

Welcome back to the second half of Autumn Term!

We hope you have had a safe and happy half term break; it was lovely to see you all on the gate again.

The children have settled back well into class and we have some exciting Topics that will be covered this term, as you will have seen on the Year Group Newsletters last week. This week we have commemorated Remembrance Day - thank you to all those that contributed to our wonderful Poppy display, and thank you to Miss Frost for all her hard work in organising! Thank you to both Miss Frost and Mrs Parish for taking time out of their weekend to put up the display!

In staffing news, we welcome Miss Mayhew to the Hillcroft team this term. Miss Mayhew is teaching in year 5 and takes over from Mrs Brazendale who started her maternity leave this week. We also welcome Mrs Konopka to Hillcroft, Mrs Konopka also joins the year 5 team as a Learning Assistant.

In Acorns, we welcome Bethany White, Bethany Conn and Mila Yancheva.

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to Miss Nicholson, a KS1 Learning Assistant in a few weeks' time. Miss Nicholson has worked at Hillcroft for over 2 years and has supported a number of children in her role. We wish her luck in her future career.

Miss Summers

Key dates

Week Beginning 16th November - Virtual Parents Evening Appointments Thursday 17th December - End of Term Monday 4th January – INSET Day Tuesday 5th January – First day back.

Remembrance Day

To commemorate Remembrance Day, families and the local community were invited to decorate a poppy in remembrance of those who died during the wars and as a celebration of our community coming together to honour them. We also honoured the two-minute silence on the playground and then listened to The Last Post.





'Celebrating World Religions'

At Hillcroft, we recognise, celebrate and learn about many different cultures and religions, including key festivals. We would like to begin to share some of these with you, through our Newsletters. This week, we are celebrating Diwali, and attach a presentation that the children have watched in their virtual assemblies. Thank you to Roma and her family for their contribution!

Please follow this link to view the presentation: https://drive.google.com/file/d/13E2IGFA2PsExPPRYYkvrWXZYFqFqYCRs/view?usp=sharing

If you and your family would like to be involved in any future celebrations of festivals please contact Mrs Jaitly: I.jaitly@hillcroftschool.org

Anti-Bullying Week



We will be taking part in Anti-bullying week during the 16th-20th November 2020. As you may remember, we were awarded our Silver award from the Anti-Bullying Alliance earlier this year. We would very much appreciate your support to raise awareness throughout the school about this subject. We do not tolerate bullying of any kind at Hillcroft. We will be getting involved by joining the live assembly, wearing odd socks to school and by completing a range of class based activities.

We would like to encourage every child to take part by wearing odd socks to school on Monday 16th November. Please ensure your child is still wearing the correct school uniform and footwear. We are not asking for any money to be donated at this time.

Other News!

Road Safety Week:

It is Road Safety Week next week and we will be using it as an opportunity to reinforce key road safety messages, reminding our children to look and listen carefully before crossing roads in safe places. We will also use it to talk to them about the health and environmental benefits of walking and cycling too.

Bag 2 School:

Unfortunately, we are unable to facilitate Bag 2 School currently due to COVID restrictions. However, the Orpheus Centre in Godstone will be accepting donations between the 7th and 9th December. Please follow this link for more information: <u>www.orpheus.org.uk/event/clearout</u>

School Uniform Update:

Please can we remind parents and carers that, should your child have longer than shoulder length hair, this needs to be tied up for health and safety reasons. Also, please ensure that your child wears the correct uniform on their P.E. days. This consists of: black jogging bottoms or shorts, a house coloured t-shirt and sweatshirt if they wish.

Parking Reminder:

Please can we remind parents and carers about parking. We have had feedback from residents that some parking on nearby roads means that it is hard for other cars to drive past. Please can we ask that when parking, to ensure that other traffic is able to still access the road.

Face Coverings:

Another polite reminder that we ask for face coverings to be worn when dropping off / collecting your children. Please also ensure that children stay with you when waiting on the playground and are not running around. To avoid congestion, we also continue to ask that parents leave the playground immediately once they have dropped off / collected.