



Hillcroft Primary School

Nurturing children to achieve their personal best

Nurture

Inspire

Strive

Friday 12th November 2021

Welcome back to our second half of Autumn Term. It has been a truly busy and exciting two weeks!

On Monday, the Olympic athlete Frederick Afrifa visited, and the children took part in a circuit event followed by an inspirational assembly about his life and aspirations. Everyone greatly enjoyed it; a fantastic day was had by all!



Thank you to all those families and children who took part in decorating a poppy to commemorate Remembrance Sunday. Mrs Glenin, Miss Matthews and Mrs Parish worked tirelessly over the weekend, putting them up on our front fence. They look fabulous and act as a fitting tribute. In Acorns, they also created a beautiful display.



We are also excited to announce that we have now been officially awarded the Green Flag Award for Eco Schools. This is the highest honour we are able to achieve as an Eco School, and signifies our continuing commitment to sustainable living and the protection of our planet:



After 25 years of continuous employment, Mrs Heath is taking early retirement to spend time with her family and friends. We all wish her the very best and will miss her dearly!

I hope you have a restful and safe weekend,
Miss Summers



Thrive

Welcome parents and carers. Our Thrive focus for this half term is 'Sensory Exploration'. From birth through to childhood and beyond. Sensory Exploration helps to make sense of the world around us by using our senses of tasting, smelling, seeing, touching and hearing. Engaging our senses helps us to learn and retain information and it is crucial for brain development.

Below are some activities and key phrases you could try out and use at home as a family. We would love to see some photos of these, so please do email them to

D.Pearson@hillcroftschoo.org

Activities to try out are: Baking using store cupboard ingredients kneading bread dough, making Christmas mince pies, making a calm bottle, firework pictures, creating a sensory garden/tub, for older children and young people they enjoy making slime, creating new facemasks.

Key phrases to use are: "Show me", "I'm curious about...", "Let's try it together" Sensory words to try: bright, shiny, dim, sparkly, scary, crunchy, squelchy, hard, soft, cold, warm, slimy, mushy, rough, scaly, sour, sweet, bitter, spicy, fruity. Feel free to add your own words to this list.



Our first Thrive workshop is on Tuesday 23rd November 5:30pm -7:30pm. If you are interested in coming, please e-mail Mrs Pearson to book a place as it is limited to only 24 places.

D.pearson@hillcroftschoo.org

Royal Mail Heroes Stamp Competition Winners and Runner-Ups

Hillcroft entered into a Royal Mail Heroes Stamp Competition Although we did not have any winners, we did make-it into the GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS, which is amazing! As a school, we still wanted to recognise the children's hard work, so we picked two winners and four runners-up internally.

WINNERS



Juliet (Year 6)

Captain Sir Tom Moore



Ava (Year 3)

My Dad

RUNNERS-UP



Isabella (Year 4)

The whole world



Maggie (Year 5)

NHS & Teachers



Megan (Year 6)

Captain Tom saves the day!



Abigail (Year 4)

Captain Tom Moore

Anti-bullying week, 15th – 19th November:

ONE KIND WORD

Anti-bullying Week 2021

We will be taking part in Anti-bullying week during the 15th-19th November 2021. As you may remember we were awarded our Silver award from the Anti-Bullying Alliance last 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 together for a whole school 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 15th November. Please ensure your child is still wearing the correct school uniform and footwear. We are not asking for any money to be donated.

The Salvation Army, Christmas Present appeal, 22nd – 25th November:



Like last year, this Christmas, Hillcroft will be supporting The Salvation Army, Christmas Present appeal. Last year we had an overwhelming response, which went towards supporting over 770 children.

The Caterham Salvation Army is inviting us to help make Christmas for local families who are finding it difficult this year by donating a new, unopened gift for children aged 0-16 years old. Please do not wrap the gifts as these will need to be matched to the children referred. They also ask you to avoid donating cuddly toys.

For those families who would like to support this appeal, a donation box will be on the playground every day between Monday 22nd November and Thursday 25th November.

Please see link for more information:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1k1Y4bAQ5qZ_V_N10sU3TyQzWtBcNjLG4/view?usp=sharing

'Celebrating World Religions'

At Hillcroft, we recognise, celebrate and learn about many different cultures and religions, including key festivals. Last week, we celebrated Diwali, on Thursday 4th November. Thank you – again - to Roma and her family for their contribution!

Please follow this link to view the presentation:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1C4NksDUJO7Adj7BZio9VByRKWeC591qK/edit?usp=sharing&oid=106106752533855229349&rtpof=true&sd=true>

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

Dates for your Diary

Event / Occasion	Date / Time
Anti – Bullying week; Odd Sock Day	15/11
Children in Need; Fancy Dress Friday <i>Please can children bring in a small donation</i>	19/11
Years 3 and 4 Open Classroom	22/11 2.15pm
Years 5 and 6 Open Classroom	23/11 2.15pm
Reception Open Classroom	24/11 2.15pm
Years 1 and 2 Open Classroom	25/11 2.15pm
INSET day – School closed to children	26/11
PTA Christmas Jumper collection for swap day (more information to follow)	w/c 29/11
PTA collection for Secret Santa (more information to follow)	w/c 6/12
Year 2 Christmas Performance	7/12 9.15am
Nursery Christmas Arts and Crafts (Monday – Wednesday children)	8/12 9.30am
Nursery Christmas Arts and Crafts (Wednesday – Friday children)	8/12 1.30pm
PTA Christmas Jumper swap day (more information to follow)	8/12 8.20 -8.45am 3-3.30pm
Year 1 Christmas Performance	9/12 9.30am
PTA Christmas Disco (more information to follow)	9/12 Reception: 3.15 – 4pm Years 1&2: 4.15 – 5.15pm Years 3&4: 5.30 – 6.30pm Years 5&6: 6.45 – 7.45pm
Save the Children; Christmas Jumper Day <i>Please can children bring in a small donation</i>	10/12
Reception Christmas Songs in the Classroom	10/12 1.00pm
KS1 Prize Giving (more information to follow)	13/12 9.00am
Year 6 Christmas Songs Around the Tree	13/12 2.00pm
Year 3&4 Prize Giving (more information to follow)	14/12 9.00am
KS1 Pantomime visit (information sent out separately)	14/12
Year 5 Christmas Songs Around the Tree	14/12 2.00pm
PTA Secret Santa (more information to follow from PTA)	15/12
Year 5&6 Prize Giving (more information to follow)	15/12 9.00am
Year 3 Christmas Songs Around the Tree	15/12 2.00pm
Christmas School Dinner Day (more information to follow)	16/12
Year 4 Christmas Songs Around the Tree	16/12 2.00pm
Break-up for Christmas (finishing at normal timings)	17/12

In Other News!

Christmas Day Lunch, at home or with the community:

Like last year, The Salvation Army, The Westway and Caterham Churches have come together to provide Christmas Day Lunch, at home or as a community, for those families that may be struggling at this time.

The Salvation Army, The Westway and Caterham Churches Together invite you to join us for a traditional Christmas Day lunch, free of charge. Either delivered to your home or coming together for lunch The Westway.

Bookings on a first come basis. To find out more or reserve your place / home delivery or to volunteer to help please call Ailsa on 01883 330718 or The Westway on 01883 347230

Please let us know if you have any allergies, or dietary needs and if you need transport.

HELP NEEDED
Preparing and serving food on Christmas Day, fund raising, as table hosts, offers of transport, delivering lunches to individuals at home, running the quiz, clearing up and sharing the Christmas spirit.

COME AND JOIN US

Community Christmas Day Dinner

Christmas Lunch, music, gift and Quiz or a hot lunch delivered to your door

Arrive **12.00 noon**
Lunch served from 12:30pm

The Westway
Chaldon Road
Caterham CR3 5PG

FREE OF CHARGE

Spaces are limited, so if you are interested, please fill in and return the linked form to The Salvation Army or The Westway:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TVa0A9xOV0bxKbwAOcPq6dA31ltwkdNj/view?usp=sharing>

Pedestrian Safety, Autumn 2021 Campaign – Drive SMART:

This Autumn Drive SMART, Surrey Safer Roads Partnership will be launching a new campaign to provide education and engagement on the importance of pedestrian safety across the county. This campaign will be focused on engagement with pedestrians – raising awareness of their vulnerabilities and ways in which to keep safe on the roads – and drivers, to educate them on their role in keeping these road users safe, in particular around school-zones and residential areas. If you would like more information on this please contact: drivesmart@surrey.pnn.police.uk

SIMPLE STEPS TO GET THERE SAFELY...

BE BRIGHT!
The brighter the better - bright or fluorescent colours, reflective wear and torches can help improve your chances of being visible to other road users.

BE SEEN!
Use designated crossings where possible - if there isn't a crossing, find a safe place to cross by moving to a spot where you can be seen clearly and there is space to reach the pavement on the otherside.

BE ALERT!
Remove distractions when walking on or beside a road (headphones, mobiles etc.) so you can listen for traffic and always look both ways before crossing.

#WalkSMART

DRIVE SMART

Surrey Family Learning:

Please follow this link for more information on new, free courses, led by Surrey:

<https://mailchi.mp/f40867b163e4/family-learning-733532>