HILL FARM NEWS

CURRICULUM CHARACTER COMMUNITY

2 OCTOBER 2026

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE
VALUE OF THE HALF TERM – LIVE WITHOUT HARM
A VALUE IS A PRINCIPLE THAT GUIDES OUR THINKING AND BEHAVIOUR

Dear parent/carer,

Thank you to all the parents who joined us for the first of our Sharing Stories sessions in the school library. It was wonderful to see so many families enjoying books together and sharing a love of reading. Our librarian hosts a range of events throughout the week, so please keep an eye on the dates at the back of this newsletter if you would like to join us for future sessions.

A reminder that school photograph day is on **Thursday 8th October**. We look forward to seeing lots of smiles and smart uniforms as the children have their individual and sibling photographs taken.

We are delighted that educational visits and enrichment experiences are now underway, providing valuable learning opportunities beyond the classroom. This week, Little Dots Play Village will be visiting Nursery and Reception, bringing a variety of real-world role-play experiences including shops, emergency services and other community settings. These experiences help to develop children's communication, creativity and understanding of the world around them.

Throughout Black History Month, children will be learning about influential Black individuals who have made significant contributions to society, both past and present. These opportunities help to broaden children's understanding of history, celebrate diversity and inspire them through the achievements of others.

Thank you for your patience as we have transitioned to our new catering provider. We have experienced a few teething problems with SchoolGrid and appreciate your understanding while these are resolved. It is very important that meals are pre-ordered in advance. If a meal has not been ordered, your child will be offered a vegetarian pasta dish or a vegetarian jacket potato. If you continue to experience any difficulties with SchoolGrid, please contact the school office for support.

A polite reminder that all children attending Breakfast Club or After School Care Club must be **booked in advance**. Advance bookings are essential to ensure that we can plan appropriate staffing levels, activities and resources and maintain safe ratios for all children attending. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Finally, as technology continues to evolve and AI makes it easier for images to be altered or misused online, we will be gradually phasing out the use of identifiable photographs of pupils on our website and social media. We will continue to share the fantastic learning and experiences taking place at Hill Farm, but photographs will increasingly be taken from angles that do not identify individual children.

As part of this approach, photography and video recording by parents at assemblies and performances will no longer be permitted unless specific permission has been granted by the school. Thank you for your understanding as we take steps to further protect our children's privacy and digital safety.

Thank you for your support,

Dawn Wilson - Headteacher

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE



We were thrilled with the fantastic start to the year and would like to thank all families for prioritising school attendance. It has been wonderful to see so many children in school every day, ready to learn and make the most of every opportunity.

This week, however, our overall attendance has dipped. We have noticed that a significant proportion of absences have involved children from the same household being absent at the same time, resulting in several days of learning being missed across families. We understand that family circumstances can sometimes make attendance challenging, but even a few days away from school can have a real impact on children's learning, friendships and routines.

Thank you for your continued support. By working together and ensuring children are in school every day wherever possible, we can help them achieve their very best and enjoy all that school has to offer.

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY TIMETABLE

STUDENT RECOGNITION AWARDS

Our Celebration assemblies for Years 1 to 6 are held in the **KS2 Hall** and start **at 9:00am**. We would love it if you could join us with your family and friends. If your child is due to be presented with a certificate or an award you will receive an invite to the assembly no later than the Wednesday of that week.

- **Friday 9th October - Year 1 & 2 Celebration Assembly**
- **Friday 16th October - Year 6 Celebration Assembly**

TIME TO TALK

We offer weekly **'Time to Talk'** parent/carer appointments with **Miss Roper (SENCO).** It is an opportunity to talk about any questions or concerns you might have or to discuss progress, additional needs or **SEN support** for your child. Appointments are available every **Tuesday & Wednesday** and can be made via the office. **Time to Talk'** appointments are available at **8:30am or 8:50am**.

If you would like to contact the **SENCo** via email, please send to: hfp-sendenquiries@castlephoenixtrust.org.uk

NEWSLETTER NATTER

Debate this week's Newsletter Natter at home with your family and friends to put your Oracy skills to the test.

- **What makes you feel proud of your school, family or community?**

READING CHALLENGE



DRESSING-UP TREASURES & MUD KITCHEN MAGIC!



Our older children are busy dreaming up theatrical adventures, and we're on the lookout for some wonderful treasures to help bring their ideas to life! We'd love any adult-sized hats, blazers, dresses, jackets, bags, shoes, scarves or other dressing-up delights to fill our stage with characters, costumes and a little bit of magic.

So, before you pop those treasures in the bin, send them our way — you never know what magical adventure they might become!

OPAL ADVENTURES ARE GROWING!

This term, there are lots of exciting things happening with Opal, and we'd love for you to be part of the fun!

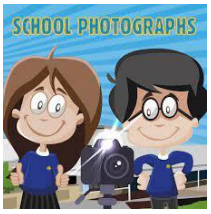
We're on the hunt for **metal spoons** – any size, any shape – to add some magic to our outdoor play.

Our **KS1 Mud Kitchen** is bubbling away with new ideas, and we'd be thrilled with donations of **pots, pans, or kitchen bits and bobs** you no longer need.

Your amazing support helps us create outdoor spaces full of creativity, imagination, and joy for the children. Thank you for helping us make playtime even more special!



SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS



Just a reminder that the school photographer will be in school on **Thursday 8th October 2026**

PRE-ORDER SCHOOL LUNCHES



Please remember to go on to **SchoolGrid** and **pre-order** your child's lunches

FLU IMMUNISATION



The School Aged Immunisation Service will be coming to your school on:

13th October 2026

Look out for an email or text with a consent form.
If you do not receive the consent email or text, please contact your School Aged Immunisation Service OR follow this link to complete a consent form for your child:

Give or refuse consent for your child's flu vaccination – Give or refuse consent for vaccinations

Please contact us on:

02476 961422 or Bewise.immunise@covwarkpt.nhs.uk

PRELOVED UNIFORM



If your child has outgrown their school cardigan or sweatshirt please think about donating to the school office. We would be happy to receive clean items in a reasonable condition, to be able to sell from the school office, to help boost school funds.

SHARING STORIES

Sharing Stories

PARENTS CAN JOIN THEIR CHILDREN IN THE LIBRARY TO READ AND SHARE STORIES ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

29TH SEPTEMBER - 2EF
6TH OCTOBER - 2JF
13TH OCTOBER - 1OL
20TH OCTOBER - 1LL
Session is 9-9:30am

Mrs Nicholds will collect parents from the KS1 playground from 8:40am



CULTURE DAY

Recommended Reads from Hill Farm School Community Library

Reception — Autumn 1, 2026



We're Going on a Bear Hunt
By Michael Rosen

Year 1



Lost and Found
By Oliver Jeffers

Year 2



Esio Trot
By Roald Dahl

Year 3



Claude on the Slopes
By Alex T Smith

Year 4



Horrible Histories
By Terry Deary

Year 5



Who Let the Gods Out
By Maz Evans

Year 6



War Horse
By Michael Morpurgo

THE HIVE

The Hive

SEND Parent Community Support Group

MONDAY 5th October
The Hive
Mrs Stewart's OUTDOOR TAKEOVER!

Buzz into Autumn at The Hive!

Join us for a fun, hands-on outdoor session for children and their grown-ups.

Work together to create your very own:

- 'Leafy creatures'
- Autumn crowns
- Seasonal-inspired arts, crafts and playful activities in the fresh air.

It's a lovely chance to connect, get creative side by side and enjoy quality time together outdoors.

CHANGED THE ANGLE NOT THE STORY



KEY DATES 2026 / 2027

Date	Year Group	Event
Monday 5th October 2026	Whole School	The Hive 3:30pm – 4:15pm
Tuesday 6th October 2026	Class 2JF	Sharing Stories with Parents Class 2JF 9:00 - 9:30am
Thursday 8th October 2026	Whole School	School Photographs
Tuesday 13th October 2026	Class 1OL	Sharing Stories with Parents Class 1OL 9:00 - 9:30am
Tuesday 13th October 2026	Reception to Year 6	Flu Immunisation
Friday 16th October 2026	Whole School	Culture Day (details to follow)
Tuesday 20th October 2026	Class 1LL	Sharing Stories with Parents Class 2EF 9:00 - 9:30am
Thursday 22nd October 2026	Whole School	Spooky Disco (details to follow)
Thursday 22nd October 2026	Whole School	Break up for Holidays at 3:20pm
Friday 23rd October 2026	Whole School	Teacher Training Day
Monday 2nd November 2026	Whole School	School Re-opens – 8:30am
Thursday 5th November 2026	Year 5	Beaumanor Hall Trip
w/c Monday 9th November 2026	Whole School	Parents evenings
Wednesday 11th November 2026	Year 2	Warwick Castle Trip
Thursday 19th November 2026	New Parents	Reception Open Day
Friday 27th November 2026	Whole School	Non-Uniform for Bottle Donation
Monday 30th November 20026	Year 6	Health Questionnaires
Wednesday 2nd December 2026	Year 6	School Nursing Team
Thursday 3rd December 2026	Whole School	Non-Uniform for Chocolate Donation
Friday 4th December 2026	Whole School	School Closed – Teacher Training Day
Friday 11th December 2026	Whole School	Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 11th December 2026	Whole School	Christmas Fair 2pm
Friday 18th December 2026	Whole School	Break up for Holidays at 3:20pm
Monday 4th January 2027	Whole School	School Closed – Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 5th January 2027	Whole School	School Re-opens – 8:30am
Tuesday 9th February 2027	Year 2	Selly Manor Trip
Friday 12th February 2027	Whole School	Break up for Half Term – 3:20pm
Monday 22nd February 2027	Whole School	School Closed – Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 23rd February 2026	Whole School	School Re-opens – 8:30am
Thursday 11th March 2027	Reception & Year 6	Height & Weight Check
Thursday 25th March 2027	Whole School	Break up for Holidays – 3:20pm
Monday 12th April 2027	Whole School	School Closed – Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 13th April 2027	Whole School	School Re-opens – 8:30am
Monday 3rd May 2027	Whole School	School Closed – Bank Holiday - May day
Tuesday 4th May 2027	Whole School	School Re-opens – 8:30am
Monday 10th May – 14th May 2027	Year 6	SATS Week
Friday 28th May 2027	Whole School	Break up for Half Term – 3:20pm
Monday 7th June 2027	Whole School	School Re-opens – 8:30am
Friday 25th June 2027	Whole School	School Closed – Teacher Training Day
Wednesday 7th July 2027	Whole School	Transition Day
Wednesday 21st July 2027	Whole School	Break up for Holidays – 3:20pm