



Weekly Bulletin

With kindness, respect and gratitude, together we aim high in all we do

Headteacher's message:

Our last week in school has been full of Christmas cheer. After last week's KS1 Nativities, I thank our KS2 children for giving us a heart-warming and spectacular performance. Thank you for joining us at our Carols around the Tree celebration at St Paul's this afternoon—a perfect way to end the term!



I would like to wish our extended community of parents, grandparents, volunteers, Hillside staff and most importantly our Hillside children a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! See you all on Wednesday 3rd January after a well deserved break.

Adam Khan—Headteacher.

Oh No He Isn't!

The whole school enjoyed a fun morning on Thursday with Chaplin's Christmas Panto Production of Cinderella. They were treated in the interval to some Cheshire Farm Ice Cream.



Holly ends the term aiming high!

Well done to Holly (Y3) who has worked incredibly hard this term making super progress in her spellings, phonics and times tables. Keep up the good work, we're very proud of you!

Homework

Thank you to parents who contributed towards the recent homework survey. Your comments have been noted and have informed a number of changes.

As a school we will continue to prioritise the benefits of home reading and number fluency (from Y2 in the form of times tables).

Aside from this focus on home reading/number fluency, the maximum expectation of additional tasks will be reduced to the following times:

KS1: Up to 30 minutes per week

KS2: Years 3/4 —up to 1 hour per week

Years 5/6—up to 1.5 hours per week

All additional homework tasks will be issued on a Friday and collected in on a Wednesday. Some tasks may be set over two weeks.

Hillside Band

Last Friday, our school band performed for the school in a special assembly. Thank you to Jackie for leading and for the brilliant work she does throughout the year.



Penguins spotted at Lady Hayes!

After a fantastic performance on Friday at the Christmas Fair, the Choir gave a lovely performance of their Christmas songs at Lady Hayes on Saturday.



Their final Christmas performance will be at St Paul's Carol Service on Sunday at 6.30pm.

Christmas Dinner

The kitchen, led by Julie our cook, did a fantastic job preparing and serving 171 Christmas Dinners on Tuesday. Thanks to FOH for the crackers! The staff seemed to enjoy getting involved—including Mrs FC with her impromptu Karaoke corner!



Panto Pandemonium

After last week's brilliant KS1 Nativity, our older children provided us with two equally amazing performances of their 'Panto Pandemonium'.



Albie is player of the Session!

Albie (Y6) is in the news again this week! This time for being awarded player of the session at his football club where he trains at Helsby High School every Thursday.

If you would like us to share some of your child's out of school achievements/experiences, please send them for us to celebrate in the newsletter.



Important Dates 2024

3rd January—Children return to school

5th January—FOH Uniform/Cake Sale in the hall

16th February—Break up at 3.15pm for Half Term

26th February—Children return to school

28th March—Break up for Easter at 2pm

Contact details:

Please contact the school office to notify or request absence at: admin@hillside.cheshire.sch.uk

or call **01928 722 991** [Full School Diary](#) [Lunch Menu](#)

Website links: [School website](#) [Absence request](#)

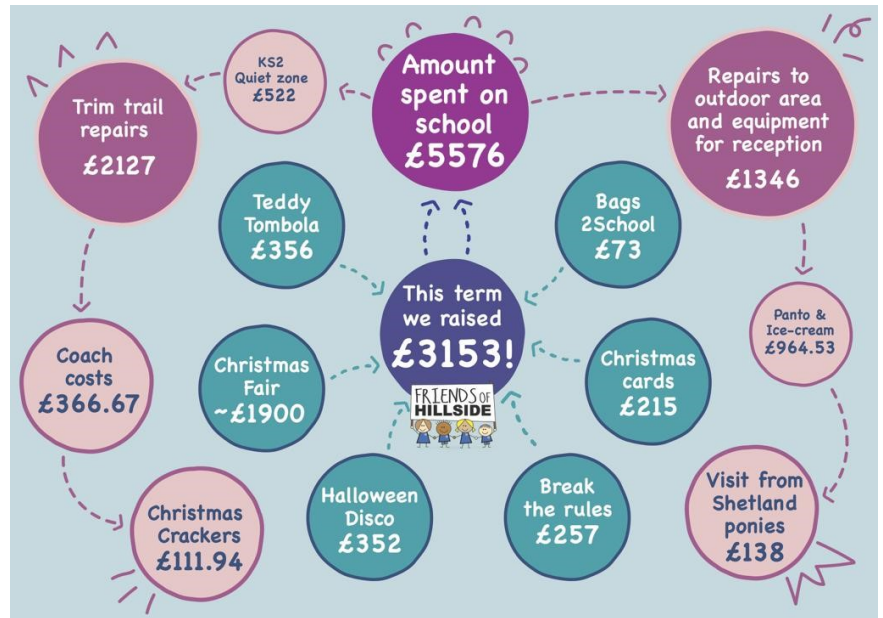
[Administering medicine consent](#) [Family Support Information](#)



Friends of Hillside:

Friends of Hillside want to say a massive thank you to everyone who has supported our events this term, whether you gave up your time to volunteer or supported us by coming to one of our events, we are really grateful. We still have a few more donations and expenses to come in from our Christmas fair but it's looking like we will raise close to £2000 from that event alone! Adjacent is a reminder of how much money we have raised and an idea of some of the projects we have supported school with this term (please note that some of the money donated to school was from events held last year such as the summer fair). Our next event will be a pre-loved uniform sale, on the 12th January. We will be collecting unwanted uniform the first week of term.

Thanks,
Holly and the FOH Team



Are you interested in becoming a teaching assistant?

If so, Cheshire West and Chester would like to invite you to join the next Level 2 Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools course due to start in September 2024.

If you have an interest in this course and require any further information, please contact your nearest Work Zone (details included on the flyer). You can also email the tutor of the course, emma.cawley@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk, who is a parent at our school. She is happy to answer any questions you may have about the course or can provide any support you may need to gain the maths and English levels which are required as part of the application process.



Are you looking to **improve your skills** in subjects such as **maths, English, IT, First Aid, or art**, or would you like support to enable you to move further into **employment**?



Work Zone Courses & Services

If so, please use our QR code to find out more about the **FREE** courses we have on offer at one of our four **Work Zones**, based in Ellesmere Port, Chester, Northwich and Winsford. Staff in Cheshire West and Chester's Skills and Employment team can provide employment mentoring, help with overcoming barriers to employment and a wide range of adult skills development opportunities.



ST PAUL'S CHURCH

16 DECEMBER: HELSBY CONCERT BAND CAROL SERVICE (6:30PM)
 17 DECEMBER: ST PAUL'S CAROL SERVICE (6:30PM)
 CHRISTMAS EVE: CHRISTINGLE SERVICE (4:30PM)
 MIDNIGHT MASS (11:30PM)
 CHRISTMAS DAY: 11AM HOLY COMMUNION
 ST STEPHEN'S DAY: 11AM HOLY COMMUNION
 NEW YEAR'S EVE: 8AM HOLY COMMUNION
 11AM HOLY COMMUNION

At Helsby Methodist Church



Polar Express Film Night
You are warmly invited to join us for a showing of the full Polar Express film on our big screen on Friday 15th December starting at 6pm.
Admission is FREE, but there will be an opportunity to make a donation should you wish! Popcorn, drinks and sweets will be available.

Friday 15th December 2023 at 6.00pm

A free showing of the Polar Express Film

Reserve your seat on our website @ www.helsbymethodist.org.uk

Christmas Eve

Why not start your Christmas with our short, beautiful Christingle service where we will explore the nativity, meet Festive Fred, sing some well-loved Christmas songs, and light our Christingle oranges.

No need to book just turn up on the day.



Festive Fred
GREATEST GIFT

Christingle Service, Helsby Methodist Church, 24th December, 4pm.

All are welcome!

Helsby Methodist Church Chester Road, Fro

CHRISTMAS TREE-CYCLING



SUPPORT YOUR HOSPICE

LET US COLLECT YOUR REAL CHRISTMAS TREE

1 Register online 2 Donate 3 Have your tree recycled

COLLECTION DATES
Thursday 11th-Sunday 14th January

WE COLLECT FROM
CH1, CH2, CH3, CH4, CH5, CH64, CH65, CH66, WA6 & CW6

REGISTER BY 8TH JANUARY



hospicegs.com/events

