

# HILLESLEY HAPPENINGS

The printing of the newsletter is paid for from advertising revenue.

ISSUE 313, Feb 2019

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

### FEBRUARY

Sunday 3	9.30am	Parish Eucharist, St Giles Church
Sunday 3	7.30pm	Quiz Night, The Fleece
Sunday 10	8am	Said Communion, St Giles Church
Sunday 10	4pm	2019 Pub of the Year Award, CAMRA event Live Music: The Welcome Parrots
Sunday 10	8-9.30pm	Acoustic Evening, The Fleece
Wednesday 13	10.30-12noon	☕ Coffee Morning, The Fleece
Sunday 17	9.30am	Parish Eucharist, St Giles Church
Sunday 17	7.30pm	Vinyl Party Night, The Fleece
Wednesday 20		Live Music: Lady Nade
Sunday 24	6pm	Parish Eucharist, St Giles Church
Sunday 24	6.30pm	Open Mic Night, The Fleece

### MARCH

Sunday 3	11.15am	Service about Poverty, St Giles Church
Sunday 3	8pm	Quiz Night, The Fleece
Wednesday 13	10.30-12noon	☕ Coffee Morning, The Fleece
Wednesday 13	7.30pm	Lent course starts
Sunday 10	8-9.30pm	Acoustic Evening, The Fleece
Sunday 17	7.30pm	Vinyl Night, The Fleece
<b>Monday 18</b>		<b>Deadline MARCH ISSUE</b>

## HILLESLEY & TRESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**Tuesday 12 February**

**Tuesday 12 March**

**7.30pm at Hopkins Hall.**

**[www.htpc.org.uk](http://www.htpc.org.uk)**

All monthly Parish Council meetings are open to the public and there is always an opportunity to ask questions and raise issues.

## Welcome to our new Parish Councillors

As has been noted in previous editions of Hillesley Happenings, there has been at least one vacancy on the Parish Council for several years. Efforts to recruit new councillors have finally paid off and, in the past six months, four have been co-opted: welcome to

Wayne Cockram, Tim Hopkinson, Matt Vaughan and Mark Humphries.

The January meeting was the first in a long time to have a full complement of seven councillors. One of the things we did was to put the finishing touches to the order for a defibrillator, which is soon to be fitted to the wall of The Fleece.

All contributions welcome – this is your local newsletter so send us your info about local events, clubs and allsorts. Hillesley Happenings is produced by Dave Barton (Tel 07736 517610 [hillesleyhappenings@outlook.com](mailto:hillesleyhappenings@outlook.com)) and Louisa Lockwood and Arlene Greenwood. Printed at Hillesley Primary School and kindly delivered to local houses by Lillian Mountford, Margaret Plummer, Val Skinner, Chris Taylor, Kate Woodrow and the Whitbreads.

While the bulk of the cost will be covered by the Parish Council's budget, a generous £400 was raised at events in The Fleece. Thanks to all those involved. The defibrillator will be there for emergency use by anyone and, although this clever machine will give verbal instructions to users, some open training sessions are to be arranged. Look out for further details in a future edition of Hillesley Happenings.

Chairman: Dave Darlow  
Tel: 01453 842947  
Clerk: Elizabeth Oakley  
Email: [htpcclerk@gmail](mailto:htpcclerk@gmail.com)  
Website: [htpc.org.uk](http://htpc.org.uk)

## RECYCLING DATES

Which bins need to go out on which day? Find electronic calendars on the Stroud District website through the 'My House' function. If you require a hard copy, please contact the council on 01453 754424.

## HILLESLEY TODDLERS WELCOMES YOU!

Come along to our relaxed and friendly parent and toddler/baby/bump group. Fridays throughout the year (even in school holidays) from 9.30-11.30am at Hopkins Hall or the Forest School. Find us on

facebook: Hillesley Baby and Toddler Group or contact Fiona Symes on 07837684446 for further information. We hope to see you there!



## FLEECE DARTS TEAMS

Monday nights: we have a team that competes in the Charfield & District League. It is open to male and female players, the standard of the teams is fairly high but beginners and youngsters are welcome and should not be discouraged. We are looking for a couple of new players, so inquire at the Fleece if interested in joining our friendly and inclusive team.

There is also a Ladies Team that plays on Tuesday evenings.

## EXERCISE CLASS

**Hopkins Hall, Hillesley  
Wednesday at 7.30pm - 8.30pm. £6 drop in.**

This new class is suitable for any age and fitness level due to its adaptability. Done to a wide eclectic mix of music. Wear whatever you are comfortable moving in. For more details contact Christine Davis 01453 842994 or email [niadance@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:niadance@hotmail.co.uk)

## CRICKET AGM

Hillesley Cricket Club AGM  
Thursday 31 January,  
7.30pm start in The Fleece.

## FLEECE SHARE OPTIONS

Those relatively new to the village may not be aware that our wonderful Fleece pub is a community-owned venture, with over 100 people owning shares in the Hillesley Community Pub Limited business. When we set up the business, over five years ago, shares were priced at £350 each. The price now would be determined between the seller and the buyer. We are keen to encourage wider share ownership, and there are some people who are looking to sell (some of) their shares, so if anyone is keen to explore buying some shares, please do contact me and I can explain more.

*Malcolm Woodrow*  
[malcolmwoodrow@btinternet.com](mailto:malcolmwoodrow@btinternet.com)  
Company Secretary

## THANK YOU!

### Christmas Tree Festival

Many thanks to everyone who created trees, helped with refreshments, played for the festival and all those who came and supported the event. A good time was had by all. *Jill Crossley*

**HAWKESBURY  
COMMUNITY LIBRARY**  
hawkesburyuptonlibrary@  
gmail.com

Available to everyone.  
Open fortnightly in the  
Village Hall, High Street,  
Friday afternoons 2.15pm  
to 4.15pm. Book stock is  
from South Glos Library  
Service and books will be  
replaced regularly.

**Friday 1 & 15 February**  
**Friday 1 & 8 March**

**Goodbye from  
HAWKESBURY  
GARDENING CLUB**  
**www.hawkesbury-  
gardening-club.org.uk**

In October we had  
Katherine Kear talking  
about 'A Victorian  
Christmas' and in  
November we had Alison  
Barnes on 'The History and  
Practice of Botanical Art'.  
Two very interesting talks  
to close the year. And the  
club.  
Yes, that's right. No more  
Hawkesbury Gardening  
Club. We lasted for 10 years  
and had a lot of fun but  
nothing lasts forever.  
As a punishment for failing  
to reach our centenary the  
committee will be subject  
to 40 lashes (collectively I  
hope) with a wet frog  
administered by Miss Hazel  
Whip from Lower Woods.  
But we cannot go without  
offering a little gardening  
advice, so here goes.

What are the 5 best  
controls for slugs and  
snails?

- Slug pellets.
- Nematodes (Not to be  
confused with  
common toads and  
other amphibians.)
- Ducks and Geese. (Mr  
Fox likes these, but if  
you can keep him  
away then you might  
get some tasty roasts  
for yourself later on.)
- Copper bands. (Relieves  
rheumatism so I'm  
told. I've never seen  
a slug with  
rheumatism, have  
you?)
- Collecting them by  
hand, usually at  
night. (Yeucch!)

One thing for sure is that  
sand, grit and crushed  
eggshells have very little  
long-term effect.

Apparently when slugs  
come across a ring of these  
things, they know that  
there is something tasty in  
the middle. It's like putting  
up a sign saying 'Free Food  
Here!'

And so it's Goodbye from  
me and it's Goodbye from  
them and thank you very  
much for your patience.  
*Terry Truebody.*

**GLOS COUNTY COUNCIL  
RECYCLING CENTRES  
TIMES & DATES**

Household Recycling  
Centres: winter opening  
hours are 10am-4pm.  
(Summer is 9am-5pm.)

**Weekly mid-week closure**

Tuesdays: Fosse Cross  
(Cirencester) and Oak  
Quarry (Coleford) are  
closed.

Wednesdays: Pyke Quarry  
(Horsley near Stroud) and  
Wingmoor Farm (Bishops  
Cleeve) are closed.

Thursdays: Hempsted  
(Gloucester) is closed.

More information online at  
recycleforgloucestershire.  
com

**theWI HAWKESBURY  
& HORTON WI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN

**HAWKESBURY &  
HORTON WI**

The WI usually meets first  
Tuesday of the month at  
Hawkesbury Upton Village  
Hall, 7.30pm.

**On Tuesday 5 February,**  
there will be a talk by  
Sodbury Honey Bees  
www.hawkesburyandhorto  
nwi.org.uk

**HIRE OF HOPKINS  
HALL**

**£7/ hour; £55 all day**

Please contact Peter

Whitbread on 01453

521777 or 07833 491242

peter.whitbread@btinter

net.com

## **\*\*HILLESLEY INDIAN SUMMER BALL\*\***

**Saturday 8 June, 2019**

Tables are still available for The Friends of Hillesley School Indian Summer Ball. £50 per ticket, tables of 10 and deposit of £10 per person required by end February to secure your place...

Contact Kelly Cranwell on tel 07921 351001 or [kellyjanehibbitt@aol.com](mailto:kellyjanehibbitt@aol.com)

## **RACE NIGHT**

**Sat 16 March, 7.30pm**

**Old Chapel Hall, Hillesley**

To raise funds for Archie Clements World Challenge Expedition to Costa Rica in July 2019 which includes voluntary work in a local community.

Tickets £8 per person to include a chilli con carne supper.

Come along for what is sure to be a great night of fun and entertainment !

Tickets available on the door, but for the purposes of catering please email [louise-clements@btconnect.com](mailto:louise-clements@btconnect.com)

or call 07769 975436 to let us know you are coming! Look forward to seeing you!

## **HILLESLEY CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL**



01453 843551

[admin@hillesley.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@hillesley.gloucs.sch.uk)

[hillesleyprimary.com](http://hillesleyprimary.com)

It is that time of the year when the cold and wet weather has an influence on our mood and our health. The children don't seem to notice but we have had quite a few coughs and colds being shared around lately! Nevertheless, school life goes on! This is a short term, only six weeks and we are already in week three!

The younger children are enjoying their DiddiDance session on Thursday afternoons, while Key Stage 2 children are having tag rugby session with a coach from Gloucester Rugby Club. KS2 are also having i-pad music technology lessons every Wednesday with a specialist teacher. The final cross-country race meeting takes place in early February and we wish our team the best of luck. Leah, Ethan, Sam, Molly, George, Jacob and Lucy, have been very courageous, turning up in all sorts of weather to represent the school. We are proud of their achievements.

A few of our older pupils have also attended a gifted and talented PE event at KLB, well done to them too! PE outside goes on whatever the weather!

We are welcoming some KLB students on Wednesday afternoon as part of their enrichment programme. Jonathan and Tom have been very helpful listening to children read and helping in the lessons. It is so nice to see past pupils return as it tells me that they must've found being here okay!

Currently the staff and governors are reviewing our provision and practice in preparation for the next SIAMS (Statutory inspection of Anglican and Methodist schools) inspection. As part of this we are considering how we have an impact on the local community. Please feel free to make suggestions about how we are of use and how we are perceived in the local community. You can email the school office or drop a note into the post-box at the front of the school. We would be very interested to hear from villagers, past pupils and families.

As I sit here the temperature continues to drop and the school is very quiet as all the children and

staff have gone home. Only the creaking of this old building keeps me company and it often makes me think about all the many children who have passed through this place. In the education world there are many and frequent changes but I am glad to know that here at Hillesley School we continue to value all our children for their uniqueness and individuality, in the hope that each and every one of them will find fulfilment and joy in what they go on to do in learning, work and life.

I think I'd better go home now as this old building and teacher need a rest and I think it is getting quite icy out there! *Jayne Pedley*

## From MARGARET PLUMMER

A December to remember – a joyous month, with events at The Fleece Inn, St Giles' Church and Hillesley School. The Christmas Tree Festival was lovely, also I picked up an advent calendar – Do Good December 2018. I tried to carry out some of its suggestions, not knowing that a tide of kindness was flowing in my direction! Once again Hillesley has surrounded me with warmth and good will and I want to sincerely thank everyone who participated in giving me a totally unexpected surprise party on December 30<sup>th</sup> at The Fleece Inn to celebrate my 80 years on earth.

Also to people who assured me that my ITV appearance when ambushed during HRH Prince Charles' visit to our 'Pub is the Hub' was not the disaster I feared – thanks! It also turned out to be strangely prophetic, when a fifth Sunday in the month was not uneventful!  
*Margaret Plummer*

## OLD CHAPEL HALL

**Facebook.com/**

**oldchapelhall.hillesley/**

A flexible space available for hire. Capacity of 100 people. Free parking at The Fleece or the Jubilee Field. For more information, contact Hillesley School on 01453 843551 or [admin@hillesley.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@hillesley.gloucs.sch.uk)

## MARGARET PLUMMER AT 80

She came from north of Watford, which  
As everybody knows  
Represents a clear divide between  
the southerners and those  
Whose habits are quite alien and  
whose speech is often ripe  
And whose idea of a feast  
is some black pudding and stewed tripe

Though proud to be a Yorkshire lass  
For which she gave God thanks  
When looking for a partner  
Chose a lively lad from Lancs.  
Which posed the pair a quandary  
Should their rose be white or red  
And much to our advantage  
they chose Gloucestershire instead

They found a house in Hillesley where  
they settled down for life  
Their names were Alan Plummer  
and young Margaret his wife  
Well soon they made their presence known  
And everyone would see  
Their intention was to play a part  
in our community

And so began a story in which  
Margaret, down to earth  
Was to show the softie southerners  
what she was really worth  
Not prepared to stand aside and watch  
while others often would  
She got her fingers firmly  
into every pie she could

She sent her children to the school and  
very glad she chose it  
made it her intention to  
foil all attempts to close it  
As governor for many years  
faced trauma and commotion but  
throughout the battles, won or lost  
She's served with great devotion

Well in the nineteen seventies when  
the county boundary moved  
Margaret joined a band of locals  
who clearly disapproved  
of governance from Bristol and  
so a fight begun and they  
regained their place in Gloucestershire  
in nineteen ninety-one

Well that meant a brand new parish  
Split from Hawkesbury up the hill  
with a Council to administer  
The population's will  
And so a call went out to folk  
a call for volunteers  
well Margaret to the challenge rose  
And served the first eight years

She took on Hillesley Happenings which  
She edited for ages  
And delivered it to every house  
so we could read its pages  
And while she did that got to learn  
just who was who and what  
And if they'd children young enough  
for Hillesley School or not

Well if they had, she'd beat the drum  
And leave them with a yearning  
To send their offspring, once of age  
To that fine seat of learning  
She became the local oracle  
Where folk would tend to go  
If they couldn't put a name to face  
Then she'll be bound to know

Whether needing a contractor to  
do odd jobs round the house  
Or wanting a good butcher to  
supply a brace of grouse  
You could find what you were looking for  
and ever so much more  
in Margaret's Village Directory  
which she posted through each door

Meanwhile she did her duty as  
a mother and a wife, for  
Alan, Carol, Andrew, Janet  
Central to her life  
Yet still she found some time for other  
past-times close to heart  
A keen int'rest in jazz and  
other music for a start

The'took a camper van to festivals  
But she didn't think it fair  
That, as she'd never learned to drive  
T'was Alan drove them there  
So she took some driving lessons when  
her spouse was out of sight  
And attained a pass certificate  
to everyone's delight

She learned to play the keyboard but  
Our plucky Mrs Plummer  
Not satisfied with that alone  
now wants to be a drummer

Margaret's also written poetry  
and as is only right  
she a regular performer  
at the Fleece Acoustic night  
So here's a thing I ask you  
please forgive me if I blunder  
by setting out this tale in verse.  
I don't mean to steal her thunder

She's a consummate supporter  
of The Fleece's goings-on  
Such as the music and the quizzes  
and the coffee morning throng  
And now of course she's famous  
She's been filmed for TV news  
Chatting with the Prince of Wales  
and giving him her views

So Margaret, Hillesley hails you  
Your energy and drive  
have contributed in many ways  
to make our village thrive  
And though you've counted four score years  
Our thanks are no less due  
So let's charge our glasses one and all  
and raise a toast to you.

DMD  
December 2018



Rev Canon David Russell  
01454 294267  
[davidrussell@gmx.com](mailto:davidrussell@gmx.com)

## ST GILES SERVICES

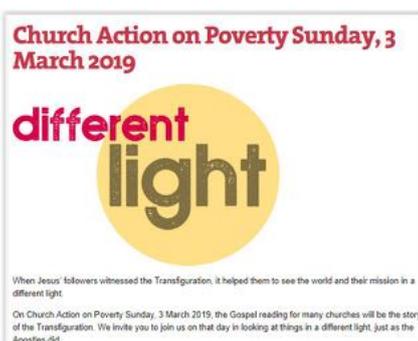
**Sunday 3 March, 11.15am  
Special Service for St Giles**

- A Different Time
- A Different Style
- A Response to Poverty

Join us to hear how the Church is relating to issues of Poverty, Support the work of Church Action on Poverty.

Join us for a soup lunch. Share ideas on how we in Hillesley can help those in need.

- Food Bank Support
- Shelter Volunteering
- Clothing support
- Children's welfare
- YOUR IDEA?



**Sunday 3 February**  
9.30am Parish Eucharist

**Sunday 10 February**  
8am Said Communion

**Sunday 17 February**  
9.30am Parish Eucharist

**Sunday 24 February**  
6pm Parish Eucharist

## LENT COURSE

Open to all. Seeking shapes for living, a Lent course for the Diocese of Gloucester. [www.gloucester.anglican.org](http://www.gloucester.anglican.org) Every Wednesday evening during Lent from Wednesday 13 March, 7.30-9pm. Please let David Russell know if you would like to come, 01454 294267 [davidrussell@gmx.com](mailto:davidrussell@gmx.com)

## More than baby sitting

At the beginning of February we mark the story of Candlemas: The Presentation of Christ to the Temple. It's a kind of half-way point between Christmas and Easter. And it is about celebrating new life. It is about showing off your new baby in the best way you can. For Mary and Joseph, who were Jewish, it was about taking part in the ritual of presentation within their faith. For many people today it is about Christenings or services of dedication. Parents of new born babies want to show

them to friends and relatives and give thanks for new life.

**At our Christmas services we celebrated the birth of a new life that turned out to be the life that would bring us closer to God.**

We sang the Christmas lullaby Away in a Manger, and joined the shepherds and wise men in giving gifts and the giving of ourselves. **And then it all seems to go flat!**

We ride on the commercial hype of Christmas, with the shop lights and the beckoning bargains and the immovable shopping trolleys, and then it's all over.

Well it isn't. In fact it's only just begun. Our churches spent the beginning of January remembering the Epiphany story of the three Kings and then we headed towards the thanksgiving of the child Jesus in his Father's house. Being a parent to a baby, rapidly growing into a toddler and beyond, is hard work. (You don't need me to tell you that!) But it is rewarding in ways you couldn't possibly imagine.

You often hear Uncles, Aunts, Grannies and Grandpas enjoying being with their nieces, nephews

and grandchildren, and then adding the caveat, "It's nice to be able to hand them over and go home".

That's a little like what happens at the turn of the year in Church. We all gather round the cribs and nativity scenes to ahh and coo at the baby in the manger and join in the lullabies and songs. Then it is nice to be able to hand him over and go home. But being a full time Christian to a Christ who grows up into a boy and a young man, meeting prejudice, hypocrisy, love and discipleship is hard work.

During February and the coming months in our church calendar, we shall see once again the child Jesus grow into the young teacher and begin his ministry. We shall encounter sadness and happiness, lightness and darkness, disease and healing, and eventually injustice and death. The Easter festival will carry us through to the defeat of death and the power and glory of God. The Holy Spirit that once started the church we have today, and continues to enliven people of faith, is still with us and we celebrate that at Pentecost.

You may have given back the baby until next year, or you may be joining us in the further family experience of the Christian community. If you are somewhere in between and want to find out more, then come and see what's happening in the life of your church.

Every family needs baby sitters. But every baby needs more than someone just to be there when they are asleep in the hay, Jesus included! *David*



## THE FLEECE INN

[thefleeceinnhillesley.com](http://thefleeceinnhillesley.com)

Tel: 01453 520003

### QUIZ NIGHT

**Sunday 3 February, 7.30pm**

Our popular quiz night raises money for local charities. Teams of up to four people or we can make up scratch teams on the night. Quizmaster is Peter Whitbread.

### 2019 PUB OF THE YEAR!

**Sunday 10 February 4pm**

The Chairman of Dursley & District CAMRA will present

us with the 2019 Pub of the Year Award. Followed by Live Music from the fabulous Welcome Parrots.

### ACOUSTIC EVENING

**Sunday 10 February, 8pm**

On the second Sunday of each month, why not come along and sing, play recite or just be entertained?

### COFFEE MORNING

**Wednesday 13 February**

**10.30 - 12.00 noon, £3.50**

Enjoy the fresh baking of Mrs Meredith, a nice cup of tea or coffee, and a catch up. Charity raffle.

### VINYL NIGHT

**Sunday 17 February, 7.30pm**

Theme: Flora

Dig out your LPs, EPs, singles and Flexidiscs, or just come along to listen/chat/drink.

### LIVE MUSIC: Lady Nade

**Wed 20 February**

A talented and sassy musician with a broad stylistic palette. Get ready to fill your hearts with music for the soul!

### OPEN MIC NIGHT

**Sunday 24 February 8pm**

We have an amplifier, mics and stands, so join us! All levels welcome.

***Great Beer, Great Food and Friendly Service.***



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## A Domestic God Production



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## Nanny Wanted

Family in Hillesley seeking nanny/mothers help. Working days and hours as follows:  
Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday  
15.00 - 17.30

The role includes picking up children (3 children aged 5, 4 and 2) from school and nursery, preparing evening meal for them and playing/reading etc. Driving an essential requirement as pick-ups are Badminton, Hillesley and Nibley.

Additional hours would be available throughout the school holidays if desired.

Please contact Fiona on  
07837684446  
for further information.

## ADVERTISING RATES

£3 for one issue or  
£30 for the year (10 issues)

Please contact  
Arlene Greenwood  
on 01453 520345  
email: [greenwoods@  
tuliptree.org.uk](mailto:greenwoods@tuliptree.org.uk)

or

[hillesleyhappenings@  
outlook.com](mailto:hillesleyhappenings@outlook.com)

The logo for 'The Drain Man' features a cartoon superhero character with a grey suit and cape, holding a large drain pipe. The text 'The Drain Man' is written in a large, stylized font. Below it, the text 'Blocked drains &amp; pipes' is written in a smaller font. To the right of the character, the name 'Aaron' is written, followed by the phone numbers '07947 806112' and '01453 511312', and the email address 'email: thedrainmanltd@gmail.com'. At the bottom, the text 'Blocked drains &amp; pipes? The Drain Man can get you flowing again' is written in a white font on a dark background.

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## DO YOU SUFFER PAIN, DISCOMFORT OR STIFFNESS?

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Annastasia works at Nailsworth Natural Health Clinic and can usually help with pain in the back, neck, knee, foot & ankle, shoulder, elbow & wrist, as well as sciatica and some headaches. In addition, osteopathy may be appropriate treatment for a variety of difficulties experienced by babies and children.

Why not take advantage of free advice on whether osteopathy might be appropriate for you, your baby or your child by calling Annastasia at the clinic on 01453 836 066 or having a chat in Hillesley.

For more information about Annastasia, Osteopathy and Appointments please visit [www.nailsworthnaturalhealth.co.uk](http://www.nailsworthnaturalhealth.co.uk)

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- Handmade Kitchens
- Custom Furniture

If you have any questions or would like a quotation for your potential Joinery or Cabinet Making work, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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E-mail: t.j.bleaken@hotmail.co.uk

## Old Chapel Hall

### A unique venue for hire in Hillesley

This historic venue consists of a large hall with upper tier balconies on 3 sides, toilets and a kitchen. It is a former Georgian Baptist Hall with period features. Free parking is available at The Fleece Inn or the Jubilee Field, a few minutes walk away.

Please contact Hillesley School at [admin@hillesley.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@hillesley.gloucs.sch.uk) or 01453 843551 to visit the space, enquire about availability or make a booking.

