

# HILLCROFT PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

*Nurturing children to achieve their personal best*

**June 13<sup>th</sup> 2025**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the final half term of the year! It's a busy one, with lots of events coming up, so please keep an eye on our social media and the key dates document.

We're delighted to continue strengthening our relationships with other local schools. This week alone has included collaborations with De Stafford, Caterham School, and Clifton Hill School. These connections help us feel part of the wider Caterham community and support the development of excellent citizenship skills in our children.

Our pupils have also visited Meridian School to take part in the Spelling Bee, as part of the GLF Boundless Festival.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support with these events.

## **Key Dates:**



Please click in the link below to access our key dates document. This is updated throughout the year and we encourage you all to check it regularly to ensure you have up to date information about the key events happening in school.

## **Key Dates Document**



## **Follow us on Instagram:**

**@hillcroftprimaryschool**



Today we say good bye to the ducklings and partridge chicks. The children and staff have adored having them in school and they have been a real talking point. We can't believe how much they have grown in a week!



## Early Years

In Nursery this week we have been talking about our 'teeth' and how we can keep them clean and healthy.

We practised brushing fake teeth using shaving foam which felt so soft and made our classroom smell delightful!



## Nursery Request

Nursery would welcome donations for our Junk Modelling.

Resources Needed:

- Egg cartons
- Milk Cartons
- small cardboard boxes
- Plastic Lids
- Plastic containers eg. yoghurt pots
- Corks
- cardboard kitchen rolls
- bits of fabric

Please make sure it is all clean!  
Nothing bigger than a cereal box please.





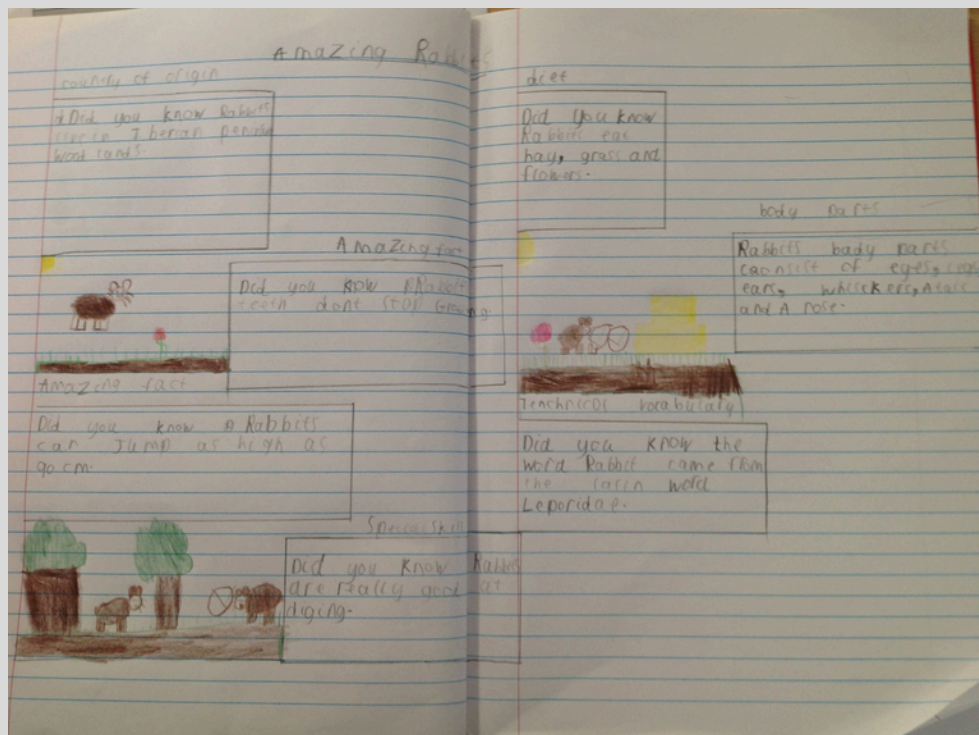
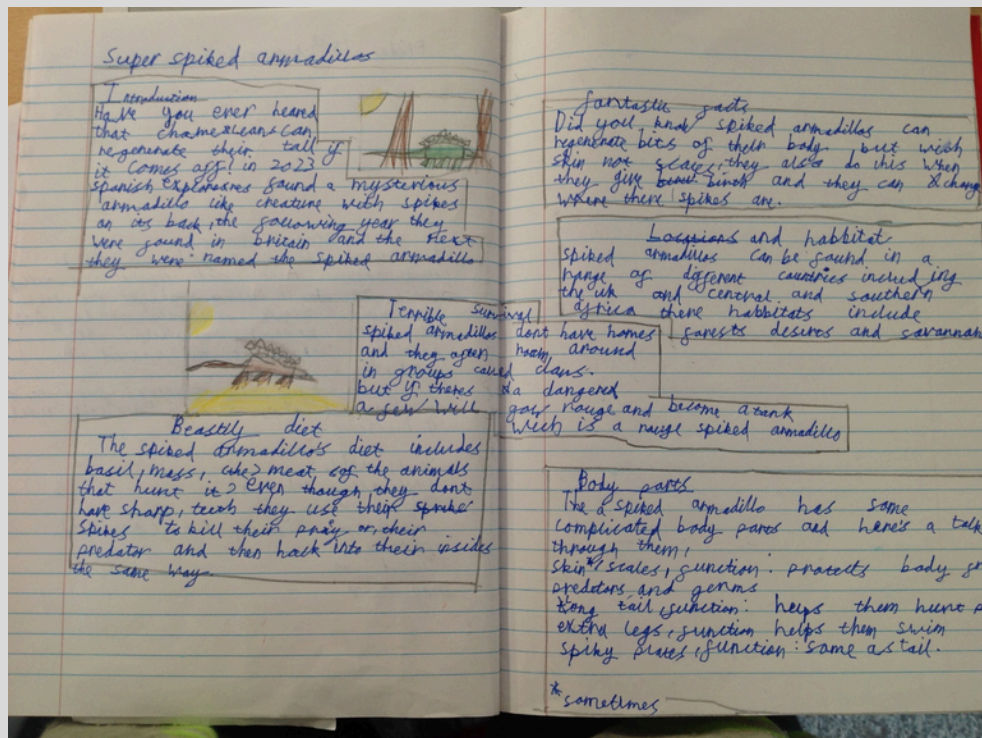
## KS1

We had an amazing day at Brighton Sea Life Centre! We saw jellyfish and crabs and enormous turtles. We got to touch different things in the rock pool like sharks' eggs. We learnt all about different sea life habitats and had a delicious lunch in the auditorium with the turtles and the sharks.



## LKS2

Year 3 have been creating non chronological reports about animals  
They had to create their own animals and presented their work beautifully. .





# GLF Schools' Voice Survey: Parent Feedback

## What we do well

### Recommended



# 83%

of parents would recommend their school to other parents

### Engagement



# 76%

of parents are satisfied with their school's efforts to engage them

### Welcoming



# 85%

feel welcome at school

### You Said...

- Communicate the role of the Trust in your school
- Showcase the benefits of being part of GLF Schools

### We Will

- Develop a dedicated GLF page on our schools' websites
- Create annual GLF/School Collaboration Highlights
- Increase presence of Trust updates in parent communications
- Increase exchanges between GLF schools, not just for teachers but also for pupils

# WORKSHOPS

Please see links below to all workshops that have been delivered this school year. Whilst we always hope you are able to attend these we recognise that this isn't always possible. We will continue to review how we deliver workshops in order to ensure we reach all members of our community.

[Read Write Inc Workshop](#)

[Clever Never Goes](#)

[Early Maths](#)

[Spelling Shed](#)

[Wider Curriculum](#)

[Behaviour for Learning](#)



**Hillcroft**  
Primary School



## *A message from Mrs Pearson.*

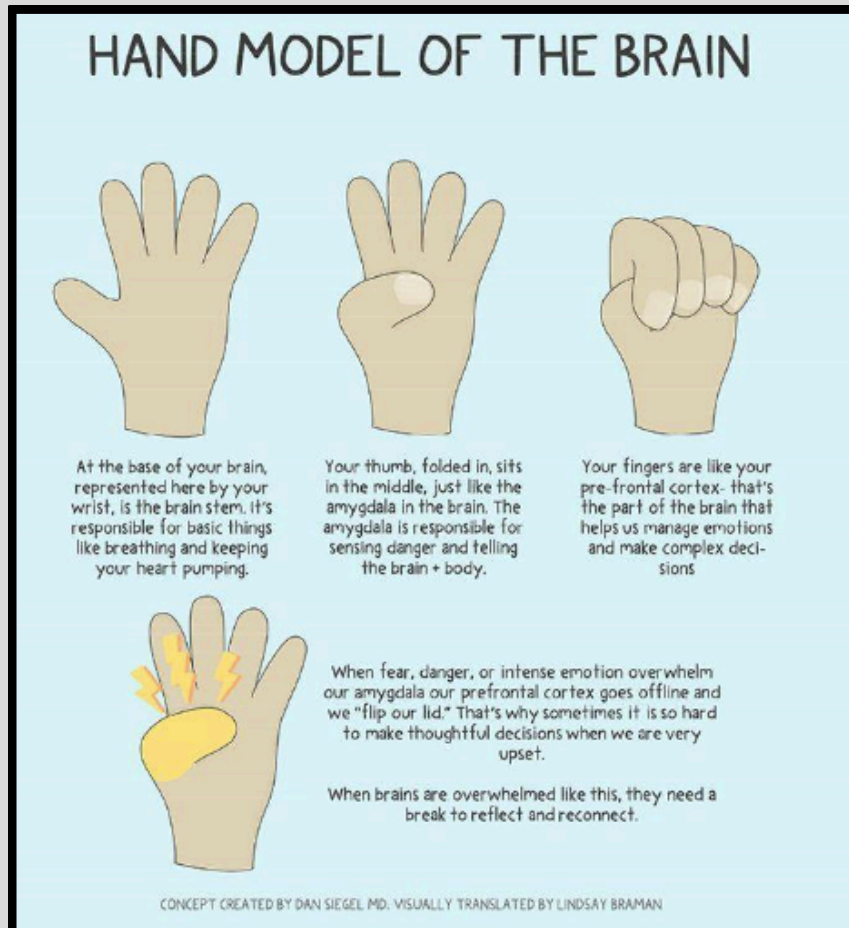
*This week my news update is about “The hand model of the brain.” This model explains how your brain reacts when you are feeling sad, angry or stressed. Show them how when they lift their fingers (“flip their lid”), their thinking brain is no longer connected to their feelings. Start with the palm that controls their basic body functions. The thumb represents big feelings like anger or stress and lives with the palm in the downstairs brain. The other fingers are the thinking brain, the upstairs brain. Teach your child how to model their brain when they have their feelings.*

*Watch this video with your children so that they will understand how their brain works when feeling sad, angry and stressed.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lRmnVmELMn8>

## *Thrive Day*

*To celebrate our Gold Award for the second time, we are going to hold a whole school Thrive Celebration Day on Friday 27th June 2025. This is where the children can come into school wearing Thrive colours such as, Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue and Purple or if they wish all the colours. Throughout the day there will be lots of different activities going on. It will be a day to remember.*



# TALENTS AND INTERESTS

Every week in our Friday assembly we celebrate the talents and interests of our children. See the superstars we have celebrated over the last two weeks. If your child has a special achievement they would like to share please send some details and a photo to [l.bonnell@hillcroftschool.org](mailto:l.bonnell@hillcroftschool.org).



Beau	Year 3	Cub Camp
Logan	Year 6	Raising money for St Catherine's Hospice
Laila	Year 5	Foorball tournament
Abbie	Year 5	Foorball tournament



amstime.com ID 23443783 © Arkadi Bojaruc3u8S1vc2Vx



# ATTENDANCE

Just to remind 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), then the following will apply:

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of the receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
1. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 9 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at a flat rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.

If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you NOT receive a third penalty notice - Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, per parent/carer, in the Magistrates Court under Section 444 Education Act 1996



Last free school delivery 17th July cut off  
to receive order 4th July.

# SICKNESS AND MEDICATIONS

## Sickness & Medications/ Common childhood illnesses

When should I keep my child off school?

The Following NHS guidelines state;

- Chicken pox; for at least 5 days from the onset of rash and until all blisters have crusted over
- Diarrhoea and vomiting; return 48 hours after last episode of either
- Cold and flu like illnesses; if your child has no temperature then minor symptoms can be managed at school. With a temperature, keep them home until this has subsided and they are feeling well enough.
- Impetigo; Keep your child home until all sores have crusted and healed or 48 hours after they have started antibiotics.
- Measles; Keep your child home until at least 4 days after the rash first appeared.
- Mumps; keep your child home for 5 days after the swelling started
- Scarlet Fever; keep your child home until 24 hours after starting antibiotics
- Whooping Cough; keep your child home until 48 hours after starting antibiotics.

Children can attend school with;

- Hand Foot and Mouth, if they are well enough.
- Head Lice; Please ensure you treat the child/family according to the treatment, and repeat as instructed. Also, please let school know as soon as you are aware.
- Threadworms; Please treat accordingly and ensure hand hygiene is practiced often.
- Slapped Cheek
- Tonsillitis

Calpol may be administered in school if you feel there is a need for your child throughout the school day. Please speak to office staff who will provide a medication form to be completed. Where possible please supply the Calpol/paracetamol as we have only limited emergency supply.

Antibiotics can be administered again with a medication form, however only if the medication is needed 3 or more times a day.

A high temperature is classified as 38 degrees. If your child has a temperature during the school day, we will contact you to come and collect them. Please do not send your child/Children into school with a high temperature. Always seek medical advice from your GP.



## Using AI ChatBots for Good

You've probably heard of ChatGPT, the wonder AI chatbot. From writing poems to C.U.s, it seems there's nothing this artificial intelligence can't create! That does, unfortunately, include homework.

ChatGPT's terms of services says users must be at least 13 years old and those under 18 must have their parent or legal guardian's permission. However, between the press coverage and the lack of age verification, it's likely that many young people are using it regardless.

But is it really helping with homework? Here are some points to consider if the young person in your care wants to use an AI chatbot.



### SOMETIMES AI CHATBOTS ARE WRONG!

This means if someone is relying on them for facts, they might be wrong too. And it might become obvious that they've used AI to complete their work.



### CHATBOTS AREN'T ALWAYS UP TO DATE.

ChatGPT knows about the world up until 2021, after that its knowledge is limited.



### CHATBOTS ARE BANNED IN SOME PLACES.

If a young person is using chatbots but their school has banned it, they might have to face the consequences of breaking the rules.



### EVERY VOICE IS UNIQUE.

Although you can ask a chatbot to create text in a certain way, it's incredibly unlikely that it will sound identical to the user... and even if a young person doesn't think they have a writing style, you can bet their teachers do!

Age Rating Age Rating Age Rating  
**13+**

### CHATBOTS AREN'T ALWAYS SHORTCUTS

By the time you're finished fact-checking and editing the grammar, you may as well have written it yourself!

## Alternative ideas for using AI together

### PRACTICE FACT CHECKING

Knowing how to fact check is a very useful skill, both for school and for everyday life. Ask ChatGPT for facts then check them together by Googling. In the news and even in good old-fashioned books!

Being able to tell fact from fiction will also help you and the young person in your care spot fake news and misinformation on social media.

### USE CHATGPT TO INSPIRE

Instead of making the chatbot do all the work, use it for prompting ideas. For example, you can give an example of your favourite novel and ask for recommendations of similar books you might enjoy.

I am 14 years old.  
My favourite book  
is the Hobbit.  
Can you suggest three  
novels I might like?

Sure, here are three book  
suggestions you might  
enjoy based on your love of  
The Hobbit:

1. Eragon by Christopher Paolini ...

### MASTER THE SKILL OF EDITING

The text produced by AI chatbots usually needs a lot of changing. Practising editing text for spelling, grammar and comprehension could help improve schoolwork.

### LEARN ABOUT AI

There's no denying that artificial intelligence like chatbots can be fascinating. How does it learn information? Who made it? Researching this together could even inspire a future career in AI!

### STAYING SAFE WHEN USING AI

Make sure the young person in your care knows who their trusted adults are and that they can talk to them if they see something that upsets or worries them online.

Harmful, unhelpful and untrue answers on ChatGPT can be reported by selecting the 'thumbs down' button beside the answer.

Some young people have been using AI for mental health advice. Talk to the young person in your care about what to do if they're feeling depressed, stressed, or upset.

**childline**

ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME  
childline.org.uk | 0800 1111

For young people, using AI as a way to get out of homework might be very tempting. If you know the young person in your care is using AI chatbots, talk to them about the possible risks, age limits and alternative ways you can use AI chatbots together as a force for good.

# CATERHAM FESTIVAL

## CATERHAM FESTIVAL 2025

### STREET PARTY

Sunday 1 June 1-6pm  
High Street, CR3 5UX

### LITERARY FESTIVAL

Sunday 1 June to Monday 9 June  
Various Locations

### SCARECROW FEST

Sunday 1 to Saturday 28 June  
Various Locations

### BARN DANCE

Saturday 7 June 7pm 'til late  
Sunnydown School, CR3 5ED

### GHOST WALK

Wednesday 11 &  
Thursday 12 June 7.30pm  
The King & Queen, CR3 5UA

### FINALE FUN DAY

Saturday 21 June 12 noon 'til late  
Westway Common, CR3 5PP

### CAR BOOT SALE

Sunday 6 July 9am onwards  
Westway Common, CR3 5PP

### FOOD FESTIVAL

Sunday 12 October 10am-4pm  
Croydon Road, CR3 6PB



For full details of these events, visit  
[www.caterhamfestival.org](http://www.caterhamfestival.org)



## Children's Archaeological Dig



Join us on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of June 2025

From 10am till 4pm

Whyteleaf Park, Hillbury Road, Warlingham



Free • Metal Detecting • Equipment Supplied • Gift Shop

Children under 16 must be accompanied by a responsible adult!



Organised by The East Surrey Museum with the help of Caterham Rotary Club and Surrey Community Archaeological team as part of the Caterham Festival

01893340275

[eastsurreymuseum.org.uk](http://eastsurreymuseum.org.uk)

Facebook and Instagram @East Surrey Museum

Supported by Rotary Club of Caterham

[CaterhamRotary.org.uk](http://CaterhamRotary.org.uk)



## COLOUR RUN & SUMMER FUN

SUNDAY

JULY  
06

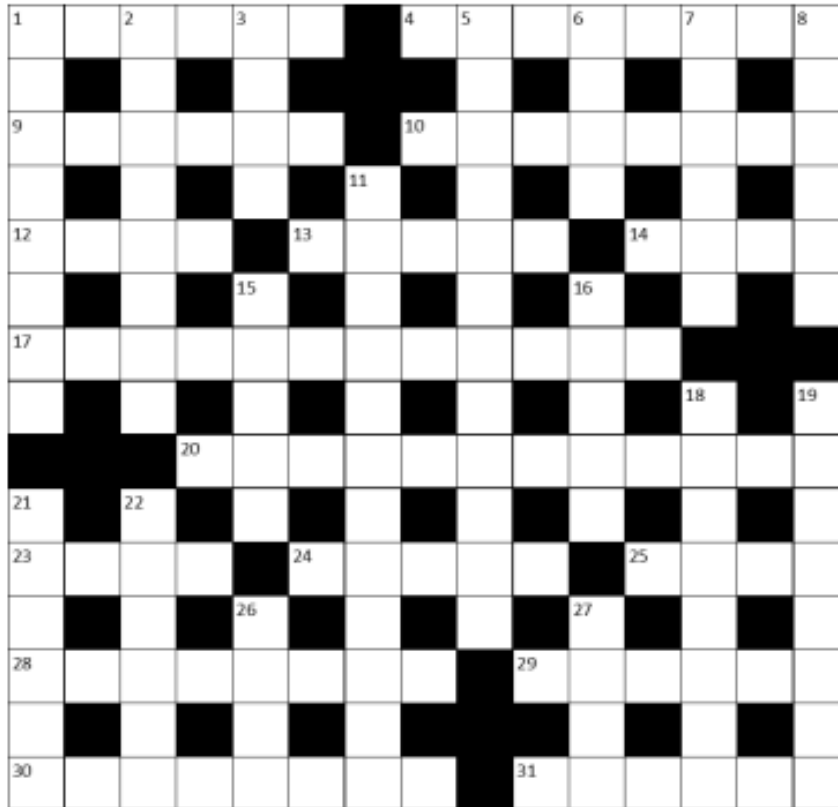
11AM-3PM

MARKET STALLS • FUN GAMES  
HOT FOOD • BAR • RAFFLES  
TOMBALAS AND LOTS OF SUMMER FUN

FULL DETAILS COMING SOON

# CATERHAM FESTIVAL

## Caterham Festival Cash Prize Crossword Competition



For extra fun go online and download the  
Caterham Cryptic Quiz at  
[www.caterhamfestival.org](http://www.caterhamfestival.org)

### Down

- 1** Assorted patterns in a church (8)  
**2 & 27** Bookish celebration (8,4)  
**3** Either way it's midday (4)  
**5** ? (9,3)  
**6** Boast about wearing clothing back to front (4)  
**7** Stolen, then arrested (6)  
**8** Manliness sans sin becomes saintly (6)  
**11** Great value for potatoes (5,2,5)  
**15** Stop a large area on a ship (5)  
**16** Arthur's charwoman, say (5)  
**18** Avoid having to manage email (3,1,4)  
**19** Sounding feeble Monday to Friday (8)  
**21** Excited to shorten a jacket (6)  
**22** Sweater for a frog (6)  
**26** Opposed drinking it with tonic (4)  
**27** See 2 down

### Across

- 1** Has Britain got it? (6)  
**4 & 14** Barn dance in Richmond? (8,4)  
**9** Norse god after gold she writes (6)  
**10** Before the deeds are done, goes OTT (8)  
**12** Ride waves on the internet (4)  
**13 & 25** Caterham Pete's paranormal preambulation (5,4)  
**14** See 4 across  
**17** South American soundly naked like Mr Bond's creation. (8,4)  
**20** Legally flee from a pouncing cat (6,6)  
**23** A sad colour (4)  
**24** A small ice-cream for tea? (5)  
**25** See 13 across  
**28** Separated notes on a large scale (8)  
**29** Revealed secret in a blink of an eye (6)  
**30** Perhaps sense ire in 13 and 25? (8)  
**31** The rest are left after Mum departs (6)



Drop off completed crossword (with name and contact details) at  
**JJ Browne Jewellers, Godstone Road, OR**  
**Computer Solutions, High Street Caterham**  
 Alternatively, email to [caterhamfestival@outlook.com](mailto:caterhamfestival@outlook.com) or upload at  
[www.caterhamfestival.org](http://www.caterhamfestival.org)  
**Prize and Solution 15th July**