



# Hillstone News

## Platinum Picnic

We will be holding a platinum picnic on Friday 27th May at 2pm to celebrate the queen's jubilee. Children can wear red, white and blue all day. You can join us if you wish at 2.00pm, bring a picnic blanket and some light snacks for you and your child. Each year group will be performing a song from one of the past seven decades.



## Attendance

Our children have had a difficult year where they have missed lots of learning time.

It is crucial that they now have good attendance in order to make up for lost learning. Unfortunately our attendance has dropped below the national average. A polite reminder, children should not be taking holidays during term time, and should not have odd dates off here and there, every lesson counts! Please also arrive on time so that your child does not miss the vital bits of learning at the start of the day.

## Site Safety

We are so fortunate to have our large site but that can mean that ensuring site safety at all times can be a challenge. I have long been concerned by the fact that adults can come straight on to site and our playground because the gate is not locked. After half term, we are going to have an electronic buzzer put on the gates. This means that outside of dropping off and picking up times, the gates will be locked and you will have to buzz through to the office before they will let you in. Once inside we would appreciate if you would go to the left and walk up the path rather than on to the playground.

## Year 6 SAT's

Congratulations to our Year 6's for getting through SAT's week! We are so proud of how hard they have worked and their mature approach to these exams. Thanks too go out to our fantastic canteen team and year 6 team, who everyday have put on a fantastic spread for breakfast, which set the year 6 children up for the best possible start to the SAT test's

## Judo Club

Ex Olympian Dennis Stewart came in to carry out a judo workshop last week which was so successful we asked him to deliver an after school club for our year 3 and 4's. This Wednesday was the first session, the club proved extremely popular and was oversubscribed. This fantastic sport will help to increase confidence, concentration, self-discipline and fitness.

## Farmers' Market

After a mostly wet day on Wednesday, the sun came up just in time for chef's Pop-up Market. Once again chef was able to make available a range of discounted fruit and vegetables. If you didn't make it this time look out for an even bigger and better Farmers' Market on the **23rd June**

## Volunteers

We have so many events happening this summer. Please ensure you are up to date by looking at the calendar on the website. We would love volunteers for many of the events, to help serve refreshments, set up gazebos, marshal children etc.. If you can help in any way we would be most grateful.

## Mela

Year 4's are part of a very exciting project to celebrate the Commonwealth Games coming to Birmingham. We have been linked with schools in India and we are the lead school for a cluster of schools in the East of the city. Our children will be working with Sampad, an East Asian cultural organisation to learn a bhangra dance. The schools in Delhi are learning songs and dances from the West End musical Wicked. On the 8th July, the whole project will culminate in a Mela (an Indian word for festival). There will be a host of sporting stations that children from our school, our clusters schools and the community can come and have a go out. Stickers and medals will be handed out for trying new sports. The dances will also be performed on an outdoor stage and there will be a live link to Delhi. Chef will ensure there are some taster stations to try Indian snacks. We would be very grateful if any of you have links with local sporting organisations or even organisations such as brownies, cubs, etc that would like to have a station at the Mela and run an activity— this will help to promote their organisation. We would also like to hear from anyone who could help us in the preparation for the day putting up gazebos—we will have about 30 to put up, or even on the day serving refreshments, marshalling etc.

## Bikeability

Over the next few weeks years 3,4 and 6 will get the opportunity to take part in Bikeability. We think being able to ride a bike like swimming is a life skill we want all our children to have.

## Family Support Work

Most of our staff do an extraordinary job going above and beyond expectations. I did want to highlight to you though, an extract from a recent communication from a social worker regarding the support provided by our pastoral worker.

*I reiterate that your passion in your work is astounding and I cannot commend you enough for how you are so resourceful, child/family-centred in your role. The issues you disclosed that are challenging the family of my young person, and how you have supported mum manage, is beyond the remit of your work and frankly I have yet to identify the same level of service from other DSL professionals so I want to thank you again.*

Gemma will be sending out a survey after half term to ascertain your views on a number of aspects of school. It would be really helpful if you could take the time to complete it please.



# Hillstone Stars

Hayden Barritt-Matthews

Rukaya Rabiou Ibrahim

Noah Hall

Pheobe Kirk

Isabel McDonald

Omar Fofana

Aoife-Maureen Nally Meah

Isobel O'Neill

Frankie Weir

Ava Winters

Skye Burkett

Ahmed Mushtaq

