



Newsletter  
9<sup>th</sup> September 2022



Our school community was saddened to learn about the death of Her Majesty, The Queen yesterday and our thoughts and prayers are with her family, our community and with the whole nation at this time. As you will remember the children spent the Spring

Term 2022, learning all about The Queen and we held a huge celebrations for her Platinum Jubilee.

This morning, children joined together for a special worship, where we talked about recent events and the changes that will happen over the coming days, weeks and months and celebrated the life of our Queen.

Given the scale of the media coverage, the children will undoubtedly have questions not only about The Queen and new King, HRH King Charles III but also perhaps about her death.

Parents/carers may find the following website helpful

<https://www.winstonswish.org/supporting-you/supporting-children-death-of-queen/> and of course at school we will do our utmost to support the children and answer their questions in an honest, age appropriate and supportive manner.

### **Welcome Back!**

Dear Parents/Carers & Friends,

I hope you all had a wonderful summer break and managed to get (some) rest and relaxation. As lovely as it has been to have a holiday, we were delighted to welcome the children back to school this week, in what I'm sure will be successful year. It has been lovely visiting the classes over the last few days and seeing lots of smiles - from staff and children! We've welcomed a few new members of staff to the Hill Top family this year and new children in classes across the school too. I hope you

all will be very happy here. As always, your continued support is very much appreciated and I look forward to working in partnership with you all.

### **Class Dojo**

Class Dojo is an app that we now use right across school and is increasingly our preferred method of communication to get important information to you about school events, trips, visits, school closure in bad weather, celebrate good work etc. Please, please, please ensure you all download the app. You should all have received an invite, via email to join your child's page - if you have not received this email or need it resending, please contact the school office.

### **Facebook**

We have launched a new Facebook page for Hill Top. Whilst Dojo is an excellent way to let all of you know what your child is doing, we're very keen to share the amazing experiences to a wider audience. With that in mind, we've created our own Hill Top Facebook page.

Staff will ensure that permissions are in place before uploading any photos. You can like and follow our page here: <https://www.facebook.com/HillTopCE>

### **Support for families**

Many of you already know Mrs. Sykes our Pastoral and Parental Engagement Worker. She is always available to families, should you feel the need to speak to her about a range of issues. Mrs. Sykes is very experienced at working with families and is an exceptional professional. She can be contacted through the school office.

### **Attendance**

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.

### **Shine Time Assemblies**



We have finally been able to plan for our Shine Time Assemblies for this year after living for so long in a Covid world. Our special Class Shine Time Assemblies take place on Friday mornings from 9.00am until 9.30am. Each class will be hosting special assemblies to share work they have been doing in class in an entertaining way. As we used to do, you will be invited

back into your child's classroom where you will be invited to stay up until 10.30am. During this time, you will be able to see your child at work, join in with some activities and chat to the class teacher.

Shine Time dates are as follows:

Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Oct - KS2 - Harvest  
Fri 4<sup>th</sup> Nov - Year 1 - Shine Time

Other classes will be having special Open Mornings for parents on the following dates:

Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Sep - Year 2 Open Morning  
Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Oct - Year 6 Open Morning  
Fri 11<sup>th</sup> Nov - Year 5 Open Morning  
Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Nov - Year 3 Open Morning

### **Weekly Awards**

Each week in our Friday Worship, we award a range of certificates and prizes, for example: Child of the week, House Team Points Cup, Attendance Cup, Times Tables Champions etc - all of which are enthusiastically received.

As a Church school, we will also be presenting our Christian Values Award, in the form of a small cross that can be worn on the collar / lapel of a polo shirt. This award will be given to children who have demonstrated in how they behave the particular Christian Value we are focusing on in school in each particular term. This term our value is 'Hope' and will be exploring what this means and how we can demonstrate it in our everyday lives.



This year we will also be introducing an 'Always Friday' where one child from each class, who has shown they are 'Kind, Respectful and Ready', will be invited to have a hot chocolate with the Headteacher.

### **School Newsletters**

This first newsletter of the school year will be the only paper copy that will be distributed to all parents. We now ask all parents and carers to access electronic copies of our newsletters. There are several ways in which to do this:

**Via Class Dojo** - The Newsletters will be posted on the whole school page.

**Our school Web site:** Another way to access the newsletter is to subscribe on the school website: [www.hilltop.ngfl.ac.uk](http://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.

**On our Facebook page:** <https://www.facebook.com/HillTopCE>

Our school Notice Boards (outside KS1 playground)

Alternatively, you can request a paper copy from our school office.  
Our newsletters contain useful information and exciting opportunities so please don't miss out!

### **Milk Money**

We no longer collect milk money. If you would like your child to have milk, please register on-line at [www.schoolmilkuk.co.uk](http://www.schoolmilkuk.co.uk) where payment can be made.



Milk remains free to all children under the age of 5 years old and children in receipt of free school meals.

### **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:

Day	Led By	Club	Year Group
Monday	Jimmy's Martial Arts	Martial arts	Years 1-6
Tuesday	Bradford City	Football	Years 1-2
Wednesday	Bradford Bulls	Boxing	Years 1-6
Thursday	Bradford City	Football	Years 3-6
Thursday	Bricktopia	Lego Club	Years 1-6
Friday	Bradford Bulls	Dance	Years 1-6

### **PFA Events**

Last year saw the PFA starting back up again. They arranged the Summer Fair for the first time since Covid and managed to raise over £2000. The money raised by the PFA provides a significant contribution towards our next whole school development project during the course of this term.

If you are interested in joining the PFA please get in touch with the office and let us know. A full diary will follow their first meeting of the new school year which will be arranged very shortly.



### **Breakfast Club**

Our Breakfast Club runs every morning from 8.00am 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. More details are available on our school website.

### **Flu Immunisation**

All children from Reception through to Year 6 will be given the opportunity to have the flu immunisation in the form of a nasal spray. This is due to happen on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October.

Please return your permission forms that will be sent out in the next few days - this year, more than any other year, it is important that our children and consequently the whole Hill Top community are as protected as they possibly can be from seasonal flus.



### **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



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

Mrs Julie Ball  
Headteacher.