



CURRICULUM CONNECT

**HILL VIEW
SCHOOL**



Issue 4

May 2026

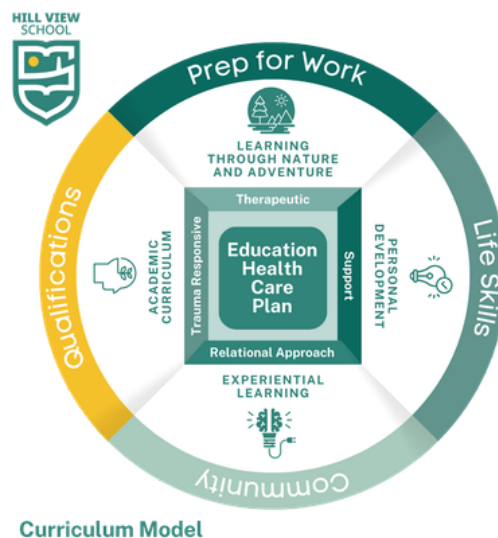
**Be the best you.
Build the best us.**

Welcome to the fourth issue of *Curriculum Connect!*

Welcome to the *fourth issue* of Curriculum Connect, where we are delighted to share a snapshot of the rich and varied learning planned for summer terms 1 and 2 at Hill View School. This newsletter is designed to keep families informed and strengthen the partnership between home and school as we continue to support every learner's individual journey.

While academic learning is an important part of our provision, it forms just one element of our broader, holistic curriculum model. At Hill View, we work both therapeutically and through carefully planned curriculum pathways to support each learner's academic progress alongside their personal, emotional and social development. We recognise that children learn best when they feel safe, regulated and mentally ready, and we always prioritise this readiness before learning can begin. Learning at Hill View also includes the development of essential life skills such as empathy, teamwork, organisation, managing transitions, emotional regulation and positive interaction with others.

Across the following pages, you will find class highlights that reflect our planned curriculum approach, showcasing the topics your children are exploring, the skills they are developing and the hands-on experiences that bring learning to life. In this edition we also have subject spotlights for Maths, Phonics and Key Stage 4 Science.



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Subject Spotlight: Maths



The development of Maths at Hill View has been a key strategic priority, with a focus on improving curriculum coherence, teaching consistency and learner engagement. Work has centred on a **life-skills-led curriculum**, strengthening staff confidence and ensuring maths is accessible and meaningful for all learners.

Collaboration with the **Boolean Hub** and targeted **Maths Consultant support** has strengthened curriculum design, planning and progression, particularly around small-steps sequencing, mathematical language and alignment with Ready to Progress criteria. This has supported the Maths Domain Lead in identifying gaps and ensuring core concepts are systematically revisited, which is vital for learners with SEMH needs.

Learning walks have highlighted strong practice, including clear modelling, consistent routines and effective use of manipulatives to support conceptual understanding. Curriculum focus has been carefully sequenced for the remainder of the year, with **fractions** prioritised in Summer term 1 and **geometry** in Summer term 2, both closely aligned to national expectations.

Looking ahead, investment in new maths resources (including Numicon, Base 10, fraction bars and counters) will further support consistent use of concrete and pictorial representations across the school.

Overall, Maths development at Hill View reflects a growing culture of collaboration, reflective practice and high expectations, underpinned by a curriculum designed to meet the needs of all learners.



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Exploring and Learning: The Knoll - Summer Term



Communication, Language & Literacy (CLL) - Learners will enjoy stories and poetry across the summer term. In Summer 1, *The Snail and the Whale* and *What the Ladybird Saw at the Seaside* will develop vocabulary and sequencing skills. In Summer 2, poetry and rhyme will be explored through *Oi Frog*, building confidence with language and storytelling.

Maths - Learners will develop early maths skills through practical activities, beginning with numbers 0-5 and progressing to exploring mass and capacity using real-life resources.

Our World (Geography) - Summer 1 focuses on seaside towns, tourism and their features through role play. In Summer 2, *Paws, Claws and Whiskers* introduces learning about animals and their environments.

Science - Learners will explore beach materials and fossils in Summer 1 and continue developing body awareness through the Interception Curriculum. In Summer 2, learning will focus on animal camouflage and survival.

PSHE - Across the summer, learners will focus on relationships, explore different families and friendships, practise respectful discussion, learn about safe and unsafe behaviours and develop an age-appropriate understanding of consent.

Art - Learners will explore texture and form using a variety of materials through printing, collage and modelling, creating 3D shapes to develop creativity and fine motor skills.

Food Technology - In Summer 1, learners will explore sugar and salt awareness and healthy eating. In Summer 2, they will plan simple snacks and learn about budgeting and making healthy choices.



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Parent Activity Suggestion:

Story & Rhyme Time: Share stories and rhymes at home. Encourage your child to retell parts of the story, spot rhyming words or make up silly animal rhymes of their own.

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Seaside Stories and Discovery in Ham Hill class!



Communication, Language & Literacy (CLL) - Learners are enjoying *The Sandcastle That Lola Built*, sequencing the story and changing characters and events to build a love of storytelling. We are also reading non-fiction books to learn facts about the beach.

Maths - Learners are currently developing a strong understanding of fractions, focusing on halves and quarters. In Summer 2, we will explore 2D and 3D shapes.

Our World (Geography) - We are learning what tourism is, sharing experiences of being tourists, exploring how beaches are used for work and leisure, and identifying features of seaside towns.

Science - Learners are investigating beach materials, how sand changes with water, erosion caused by wind and waves, how cliffs change over time, and how fossils are formed.

PSHE & RE - Learners are exploring relationships, different families and friendships, respecting personal boundaries and communicating feelings. They are also learning that religion is about shared beliefs, focusing on Christianity, including learning about the Bible, Jesus and churches, with a planned church visit to support real-life links.

Art - Learners are experimenting with texture and form through printing, collage and modelling using clay, playdough and recycled materials, developing creativity and fine motor skills.

Food Technology & Role Play - We are learning about sugar and salt awareness and making healthy food choices. Learners are also enjoying our role-play area, developing social skills and early money understanding by serving customers.



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We stay safe

Parent Activity Suggestion:

Seaside Science: During a walk or playtime, collect safe natural materials (sand, stones, shells) and talk about how they feel. Try adding water to sand and notice what changes.

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Welcome to Tor Hill class!



We warmly welcome our new learners and families to Tor Hill, our additional primary phase class which opened at Easter. The class is led by Emma (Class Teacher) and Ellie (Teaching Assistant). The children have settled in wonderfully and are already building positive relationships.

Learning Highlights This Term

Learners are enjoying *The Snail and the Whale* and *Monkey Puzzle* through drama, storytelling and animal learning, using phonics to write labels, captions and simple sentences. In **Maths**, they are developing number confidence, including place value, ordering and halves and quarters, with 2D and 3D shapes coming next.

Learning in **Our World** and **Science** focuses on tourism and seaside features, linking to erosion and fossils. **PSHE** and **RE** explores relationships, belonging and Christianity, including churches as special places. In **Creative Arts**, children are experimenting with texture and form, while **Food Technology** focuses on snack planning and trying new foods.

A highlight so far has been settling into school life, with children enjoying **Outdoor Education**, **Animal Care** and time with the school dogs, building responsibility and reflection.



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Parent Activity Suggestion:

Storytime & Talking: Read animal or seaside stories together. Ask your child to retell the story, change a character, or share a fact they've learned from a book.

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Phonics and Reading at Hill View School



In Phonics our focus continues to be on finding out what each of our learners know and filling any gaps in their skills and understanding. This means that each learner has specific next steps in learning identified for them.

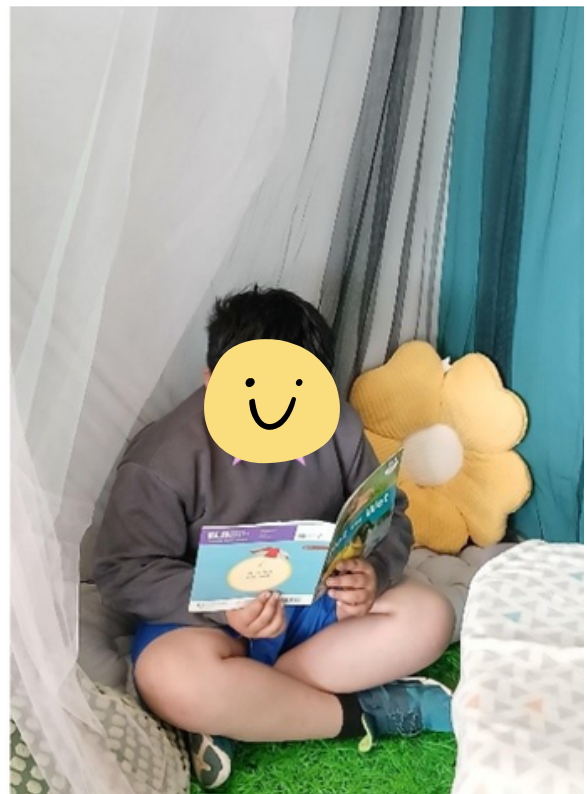
It has been great to develop our new, much larger, library. We now have a new quiet space, including welcoming reading areas where learners can work on developing reading skills and exploring a range of books. Learners enjoy finding books about their own areas of interest and are already giving us a list of books they would like us to find for them!

What can you do to support your child's reading development?

- Look out for books about their favourite subjects and characters.
- Join your local library – they often run events that your child might enjoy.
- Read to your child or use audiobooks with them so that they can enjoy stories that they might not be able to read for themselves yet.



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Herne Hill Class: Curious, Creative and Confident



We're heading into the summer term with an exciting, hands-on curriculum planned – full of curiosity, creativity and a continued fascination with toilets in Herne Hill!

This half term, learners will travel back to **Roman times**, exploring daily life, Roman inventions and alternatives to toilet roll (no practical testing, thankfully!). Learning will also include the Romans and the Celts, the story of Boudicca, and how blue dye links to Celtic traditions – with a fun historical twist.

In **Food Technology**, we are exploring sugar and salt, learning how they are used in food and why moderation is important.

Outdoor Education remains a highlight, with safe and successful cycling trips along the River Parrett.



After half term, our topic shifts to **pirates**, where learners will work with maps, learn about famous pirates such as Anne Bonny, Mary Read and Blackbeard, and explore life at sea. In **Science**, we'll investigate water and ice, including a "frozen treasure" challenge focused on problem-solving.

Animal Care continues throughout the term alongside **PSHE**, which focuses on relationships, friendships and family. We have also launched the **Herne Supermarket**, selling beans, sunflowers and tomatoes (50p each or 3 for £1) as part of our enterprise learning – profits will be shared on a class-chosen reward.



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Parent Activity Suggestion:

- History Chat: Talk about Romans or pirates using books, videos or simple questions like "What do you think daily life was like?" or "How would you survive at sea?"
- Food Awareness: Involve your child in snack preparation and discuss sugar and salt in foods, helping them make healthy choices.

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Summer Learning in Stone Cadbury Hill classes!



This term in **Maths**, learners are exploring fractions through practical, hands-on activities. They are learning to find halves, quarters and thirds of shapes, objects and amounts, as well as identifying equal and unequal parts. learners are also beginning to recognise that two quarters make one half, using everyday items and real-life experiences to support their understanding.

In **Communication, Language and Literacy (CLL)**, learners are developing their storytelling skills through speaking, listening, drama and creative writing. They are exploring characters and settings from familiar stories and using these to plan and create their own narratives.

Throughout the term, learners will describe characters and settings, use dialogue, and share their stories through writing, role-play and discussion, building confidence and enjoyment in storytelling.

Together, these creative and practical approaches will help learners to build strong communication skills, problem-solving abilities and confidence throughout the summer term.



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Parent Activity Suggestions:

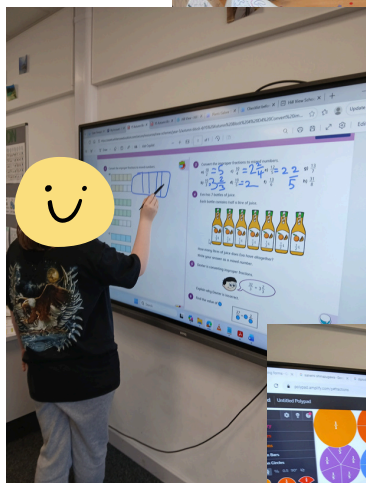
- **Fraction Fun:** Use everyday items such as fruit, toast or pizza to explore halves, quarters and thirds together. Talk about sharing things equally and noticing when parts are the same or different sizes.
- **Storytelling Time:** Read familiar stories and talk about the characters and settings. Encourage your child to make up their own story, changing the setting or inventing a new character.
- **Act It Out:** Use toys or role-play to act out stories your child has read or created, helping build confidence with speaking and imagination.
- **Talk Together:** Ask your child questions about what they are learning and celebrate their ideas, helping them build confidence in communication.

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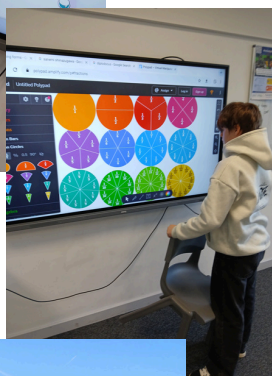
Lydeard Hill: Learning with Purpose



In **Communication, Language and Literacy (CLL)**, learners are exploring recipes and reviews. They are learning why we write recipes, how to follow them, and how to write their own. A highlight is following a recipe to make slime. Learners are also beginning to explore reviews, focusing on their purpose and practising how to share their opinions in writing.



In **Maths**, the focus is on fractions. Learners are practising ordering, comparing and adding fractions, while also using their times tables to identify equivalent fractions and support their calculations. Understanding continues to develop through regular practice.



Food Technology is a popular part of the week. Learners are preparing a range of dishes, including pasta bake, toasties, and most recently scones with jam, all made from scratch. These sessions support independence, teamwork and practical life skills.



In **PSHE**, learners are developing important social skills. Through both learner-led play and adult-directed activities, they are practising turn-taking, sharing, playing cooperatively and spending time in larger groups, helping to build confidence when interacting with others.



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Parent Activity Suggestion:

- **Recipe Time:** Choose a simple recipe to follow together. Encourage your child to read the steps, measure ingredients and talk about the order things need to happen.
- **Share an Opinion:** After watching a TV show, reading a book or visiting somewhere, talk about what your child liked or didn't like and why. This helps practise reviewing skills.

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What we are learning in Sunny Hill



In **Communication, Language and Literacy (CLL)**, learners will be exploring the imaginative stories of Roald Dahl, including *The BFG* and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. learners will focus on characters, settings and Dahl's unique language and humour, developing reading comprehension, vocabulary and confidence through discussion, drama and creative writing activities.

In **Maths**, the focus will be on fractions and geometry. Learners will learn to recognise, compare and calculate fractions using practical and visual resources, including finding fractions of shapes and numbers. In geometry, they will identify and describe 2D and 3D shapes, explore symmetry, and begin using coordinates and directional language.

In **Science**, learning continues with an exciting focus on space and the solar system, including planets, orbits and modern space exploration such as the Artemis II mission. In **Our World (Geography)**, learners will explore a range of global environments, comparing climates and learning how humans, animals and plants adapt to different locations.

In **History**, learners will study 20th-century themes of suffrage and civil rights, learning about fairness, equality and resilience. This topic supports understanding of rights and identity while developing empathy and confidence through discussion and visual storytelling.

PSHE lessons focus on positive relationships and the theme Changing Me, supporting emotional awareness and self-esteem. Wellbeing remains a priority, with regular use of sensory equipment and the multi-gym to support emotional regulation, resilience and positive communication.



We learn more

Parent Activity Suggestion:

- Explore the World: Use maps, books or online images to explore different environments or talk about planets and space. Discuss how people, animals or plants adapt to different places.
- Talk About Feelings & Fairness: Encourage conversations about friendships, changes, and fairness, linking to historical topics such as equality and rights in an age-appropriate way.

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Subject Spotlight: Key Stage 4 Science

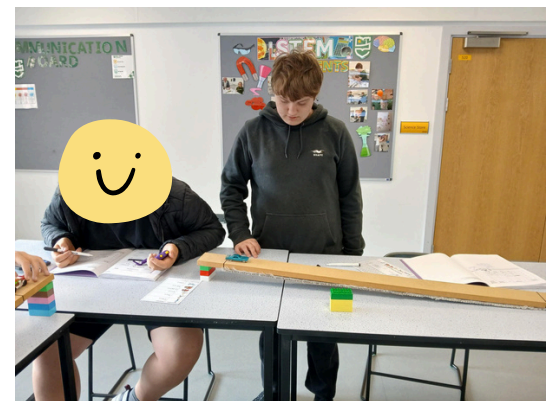
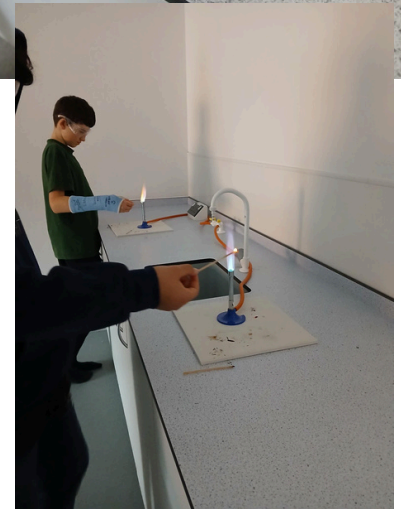
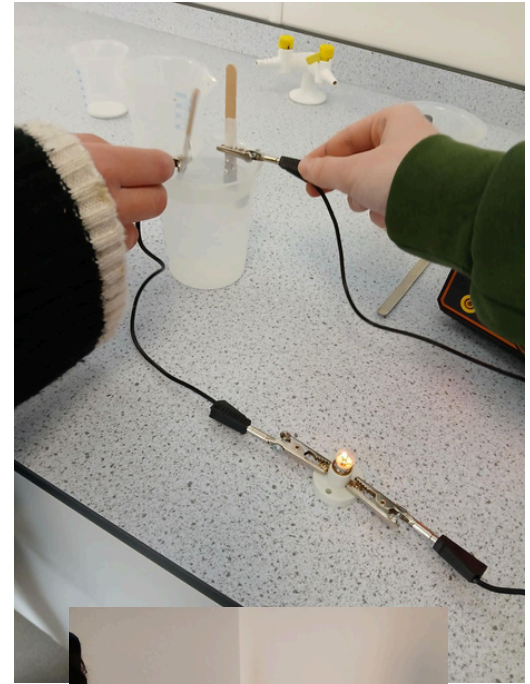


At Hill View School, **Entry Level Science** is a core KS4 subject taught by Philippa, an experienced Science teacher. Learners follow the Pearson Edexcel Entry Level Certificate in Science, a nationally recognised qualification that builds confidence and provides a clear progression route to GCSE Combined Science should learners wish to pursue this after leaving Hill View. Learners can achieve **Entry Level 1, 2 or 3**, ensuring the course is inclusive and carefully matched to individual needs.

The qualification is made up of **six modular units**, 2 in each of the science subjects: Biology, Chemistry and Physics. It is taught and assessed flexibly when learners are ready. Assessments are externally set but internally marked, with no fixed exam dates, allowing a low-pressure approach that supports confidence and success.

A strong emphasis is placed on **practical, hands-on learning**. Learners work safely in the specialist science lab, using equipment such as microscopes, Bunsen burners and electrical circuits. Practical activities help develop scientific enquiry skills alongside transferable skills such as teamwork, problem-solving and communication.

Learners across Burrow Hill and Coker Hill follow pathways suited to their needs, with learning carefully sequenced to build knowledge and close gaps. Entry Level Science provides a structured, engaging curriculum that supports re-engagement with science and prepares learners for future study and opportunities.



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Learning and Growing in Coker Class



This summer term, learning in Coker combines classroom activities with outdoor experiences.

In **Our World** and **Communication, Literacy and Language (CLL)**, the theme *Caring for the Environment* sees pupils exploring climate change and pollution. Learners are researching facts, interpreting data and sharing their learning through posters, discussions and letter writing, developing both communication skills and confidence in expressing their views.

In **Maths**, learners are focussing on securing key skills, beginning with time and moving on to geometry. They are currently exploring symmetry and identifying shapes in the world around them.

PE and **Outdoor Education** hope to make the most of the warmer weather, with cricket and rounders supporting teamwork and coordination on the cards for this term. Learners are also enjoying walks on Ham Hill, combining physical activity with time in nature to support their wellbeing and development.

During **Learning Through Nature and Adventure (LTNA)**, learners are building outdoor shelters and caring for our raised bed, excitedly watching seeds germinate and grow - watch this space!



We are respectful



Parent Activity Suggestion:

- **Caring for the Environment:** Talk with your child about ways you can look after the environment at home, such as recycling, saving water or reducing litter. Encourage them to explain what they know about pollution or climate change.
- **Maths in Everyday Life:** Practise telling the time during daily routines or look for shapes and lines of symmetry around the house or outdoors.

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Learning for Life: Burrow Hill Class this term



In **Communication, Language and Literacy (CLL)**, learners are developing creative writing skills, focusing on character and narrative. They are exploring how language, tone and vocabulary influence the reader, using film trailers and images as inspiration. Reading skills continue to develop through analysing meaning, bias and organisation, with a future focus on advertising and persuasive writing.

In **Maths**, learners are building confidence in algebra, including rearranging formulae, working with expressions and solving word problems by identifying the correct equations to use.

The **NCFE Occupational Studies** qualification provides valuable hands-on learning. As part of this course, learners are developing safe food preparation skills, learning about animal care, and exploring farm conservation, including the importance of clean water and designing projects that benefit the wider community.



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In **NCFE Employability**, learners are preparing for work experience, developing CVs and learning about different careers through visits to local businesses and guest speakers.

NCFE Creative Crafts remains highly personalised, with learners working on individual projects that include drawing, collage, sculpture and model-making.

As part of preparation for post-16 pathways, learners are beginning visits to local colleges. Families are encouraged to explore next steps together and attend open evenings to support future planning.

Parent Activity Suggestion:

- Life Skills at Home: Involve your child in meal planning and cooking to reinforce food preparation and safety skills. Discuss responsibility and care when it comes to pets or the environment.
- Future Planning: Encourage conversations about work experience, CVs and college pathways. Attending open evenings together can help build confidence and support informed next-step choices.



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