

Friday  
22<sup>nd</sup> Dec  
2023



HURST HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

# School Newsletter

## Honesty, Attitude, Respect, Resilience, Caring

Happy Christmas

On behalf of all the staff at Hurst Hill, I would like to thank you for your continued support this term. Without your generosity and support, we would not be able to host memorable events such as Mini Markets, School Discos, Inspire Sessions or Christmas Fayres. I would also like to thank our amazing PTA, who have once again worked hard behind the scenes to organise events and raise extra funds to enhance our pupils' experiences.

Thank you to the wonderful Hurst Hill Team – both pupils and staff – for all their hard work as always 😊

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a well-deserved rest with loved ones over the festive holidays. Have a wonderful Christmas and a very happy new year. I look forward to seeing you all safe and sound on the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

Mrs Johnson 😊

## Primary School admissions



**Applications close  
on 15 January  
2024**

If your child lives in Dudley borough and was born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 you need to apply for a primary school place by 15 January 2024.

### DIARY DATES

**School reopens on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024.**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> January-** Bikeability year 6

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> & Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January-** Bikeability year 5

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January-** 5 year old dental checks

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January-** Reception eye examinations

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January-** Year 1 INSPIRE



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## Attendance

**Attendance at school is mandatory. Whole school attendance should be at least 96%. The 100% winner this week is David in year 1. The winning classes are Mrs Weaver/Mrs Westwood and Miss Walters'**

The Department of Education has made it clear that schools must be stricter when dealing with families whose children are persistently absent or late for school. A child's absence from school can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances, for example, if they are too poorly to attend or if they have a medical appointment that cannot be made outside school hours. If your child is persistently absent or regularly late for school, whatever the circumstances, a referral may be made to Dudley Education Investigation Service, and this could result in a fine.

If you are having difficulty getting your child to school, or to school on time, please contact the school office so we can offer some support. Please note that school will not authorise holidays during the school term and that our policy is to refer such absences of 5 school days or more to Dudley Education Investigation Service who may issue a fine. If your child is too ill to come to school then you should **contact the school office before 9.30am**, either by telephoning 01384 818845 (option 1) or using the absence reporting feature on ParentMail. Do not use our social media pages to report absences. Please remember that school can administer medication in certain circumstances



## The following children have achieved 100% attendance for the Autumn term:

Ethan, Luca, Jacob, Lucas, Malachi, Grayson, Willow, Arpan, Maja, Rayan, Isaac, Carter, Bella, Teddy, Max, Milan, Etinosa, Tillie-Rose, Molly, Ellie, Lilly, Lakhan, Isla-Mai, Chelsea, Lily, Lottie, Toby, Macie, Archie, Aaliyah, Harjeevan, Connor, Harriet, Jaxon, Georgina, Arjun, Maisy, Olivia, Rennie, Mia, Archie, Imogen, Austin, Tillie, Megan, Gracie-Mae, Leon, Thomas, Ezmai-Rose, Jenson, Caitlyn and Caleb.

## Star Pupils of the Term

have shown all of our school values of honesty, positive attitude, resilience, respect and caring.



**Reception- Luca**

**Year 1- Arpan**

**Year 2- Eliza**

**Year 3- Billy**

**Year 4- Jaxon**

**Year 5- Megan**

**Year 6- Jenson**



Our skills builders this week are:

Isabella, Carter, Ellie, Kian, Lexi, Tillie & Isaac



Our Century winners this week are:

Annalise, Harriet, Max & Caitlyn





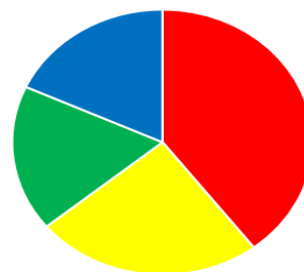
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We use house points to reward pupils for following our school rules and values.

This week our house points totals are:  
Ruby 360, Diamond 222, Emerald 162 & Sapphire 165

Well done Rubies!



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HURST HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## Top Tips for

# SETTING UP PARENTAL CONTROLS ON NEW DEVICES

In children's eagerness to start enjoying new digital gadgets immediately, it can be easy to overlook setting up the type of parental controls that can help to protect them online. If you don't sort those out from the very start, it can be an uphill battle – technologically and psychologically – to impose such controls later. Here's our rundown of what to look for when setting up the various internet-enabled devices that might be lurking under the tree at this time of year.

### IPHONE

If your child's lucky enough to be getting their own iPhone, parental controls can help avoid issues like screen addiction and unsuitable content. Go into the settings and scroll down to 'Screen Time'. From here you can customise important settings including time limits on using the device, communication restrictions and content blockers. You can also lock your changes behind a passcode.

### ANDROID

With Android devices, Google's Family Link app is your friend. You'll need a Google account – and a separate one for your child, which you should use when first setting up the device. Then, in Family Link on your own device, select 'Add Child' and enter their account details. This lets you specify limits on daily usage, restrict certain apps, block particular content and more.

### PLAYSTATION

You can prep for a PlayStation before it's even unwrapped. At [myaccount.sony.com](https://myaccount.sony.com), create an account, then go to Account Management > Family Management > Add Family Member to set up your child's account, which you'll use to sign in on the console. You can restrict the age ratings of the games they can play and who they can talk to. On the PS5, you can make exceptions for any games you think are acceptable despite their high age rating.

### IPAD

iPad parental controls are identical to those on iPhones. However, if you've got a shared family iPad and want to ensure your children aren't seeing anything age-inappropriate after you hand them the device, there's a feature called Guided Access (under Settings > Accessibility > Guided Access). With this switched on, young ones can only use the app that's currently open.

### XBOX

The Xbox Family Settings app helps you manage which games your child can play (and when). You'll need to set up the console with your own account and then add a child profile. Make sure your account's password protected, so your child can't alter your choices later. You'll be walked through the functions at setup, but you can also reach them manually via Settings > Account > Family Settings.

### NINTENDO SWITCH

Download the Nintendo Switch Parental Controls app on your phone, and you'll be shown how to link it to the console. Once that's done, you can limit how long your child can play each day, decide what age ratings are permitted and more. You'll also get weekly updates on how often they've used the device. These controls are accessible through the console itself, but the app is usually easier.

### WINDOWS 11 PCS

On Windows 11, account management is key. Set up the device with your own account as the admin. Then go to Settings > Accounts > Family and Other Users and create your child's account (if you've already done this on a previous PC, just log in with those details). Microsoft Family Safety (either the app or the site) then lets you control screen time, what content children can view and more.

### CHROMEBOOKS

Chromebooks' parental controls are managed via the Family Link app. Unlike an Android device, however, you need set up the Chromebook with your own account first, then add your child's. Go to Settings > People > Add Person and input your child's Google account details (or create a new account). Your child can then log in, and you can monitor what they're up to via Family Link.

### MACS

Like iPhones, parental controls for Macs are managed via the Screen Time settings. Again, the crux here is to set yourself up as the administrator before adding any child accounts. In the settings, look for Users & Groups to create your child's account, then – while on their profile – use the screen time options to place any boundaries around apps, usage and who your child can communicate with (and vice versa).

### SMART TVs

Smart TVs typically have their own individual parental controls. One of the most popular brands is Samsung – and on their TVs, you can control the content available to your child. In the Settings menu, under 'Broadcasting', you can lock channels and restrict content by its age rating. Even this isn't foolproof, however: some apps (like YouTube) might still let children access unsuitable material.

## Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins is a technology journalist and editor with more than 20 years' experience of working for titles such as the Sunday Times, Which?, PC Pro and Computeractive. He's appeared regularly as a tech pundit on television and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 5 Live and the ITV News at Ten. He has two children and writes regularly on the subject of internet safety.



The National College

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#WakeUpWednesday

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