



Hillcroft Primary School

Nurturing children to achieve their personal best

Nurture

Inspire

Strive

Friday 29th January 2021

I hope that you all enjoyed the snow last weekend and that you were able to get out and enjoy it. In my household, the snow certainly provided a welcome change from the regular weekend routine!

I have been able to drop into some of the 'live sessions' that teachers have been scheduling for children last week and this week. I hope that the children are finding these enjoyable and that it is providing them a good chance to see their teachers and classmates.

As you will no doubt have heard the Government have now announced that schools "could reopen from 8th March at the earliest" and that we will get two weeks' notice of any changes. We, like you, will be informed of what will be happening closer to the time. Again, we do not get any prior information of the arrangements made by the Government or what the intended return will look like. As usual, as soon as we have more information we will communicate this with at the earliest opportunity.

From this week, we are engaging in a programme of asymptomatic testing for STAFF. This will help to identify any staff who may be carrying COVID-19 and be asymptomatic. Staff will self-test twice a week and report the results to the Government and the school. It is another thing that will help to keep the school as safe as can be for all of us.

Finally, a huge thank you to all of you who continue to put an incredible amount of effort into your home learning (parents and pupils). Don't forget the DT competition – we have had some excellent entries already. Please speak with your children's teachers if you are having any difficulties and I'm sure that teachers will be able to do as much as they can to help you and your children.

We wish you a very safe weekend,

Miss Summers

Remote learning...

Thank you to all of those families who responded to our recent remote learning questionnaire. Your feedback was gratefully appreciated.

To further enhance our remote learning provision, from Monday 1st February, teachers will be offering a wider selection of live learning opportunities. Please see your child's class timetable for when these additional sessions will be.

Please also encourage your child to have their camera's on during these sessions as this really does support two way engagement and allows the teacher to fully engage with your child.

Lovely learning...

Once again, we have received some wonderful learning from children – below are just a few examples!

Skyler used her imagination by using different items from around her house to form the letters within her name. Well done Skyler, what amazing work.



Eden carefully measured how tall she is using cars, making sure there were no gaps in between! Poppy also used her measuring skills to compare different capacities. Well done!



Samuel is trying so hard with his writing and we are very proud of him. Well done Samuel!



Eloise created a beautiful piece of artwork inspired by our artist of the term Yayoi Kusama, who is also known as the 'princess of polka dots'. Well done Eloise!



Harry has been busy finding halves in real life, even making use of the snow! Well done Harry!



Well done to Jacob for using his "Tech free" afternoon to create this super story. He creatively took the leftover snow we have had this week to show exactly how I think we were all feeling, when we first saw the snow and once our Snowmen had melted too! Great work!



Harrison, Nico and Fearne have taken a lot of time to follow step-by-step tutorials to draw knights for our topic based art lesson. Great learning, Aspen!



An amazing air resistance science investigation and lovely English story based on our Write Stuff unit on the Blue Umbrella. George is working so hard and trying new things. We are really proud of you George!



Theo has constructed and tested parachutes made from different materials. He has even put his results in a table and explained his findings.



George Wilson has been inspired by David Attenborough and decided to use his outdoor learning time to collect litter from around our local roads. Look how much they have collected!



In Science, Year 6 has been learning all about Light and the angles of reflection. James carried out a fantastic experiment to prove the law of reflection. He used paper, mirrors and a torch to prove that the angle of incidence was equal to the angle of reflection. Excellent scientific work James!



Other News!

Families LSB:

The January and February edition of Families London Surrey Borders is now available through the following link: https://issuu.com/familiesonline/docs/famjan-feb_lsb?utm_source=BenchmarkEmail&utm_campaign=Distribution_Points_Mag_Link_Jan%252fFeb&utm_medium=email

Perform:

Perform is running online drama, dance and singing classes during the lockdown via Zoom.

All children are welcome to try a Free Trial Session- apparently, they are great fun!

For more information about this, please follow this link: <https://www.perform.org.uk/free-drama-class>.

Key Dates for Spring Term

INSET DAY – The planned INSET day on Friday 12th February will be going ahead, with the school closed to all children.

Half Term – The school will be closed to all children, including critical workers throughout the February Half Term (14th – 18th Feb)

Parent's Evenings – these are scheduled for the week beginning the 15th March. More details will follow, nearer the time.