



ISSUE 2

HILLCREST NEWS

HILLCREST EARLY YEARS ACADEMY NEWSLETTER
WEEK ENDING 13TH FEBRUARY 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been a fantastic start to the new year, and it's been wonderful to see everyone back together again. Even though the Great British weather hasn't been on our side, our classrooms have stayed warm, welcoming, and full of learning and laughter.

A quick reminder that we finish for half term on **Friday 13th February** and we return on **Monday 23rd February**, including all nursery sessions.

We have got lots to look forward to in Spring Term 2—World Book Week fun, musical performances, Reading Evening, an Aspirational Assembly with Abigail Buckland, Easter crafts, and plenty more exciting opportunities for our children. Please keep an eye on Class Dojo for regular updates as this is where all information will be communicated. You can also find important dates at the bottom of this newsletter.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support of the Academy and the staff team - our team do work incredibly hard to give the very best for our little people so it is lovely to see that recognised.

As always, my door is always open should you have any queries or anything you'd like to talk about.

Miss Samantha Stokes - Headteacher

Baby Wipes and Nappies

If your child requires changing in school, please ensure that they have enough nappies and wipes with them for the day. You can always bring in more than needed and we can store them if this is easier.

Thank you!

Aim high and achieve...

Positive Power

How can you earn it?

After half-term, we will be introducing a new Gem to our Gem Project. This Gem is going to be called the 'Positive Gem' and children will be able to earn their 'Positive Power.' Each week, children across school will work together to see which class earns the most positive power and this will be rewarded in our Celebration Assembly with our new 'Positive Power' trophy!

Each term, we will have a different focus and this term's focus will be around 'Calmness' - the Pink Positivity Gem can be earned in the hall during Breakfast Club, Lunchtimes and After School Club for showing calmness. This can be through using indoor voices, lining up sensibly, staying in seats and not touching other people's food.

**'When the hall is calm and bright,
And everyone is being polite,
Positive Choices shine like them -
That's how you earn the Pink Positivity
Gem!**

**With kind words shared and smiles that
glow,
You help our school community grow!'**



Struggling with your child's sleep?

Does this sound familiar? Are you really struggling with your child's sleeping pattern? Here are some places to turn to for support.



[Lullaby Trust](#)

[The Sleep Charity](#)

[The National Sleep Helpline](#)



Time to say goodbye...

At the end of the week, we will say a very, very sad goodbye to our wonderful Chloe. Chloe has worked as our Attendance Lead and as part of our office admin team at Hillcrest and we will miss her greatly. Chloe has worked in conjunction with many of our families over the years to help and support the children on their educational journey and I know many of you will join me in saying that we will miss her smiley face in the office every day. Chloe, we are wishing you a lifetime of happiness as you start your next exciting chapter and we can't wait to hear how your adventures are going! All our love, The Hillcrest Team and Community



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



FEBRUARY

Monday 23rd Feb - School reopens

APRIL

Thursday 2nd April - Break up for Easter

Tuesday 21st April - Return to school

Monday 27th April - Dental survey in school

MARCH

Monday 2nd March - World Book Week

Tuesday 3rd March - Reading Evening

Tuesday 3rd March - Musical Performance

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day

Thursday 12th March - Aspirational Assembly with Abigail Buckland

Week commencing 23rd March - Parents' Evenings