

Lunch with a Scientist

Thursday 28th September, the Science Technicians shared their lunch with a geologist and geophysicist and discussed the world of rocks while having a close look at fascinating samples. Kerry Henderson is an ambassador for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) at the University of Sussex and volunteers to share her knowledge with young learners. The children had plenty of questions for her; ranging from why she was inspired to become a scientist, to what rocks were beneath their feet.

The STEM Ambassador scheme is incredibly worthwhile, and inspires pupils to become interested in a wide range of subjects. As a result of the visit, the children were so enthused that they are planning a whole school assembly about the geology of Caterham and the surrounding area.

Lunch with a Scientist will become a regular event at Hillcroft and different children will have the opportunity to take part each time.



Friends of Hillcroft

Friends of Hillcroft are parents, carers and staff that work together, fundraising to benefit your children in school. They will be hosting the first meeting of the year this week on **Wednesday 11th October at 7.30pm** in the staff room. If you would like to come along to find out more, please do, you will be very welcome! They will be discussing future fundraising activities including the Christmas Fair. We hope you will be able to join us.

Bags 2 School

Thank you to everyone that donated bags to be recycled, we raised £100.00 for school fund. There will be further Bags 2 School collections on 1st March and 5th July.



Performing Arts Schools

Stagecoach Performing Arts love to bring out the best in every child through the wonderful world of singing, dancing and acting. Based here at Hillcroft every Saturday, children aged 6 to 15 years old are invited to experience their fun-tastic classes first-hand, meet their talented and professional team and work with like-minded children. If you are interested in finding out more about Stagecoach Performing Arts Coulsdon and Caterham please contact Principal Zoe on 01345 078 0805 or email coulsdon@stagecoach.co.uk

Attendance

The best attendance figures for last week were:

Class	House	Year Group	Whole School
Maple	Newton	Year 1	
98.62%	97.8%	97.5%	95.89%

A good education gives a child the best possible start in life. We must ensure that all our children have an equal chance to make good use of the education that the school offers by providing a positive and encouraging atmosphere. To achieve this it is important that each child attends school regularly and punctually. When a child does not attend school regularly and on time they will have difficulty keeping up with their work and will therefore underachieve.

Research has shown that children with poor attendance:

- Find it harder to make and keep friends
- Are less likely to gain good qualifications
- Earn lower wages
- Have a higher chance of being unemployed
- Have low self-esteem

Children who miss school miss lessons. These lessons are not repeated, so *children will have gaps in their learning*. Additionally, often each day's lessons build upon those of the previous day – if a child misses a lesson they can miss the foundation to subsequent lessons. Children could begin to struggle and achieve less.

*Attendance is related to achievement:
The better the attendance, the better the achievement*

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 11 th October	Friends of Hillcroft Meeting 7.30pm – at school
Monday 16 th October	EYFS/ KS1 Perform Workshop
Tuesday 17 th October	Year 5 trip to The British Museum
Thursday 19 th October	Year 4 trip to Battle Abbey
Friday 20 th October	Last day at school before half term
Monday 30 th October	Back to school
Monday 30 th October	Year 6 Victorian Workshop
Tuesday 31 st October	Nursery Children – dressing up as woodland characters
Wednesday 1 st November	Reception Class – Bedtime Stories Day
Thursday 2 nd November	Nursery Children – dressing up as woodland characters
Wednesday 15 th November	Open Morning for prospective parents 9.30am
Friday 24 th November	INSET Day
Wednesday 13 th December	Nursery Christmas carols – 10.15am and 2.00pm
Thursday 14 th December	Reception Christmas Performance – information to follow



Coulsdon & Catersham
presents

Matilda

(in 20mins)

The Musical

An abridged version of
Roald Dahl's *Matilda the Musical*
Book by Dennis Kelly,
Music and Lyrics by Tim Minchin



16th DEC
2017

HILLCROFT PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHALDON ROAD, CATERHAM CR3 5PG

JOIN OUR BRAND NEW SCHOOL TODAY | TO BOOK A PLACE CONTACT | COULSDON@STAGECOACH.CO.UK

TEL: 0345 078 0805 OR VISIT: STAGECOACH.CO.UK/COULSDON