

We have had a good start to the new half term, with some exciting stunning starts to the topics. We had an alien crash landing in the lower school hall, ministry of chocolate workshops and a yeti sighting, among many other things. It has been lovely to hear the children buzzing about their forthcoming learning.

This is always a very busy half term with many events leading up to the Christmas holidays:

Remembrance Event: Saturday 10th November 2018

On Saturday Hillcroft are proud to be taking part in the remembrance event at St Lawrence's Church which will pay respects to the fallen. The service will see the names of the 217 local servicemen read out. Children from surrounding schools will then plant specially made metal poppies into the church grounds to recreate the famous poppy display at The Tower of London in 2014. The display, which will be available for the public to view for three weeks afterwards, will have the soldier's names inscribed on each flower.

Parents Evenings – Tuesday 13th November and Wednesday 14th November

Have you booked an appointment for Parents Evening?

To book please go to <http://www.parents-booking.co.uk/hillcroft> bookings close Friday 9th November.

Please note all clubs will be cancelled on these days.

Bingo Night – Friday 16th November

Have you signed up for our Bingo Night? It will be a fun evening so book your babysitters and bring your friends along too. Tickets are £6.00 per person (includes bingo cards and dabber) please bring along your own drinks and glasses and any snacks you would like. Book your tickets via the school office.

Book Fair - Thursday 29th November



A Book Fair is a pop-up book shop that brings the very best in children's books to your child's school. It is a great opportunity for you to browse books with your child – and for you to find stories to read, love and share together. Our Book Fair will be open on Thursday 29th November after school in the main hall and will also be at the Christmas fair on Saturday 1st December. Every book purchased helps to earn rewards that the school can spend on free books and resources for the classrooms and library.

Christmas Fair – Saturday 1st December 11.00 – 2.00pm

There will be two mufti days leading up to the fair:

- **9th November** we are asking children to bring in a present(s) suitable for a male or female relative - something for Mums/Dads/Aunties/Uncles/Grandparents that will go in the Secret Santa room at the Christmas Fair. At the Fair, children can then pick a present and wrap it for a special relative without them knowing.
- **30th November** we are asking children from Year 2 to Year 6 to bring in bottles for the bottle tombola and children in EYFS and Year 1 to bring in cakes for the refreshments stall.

As always we are looking for volunteers to help on the day of the fair. If you are able to help in any way – setting up, running a stall or clearing away at the end, please give your details to the school office or email Friends@hillcroftschoool.org. Thank you for your continued support.

School Council / Eco-Committee – Poster Competition

As a school we are working towards our Eco-Schools Green Flag Award. The School Council have recently conducted an Eco-Review of the school which has highlighted areas we can work towards improving upon.

The School Council are launching a poster competition to encourage us to 'save energy'. Children are asked to design a poster on A4 paper to advertise saving energy – please hand all entries to the school office by Friday 16th November. The winning entries will receive a small prize and be displayed around the school in the build up to 'Switch off Week' when we will be focusing on saving energy throughout the school (and at home) by switching off lights and appliances when they are not in use.

We will be making a concerted effort to 'Switch Off' week commencing 26th November.

Pen Recycling

If you have any old pens – please don't throw them away. We are collecting pens to be recycled – we collect any brand of pen, felt tips, highlighters, permanent markers and correction fluid pots. Please hand any pens into the school office or place them in the collection box in the foyer. Please spread the word and ask your friends, neighbours and workplace to collect up their old pens too.

Vacancy for parent SSB member

We have a vacancy for a Parent to become a member of our School Strategy Board (SSB). This is an important role in helping to drive up standards in school. It requires attendance at 6 two hour meetings a year, plus visits to the school, training and a commitment to at least one area of focus for the school. We are particularly interested in anyone who has expertise in Special Education Needs and/or good communication skills-but the key requirement is a a commitment to the school and willingness and enthusiasm to drive school standards forward.

Letters will be sent out by the end of next week and current SSB members will be around at the start of both Parents Evenings to talk to anyone interested. If you can't speak to us then, we can be contacted via the school office or email if you have any questions.

Mrs Janet Worth
Chair of SSB

SURREY & CATERHAM CHILDREN'S CENTRE

Please read this if you have used, know people who have used or anyone who was hoping to use the Caterham Children's Centre.

The consultation which SCC have launched this week proposes closing all the Children's Centre buildings in Tandridge except the one in Caterham, which would become a hub for "Family Resilience". The loss of the Centre in Hurst Green, and the support it gives for families there and in Godstone, is a tragic loss and we need to fight to keep it as a satellite centre so the families can continue to be supported.

At the moment we are able to work closely with our community to support families who need us, if the number of centres is cut, the services will be cut and we won't be able to work so closely with our local community.

Please respond to the consultation at www.Surreycc.gov.uk/consultations

Dates for your Diary

Friday 9 th November	Mufti Day- donate a present for the Secret Santa Stall Space Camp
Tuesday 13 th November	Parents Evening
Wednesday 14 th November	Parents Evening
Thursday 15 th November	Parents Evening for Fir Class
Friday 16 th November	Bingo – fundraising event – information to follow
Wednesday 21 st November	Bags 2 School Collection
Friday 23 rd November	INSET DAY
Thursday 29 th November	Book Fair – after school in the main hall
Friday 30 th November	Mufti Day – donate a bottle or cakes
Saturday 1 st December	Christmas Fair
Sunday 2 nd December	Switching on the Cedar Tree Lights
Wednesday 12 th December	Nursery Christmas Performance 11.15am and 2.00pm
Thursday 13 th December	Year 1 trip to the Harlequin Theatre Reception Class Christmas Performance 2.00pm
Friday 14 th December	Christmas Jumper Day Nasal Flu Vaccination for Year 5
Saturday 15 th December	Christingle at St Marys Church
Tuesday 18 th December	Christmas Dinner Reception 'Christmas Craft-er-noon' – information to follow