



# Hillcroft Primary School

**Nurturing children to achieve their personal best**

**Nurture**

**Inspire**

**Strive**

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

Wow! What a busy and exciting couple of weeks we have had here at Hillcroft!

Reception class welcomed the Police and a Nurse into school, to learn about how they help their community as part of their "Not all Superheroes wear Capes" topic this term:



In Year 1, as part of their 'Memory Box' topic the children invited their Grandparents and Parents/Carers in to discuss how life is different between their childhoods – as well as enjoying reading a book together:



Year 4 were very excited for their trip to Battle Abbey. They greatly enjoyed the experience – learning all about the Battle of Hastings.



At the top end of the school, Year 6 also had an exciting week with their all-day, immersive WWII workshop; learning all about how the war effected daily life during this period of history



So, all-in-all, a very busy two weeks! We would also like to thank the PTA for hosting such a successful and well-attended Second-Hand uniform sale and for organising and running the Easter Egg raffle.

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

### Key Dates for Spring 2:

Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Year 2 Celebration Assembly 9am – Main Hall
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3 Celebration Assembly 9am – Main Hall
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	KS1 Prize Giving – 9 am – Main Hall
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Years 3 and 4 Prize Giving – 9 am – Main Hall
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Years 5 and 6 Giving – 9 am – Main Hall
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Break up for Easter Holidays

Update regarding end-of-term Club celebrations with parents/carers: unfortunately, due to staffing issues, we are unable to host these this term but intend to do so for those children in clubs at the end of the Summer Term.

# Thrive

## A message from Mrs Pearson.

**Creativity, play and the arts make up one of the four 'pillars' of Thrive. Research shows that embracing children and young people's creative side has benefits to their emotional wellbeing and development. These are some ways in which you can do this at home.**

1. **Let your children get bored.** Do not rescue them from their boredom by giving them something to do; instead, let them rescue themselves. This is one of the best opportunities for a child to be creative! Know that this means that your child has an opportunity to discover something about what and who they are, what they like to do and can do, and how to manifest ideas into reality.
2. **Get outside!** Go for a walk or just sit outside and observe. Sometimes the best creative play opportunities arise when there is nothing around but nature. Changing the environment can give us a new perspective on ourselves and all sorts of other things.
3. **Invite your child to tell a story, compose a poem, make up a song, create a play, or invent a dance.** Give them your attention when they are ready for an audience. If they ask you for a topic, invite them to come up with one on their own. Make it a family tradition to tell stories, sing songs together, and entertain with funny, made-up jokes.
4. **Lead by example.** Start a creative project yourself, and let your children observe and join in. Make a card, decorate something, or create art just for the joy of it. Do you have creative hobbies that you can share with your children? Leading by example is one of the best ways to encourage our children to be courageously creative people.
5. **Allow things to get messy, disorganized, and cluttered.** Creativity can be messy. Do not allow your need for cleanliness to take over your life! Many of us parents develop a feeling that it is our job to keep things clean and 'fight the mess' continually. You could inadvertently be sending a message that kids are being inconvenient to you by playing or creating art. Nevertheless, at the same time...



## A Reading Community

For this newsletter, Mrs Handley – our Oak class teacher – has shared some of her 'top reads'. As always please do email Miss Swain if your child reads the books and has any comments ([a.swain@hillcroftschoo.org](mailto:a.swain@hillcroftschoo.org)) and the books can be found in our Reception area if you would like to peruse them with your child.

### **Early Years and Foundation Stage:**

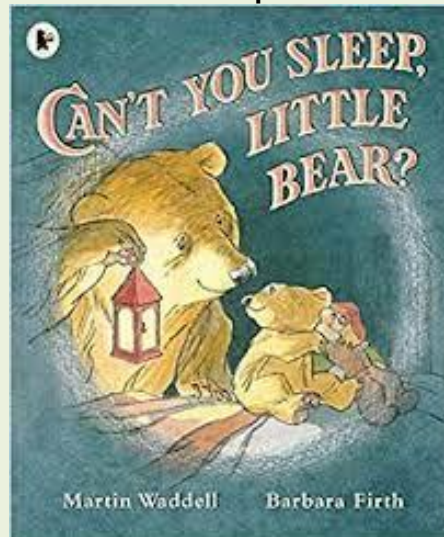
#### **Stickman**



Stick Man is a very lucky stick, living with his Stick Lady Love and their three small sticks. However, one day he goes out for a jog and becomes caught up in many precarious events. He becomes a toy for a dog, a pooh-stick, nesting material and even firewood.

#### **KS1:**

#### **Can't You Sleep Little Bear**

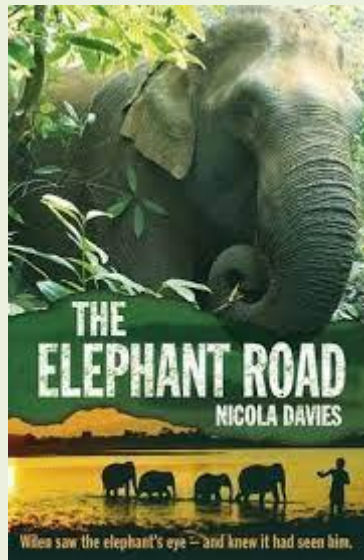


Little Bear just can't get to sleep because he is afraid of the dark. Still Little Bear is afraid, so Big Bear takes him outside to see the moon and the stars. ... Finally, cuddled up in Big Bear's arms, Little Bear goes to sleep, allowing Big Bear to finish reading his book.



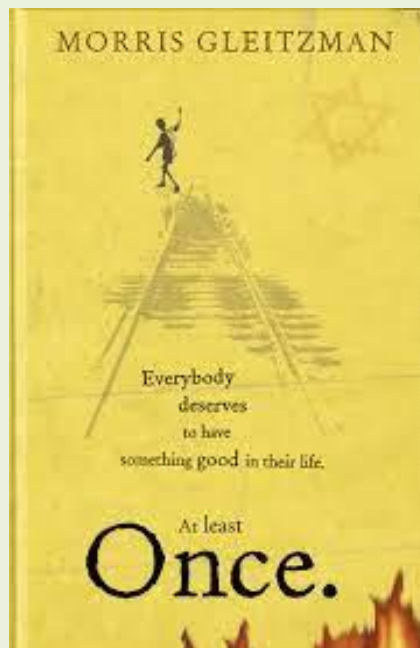
A Reading Community ... Continued...

**LKS2**  
**The Elephant Road**



A child, a wild animal - and a life-changing encounter. An exciting new range of books in which children find solutions to problems through conservation rather than killing. One night, Wilou is woken up when his hut is tipped sideways by elephants!

**UKS2**  
**At Least Once**



Once by Morris Gleitzman is the story of a young Jewish boy who is determined to escape the orphanage he lives in to save his Jewish parents from the Nazis in the occupied Poland of the Second World War. Everybody deserves to have something good in their life.

***Happy Reading!***

In other news...

### Friends of Hillcroft, Easter Egg Raffle!

The Friends of Hillcroft are holding an 'Easter Egg Raffle' for all of the children at Hillcroft Primary School.

Each class has their very own personalised Extra Large Thornton's Easter Egg that is displayed in the classrooms. The children and parents can purchase raffle tickets, over the next few weeks. The raffle tickets will go on sale on Wednesday 9th March until Monday 28th March. The raffle will be held on Wednesday 30th / Thursday 31st March.

For more information regarding purchasing tickets, please see the letter which was sent out to each year group with a unique BOPP code. Please email [friends@hillcroftschoo.org](mailto:friends@hillcroftschoo.org) for more information.



### Easter Holiday Activities with Surrey Arts:

A poster for Surrey Arts Easter Activities 2022. The background is a teal color with a photograph of a young person playing a drum set. The text "SURREY ARTS" is in yellow boxes in the top left. "Sign up at: bit.ly/SurreyArtsEaster" is in the top right. "EASTER ACTIVITIES 2022" is written in large, white, stylized letters across the center. At the bottom, there are two yellow boxes with black text: "Mon 4 - Tues 5 April at St Bede's School, Redhill" and "Wed 6 - Thur 7 April at Westfield School, Woking".

**Attendance Notice:**

Just to remind parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authority, 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.

**School Uniform Update from DfE:**

In light of the recent DfE guidance issued to schools regarding school uniforms, we have reviewed our uniform list and are not proposing changes, as we think the uniform requirements meet the needs of our school community. We will, however, be publishing further information on the provision of second-hand uniform sale and continue to work with our uniform suppliers on improving the provision (or exploring further cost reduction avenues).

If you have any concerns or comments on this decision, please contact – Miss Swain on [a.swain@hillcroftschoo.org](mailto:a.swain@hillcroftschoo.org)