



# Hillstone News

## HARVEST FESTIVAL

I was overwhelmed with the amount of donations that you all so generously made for our Harvest Festival. In twenty years of headship at Hillstone, this has been the largest

amount that has been donated and I think is a reflection of the times and a recognition of knowing that there are people struggling to feed their families at the moment. This is such a good lesson to teach our children; helping others at difficult times in their lives. We had a lovely assembly with performances from our talented guitarists and choir. All the food has been taken to the Kingfish-



**Safeguarding**  
Last week, I invited an independent safeguarding consultant into Hillstone to undertake a review. He was very pleased with all of our processes. I have not had the final report yet but will share his findings with you presently.

We also had a fire drill and I was pleased to report the whole

## Girls' Football

We have been very impressed with our three girls who are playing for the district team. What Coach has noticed with all of three girls is their growth mind-set. They are willing to listen to advice, learn new skills and are resilient when things go wrong. Having a growth mind-set is valuable for all areas of the curriculum and throughout life. At Hillstone we try to teach these skills explicitly to our children. To continue with football, the opposite of having a growth mind set is someone who already thinks they are really good at it and so has little to learn and is unable to cope well when things go wrong, i.e. they fall over or lose. When that happens they get upset or angry and often start finding excuses. Someone with a growth mind-set will reflect on what they can learn when things go wrong.

## Sports Council

Our new sports councillors are as follows:

Neve Hoare, Henry Jones, Keanu Blackwood, Jessica Burns  
Evie Sale, Jake Bullock, Maryam Hadi, Summer Brown

They will become the Changemakers for the Commonwealth Connections project.

## Safeguarding

I would ask you to consider what your let your children watch at home. We hear children using offensive and sexualised language in the playground which we assume has come from their viewing although as you can image we are alerted from a safeguarding perspective.

It has just been brought to my attention that many children are watching Squid Games, a programme on Netflix which is aimed at 15 years and above and features extreme violence. Children are then acting out these games at playtime.

Please let children enjoy their childhood and not let them watch content that is too old for them.

We have also been made aware of inappropriate coded phrases that are being used in online gaming situations. I am going to ask Matt Sparling our independent safeguarding consultant if he will run an information meeting for parents to help them understand this.

## Spooky Ball

This years Halloween Disco is taking place on 7th October. We are conscious that this is earlier than usual but this is because Halloween will fall in half term and our Year 6 children are away at Woodlands the week before half term and were particularly keen to have their last opportunity to attend the event.



An event after half term, would clash with bonfire night which is exhausting for the PTA!

## Times

Infant Disco: 4.30 - 5.30pm

Junior Disco: 6.00 - 7.00pm

**Tickets cost: £2.00 (sold in playground at hometime)**

- Haunted House: £1 entry
- Chips: £1 - Sausage: 50p - Squash: 50p
- Pocket money games: 30p a go

## Car Free Streets

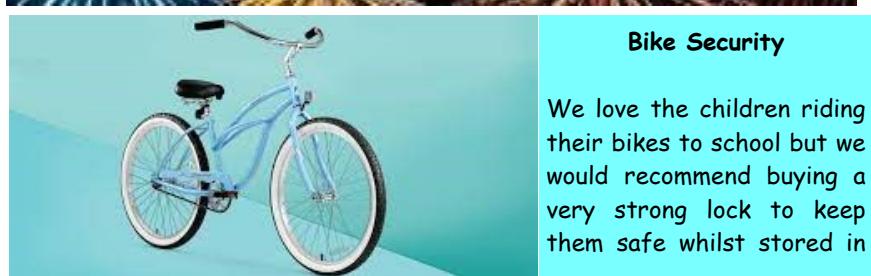
We are very grateful to PC Ed who will be in regular attendance on Hillstone Road. The primary purpose of car free streets is to make the road safer for our children. In addition it provides health benefits to the area around the school of being less polluting which is less detrimental to those with asthma. It encourages children to take the healthier option of walking and can give parents and children a lovely time to walk together and talk about the day ahead. There are signs up requesting that people do not park on the grass verges, as you can imagine it is not nice for the residents. I appreciate if you have to get off to work, you may need to use the car to drop them off en-route. However, if you do not need the car in the morning it would be beneficial to the community if you could walk with your child.



## Residentials

One of the core tenets of Hillstone is a belief in the benefits of outdoor education. We are so fortunate at Hillstone to have such great grounds that we try to utilise as much as possible. But we also offer a residential experience from year 2 upwards. Some year groups make use of the Brighouse hostel near Atherstone, that we co own along with 20 other schools. We have not been able to go for 2 years, but we are thrilled that our year 2 children will be going for an overnight stay there next week. The following week our year 6 children will be having a week long residential experience at Woodlands.

As well as learning specific skills whilst at these centres, a stay in a residential helps support children's mental health. In addition it develops children's independence, their teamwork, their resilience, their willingness to have a



### Bike Security

We love the children riding their bikes to school but we would recommend buying a very strong lock to keep them safe whilst stored in

**Morrisons Good to Grow**  
We are collecting tokens from Morrisons to buy gardening equipment for the school. Please download the app and collect tokens every time you buy your shopping.  
<https://my.morrisons.com/blog/community/good-to-grow/>



### Download the My Morrisons app

Download the MyMorrisons app to start collecting Grow Tokens and choose the school you'd like to donate them to.

[Download on Apple App Store>>](#)

[Download on Google Play>>](#)

Can you help the PTA in any way?



# 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 1st October 2021*

*Jessica-Mai Lewis*

*Ava-Grace Lynch*

*Jessie Wakeman*

*Darcey McBride*

*Azaan Khawaja*

*Lexi Hickman*

*Conner Hall*

*Archie Lee*

*Henry Jones*

*Bella Allsop*

*Loewen Lee*

