



**ANSTON HILLCREST PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
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 Headteacher: Mrs Kate Rayner  
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 Our values are: **RESPECT, RESILIENCE,**  
**TEAMWORK, ASPIRATION and KINDNESS**



## END OF YEAR NEWSLETTER

### Message from Mrs Rayner

As we near the end of our year, I have been reflecting together on our successes and celebrations this term- the Sports days/ events and receiving the Gold award in the School sports games, all the PTA led events- Summer Fayre and Disco, the wonderful yet emotional Year 6 leaving events to the 'Stay and Play' sessions for our new starters in September. I'd like to thank all the staff for all their hard work and commitment to the shared vision of a 'Hillcrest' education for our children and for welcoming me so fully into the team and I'd like to thank the families and all our volunteers who have supported us all this school year.

Have a wonderful summer spending time with family and friends and I'll look forward to working with you all again in September.

Mrs Kate Rayner

### Staffing structure 2023/4

Here is our staffing structure for September; please note some members of staff are mentioned multiple times as they work across the different classes.

FS1- Caterpillars Mrs Goodall and Mrs Bristow

FS2- Butterflies Mrs Moore and Mrs Sanford

Y1/ Class 1- Miss Tabani, Mrs Baker and Mrs Pritchard

Y2/ Class 2- Mrs Divit, Mr Smith, Mrs Hartley, Mrs Baker, Mrs Gorecki- Hunt and Mrs Beeley

Y3/ Class 3- Miss Bennett, Miss Shipley, Mrs Gorecki- Hunt and Mrs Wheatley

Y4/ Class 4- Mr Bishop and Miss Shipley

Y5/ Class 5- Miss Curle and Mrs Beeley

Y6/ Class 6- Mr Brooks and Mrs Watts

Class 7 (Speech and Language resource) Mrs Martin- Chambers, Mrs Rookes and Miss Cookson

Mrs Cookson is our new school SENDco and will be working in school on a Monday and a Tuesday from September- please contact her if needed via the school email address.

### Changes to the school day from September

After a recent Safeguarding review and Governor visit we have taken on board the advice given and will be adapting our timetable and changing the start times to our day. This is intended to have a positive impact on the safety of all of our children once on our site and will also ensure all classes start their learning promptly.

As they have always done children and parents enter the school site but if everyone can be on site for **8:40am** as the school gates will not be open until just before at 8:35am. The top gates are unaffected by the opening times in the morning due to Wraparound club which will be situated in the classroom formally used by Year 4.

On both playgrounds teachers will be outside on the yard from 8:40am. The children must line up on the yard (which is what they currently do at breaktimes) in their designated spot on the playground (Y3,4,5,6), outside the classroom

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doors (Year 1 and 2 only) or by the green gate (FS1 and 2). Parents are more than welcome to stay and wait with their child's line- waiting with their children as they have always done before- until the classes enter the school building.

A bell will be rung by Mrs Divit at 8:45am signalling the start of the school day. The children will then walk directly to their classrooms with their teacher/ member of staff. This is to ensure all learning starts promptly across school at 8:50am. All children are starting off that day and the learning together at the same time.

If any parent wishes to speak with a member of the team they must do so promptly and if a longer chat is required the teacher or member of the support staff will contact them at a more convenient time. Any time after 8:55am will be marked as a LATE (registers close at 8:55am). Please remember the gates will be closed promptly at 8:55am so please vacate the site. **If you are late and come to the bottom FS/ KS1 gate it will be locked and you will need to walk around.** At the end of the day, gates will open at 3pm. Children will be dismissed as usual at 3pm (FS1) or 3:15pm from their classroom doors to their designated adults (FS2- Y6) or will walk home if permission is given (Y5 and 6 only).

Again, this is in line with the Safeguarding guidance from JMAT and Chair of Governors Gail Foster and is to safeguard your children at the start and end of the school day and to limit the time the gates are open and maximise all time spent in school for learning.

### Home/ School Learning logs

From September we will be sending home handmade learning logs which will replace the current reading records the children have been used to. We have filled them with resources that will be helpful at home and hopefully, support our work with your children in school too. There are phonic mats, key spelling lists, maths resources and challenges for the children to complete as well as the 'reading record' which can be filled in by parents.

As a massive advocate of reading and having read numerous studies into the impact of creating a positive reading culture and encouraging a love of reading for life, we will be encouraging our children to enjoy their books (regardless of their age and stage) and would like to encourage you to read with them at least 3 times a week. More is helpful especially in FS and KS1 where they are still very much learning the basics! We will not be continuing the reading challenge and instead each half term giving a 'reading certificate' to a member of the class who has read at home regularly or displayed a 'love' for reading and can talk about what they have read. We will be checking the learning logs once a week in school.

In Fs, Key Stage 1 and Years 3 and 4 we would like parents/ families to comment on and log the reading at home please but in Years 5 and 6 it would also be great to see the children taking ownership and logging themselves as well as families.

### Rewards at school

From September we will be logging points on our Dojo system, rewarding points for positive steps in their attitude and effort as well as those children who demonstrate our school values and exemplify our school motto. We are encouraging all children to 'make a difference' and show our values of **resilience, aspiration, kindness, respect and teamwork** in all they do. Certificates for our 'Star of the week' as well as our 'Lunchtime lovely' and 'Sporting superstar' will continue to be awarded. Each half term we present a 'pupil of the term' and will be also focussing on efforts in reading, writing and maths too.

### We are all different and we are all unique!

In September we will begin our work to become a 'No Outsiders' school- we want children to see that 'difference is a positive, not a negative'. After all, we are all different: none of us is exactly the same; we are all unique. As our children move through school, we want them to explore their differences so that they feel comfortable in their own skin. Children should know who they are and feel proud to be who they are, and also know that they are accepted without judgement.

'No Outsiders' gives children the language to challenge prejudice and show acceptance. Not only will they feel safe knowing they belong, they can also show others that they too are safe: "I will be your friend. You belong here. You don't have to change; there are no outsiders." It links well with the work we do in PSHE but ultimately encourages children

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about respectful relationships and friendships. The aim of one of the first lessons in EYFS, based on the book 'Red Rockets and Rainbow Jelly' is to understand that we can like different things and still be friends. This key theme runs through the scheme for all ages. We are teaching children to be non-judgmental, accepting and welcoming- this is how we will embody our school motto and 'make a difference' in society.

Having spoken to 'Friends of Hillcrest' I can happily say they are part funding this scheme and we will be inviting parents to join us in November for the launch and also sending home more information nearer the time. Please look out for this as we would love our families to join us on this journey.

Summer Reading Challenge		Children eat for free/ Summer holiday activities
<a href="https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/">https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/</a> If you are looking for a FREE activity over the summer, nip down to any local library and you can get signed up for the Summer reading challenge- they can borrow books, take part in any events the library is planning and if they complete the challenge they receive prizes along the way and a medal at the end of the summer.		I'm sure you'll have already seen on social media the amount of places where children can eat for free over the 6 week holidays but in case you haven't seen some of the events happening around. We have sent home a leaflet about activities too. Lots online if you search it too!
INSET dates 2023/24		School dinners
Our INSET dates; Monday September 4 <sup>th</sup> (Autumn 1) Friday December 22 <sup>nd</sup> (Autumn 2) Monday June 3 <sup>rd</sup> (Summer 1) Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July (Summer 2) Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July (Summer 2)		As you will have seen on the letter recently sent home we are increasing the cost of our school dinners to £2.50 from September in line with RMBC school meals service. We understand this causes yet more financial worry for some families but unfortunately we are already subsidising the meal cost already and must move in line with other schools. Those accessing free school meals will not be affected.
PLEASE HELP US...		
Donations of fabric	Assemblies- can you come in???	Emailing school
If you have any of the following, please send in;  Curtains, duvet covers etc. Guttering Crates Cable drums Fabric Old bean bags/cushions	Every week I would like to introduce children to the world outside of school and we will be taking part in a project called 'Dream big'. This is all about encouraging children to be aspirational but we, as educators are mindful of the fact that many of the jobs our children will go on and do haven't even been invented yet. On a Wednesday every week I would like our assembly to cover jobs.... is there anyone who would like to come and talk to our children about their jobs as I know they will absolutely love this. Bring pictures/ equipment and ANY job would be great. Having an 'actual' mechanic/ builder/ nurse/ IT consultant etc in person is so much more exciting than a teacher telling them about it! Please send an email to our school email address if you are willing to help us on 'Workforce Wednesdays' 😊	Can I please remind families to email the <b>school email address</b> if they have anything they wish to raise with a class teacher. This is to protect the work life balance of the staff ensuring all email communication is within appropriate working hours and not to personal work emails (unless otherwise arranged).

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
September 2023	
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Autumn term 1 starts for all pupils
<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 3:15- 4pm</b>	Parent drop in on new classes to meet teacher
<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September</b>	The Anti- Bullying company- Kindness and respect workshops in school
October 2023	
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup>- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Year 6 residential
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Half term

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