

Attendance

Daily attendance at school is so important for all children to succeed, to ensure that they do not fall behind both socially and developmentally. Good attendance works hand in hand with your child reaching their full potential. They should be in school, on time, every day unless there are exceptional circumstances. If your child is absent for any reason please contact the school office and leave a message on the absence answerphone.

What can parents do to ensure good school attendance?

- Encourage and show interest; discuss your child's day with them
- Set realistic boundaries and sanctions
- Read all school communications
- Attend parents evenings
- Contact the school if your child is worried about something, causing reluctance to go to school
- Let the school know the reason for any absence on the first day of the absence and update the school daily
- Make medical/dental appointments out of school time, whenever possible
- Do not take holidays during term time

If you take your child out of school for 5 or more consecutive days, you will be liable to receive a penalty notice from the Local Authority. Currently the amount payable under a penalty notice is £60.00 if paid within 21 days, rising to £120.00 if paid between 21 and 28 days. If the penalty notice remains unpaid after 28 days the Local Authority will consider a prosecution in the Magistrates Court. Please note that penalty notices are issued per parent/carer per child. Further details are available in our attendance policy.

PGL

The Year 6 pupils have been away for the weekend on a residential trip to PGL. They had the opportunity to take part in many teambuilding activities including climbing, zip-wire, buggy building, trapeze, archery, fencing and many team sports.



They had a fantastic weekend and embraced all the activities whatever the weather! We would like to thank Mr Fuhrmann, Ms May, Mrs Pearson, Mrs Colburn and Mrs Goodier who gave up their weekend to accompany the children on their trip.

Towards the end of the week a selection of photos from PGL will be available to view in the gallery on our website: www.hillcroftschoo.org

Gardening News

Last term Gardening Club grew many vegetables and flowers from seed, some were planted out and grown in the school grounds, the children in gardening club took a selection home to look after over the summer and we sold plants to raise funds to buy seed and compost for the new term. Thank you to everyone that has sent in photos showing how tall your sunflowers grew and the progress of your vegetables. Below you can see how well our baby sweetcorn grew in tubs.



Gardening club starts again this week, we will be tidying the grounds for winter, planting the spring bulbs and winter bedding plants.

Clubs

The after school clubs start this week. The slips were sent home last week allocating places in the clubs. There are still a few places available in Magazine Club for KS2 – this will include photography and journalistic skills to create a Hillcroft magazine. If your child is interested, please contact the office. All school run clubs will finish week commencing 3rd December.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 1 st October	Year 4 – trip to Battle Abbey
Thursday 4 th October	Year 6 screening
Monday 8 th October	KS1 Author Visit
Tuesday 9 th October	Science Family Learning – more information to follow
Wednesday 10 th October	School Photos
Tuesday 16 th October	Year 5 – trip to British Museum
Wednesday 17 th October	Open Morning for prospective parents from 9.30am
Thursday 18 th October	Harvest Assembly – collecting for the Caterham Foodbank
Friday 19 th October	SU2C – wear orange and donate £1.00 to Cancer Research
Tuesday 30 th October	Year 2 – Trip to Bodium Castle – Information to follow
Friday 2 nd November	Reception – Bedtime Stories / Pyjama Day
Wednesday 21 st November	Bags 2 School Collection
Friday 23 rd November	INSET DAY