

Hill Top CE Primary School and Nursery

Newsletter - 7th February 2022

Dear Parents

Outbreaks of Covid in School



Although numbers of Covid across school seem to have peaked, they still remain high across Bradford - we still urge you to be as vigilant as possible during the next few weeks - I am daring to think that we could be over the worst.

We still have staff members who are ill and / or self isolating at the moment and this continues to compromise the running of our school.

New Reception Area / Build

We were hoping that our new reception area would have been completed by now - this too has been impacted by Covid amongst the contractors as well as delays in some materials arriving. We are hopeful that this will be completed externally in the next week or so.



School success starts
with attendance

School Attendance

We are very proud of our school attendance record - Hill Top children have historically been good attenders, and despite the challenges of the last few years, this remains the case for the vast majority of our families.

We have introduced new initiatives this term to encourage children to be punctual and have the best possible attendance.

This involves all children who have 100% attendance in any given week being given a raffle ticket that goes into a draw for a class attendance prize at the end of each half term - all children have the capacity to be in this draw.

We have also reintroduced our 'Dazzle Boxes' - a much sought after gift box of brand new books which will be presented to the class with the highest attendance each half term. Well done to Year 2 who won last terms Dazzle Box and thank you to the PFA who are part funding the cost of each half terms Dazzle Box.

Some families will have received attendance letters last week where their child's attendance is of concern (Covid absence is not taken into consideration) - we are happy to discuss these in more detail and offer support where needed.



Play Time / Lunch Times

We aim to allow the children to enjoy the outdoors as much as they can at play times and lunch times. Please ensure they come suitably dressed in hats, scarves, gloves and boots so they can make the most of outside and enjoy being children!

Sedbergh Youth and Community Centre -Toddler Group on Tuesdays 1.00 -3.00pm.

Mrs Sykes, our Parental Involvement Worker, will be taking a group of parents/carers and their children to this Toddler group on Tuesday afternoons. The cost is £2 for the first child and £1 for the second child which includes a drink and snack. We will set off from school at 12.45pm and the first visit is Tuesday 8th February. This is a brilliant opportunity for children to mix and socialise with other children, which they have not been able to do due to Covid.



If you would like to come or know more about the group, please contact Mrs Sykes in school. Mrs Sykes is also planning other activities this term to get to know children and their families- watch this space.

Shine Time Assemblies

We have made the reluctant decision to cancel all Shine Times until at least February half term. If we are in a better position staffing wise after this, we will reconsider reintroducing these in some way after half term.

Internet Safety Training for Parents

As the PCSO Team have been redeployed to support the Covid Response and the Vaccination Programme, we have had to cancel the Internet Safety Training scheduled for this Friday. We are hoping that this will be picked up after half term.



Dates for you diaries

A few dates to add to your diaries:

Wed 30 th Mar	Parents Consultation Afternoon / Evening
Thurs 31 st Mar	Parents Consultation Afternoon / Evening
Fri 8 th April	Family Easter Egg Hunt from 1pm



Dinner Money

A reminder that those of you who wish to take up school dinners the prices are £1.95 per day or £9.75 per week. All dinner monies are now paid for via Parent Pay.

Our kitchen staff work really hard to produce cooked school dinners of the highest standards and in line with the governments Healthy Eating agenda. I can thoroughly recommend them!

Our kitchen staff are planning some special themed days to promote our school lunches over the next few months:

Monday 14th February - a Valentine themed lunch
Thursday 17th March - an Irish themed lunch (St. Patrick's Day)
Wednesday 6th April - an Easter themed lunch

In order for dinner money debt not to be allowed to mount up, we will recommend the sandwich option if debts equate to more than two weeks worth of dinners.



Milk Money

If you want your child to have milk this term, please log on to www.schoolmilkuk.co.uk
All children in Nursery and Reception are entitled to free school milk (up until, but not including, the term that they turn five years old) as are all children who are receiving Free School Meals via the Income Support / Family Tax Credits route.

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 improve our outdoor space and also add some resources to the upper playground. 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