



Hillcroft Primary School

Nurturing children to achieve their personal best

Nurture

Inspire

Strive

Friday 28th January 2022

It's been a busy time this week with all the classes working hard as the term hits full speed. I have the pleasure of having children come to me to show off their work and it is always a joy to see the effort and progress they make. We know that this remains a difficult time for the school community as COVID levels are still high across the district. We do request that even when wider relaxations in society occur, on-site mask wearing remains for parents, carers and visitors.

This week I had the pleasure of listening to year 5 play the glockenspiel in their music lesson. The beautiful music filled the corridors and was lovely to hear.



I also had the pleasure of seeing the fantastic bird box designs in Year 5 and join in with some den making fun in Nursery!

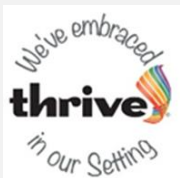


We hope you have a safe and enjoyable weekend, and will see you next week,

Miss Summers

Spring 1 Celebration Assemblies:

Letters have been sent out to all parents in Reception, Year 4 and Year 6, outlining the changes to this half terms celebration assemblies. Please check your Parentmail if your child is in one of these year groups and you have not received this letter.



Thrive

A message from Mrs Pearson.

This week in Thrive, we have been looking at different ways to lift a low mood.

Everyone feels sad sometimes and that is completely normal. Our feelings come and go all the time. However, if you are feeling sad or low and it lasts for longer and starts to affect your everyday life then try some of these helpful tips:

1. Share your feelings with someone. It can be helpful to talk about how you are feeling.
2. Challenge any unhelpful thoughts. Remind yourself that thoughts are not facts.
3. Take care of your wellbeing and make sure you get enough sleep, food and water daily.
4. Start your day with a positive thought and end your day with three good things that have happened during the day.
5. Complete daily exercise that makes your heart pump faster. It might be hard but it can make you feel much better.
6. Take time out every day (10-15 minutes) to do something you enjoy and that relaxes you.
7. Music is very powerful. Listen to your favourite music.
8. Relax in a hot bath with a candle lit.
9. Keep a mood diary and write down your feelings.
10. Sit and watch TV as a family.

Many of the children this week in class have mentioned that they would like to make a calm box at home. If your child makes a calm box at home, please send in a picture for me to see. Enjoy making your boxes!



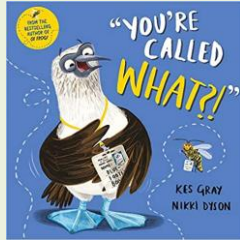
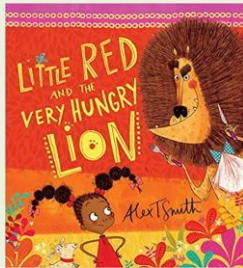
Don't forget about our six-week workshop. This will run from February through to March.

If you are interested, please email me to book your place. Closing date for this is Monday 31st January. There will be limited spaces available but please do not worry if you are unable to have a space, we will re-run them again throughout the summer.

D.Pearson@hillcroftschoo.org

A Reading Community

Following on from our last newsletter, the school have purchased the books recommended by Miss Fox and these are available to view in our front reception area.



Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day!

Thank you to all the families and children who took part in the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day before Christmas - we raised a fantastic £316 for the charity.



Marvellous Maths!

A Message from Mrs Gear

We wanted to let you know about a new app available from White Rose. The app is free to download and aimed at children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. The app delivers easy to follow tasks in bite size chunks.



How does it work?

Each 1-minute task gives children engaging and targeted practice in basic number. The app covers a range of topics on arithmetic and subitising, and generates questions randomly so your child never sees the same ones in sequence – meaning they learn the concept and not a series of answers. Once a task completes, answers are presented on the screen giving your child instant feedback. It's so simple to use and, most of all, lots of FUN!

What's more, the app has no specific starting point, so a child can pick up and play at any time, with no set place to start. Accessible AND easy!

10 reasons for using 1-Minute Maths:

1. Excellent number practice with no distractions.
2. Enjoyable tasks children want to complete.
3. Instils basic number concepts during early years.
4. A clear process that children pick up immediately
5. No login or internet access needed. Download and play!
6. A motivator – children enjoy trying to beat their last score!
7. Helpful hints give support when needed.
8. Brilliant for building confidence and fluency.
9. Random question generator instils concepts, not answers.
10. Completely FREE to download!

First, **download the app for FREE** – it's available for use on [Apple](#), [Android](#) and [Kindle](#) devices.

Please let us know what you think and if your child is enjoying using it. If you have any questions or would like to feedback, please do contact me on:

c.gear@hillcroftschoo.org

In Other News!

Surrey Family Learning have lots of updated, free courses. Please follow this link:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/adult-learning/courses/family-learning>

Key Dates for Spring 1:

2nd February - Reception Sharing Assembly: 9.15am: Elm 10.00am: Ash

8th February – Year 6 Celebration Assembly: 1.45pm: Oak 2.30pm: Acer

9th February – Year 4 Celebration Assembly: 1.45pm: Birch 2.30pm: Cedar

11th February – End of Term

21st February – Return to school

Advanced notice: Parents' Evening is planned for the w/c 28th February

Attendance Notice from Surrey:

A reminder to parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), they will be liable to receive a penalty notice. Currently the amount payable under a penalty notice is £60.00 per parent/carer per child if paid within 21 days. Thereafter the amount increases to £120.00 if paid between 21 and 28 days. If the penalty notice remains unpaid after 28 days, the Local Authority will consider a prosecution in the Magistrates Court. Please note that penalty notices are issued per parent/carer per child so a family of two parents and two children will receive 4 penalty notices



Thrive six-week course of workshops

Starting: Tuesday 22nd February 2022

Then every Tuesday 5.30pm— 7.00pm

***Come and meet other parents and carers and learn
ways to support your child with their social and e
motional development at home.***

Week 1 ~ Introduction to Thrive

Week 2 ~ Being

Week 3 ~ Doing

Week 4 ~ Thinking

Week 5 ~ Power & Identity / Skills & Structure

Week 6 ~ Bereavement/Anxiety & Anger

***To book a space please email:
d.pearson@hillcroftschoo.org***

Please note this workshop is limited to 20 places

Mrs Debbie Pearson (Lead Thrive Practitioner)

Miss Lucy Simons (Thrive Practitioner)

Mrs Tara Copard (Family Link Worker)