

Dear Parents



The final half term

Welcome back to the final half term of what has been an incredibly difficult year. Covid cases, particularly of the Indian variant in our area of Bradford remain high, and it important we all try to keep vigilant and follow guidance on what we can and can't do. I truly think we can all remain optimistic that restrictions will be soon fully lifted (I'm not sure whether June 21st will be the date yet - my gut feeling is that this date may be pushed back by a number of weeks) so enabling us to experience greater normality to the school day and create more experiences for our children. We will still endeavour to plan a broad and rich curriculum, even whilst you, our parents, remain a little bit removed from it.

Easing of Covid restrictions





As restrictions have started to ease, we have made one or two adjustments in school too. These include some classes joining together for outside play (we are keeping all children in class bubbles inside) and moving furniture in classrooms to enable children to work in small groups as opposed to rows, as well as allowing The Lodge, The Hive and Breakfast Club children to mix as a bubble.

It still remains difficult to see when we can allow parents back into school for things like Shine Times, Productions etc - this is likely to be September.

It might be that we can change the stagger times for the start and the end of the school day sooner - we will give you plenty of notice (as long as we get plenty of notice) as to when this is likely to happen.

There remains curriculum constraints with which we will still struggle - these include communal singing, getting changed for PE and returning to a normal lunchtime session where all children can eat in the hall.

Four conditions for lockdown easing

-  1 Vaccine programme continues to go to plan
-  2 Evidence shows vaccines are reducing deaths and numbers requiring hospital treatment
-  3 Infection rates do not risk surge in hospital admissions
-  4 New variants do not change the risk of lifting restrictions

Staffing for next year



There will be several changes to staffing next year, which we have now almost finalised and there will be new staff members joining us, some staff leaving us, and some staff changing year groups. We are planning a transition day on

Wednesday 7th July, where your child will move up to their new class and have an opportunity to meet their new teacher for the day in their new classroom. More details about this day will follow.

This term's Christian value is....Hope

This term, through our Collective Worship and other work we do in school, we will be focusing on the value of Hope (something we all need a little bit of at the moment). The Christian Values Award in our Zoom Collective Worship will be given to those children who have demonstrated aspects of this value during the course of the school week.



Bradford City Penalty Shoot Out

We will be working alongside Bradford City over the next few weeks as we organise a sponsored penalty shoot-out, here at Hill Top on Thursday 24th June - where Billy Bantam will be in goal and all the children in school from Nursery through to Year 6 will have an opportunity to take penalties against him. Sponsor forms will be going out on Thursday of this week and need to be returned to school on the day of the Shoot Out.



There are prizes and gifts to be won including:

Getting more than £3 in sponsors, your child will get a medal,

Getting over £10 in sponsors, your child gets a Bradford City pump bag and a medal

Getting over £20 in sponsors, your child gets a Bradford City football and a medal

Getting over £30 in sponsors, your child will receive all three prizes.

The Hill Top child who raises the most money in sponsors will also receive a football signed by all the Bradford City Players.

All proceeds for this event will be shared equally between the Bradford City Community Foundation and Hill Top, and will be used to offset the costs of extra and enriched curriculum opportunities.

After School Clubs



A whole host of after school clubs are in place for this half term. These include Gymnastics for Year 1, Multi-Skills for Year 2, Football for Years 4 and 5 and Rounders for Year 6 - see Parent Pay for current availability. On these days, children should wear their PE kits to school and can be collected at the given times from their allocated gates.

Sun Hats and Sun Cream

I hope that I am not speaking too soon, but can you please ensure your children come to school with sun hats and wearing sunscreen if the current sunny spell continues.



Magic Breakfast

magic
breakfast
fuel for learning

All of you have been benefitting we hope from the Breakfast Cereals and bagels we have been sending home on a fortnightly basis which are being supplied to us free of charge as part of the National Schools Breakfast Programme. This scheme will end in July.

Nursery Places

We are now in the process of making telephone calls and sending offer letters out to all parents and families who may be wanting a place at our Nursery from September. We are increasingly left with disappointed families (especially since we have been offering a 30 hour option) who thought their children were on our list - if you are in any doubt whether or not a child is on our internal list, please speak with our office. Can you please spread the word to any families who might not currently have children at Hill Top, but may be wanting a Nursery place from September to contact our school office with their child's details.



School Uniform

School does not stock school uniform, book bags or pump bags. Instead you can order these on line at www.myclothing.com and just enter our school name or postcode BD12 OTL. or alternatively you can buy our uniform from The Uniform Shop, Darley Street, Bradford. Please ensure you order these in plenty of time for the start of the new term, and can we remind the parents of our Year 4 children that as they move into Year 5, the colour of their sweatshirt and polo jumper reverse.

Class Photographs

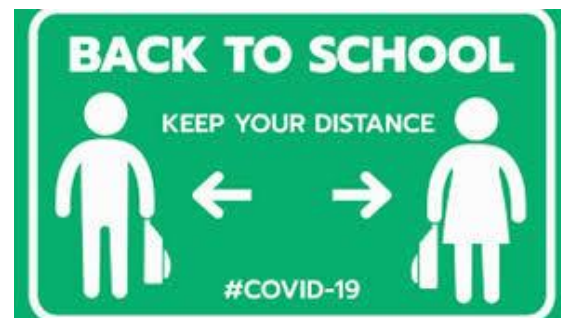


Please note, the school photographer was in school on Friday 21st May to take whole class photographs - purchasing options will be available soon.

Covid-19 Signs / Symptoms and Protocols

We recognise that there are an awful lot of mixed and confusing messages out there about the symptoms of Covid-19 that we need to look out for and take action. For Hill Top, we are using the Bradford guidelines, which state the key symptoms are:

- Fever (temperature of 37.8 °C or higher) and/or
- new, continuous cough and/or
- loss or change in normal sense of smell or taste (anosmia)



If any of our children display any of these symptoms in school or have displayed any of them at home, it is essential that they should stay at or be sent home (along with any siblings) and arrange for a test.

If your child has developed symptoms and s/he does not have a test - they will need to self-isolate for 10 days whilst their family contacts must also self-isolate for 10 days.

If Hill Top has a confirmed case (with a positive test result), the child or adult concerned will need to self-isolation for 10 days and their school bubble and family contacts will need to do the same for 10 days.

How to access testing

If you have symptoms, either log on to www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or call 119 if you have no internet access. Contacts without symptoms should not get tested unless they develop COVID symptoms or are advised to by Public health.

Hygiene

- Wash hands more often than usual, for 20 seconds, using soap and water
- For coughs and sneezes: [catch it, bin it, kill it](#)
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Clean and disinfect regularly touched objects and surfaces more often than usual using standard cleaning products

Social distancing

- Limit contact with other people
- Stay 2 metres apart from people where possible
- Wash your hands regularly
- Self-isolate if you or anyone in your household has symptoms

Travel

- Avoid using public transport and travel on foot or by bicycle if possible

Face coverings

- Should be worn by most people when in enclosed spaces, such as on public transport, in taxis, when visiting a hospital, in shops and supermarkets and whenever we are indoors with people who are not part of our household or bubble
- Should not be worn by children under the age of 3 and are not required for children under the age of 11.
- Are not required where there is a [legitimate reason](#) for someone not to wear one, such as a physical or mental impairment or disability
- In primary schools where social distancing is not possible head teachers have the discretion to ask staff or visitors to wear, or agree to wear face coverings in busy communal areas. All staff and the restricted visitors we have all currently take these precautions.

School Newsletters

A reminder that there are several ways in which you can access school newsletters:

The Hill Top App - there are details on our website on how to find and download this.

Our school Website: Another way to access the newsletter is to subscribe on the school website: www.hilltop.ngfl.ac.uk (Go to 'Parents', choose 'Newsletters' and then scroll down the page to the subscribe section.) The newsletter is also available to view direct from our website.

If none of these are possible for you, you can request a paper copy from our school office.

Our newsletters contain useful information and exciting opportunities so please don't miss out!



App Store

Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club runs every morning from 8am and still proves excellent value for money at £3.05 a session. This has to be booked via Parent Pay This includes both child care in a warm, comfortable, child friendly environment as well as a choice of a filling breakfast package.



After School Care at The Lodge

Our after school care facility for Hill Top children at the Lodge continues this term. The children who accessed it last year really enjoyed it and we hope that it continues to provide a valuable service to working parents. The sessions begin after school and run up to 6.00pm.

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:

- 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



Hill Top CE Primary School Lottery

One of our supporters continues to win a cash prize each week. At the moment these cash prizes are small. We would love to get more supporters and increase the prize fund! Please see the details below of how to sign up and be in with a chance of winning. Your weekly ticket purchase will mean that Hill Top receives funds which will be used to improve our school grounds. We would love to continue to develop our outdoor area. We can't do it without your support, so please sign up and encourage friends and family to do the same.

To start supporting, visit: www.yourschoollottery.co.uk

Search for: Hill Top

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older.



D. Martin – Head Teacher