

Hill West Weekly Bulletin

Kindness, Compassion, and Connection at the heart of 'Our School'

Week commencing: Monday 2nd September 2024



ACE; Ambitious, Curious and Ever-respectful

HEAD TEACHER MESSAGE

As we wrap up another fantastic school year, I want to extend my warmest wishes to all of you for a wonderful summer holiday. This is a perfect time to make cherished memories and enjoy the company of your loved ones.

Whether you're planning a family trip, enjoying picnics in the park, exploring nature trails, or simply spending quality time at home with board games and movie nights, I hope you have an amazing and restful break. These moments are invaluable and create lasting bonds.

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year. I look forward to seeing all of you refreshed and ready for another exciting year ahead when the new academic year begins on Wednesday 4th September.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION; at a glance

Friday 19 th July	SCHOOL CLOSURES for SUMMER
Monday 2 nd September	SCHOOL CLOSED TO ALL CHILDREN
Tuesday 3 rd September	SCHOOL CLOSED TO ALL CHILDREN
Wednesday 4 th September	We welcome Year 1 through to year 6 back to school.
Thursday 5 th September	We welcome our new Reception children into school
Friday 6 th September	Our new Reception children join us for lunch.



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MESSAGE TO OUR YEAR SIX LEAVERS' FROM DR CLARKE

Dear Year 6 Pupils,

As you prepare to leave 'our school' and embark on your exciting journey to secondary school, I want to take a moment to express how incredibly proud we are of each and every one of you. Your hard work, resilience, and enthusiasm have been truly inspiring, and it's been a joy to watch you grow and flourish over the years.

Remember the friendships you've made, the lessons you've learned, and the wonderful memories you've created here. As you move on to this next chapter, carry with you the confidence that you are ready to take on new challenges and opportunities. Embrace your new adventures with the same curiosity and determination that you've shown at Hill West.

You are an amazing group of young individuals, and we have no doubt that you will continue to shine brightly in all that you do. Know that you will always have a special place in our hearts and in the history of our school.

Wishing you all the very best for your future. Keep being amazing!

With love and best wishes,
Dr Clarke



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CLASSROOM CHANGES FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

We would like to remind you of some important changes taking place in our classrooms, when children return to school in September.

Details of the Classroom Changes:

- **Current Classroom:** Year 3 Hedgehogs Classroom will become Year 5 Badgers Classroom
- **Current Classroom:** Year 3 Rabbits Classroom will become Year 5 Hares Classroom
- **Current Classroom:** Year 4 Moles Classroom will become Year 3 Hedgehogs Classroom
- **Current Classroom:** Year 4 Squirrels Classroom will become Year 3 Rabbits Classroom
- **Current Classroom:** Year 5 Hares Classroom will become Year 4 Moles Classroom
- **Current Classroom:** Year 5 Badgers Classroom will become Year 4 Squirrels Classroom



We understand that changes can sometimes be challenging, but we are confident that these adjustments will provide a more effective learning environment for all pupils.

PARENT DROP-IN

Please feel free to come into school on

Wednesday 11th September,

straight after school, to

introduce yourself to, or speak with, your child's new class teacher. This is an opportunity to find out how your child has settled in following their transition.



YEAR 5 BIKEABILITY

We are delighted to have secured spaces for **24** Year Five children to take part in a Bikeability Level 1&2 course beginning on Monday 9th September and running until Wednesday 11th September 2024.

Please email the school office at enquiry@hillwest.bham.sch.uk if you would like your child to take part. **Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis on receipt of your email.**

Please note, children should have a basic proficiency, their own bike and a helmet.



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GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK

Today we say goodbye to

- Mrs Angela Chan who will be leaving to follow a career in tutoring.
- Mrs Alison Yau who will be joining the Lunchtime Supervisor Team at Mere Green Primary School.

As you move on to new adventures, we wanted to express our heartfelt gratitude for all the support and care you've provided. Our school won't be the same without your guidance and kindness. Thank you for everything, and best of luck in your future endeavours!



SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

On the 1st September, the application period opens for Year 7 places starting in September 2025, and all the information that families need is on the BCC website.



The **closing date for applications is 31st October 2024** and we would really appreciate it if families with children in our new Year 6 carefully read the admission arrangements available online, make use of their six preferences and apply on time.

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-secondary-school-place>

YEAR FIVE; SAVE THE DATE

The Arthur Terry school are excited to invite all our new **Year 5 children and parents** to visit their School! Please save the date for this special opportunity to explore The Arthur Terry school facilities, meet their dedicated staff, and learn more about the programs and opportunities available for your child.



Event: Year 5 Open Evening

Date: 26th September 2024

Time: 6.00pm

Location: The Arthur Terry School.



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SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

I am sure you will have heard on the news of the important changes being introduced on the 19th August 2024 in relation to school attendance by the Department of Education.

Please be aware that new legislation does not allow schools to authorise any holidays in term time or authorise any leave retrospectively.



Our overall attendance this academic year, to date, is 95.6% which is good although lower than pre-Covid rates of almost 97%.

TWEET/TWEETS OF THE WEEK

Kindness, compassion and connection at the heart of our school...

“either we spend time meeting children's emotional needs by filling their cup with love, or we spend time dealing with behaviors caused from their unmet needs. either way, we spend the time.”
pam leo

Today was our Year 6 graduation ceremony. A time to celebrate, reflect on successes and look to the future with hope and optimism. Our final song 'Unstoppable' year six you definitely have been unstoppable; we wish you the best of success for the future ❤️



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HILL WEST SCHOOL UNIFORM



We know that it is important that our pupils feel a sense of belonging and community through a smart and practical uniform. We believe a uniform allows all pupils, regardless of background, to feel equal to their peers and confident in their appearance.



We appreciate that we are all facing increasing living costs and many, many families are thinking carefully about their spending. If you need any support or assistance with school uniform, please contact the school office directly.

Daily Expectations

- Grey skirt, grey pinafore, grey trousers or grey shorts (black cycling shorts can be worn underneath skirts if preferred)
- Bottle Green polo shirt
- Grey jumper or cardigan
- Green gingham summer dress
- White or grey socks or tights
- Black shoes should be worn. Pupils are not permitted to wear boots

P.E. Expectations

Children can wear their P.E. kits to school, rather than their usual uniform, on P.E. assigned days only.

- Bottle green polo shirt (as above)
- Plain black tracksuit bottoms, leggings or shorts
- Grey hoodie - no graphics please, if purchasing from a non-school provider
- Plain black pumps or plain black or white trainers (no football boots)
- White or grey socks

Our uniform requirements are also outlined on our website for your reference.

<https://hillwest.bham.sch.uk/parents/uniform/>



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BUILDING WORK

We have been advised that work is likely to commence, in earnest, on our new school build on the Monday 12th August, midway through the summer break.

This will involve the contractors digging a trench diagonally across our school field and KS1 playground to access necessary drainage it is our understanding that a welfare unit will also be brought onto site and the demolition of some of the external classrooms will begin.

It is unlikely however that these will be gone by our return.



FUN FEST HOLIDAY CLUB

Do you need childcare during the summer break?

If so, we are hosting Fun Fest throughout the summer holidays. Fun Fest has a menu of over 50 exciting activities for children to choose from and operate between.

- 8.00am -6.00pm for children aged 3 -12 years
- £38.00 for a Full day and £23.00 for Half day. £175.00 for the week.



To book, contact; suttonoffice@funfestholidayclub.co.uk or telephone 0788 309011



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BOOKS FROM 50P

BOOK SALE

New & Used Books for All Ages
18th September 2024
Before and after school
KS1 Hall

Having a clear out?
Donations of new or lightly used books for the sale would be greatly appreciated!

Book Donations - kindly accepted until 13th September
Donation boxes located in reception



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