

Hiller Newsletter

#ProudtobeAHiller

Week beginning 6th October 2025

Timings of the school day

- Gates open at 8:40am
- Classroom doors open at 8:40am
- School starts at 8.50am
- Gates close promptly at 8.55am
- School finishes at 3:20pm

Letters / emails sent out this week...

'Happy Hillers Preschool'

We currently have a **few afternoon spaces available** for children who turned 3 years old before September 2025. Afternoon sessions run from **12:30 PM to 3:30 PM**, offering a warm, engaging environment for learning and play.

Government funding can be used towards these sessions, making it a great opportunity for families looking for flexible preschool options. If you're interested or would like more information, please get in touch with us soon — spaces are limited!

Headteacher's Message

Week 6 complete! And it's been a really busy one! A big thank you to Sarah, who took our school photographs at the start of the week—we can't wait to see the results. We had a wonderful turn out for our Reading cafes on Tuesday and Thursday—thank you to everyone who came and supported this event. Today has been great—seeing everyone dressed in yellow supporting Hello Yellow Day—topped off with receiving our special Mental Health Award! Have a great weekend!



Dani Brayshaw #ProudtobeAHiller

House Benchball

Next **Friday, 17th October** we are holding our first House event 'House Benchball'. Please ensure that all children wear their PE kit to school on that day. Many thanks in advance.



Term 2 important dates

Term 2 is always such a busy term with the run up to Christmas—so please keep an eye out for the dates on these newsletters and our online calendar on our school website. We have already booked in class assemblies, productions and dress up days. Make a note of these when they come up and further details about these events will be shared nearer the time.

Dates for your diary

October

14th—New Parent tour at 11am
 Netball match V Upton at 3.30pm
16th—New Parent tour at 2pm
17th—House Benchball
21st—Year 6 trip to Steam
24th—Year 4 trip to Carleon
END OF TERM finish at 3.20pm
27th—31st —HALF TERM

November

2nd—Firework Night at Coney Hill RFC (see poster)
3rd— **TERM 2 STARTS**
4th—Parents Evening (details to follow)
5th—Parents Evening (details to follow)
 New Parent tour at 11am
7th—Year 4 trip to Gloucester Museum
10th—Year 3 trip to St Fagans
 Anti-bullying week
12th—New Parent tour at 11.00am
14th—Children in Need / Feel Good Friday
 PTFA Neon discos (details to follow)
18th—Outdoor learning—Year 2 & 6
21st—New Parent tour at 11am
25th—'Reading Café' for Year 2 & 3 (details to follow)
 Outdoor learning—Year 1 & 5
26th—Reading Café for Reception & Year 1
 Year 4 class assembly at 2.45pm
 Year 1 out at Christmas Sports event (pm)
27th—Year 3 class assembly at 2.45pm
28th—House Times Tables event

December

2nd—Outdoor Learning—Year 3 & 4
3rd—Year 5 class assembly at 2.45pm
 PTFA fundraiser 'Wreath making workshop'
4th—Year 6 class assembly
5th—Elf Day / donations for the Christmas Fayre (details to follow)
8th / 9th—Year 1 & 2 Christmas show (details to follow)
10th—Reception and KS1 Christmas Craft event with parents (am) details to follow
12th—PTFA Christmas Fayre (details to follow)
15th & 16th—Preschool and Reception Nativity (details to follow)

Hillier Highlights

Here are our highlights this week!

Happy Hillers Preschool

"We have been exploring the colour green this week. We have added basil leaves to green playdough, created different shades of green with paint and chopped and mashed up avocados to make our own guacamole and made fresh lime juice!"

Reception

"This week we have really enjoyed learning more sounds and particularly liked flying the kites that we made. We have also explored Autumn using our senses and have done some fab re-telling of The Little Red Hen story which we showed our families in the Reading café"

Year 1

"We have been reading 'Fabulous Frankie' this week and have loved it. We made our own flamingo as a team but it had gone missing! We are using adjectives and asking questions to make missing posters to hopefully get our lovely flamingo back"

Year 2

"This week we have written our Antarctic Explorer adverts! We have also been working hard finding addition pairs to 100! In PE we have been practicing our underarm throws. Thank you to our parents / carers who came to the Reading café too!"

Year 3

"This week we have been learning about Mary Anning in Science and created amazing Kenning poems about her work. We also loved our outdoor learning session and completed an Autumn themed scavenger hunt!"

Year 4

"We have had an excellent week. We enjoyed our fun outdoor learning session and wrote persuasive adverts for people to join the Roman army. In History, we showed great understanding of why Julius Caesar failed. In Science, we have been finding out how our digestive system works!"

Year 5

"We have had a great week planning and beginning to write our non-chronological reports about Ancient Maya. We have also started our DT project where we have been planning our own spaghetti bolognese recipe!"

Year 6

"This week we have been working really hard and have loved writing our flashback stories based on The Piano. In History, we have also been exploring the Battle of Britain, looking at a variety of real sources to find out what life was like during this time. In Science, we have been looking at hazards when using electricity and creating fact files to keep us safe!"

Clubs—Term 1

Children MUST bring in PE kit if they are taking part in an active sport club

Mondays

Lego and Construction—Year 1 & 2

Buzz Club—Year 6

Art and Photography—Year 3 & 4

Tuesdays

Dance—Year 1 & 2

Wednesday

Benchball—Year 3 & 4

Coding Club—Year 4, 5 & 6

Girls Football—Year 4, 5 & 6

Thursday

Drama and Stories—Year 2 & 3

Friday

Netball—Year 4, 5 & 6

All clubs END the week ending 17th November except Lego club that is running for one more week on Monday 20th November

Behaviour

In assembly this afternoon, the Behaviour Cup and Bear were awarded to Reception, Year 4 and Year 6. Izaiah, Scarlett and Evie collected the awards for their classes. Well done!

Golden Learning Behaviour



Congratulations to: Lucas, Hendrix, Lola, Parker, Tommy, Mia and Izzy, who were chosen as Star of the Week! Well done everyone!



Attendance

Well done to our Year 2 and Year 5 classes, who were awarded the Attendance Cup this week for 96 % attendance last week! Keep this up! #everymomentmatters

Mental Health Award!

Today, in our special Hello Yellow Celebration assembly, we were joined by Hayley Hancock, from the GHLL. She presented our school with our Mental Health Champions Award. We are so proud of this award as it recognises the high quality, whole school support for mental health and well being. This award also demonstrates the excellent practices our school takes in supporting the mental health of people in our community. Well done to our staff that play a key role!



GALLERY



**Outdoor
Learning!**



**Reading
Café**



GALLERY



Wreath Making

£20pp including a
glass of prosecco &
nibbles

3rd December 2025

7-9pm

Coney Hill Community Primary School

To book please email: hillerptfa@coneyhill.gloucs.sch.uk

Over 18's only



THE CONEY CLUB

-AFTERSCHOOL CLUB-

ACTIVITIES

INDOOR GAMES
CRAFTS
BOARD GAMES
OUTDOOR GAMES
AND MORE

RUNS WEEKDAYS
DURING TERM
TIME

CONEY
HILL
PUPILS
ONLY

We accept
childcare
vouchers!

HELD IN CONEY HILL
SCHOOL
RUN BY CONEY HILL
SCHOOL STAFF

THE AFTERSCHOOL CLUB HAS
STAGGERED PRICING:

First hour only 3.20pm-4.20pm - £6.50

Following a school club 4.20-5.30pm - £7.00

3.20pm -5.30pm - £12.00





CONEY HILL RFC

& CONEY HILL COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Display by www.firemagic.co.uk



FIREWORKS DISPLAY

**SUNDAY
NOVEMBER
2nd**

**Hot
Drinks**

Tea & Coffee

**Fairground
Rides &
Stalls**

**Hot
Food**

Burgers, Chips
Hot Dogs

**Sweet
Stall**

Candy Floss
& Chocolate

Bar

Tickets on sale from

Mon 29th September 2025

Get your tickets from CHRFC or Coney Hill

Community Primary School

Pre-sale: Adults £5 • Children £4

On the gate: Adults £6 • Children £5

Gates open at 3pm for 6pm start

ECHOES ^{#2}

YOUTH CLUB



@THE VIBE

When: Thursday's

(term time only)

Where: The Vibe

Youth centre, Coney Hill, GL4 4RE

Time: 5.30PM - 6.45PM

Age: School Year 6

Voluntary contribution of £1 per session



for more information contact:
chloe@theventurecommunityhub.co.uk





Gloucestershire
Wildlife Trust

Registered Charity Number 232580



Nature Nurtures

Free nature sessions at Robinswood Hill



Join our **FREE** sessions, running after school for 8 weeks at
Robinswood Hill Country Park in Gloucester.

The sessions are designed to get children struggling with low level
mental health issues, learning about nature and meeting new people.

**Contact Katie at Gloucestershire Wildlife trust to find out more
and sign up: katie.hall@gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk**

Ages 5 - 7

Thursdays

4 - 6pm

30th October -
18th December
2025

Ages 8 - 11

Wednesdays

4 - 6pm

29th October -
17th December
2025

Ages 11 - 15

Tuesday

4.30 - 6.30pm

28th October - 16th
December
2025



Thank you to the NHS, our local
community and business for making
this project possible.

NHS

Gloucestershire

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators DEALING WITH TRAUMATIC & CHALLENGING EVENTS

Children and young people may face a wide range of traumatic or challenging events – from bereavement and illness to bullying, family breakdowns, or witnessing violence. These experiences can affect their mental health, behaviour, relationships, and academic progress. With the right support from trusted adults, children can begin to feel safe, rebuild resilience, and develop healthy coping strategies. This guide offers practical and empathetic ways to provide support and promote positive outcomes.

1 A PREDICTABLE ENVIRONMENT

Children who have experienced trauma often feel unsafe or uncertain. Creating routines, setting clear expectations, and maintaining consistency can help restore a sense of security. This structure offers reassurance and helps children feel more in control of their surroundings.

2 USE LANGUAGE THAT MATCHES THEIR AGE

Speak clearly and sensitively, choosing words that are appropriate for the child's age. Avoid overloading them with too much information at once. Offer gentle, honest explanations and focus on reassurance, especially when talking about difficult or sensitive subjects.

3 TRAUMA AND THE BODY

Mention briefly that trauma can show up in physical ways, such as changes in sleep, appetite, concentration, or as physical aches and pains. Consider this before labelling behaviour as 'difficult' or 'lazy'. Some children may become withdrawn, while others may be more outwardly challenging. Highlight that there's no 'one way' children respond.

4 AVOID RETELLING OR RELIVING TRAUMA

Children sometimes get asked to explain or repeat their experience multiple times. Striking a balance of when to listen and when to gently redirect can help to avoid unnecessary re-traumatisation. Acknowledge, but don't probe for detail unless safeguarding procedures require it.

5 AVOID DISMISSING OR MINIMISING FEELINGS

Seemingly well-meaning comments like 'It's not that bad' or 'You're okay' may shut down children's emotional expression and are often not helpful. Instead, acknowledge what they're feeling, even if it seems small. Validating a child's emotions helps them feel seen and encourages open communication in future.

6 UNDERSTAND HOW THEY'RE FEELING

Many children don't have the words to express their emotions, especially during distress. Supporting them to name what they're feeling – such as angry, scared or sad – builds emotional literacy. Tools like emotion charts, drawing, or storytelling can help externalise feelings in a safe, manageable way.

7 BE AWARE OF YOUR OWN RESPONSES

Children pick up on adult emotions and reactions, often mirroring them. Staying calm, even in challenging situations, helps children feel more secure. Practising your own self-regulation is an important way to model healthy stress management and encourages children to do the same.

8 SEEK PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

While many children benefit from everyday emotional support, some will need more specialised help. If symptoms persist, worsen, or disrupt their daily life, consult with school safeguarding leads, a GP, or a mental health professional. Early intervention can prevent long-term difficulties and support healthy recovery.

9 MAINTAIN CONNECTION

Isolation can worsen the impact of trauma. Encourage involvement in group activities, praise their efforts, and ensure they feel like a valued part of the school or family community. Meaningful connection with trusted adults and peers builds resilience and a sense of belonging.

10 BE PATIENT – HEALING TAKES TIME

There's no quick fix for emotional recovery. Children may have good days and setbacks, and progress may not always be visible or linear. Your ongoing support, patience, and presence can help them move forward at their own pace, knowing they are not alone.

Meet Our Expert

This guide has been written by Anne Solomon. Anne is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school by integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture, and systems. She has been a member of the advisory group for the Department for Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



WakeUp Wednesday

The National College



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/www.thenationalcollege



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