

## Eco-Schools

The focus of the School Council this year is to work towards becoming an Eco School.

Eco-Schools is an international awards programme that guides schools on their sustainable journey, providing a framework to help embed these principles into the heart of school life.

We are proud to have achieved our Silver Award and are now working towards our Green Flag.



One of the topics we are focusing on this year is waste. The School Council have helped implement many improvements over the past few years encouraging everyone to recycle. In school we have recycling bins in each class for paper and cardboard waste and we recycle used batteries and food waste. We have signed up to the Bic Writing Instrument Recycling Scheme and are a community drop off point for recycling pens, we have also signed up to the Bags2School scheme and actively encourage clothes recycling twice a year.

## Ecobricks

Over the last century, plastic has become part of everyday life, but did you know that 79% of the plastic waste ever created has ended up in our environment! We are becoming a plastic planet, but we don't have to if we recycle, reuse and refuse.

Ecobricks are one small solution to help with plastic waste by recycling the plastic and raising ecological awareness. An Ecobrick is a reusable building block created by packing clean and dry used plastic into a plastic bottle to a set density. These bricks can be used to build all sorts of items. At Hillcroft we are going to make ecobricks, with the help of Abigail from Predricks Zero Waste Shop, and hope to make enough ecobricks to build a planter in the school grounds.

We would be grateful if you would collect 500ml plastic bottles with a screw cap (not a sports lid) that are washed and dried. These can be handed in to the school office.



Ecobricks are made with clean and dry plastic. You can help us by segregating your ecobrickable plastic from all other materials and collecting it for our project.



Ecobrickable plastic includes styrofoam, plastic bags, packaging, straws and cellophane. If there is food, oil or dirt on your plastic, please wash and dry it. Dirty plastic inside an ecobrick will lead to microbiological growth and methane forming inside the brick and will cause the brick to bloat and in rare cases explode – so it is really important the plastic is clean.

We will collect the plastic in when we have our ecobrick workshop, the plastic will be shredded and the bottles filled to a set density to make the ecobricks strong. Please start collecting now – it takes a lot of plastic to fill a bottle!

Thank you for your support.

## Parking

We receive regular complaints about parents parking inconsiderately, and even pulling up on the pavement when pedestrians are nearby! Your actions and behaviour reflect on the school. We realise it is a small minority, but PLEASE can we reiterate - be considerate when driving and parking around the school.

## PE

Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school each week. It would be best if they keep it here all week so they don't forget it on PE day. It also means it is available if they have an impromptu PE lesson. Thank you.

## Reminder – Year 6 Parents

You are invited to a meeting on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February** regarding the KS2 assessments. The aim of the evening is to give you information about when the assessments take place, which subjects are assessed and the format of these assessments. We will provide you with the expectations for children as well as some examples of what the questions look like for each of the papers and give you some guidance on learning you can do at home in order to support your child. You will also be able to look at some of the papers from previous years to give you an idea of the challenge involved.

We feel this evening will be incredibly valuable and will help to prepare you and your child for the coming year. We will hold two meetings on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February** at **3:30pm** and another at **6:00pm**. We hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

## Lovelace Charity Day

This year Lovelace house are supporting the NSPCC and we will be joining in with their campaign – Speak Out, Stay Safe.

The NSPCC logo is displayed in a bold, green, sans-serif font. It is positioned to the right of the Lovelace Charity Day text, separated by a thin vertical line.

On **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February** we invite the children to dress up as a hero for the day for a minimum £1.00 donation to the charity. They may like to dress up as a superhero, or a hero from their favourite book. They may prefer to dress as a real life hero, a friend, relative or member of the emergency services.

**NSPCC** stands for the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. It is the UK's leading children's charity, preventing abuse and helping those affected to recover. We are pleased to welcome a representative from the NSPCC to lead an assembly, the aim is to equip a generation of children with the knowledge and understanding they need to stay safe from abuse and neglect, including online threats. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a trusted adult or Childline.

## World Cancer Day – 4<sup>th</sup> February



Unity Bands are on sale from the school office to raise money for Cancer Research UK and World Cancer Day.

Suggested donations are £2.00 per band.

Thank you.

## Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 6 Parents SATS Workshop 3.30pm and 6.00pm
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Hobgoblin Theatre for Reception Class
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Lovelace Charity Day – Dress as a hero for the day and make a donation to the NSPCC
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	Disco – information to follow
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	Last day before half term Roman Workshop for Year 4 NSPCC Workshop for Year 5 / 6
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	Back to School
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day – Information to follow
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents Evening – Information to follow
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents Evening – Information to follow
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Science Fair – Information to follow
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 4 – Prom Praise 4 Schools at the Royal Albert Hall
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	East Surrey Museum visiting Year 1
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Last day of term
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Back to school
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Bags 2 School collection
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Class Photos
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Summer Fair
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Last day before half term
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Back to school
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	INSET DAY
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of term