

Headteacher: Mr Ryan Lewis

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Co-op Academy  
Hillside

## February Newsletter

Monday 26th February, 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you've had an enjoyable break, and you're all ready for the start of the new term.

We're sorry for any disruption caused by the incident on the roof before we broke up: there was a small fire caused by the roofing contractor, leading to some electrical damage. Thank you for your support and understanding; I just want to reassure you that nobody was at risk during the incident: as always, safety was our number one priority, and we had everyone out of the building and accounted for in under three-minutes - the contractor had extinguished the fire before the fire brigade arrived. The damage has now been repaired, and the Academy is clean, tidy, and ready for everyone to return on Monday.

We're really looking forward to seeing you!

### Progress

When Co-op Academies committed to Hillside joining the Trust, it was with an ambitious plan to develop and improve all aspects of the school. We're making great progress with this, and we're pleased to report the following:

- The main part of the roof (Phase 1), over all of the classrooms and learning spaces, has been replaced with a top of the range 'warm roof' - this will keep the school weatherproof, warm, and more environmentally friendly for the next decade, at least. It has been a big job, and we couldn't have done it without your support. The rest of the roof will be replaced in the next three months.



- The Trust have committed almost a quarter of a million pounds to safety improvements across the school, including new internal doors, a full new door access system, CCTV upgrades, new flooring for the school hall, and new blinds to keep classrooms cool and comfortable through the summer months. I know you'll join me in thanking Co-op Academies Trust for their commitment to the school, and our community.
- In September, I committed to improving standards in Phonics, English, Maths, and for pupils with Additional needs. We're making good progress with this, and colleagues from the local Maths and English Hubs are very positive about improvements in teaching. We're also seeing strong improvements in pupil achievement and progress - we're working really hard to raise aspiration and achievement for all of our children.

I hope you're pleased with the progress we're making together, and the improvements in your child's learning and achievement; if you're not, please come and tell me, I'm always ready to listen.

## Staffing Updates

There are a few changes that I just want to share with you.

On the Friday before the holiday, we said goodbye to Mr Barry (Year 3). I wrote to let year 3 parents know, but I just wanted to share this more widely. I am sure you will join me in thanking Mr Barry for his contribution to the school. Miss Keelan will step into Year 3 as Class Teacher.

To cover Miss Keelan's normal timetable, we welcome Miss Cambell, who joins us as an experienced colleague from Co-op Academy Portland. We're looking forward to welcoming Miss Cambell to the Hillside team.

Congratulations to Mrs Lewis, who welcomed her first child, Etta Sophie Lewis, just before the holiday. Mrs Lewis will be on leave for a short time, and Mr Farrell will ensure year 6 are well taken care of in her absence.

## Class Assemblies

We would like to invite parents and carers into school to see your child's class assembly. Please come to the school office on the dates and times below.

Year Group	Date and times
Year 5	Thursday 14th March at 2.50pm

Year 2	Thursday 21st March at 2.50pm
Year 1	Thursday 18th April at 2.50pm
Year 4	Thursday 25th April at 2.50pm
Year 3	Thursday 2nd May at 2.50pm
Year 6	Thursday 23rd May at 2.50
Reception	Thursday 27th June at 2.50

## Parents' Evening

We will be holding parents' evening meetings on Thursday 28th March. A letter with more details will follow shortly.

## Website

Our school website contains a range of up to date information about our school.

Please visit [www.hillside.coopacademies.co.uk](http://www.hillside.coopacademies.co.uk).

Our website also contains a live feed from our school Facebook page with pictures and updates of events and activities from around school.

## Behaviour Policy

We've reviewed and updated our Behaviour Policy. We want it to be clear, consistent and fair - we hope you feel that we've got it right. You can read the full policy [here](#).

You can leave feedback [here](#) or you can speak to us any time.

## A few reminders

Drop off and collection:

Year group	Drop off	Collection
Nursery (F1)	Nursery door – gate next to main office	Nursery door – gate next to main office

Reception (F2)	Green gate – main playground	Reception door – through green gate
Year 1	Main playground	Year 1 door – through green gate
Year 2	Main playground	Year 2 door – through green gate
Year 3	Main playground	Main playground
Year 4	Main playground	Main playground
Year 5	Main playground	Main playground
Year 6	Main playground	Main playground

Please aim to be lined up at your classroom door before the whistle sounds

### Uniform

Details of the school uniform are on the school website, and can be found [here](#). As has been the policy of Co-op Academies Trust, the previous uniform will remain current and acceptable, and will never be withdrawn, this is better for the environment and better for your pocket!

Yours Sincerely,

Mr Ryan Lewis  
Headteacher (Interim)