

### Welcome to our first fortnightly newsletter of this academic year!

#### Welcome Back!

It is wonderful to see all the children back after the holidays. They all seem relaxed, happy and really excited about being back at school. I hope you all had a wonderful break.

As we embark on a new year, myself, alongside the rest of the staff are looking forward to consolidating the work from last year and building on what the team has collectively achieved over the last few years. As always, there are exciting changes ahead of us to make Hillcroft an even better place for the children, making them safer, happier and more inspired in their learning. We look forward to continuing to work closely with parents and the community to provide the best we can for our children. There are many things about Hillcroft Primary School which are already excellent and these will remain in place. I am sure that we can all continue to work together to promote our school vision of 'providing a caring and supportive school which nurtures its community to build trusting relationships and develop a love of learning to achieve their personal best.'

Have a happy and successful term!

Miss Brazier

#### HILLCROFT SUMMER IMPROVEMENTS

Many exciting school improvements have taken place over the summer holidays. As some of you will know, our wrap around care provision, Acorns, has relocated to the original part of the school, where all children who attend this provision will be together. Kath and the Acorns team have worked incredibly hard to set the provision up and make it a warm and engaging environment in which the children who are with us longer than the normal school day, can relax and have fun!







Some of our Early Years parents will remember from the end of the Summer Term that we were having a new outside area for the Early Years children. This work was finished in the summer holidays and we are now incredibly lucky to have a brand new play area which the Nursery children who have already started with us were exploring and enjoying yesterday.



#### **DOORS AND ENTRANCES**

As you may have already realised we have had to change where Year 2 children are dropped in the morning and collected in the afternoon. These changes have been made following the relocation of our Acorns provision. Year 2 will be entering school by the Nursery provision. The rest of the school will enter and exit from the same places as last year. Unfortunately we had some of our bus stop stops taken in the summer holidays and therefore we are awaiting replacements. Therefore I wanted to remind children and parents about drop off and pick up points on the front playground;

**Nursery:** drop off and pick up at the Nursery door. Please could we ask that parents line up on the ramp with their children to minimise congestion in that area of the playground.

**Reception:** drop off and pick up from the Reception shelter on the playground. **Year 1;** drop off and pick up at the bus stops outside Beech classroom.

Year 2; drop off and pick up at the bus stops outside the Nursery entrance.

Year 3, 4, 5, 6; drop off and pick up at the bus stops around the edge of the playground.

We are aware that the front playground is a very busy place and can get very congested at drop off and pick up times however we have no alternative, therefore may we request your support in ensuring you wait in a central place while the children enter and exit the building to ensure the children's safety.

#### **STAFFING AND COMMUNCATION**

We would like to welcome:

In Year 2, Mrs Doolly, teacher of Chestnut class and Miss Young, teacher in Sycamore class. In Year 4, Mrs Bryon, part time teacher in Cedar class with Mrs Scott. Please join us in wishing all our new staff a fabulous welcome to Hillcroft Primary School. Please feel free to say hello and introduce yourself to your child's class teacher, whether they are a new member of staff or not, whenever you have the opportunity. It is always nice for teachers to meet the parents of the children in their care early on in the school year.

Hillcroft does have an open door policy and the staff always welcome communication about the children in their care. Please can we ask that you make an appointment to have these conversations though, rather than trying to speak to staff on the playground at either end of the day. In the first instance, it is important these conversations take place with the class teacher who has the best knowledge of the children and their provision and care. However for more serious concerns, Mrs Sills as Early Years Leader and Mrs Swain as Assistant Headteacher are also available.





#### **CHANGES IN CONTACT DETAILS**



We are aware that some parents will have changed their contact details over the summer holidays including phone numbers. It is imperative the school is informed of these changes so please can we ask that if you have changed any of your contact details, you inform the school office as soon as possible. This can either be done by popping into the school office, phoning them or emailing at office@hillcroftschool.org.

May we also ask that if any contact details of the second or third contact on our system have changed, you also inform us of these changes too.

# Dates for your Diary

Year 6 Residential Trip to PGL
Friends of Hillcroft AGM – information to follow
School Photographer – Individual Photos
Mufti Day – Information to Follow
Year 3 – Street Art Workshop
Break up for half term
Back to School
Bags 2 School Collection
Mufti Day – information to follow
Christmas Fair – information to follow

## School Terms and Holiday Dates 2019 - 2020

Autumn Term 2019		
INSET Day:	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	
INSET Day:	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	
Term Starts: Children Return	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	
Half Term:	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	
Term Ends:	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	
Spring Term 2020		
Term Starts: Children Return	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	
INSET Day:	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	
Half Term:	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	
INSET Day:	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	
Term Ends:	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	
Summer Term 2020		
Term Starts: Children Return	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	
Bank Holiday	Friday 8th May – date changed due to 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day	
Half Term:	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	
INSET Day:	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	
Term Ends:	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	
INSET Day:	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	