



# Hillcroft Primary School

**Nurturing children to achieve their personal best**

**Nurture**

**Inspire**

**Strive**

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020

**What a busy few weeks we have had since the last newsletter!**

Across the school, the children have been involved in some exciting learning, including learning new art skills to design and create their Christmas cards. We have also welcomed Nursery and Reception back; the children have settled in fabulously and are enjoying their classrooms and forming friendships. Excitingly, all classes have now nominated children for roles of responsibilities, such as Behaviour Ambassadors and School Council. The full list of children is below – congratulations to all!

Each newsletter will highlight learning from some of the year groups – this time it is Nursery and Year 4. Nursery have been focussing on sharing their favourite toy and talking about their family and Year 4 have developed their sketching skills for their topic The Blue Abyss.

We are also coming up to Harvest Festival time. Due to the current restrictions, we are – sadly – unable to hold a Harvest Festival assembly but are still keen to collect food for the Caterham Food Bank. The Caterham Food Bank is part of a nationwide network of foodbanks, supported by the Trussel Trust, which is the Darwin House charity. The trust works to combat poverty and hunger across the UK. They provide three days nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to local people who are referred to them in crisis. For more details, see the Key Dates box below.

Lastly, Friends of Hillcroft will be holding their Annual General Meeting on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 8.00pm. The Friends of Hillcroft are a friendly group of parents, carers and friends who raise money for the school to provide additional resources. Their fundraising has purchased amongst other things a library mural and furniture, books and book corner furniture, ipad stands, maths equipment, sports equipment and an all-weather trim trail. If you would like to join the AGM, please see details below.

We hope you have a lovely weekend, and look forward to greeting you on the gate next week.

Miss Summers

## Time to Celebrate!

Each class has now nominated the below roles of responsibilities – congratulations to those children, as well as all those children who took part.

**Head Boy and Girl:** Oliver Tatara and Kacie Anders

**Deputy Head Boy and Girl:** Bella Hill and Bill Cops

**House Captains:** Rose Selsby and Ben Hoey (Newton), Amber Kent and Harry Cawley (Darwin), Kieren Doble and Ethan Hamilton (Lovelace) and Blaine Paterson and Antonia Davey (Brunel).

**School Council – Eco Council.** This year our School Council will continue to have an Eco focus.

Year 1: Oscar James and Poppy Ryder

Year 2 Amirah Lubwana and Logan Williams

Year 3: Jaino Sinon and Jenson Cross

Year 4 Calum Porter and Franky Paxton

Year 5: Freya Markwick and Harry Williams

Year 6: George Wilson and Veenaa Kistnen

## Behaviour Ambassadors:

Beech: Erin Daly

Willow: Amelia Wadsley – Russell

Sycamore: Alexis Duncan

Chestnut: Frank Gray

Maple: Archie Crowe

Rowan: Theo Hubbard

Cedar: Elsie Prince

Birch: Jacob Dowson

Larch: Leon Wells

Aspen: Sienna Reid

Acer: Scarlett Sheridan

Oak: Victory Gurung

## 'Top of the Rocks!'

To celebrate World Maths Day on Thursday 15th October we are taking part in a weeklong TT Rockstars battle against the other Chalklands schools! Get your keyboards ready to battle and see who really is '**Top of the Rocks.**' You can play at home using your TT Rockstars log in and we will be scheduling time to play in class. Let us work together Hillcroft and score as many correct answers as we can! Please contact Mrs Gear if you need your login details. Best of luck!



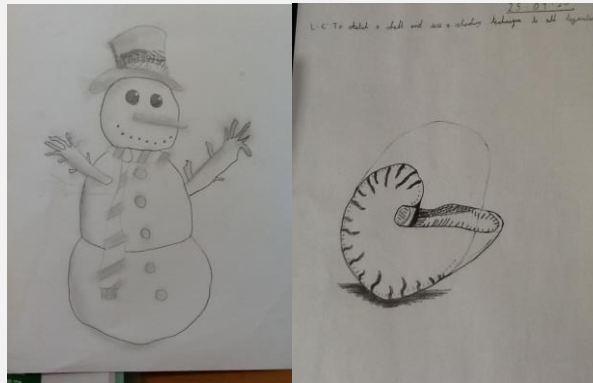
## We have been learning...

Nursery:



In Fir class the children have been settling into their new routines. We have been focusing on oracy within the class and parents/carers have sent in a picture of their children holding their favourite toy and a family photo. Children then have had the opportunity to talk about their photos with their peers, and paint a picture of their toy. The children are settling well into Fir Class and are enjoying exploring their new surroundings. Thank you for your continued support. The Nursery Team

Year 4:



We have been learning about tone and shading techniques. We have learnt how to use hatching, stippling and blending. We have applied these skills to draw shells and then we used the skills in drawing our Christmas card design. We have also learnt about colour mixing in preparation for our paintings that we will be completing linked to The Blue Abyss!

### Key Dates for Autumn Term:

Parent's Evening will take place, remotely, on the w/c 16<sup>th</sup> November. More information to follow.

Harvest Festival will still be taking place this year. We will be collecting non-perishable food for Harvest festival from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October until Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October. In line with government guidance, we will be collecting it in a container, which will be positioned by the front gate as you enter the playground. It will then be quarantined for 72 hours before being passed on to the Food Bank. The Food Bank asks for no pasta or baked beans as they are already overstocked with these items!

## **Other News!**

### **School Photo Update:**

Due to government guidance surrounding COVID, unfortunately there will be no sibling photographs this year and all orders will be placed either on line or through us over the phone.

### **Friends of Hillcroft – AGM Thursday 12th November 8.00pm**

Friends of Hillcroft will be holding their Annual General Meeting on Thursday 12th November at 8.00pm. Due to the current restrictions this year we will be holding the meeting virtually via Zoom so no babysitters required!

Included on the agenda is the Chair's report on last year's activities, Treasurer's report, and election of committee members. We will also start discussing this year's fundraising within current guidelines.

The AGM is an opportunity for you to elect the Committee to represent Friends of Hillcroft throughout this academic year. Nominations should be sent in advance of the AGM to Friends@hillcroftschoo.org for existing committee members willing to stand for re-election and for anyone wishing to stand for the first time.

If you would like any further information about what is involved in being a Committee member, please speak to Anne Fox or Susan Jewell. As we are a registered charity, all committee members automatically become Trustees of the Charity.

We are particularly interested in someone wanting to take up the Treasurer role and also anyone interested in any of the roles either now or who would like to shadow to see what is involved.

Please email Anne or Sue at Friends@hillcroftschoo.org if you would like to come to the AGM so that we can send you the Zoom details and also indicate if you are interested in any of the Committee roles. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Don't forget you can also support us by using easyfundraising every time you shop online with over 3000 retailers including Amazon. Every time you shop, you'll raise a free donation for Friends of Hillcroft School, it's that easy and doesn't cost you anything! Find out more: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofhillcroft/>