# HILL FARM NEWS

CURRICULUM CHARACTER COMMUNITY

**6 NOVEMBER 2026**

## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE
## VALUE OF THE HALF TERM – EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
## A VALUE IS A PRINCIPLE THAT GUIDES OUR THINKING AND BEHAVIOUR

Dear parent/carer

Welcome back to a term packed with learning, exciting trips, enrichment opportunities and extracurricular activities for our pupils to enjoy – not to mention the festive celebrations that will be here before we know it!

As part of Black History Month – Honouring our Communities, pupils have been learning about influential Black figures and proudly shared their knowledge during a special assembly. They explored the lives and achievements of inspiring individuals including Nelson Mandela, Floella Benjamin and Bob Marley, developing a greater understanding of their contributions and lasting impact.

Our Year 5 pupils enjoyed an exciting and immersive visit to Beaumanor Hall as part of their history topic. The children experienced what life was like during the Blitz, including taking part in a simulated air raid that brought this significant period of history vividly to life. The visit provided a memorable opportunity to deepen their learning beyond the classroom.

Our Year 4 pupils enjoyed a special visit from the local Fire and Rescue Service, who delivered an engaging assembly on fire safety. Children learned how to stay safe in a variety of situations and gained valuable knowledge about what to do in an emergency. The session was both informative and interactive, helping pupils build confidence and understanding of how to keep themselves and others safe.

Our Spooky Disco was a tremendous success, raising over £550 for the school fund. The money raised will be used to purchase additional lunchtime resources and equipment to support creative play as part of our OPAL initiative. We are always grateful for donations of unwanted outdoor toys and equipment, which help us continue to expand our provision. Please see the special section later in this newsletter for further information about how you can help.

As the weather begins to change, pupils will continue to make full use of our field and outdoor spaces. To help keep uniforms clean and dry, please ensure your child brings a named change of clothes and a pair of wellington boots or other old footwear, if you have any, to keep in school.

Finally, please remember that we are 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 given by the school. We know that parents enjoy capturing these special moments, and we thank you for your understanding as we take this additional step to protect our children's privacy and digital safety.

Thank you for your support,

*Dawn Wilson - Headteacher*

## ATTENDANCE SPACE MISSION UPDATE




This half term, we launched our new space-themed attendance board to help children celebrate the importance of coming to school every day. Classes achieving **96%+ attendance** become **Star Classes,** shining brightly and reaching for the stars. Classes with **95-95.9% attendance** are **Rocket Classes**, well on their way to star status, while classes **below 95%** land in the **Alien Zone** and work together to improve attendance and continue their journey. Through class discussions and celebrations, we are encouraging children to recognise that every day in school counts and helps them make the most of their learning opportunities. Let's keep aiming for the stars together!

## 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 13 November – Years 3,4 & 5 Celebration Assembly**
- **Friday 20 November – Years 1 & 2 Celebration Assembly**
- **Friday 27 November – EYFS Celebration Assembly**
- **Friday 4 December – Years 3,4 & 5 Celebration Assembly**
- **Tuesday 8 December – Year 5 Class Assembly**
- **Wednesday 9 December – Year 6 Celebration Assembly**
- **Friday 11 December – Years 1 & 2 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

Values-based Education VbE Quality Mark · Ofsted GRADED GOOD · Voice 21 Oracy Centre of Excellence 2024 · Young Carers in Schools Award 2018 · MUSIC MARK SCHOOL MEMBER · Arts Council England Artsmark Silver Award Awarded by Arts Council England · Coventry GOLD · We are a Ruth Miskin Read Write Inc. school 2024 · Little Coventry Communicators

## NEWSLETTER NATTER

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

- **If you could invent a new fruit, what would it look like, taste like, and be named?**

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!




We are incredibly grateful for the generous donations of unwanted items for lunchtime play. Donations such as toy cars, Lego, dolls, prams and kitchen items including wooden spoons, bowls and scales help to enrich our children's imaginative and creative play opportunities.
Thank you for your continued support.

## RAFFLE FOR OPAL SUPPLIES




## RECEPTION OPEN DAY 2027




You're invited to our Reception 2027 Open Day on Thursday 19th November.
The event will begin with a guided tour of the school, concluding in the Reception classroom where you'll have the opportunity to explore both the indoor and outdoor learning environments. Your child is welcome to join you on the tour.
Please book an appointment time via the office.

## THE HIVE



**The Hive is BACK!**

A huge thank you to the parents and children from attending



Mrs Stewart's outdoor takeover of **The Hive**. Both children and parents had a creative fun filled session collecting Autumn treasures and creating a crown.
A lovely outdoor activity that can be created at home.
Join us for the next Hive on **Monday 30th November**.

## NEW GUIDANCE FOR PE & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

### ⚠ IMPORTANT: New PE Jewellery Policy

Please note an important update regarding **all PE lessons, sports clubs, and competitions**.

Following updated safety guidance from the **Association for Physical Education (afPE)**, children must now **remove all jewellery** before taking part in physical activities.

- **Earrings and studs** must be fully removed
- **Taping over earrings is no longer allowed**, as it does not eliminate the risk of injury.

We understand this is a change from previous practice and greatly appreciate your support in helping us introduce this safely and consistently.

## WRAPAROUND CLUBS

Please remember that children **must have a booking in place before** attending Breakfast Club or After School Care Club. We continue to have children arriving who have not been booked in, which makes it very difficult for us to plan staffing and make sure we have safe arrangements in place. From now on, please ensure that your child is booked in advance before bringing or sending them to the club.
Thank you for your cooperation.

## LIBRARY CORNER

Hill Farm Primary

*Sharing Stories*

PARENTS OF CHILDREN IN HEDGEHOGS

ARE INVITED TO TO THE LIBRARY FOR A 'SHARE A STORY' SESSION WITH OUR LIBRARIAN, MRS NICHOLDS

9 – 9:30AM ON TUESDAY 10TH NOVEMBER

MRS NICHOLDS WILL COLLECT PARENTS FROM THE PLAYGROUND FROM 8:40AM

PLEASE FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK X.COM **@hillfarmprimary** OR VIA FIREFLY

## KEY DATES 2026 / 2027

| Date | Year Group | Event |
|---|---|---|
| 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 |
| Friday 27th November 2026 | Year 4 | Black Country Museum Trip |
| Monday 30th November 2026 | Year 6 | Health Questionnaires |
| Wednesday 2nd December 2026 | Year 6 | School Nursing Team |
| Thursday 3rd December 2026 | Whole School | Non-Uniform for Chocolate Donation |
| Thursday 3rd December 2026 | Year 1 | Winter Wonderland Trip |
| Thursday 3rd December 2026 | Year 6 | Year 6 Movie Night – 3:30pm – 5:30pm |
| Friday 4th December 2026 | Whole School | School Closed – Teacher Training Day |
| Wednesday 9th December 2026 | Invited Parents | Rocksteady Concert – 9:00am KS2 Hall |
| 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 2027 | Whole School | School Re-opens – 8:30am |
| Thursday 11th March 2027 | Reception & Year 6 | Height & Weight Check |
| Wednesday 24th March 2027 | Invited Parents | Rocksteady Concert – 9:00am – KS2 Hall |
| 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 14th July 2027 | Invited Parents | Rocksteady Concert – 9:00am – KS2 Hall |
| Wednesday 21st July 2027 | Whole School | Break up for Holidays – 3:20pm |

## ODD SOCKS DAY

**Odd Socks Day** in the UK will take place on
**Monday 15 November 2027**
marking the start of Anti-Bullying Week.

- **Purpose:** To promote individuality, celebrate what makes people unique, and raise awareness against bullying in schools
- **How to Participate:** Wear mismatched or funky odd socks to school.