



Hillstone News

Car Free Streets

Thank you for your support in keeping the area outside school safe for our children. The overwhelming majority of parents support this. It is hard for us to monitor both entrances to the road, at all times and we are very grateful to our new local policeman PC Ed who is going to be in attendance a few times a week. We have noticed that a few parents are waiting till car free streets has finished at quarter to nine, then driving along and to take their child into school. This is resulting in children being late for lessons, children hate being late, it draws attention to them and they are embarrassed by it and they are missing valuable learning time.

The whole purpose of car free streets is to reduce traffic around school for safety and health benefits. More and more children are having trouble with asthma and other respiratory related problems, giving them a cleaner environment will help in the fight against this. By waiting until quarter to nine to drive down Hillstone Road, you are defeating the purpose as well as causing your child to be late.

There is plenty of parking available at the Norman Chamberlain Playing Fields. It is then a 7 minute walk to school. This could be a lovely time with your child to talk about the day ahead, as well as keeping them healthy and enabling you to get your steps in.

I know this means leaving 5 minutes earlier but please consider it - your child will benefit.

Harvest

We will be holding our annual Harvest Festival Assembly on Monday 4th October. All donations will be given to the local food bank. Representatives from Kingfisher Food Bank will be joining us at the assembly to accept our donations.



Kiva

We have started our anti-bullying approach called Kiva. The leaflet on the next page provides parents with a good overview of the programme and the link below will direct you to the full Kiva Parents Guide.

<https://data.kivaprogram.net/parents/>

You will shortly be receiving a form. We would like to know whether you would like a specific meeting with Ms Kinsman (who is responsible for the Kiva programme in school) and myself. If there is demand for this we can arrange an early evening meeting where we can explain it in more detail.

Violin

We have a great tradition of specialist music tuition at Hillstone. The governors have agreed to offer these at a highly subsidised rate. We currently have 14 children throughout the school who are learning violin and our violin teacher has the capacity for more students. Ideally we like to start them in reception, years 1 and 2, so that they can progress with us through the school.

The method of delivery is known as Suzuki. This involves an adult attending the lesson with the child so that they understand what the child has to do in practice time at home. This is the most effective method of learning and progress is faster if an adult does attend. However, I would not want any child to miss out on lessons because their parent has to go to work, so we will offer some group lessons whereby an adult does not have to accompany.

We will be holding an assembly on October 7th for parents of any child in reception and years 1 and 2 to come and see some of the existing children perform and ask questions.

PTA

Thank you to the lovely parents and staff who came to our PTA meeting this week. Lots of great ideas were discussed both for fundraising and for community events. Do come and join them if you have ideas or feel you could help in any way.



We already have a few events booked:

- The Spooky Ball
- Bonfire Night
- Christmas Fair

The school calendar will be kept updated with these dates. You will also find term dates and parents evening dates.

Children's University

We already have several clubs taking place; cross country, football, trampolining, street dance, guitar, choir. All teachers and TA's run an extra curricular at some point in the school year. We would love to hear from children what clubs they would like us to run.

All clubs are validated for the Children's University. All children will have access to the Children's University dashboard on our website where they can log their hours which will accumulate towards a graduation. There are also links to other local clubs and activities that children can participate in. Please contact Mus in the office if your child needs a reminder of their password for the site.



The KiVa™ program is being implemented at our school!



KiVa stands for **against bullying** or **antibullying**. The KiVa program is a model funded by the Finnish ministry of education and developed by the University of Turku in order to reduce school bullying. **KiVa has been shown to reduce bullying and to increase well-being at school!** In Finland almost all elementary schools are implementing the KiVa program.

During KiVa lessons the students will learn about ways to fight bullying

KiVa is visible in many ways in the daily life at school. The students will take part in the KiVa lessons (10 lessons, each consisting of two 45-minute sessions). The lessons include discussions, group work, short films about bullying and role play. Their content proceeds from general topics such as the importance of respect in human relationships to the mechanism and consequences of bullying. Many lessons concentrate on the role a group can have in maintaining or stopping bullying; the students think about and practice different ways to resist bullying. The lessons are supplemented by the KiVa antibullying computer game. KiVa posters in the school halls ensure that the program is constantly visible.

"It's good to be at a KiVa school!"

www.kivaprogram.net

"There's no bullying at a KiVa school"



The **KiVa Parents' Guide** is available on the KiVa website at <https://data.kivaprogram.net/parents/>

The KiVa team and the class teacher tackle the bullying cases together

Each school has a taskforce, the KiVa team, which consists of at least three teachers or other members of the school staff. Together with the class teacher they tackle the acute bullying cases. The school staff has been familiarized with ways to implement the KiVa program and to tackle bullying cases.

If you suspect your child is being bullied or you have a reason to believe that s/he is bullying others, please contact the school so that the matter can be dealt with as efficiently and as soon as possible! Discuss bullying together with your child even if s/he is not bullied or does not bully others. It is important that you and your child together think about what to do if someone is being bullied at his/her school!



Hillstone Stars

Each week, the class teacher will choose a Hillstone Star: A child who has produced a very high quality piece of work or who has made an exceptional effort that week. They will be invited to an afternoon tea with Ms Sparrow and Mr King, where we will celebrate

Week Ending 17th September

Zofia Pawlaczyk Samuel Butler

George Cooke Jensen Lay

Kelsie Daly Mila-Rose Bacciochi

Poppy Lucas Zayne Latchford

Jahriah Matthews Rhyli Hewitt

Evie Harford

Week Ending 24th September

Che Vincent Roan Dollani

Ataya Harborne Riley Flynn

Brody Ryley Hanniel Sarpong

