

## Royal Mail's Christmas Stamp Design Competition 2017

The children have been asked if they would like to enter a competition run by the Royal Mail to design one of this years Christmas stamps.

The competition theme is "What does the Christmas season mean to you" - the children are asked to design an image that best describes what the festive season means to them.

The design **must be drawn on an official entry form**, these can be obtained from Mrs Pearson in the Threehouse. Please encourage the children to use lots of colour, and to use up as much of the white space a possible, colour in the background. The design should be a christmas image, it must not include The Queen's silhouette nor the value (eg 1<sup>st</sup>).

There are great prizes to be won – and many prizes to be one! There will be 2 overall winners, 22 Area Winners and 96 Area Runners Up. The overall winner will win £1000 for their family and the same for their school the runners up will win £100 each together with £100 for their school.

**All entries must be handed in to Mrs Pearson by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March.**



## World Book Day – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

There was a fun atmosphere around school yesterday with children and staff dressed as their favourite book characters to celebrate World Book Day. Thank you for your support; we have raised over £300.00 towards Book Aid International, a charity that donates books to African school libraries. Here are a few photos taken around the school during the day showing the fantastic costumes:



## GLF Science Fair Grand Final

The Science Fair Grand Final was hosted at the University of Surrey this week. 20 pupils from Hillcroft attended, along with the winners and runners up from 14 other GLF Primary Schools. They took their Science Fair projects with them and these were displayed for everyone to see, then a panel of judges studied them all and chose a winner from each key stage.

Professor Jim Al-Khalili OBE, a British theoretical physicist, author and broadcaster, and currently Professor of Theoretical Physics at the University of Surrey, opened the fair with a presentation about space, he then opened up the floor with a question and answer session for the children. There were so many questions, he was really put through his paces! There were many exhibitors with hands on science for the children to enjoy, it really was a fun day for all! We would like to thank Mr Holloway for organising the event.



## Bags 2 School – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March

Please help us to raise funds for the school by recycling any unwanted clothing.

We have a partnership with a company called Bag 2 School, which specialises in recycling **good quality second hand clothing that can be re-used**, and fundraising for the school. All clothing collected by Bags 2 School is sold to importers and wholesalers in many countries of Eastern and Western Europe, Africa and Asia.

Please bring in all bags on **MONDAY 6<sup>th</sup> MARCH** and leave them in the shelter in the front playground ready for collection at 9.00am. Please do not return the bags to school before this date, we do not have the room to store them. Thank you.

## **E-Safety**

It has been brought to our attention through recent E-safety lessons that some children are regularly using social networking sites e.g. Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook. We would like to make all parents aware that social networking sites have an age restriction placed on them and they are not to be used by children under the age of 13. The minimum age to sign up to use WhatsApp is 16. Any child who holds a social networking account can be reported and have their account closed down.

Although our children are great at using the internet, they do not have the life experience to always make the right decisions and keep themselves safe. Please continue to have regular conversations with your child about their online activities and if you have any concerns, please feel free to come and speak to me.

Kind regards -Wendy MacLeod Computing Lead

## **Friends of Hillcroft Meeting Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm**

Friends of Hillcroft are parents, staff and friends that work together fundraising to benefit the children in our school. They arrange many events throughout the year including a Summer and Christmas Fair, quiz nights, discos for the children and often help out offering refreshments etc at other school events.

If you would like to find out more about the Friends of Hillcroft, or have any fundraising ideas you would like to share, please come along to the next meeting on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.

If you are unable to come to the meeting, but would like to be involved, you can contact Sue Allen-Gardner, Chairperson for Friends, by email on [friends@hillcroftschoo.org](mailto:friends@hillcroftschoo.org)

We hope you will be able to join us.

## **Dates for your Diary**

Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Bags 2 School Collection
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Blast Science
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Friends of Hillcroft Meeting 7.30
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Maths Workshops
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Author David Fuller visiting KS2
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter Bonnet parade – Reception – information to follow  Year 1 Workshop – Great Fire of London
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	INSET Day – Break up for Easter holidays
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Back to School
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Reception Trip to Bockets Farm
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Dorking Halls Music Festival



# Author visit



On Wednesday 22nd March 2017, children's author David Fuller will be visiting Hillcroft Primary School to talk to the KS2 children about his popular Alfie Jones series and explain what inspires him as a writer. He will also be reading a chapter from his first book and asking the children to engage in some role playing activities.

The Alfie Jones series centres around a football-mad boy whose chance meeting with a mysterious fortune teller at a fun-fair is set to alter the course of his life. Please visit the website: [www.alfie-jones.co.uk](http://www.alfie-jones.co.uk) for more information.

David will also be selling and signing copies of his book(s) at the reduced price of £4.50 (usually £5) to any children who would like a copy.



[www.facebook.com/AlfieJonesSeries](https://www.facebook.com/AlfieJonesSeries)



[@08DavidFuller](https://twitter.com/08DavidFuller)



[www.alfie-jones.co.uk](http://www.alfie-jones.co.uk)