Gymnastics	Years 1-6

### **A 'Heads' up on future events:**

Please note as these events have been given early and that although we do our best, they may be subject to change. Please keep an eye on Class Dojo or speak to your class teacher. Thank you.

9 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Bradford Cathedral Choir Workshops for children in Year 2 – Year 6 Parent Meeting Y5 Boggle Hole 2025 at 2:45pm
18 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Thesaurus Day – Dress up as a word and enjoy a themed lunch
23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	SATS/Introduction to new teacher – Parents Meeting Year 6 at 5:30pm
25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Northern Ballet Workshops for Year 2 and Year 5.
26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Year 6 Open Morning
2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Y5 Shine Time
5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Football Week & Mental Health Week
8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Valentines Disco
9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Wear your Scarf Day Reception Shine Time End of Term
19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Back to school
1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Year 3 Shine Time
4 <sup>th</sup> Mar	World Book Day Week Bring and share your favourite book – all week
6 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Extraordinary Day! Author Visit for the whole school.

8 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Dress up – World Book Day – themed lunch Year 2 Shine Time
13 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Parent Consultations KS1/EYFS
14 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Parent Consultations KS2
15 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Year 4 Shine Time
19 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Easter Bonnet Parade EYFS Decorate an Easter Egg Competition Year 1 - 6
20 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Whole School Worship at Holy Trinity Messy Church
22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	Easter Egg Hunt – Whole School Last day of the term.

Further dates, as they arrive, will be posted onto Class Dojo.

Thank you again for all your support.

Mrs. Julie Ball  
Headteacher