

# HILLCROFT PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

*Nurturing children to achieve their personal best*

**Friday 12th June**

Dear families,

The final half term of the year is upon us and it is a time to reflect on the successes of the last year as well as preparing children for the next stage in their educational journey. Year 6 will be looking forward to their residential and then spending transition days at their secondary schools. Last week, we welcomed families of next years Reception cohort into school to meet the team. It is always heartwarming to see returning families as well as the excitement of meeting new faces. We also enjoyed a successful 'Quiz-nic' on Sunday, with so many families supporting the school and enjoying time with friends and family. Coming up next week we have the thrill of Sports Days - the weather looks favourable - and a meeting for our new Nursery families.



Please take time to check the key dates on the school website and keep an eye on ParentMail for reminders. It's a busy few weeks!

Thank you for your ongoing support.

## Road Safety

We have shared a number of assemblies with children around road safety. Please do repeat the message at home and use the [think.gov](http://think.gov) website to support



## Key Dates



Please navigate to our [website](#) for information about upcoming key dates.

## INSET Day

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June**

School closed to pupils for staff training

## When you cross the road remember:



### THINK

Find the safest place to cross. Where possible, use a pedestrian crossing.

### STOP

Stand on the pavement near the kerb and make sure that you can see the traffic.

### LOOK AND LISTEN

Look all around you for traffic and be sure to listen carefully for things you can't see.

### WAIT

Wait until it's safe to cross. If traffic is coming, let it pass. If you're not sure, don't cross.

### LOOK AND LISTEN AGAIN

When it is safe, walk straight across the road. Don't run. Keep looking and listening.

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

[@ChildAccidentPreventionTrust](https://www.facebook.com/ChildAccidentPreventionTrust)

[@capt\\_charity](https://www.instagram.com/capt_charity)

child accident  
prevention trust



# A MESSAGE FROM MR JENSEN

One aspect of GLF's evolving vision, as the Multi-Academy Trust that Hillcroft belongs to and is an integral part of, is to strengthen the communities in which our schools are located; often as central hubs within them.

Clear evidence of the strength of our local community can be seen in the involvement of parents, families and pupils in supporting the Friends of Hillcroft.

Over half term, families came together to tidy the area beside reception, rearrange the garden shed on the sports field and even give it a fresh coat of paint. Thank you to Steve and Agnes, Sarah, Fraser and Isla, Cath, Teddie and Fin, Steve and Kathy. If I have missed any families, please know that your time, energy and commitment are greatly appreciated.

More recently, the Quiz-Nic was a joyful, energetic and incredibly well-organised event. When I asked the children how it felt to be at school on a weekend, their responses were unanimously along the lines of 'excited' and 'fun'. Thank you to Sarah and Lianne and their fantastic team of supporters for such a wonderful afternoon. I certainly didn't leave empty-handed, full of cakes and goodies!

You may also have noticed the colourful recycled benches at the front of the school. These are a direct result of your continued support for the Friends of Hillcroft. With ongoing support, we look forward to seeing even more initiatives - additional benches, further improvements to outdoor spaces, and new equipment for our children.

Looking ahead, we have our inaugural Golf Day scheduled for Tuesday 30th June. If you are a golfer, I would encourage you to put a team together. If you are a local business, this is a wonderful opportunity to support your staff or entertain clients while contributing to the school community. I am hoping to join at Farleigh Golf Course for the dinner and prize presentation. Thank you again to Sarah and Lianne for all the work taking place behind the scenes.



**FRIENDS OF HILLCROFT**

## CORPORATE GOLF FUNDRAISER

**SWAP THE OFFICE FOR A DAY ON THE GOLF COURSE TO BRING OUR PARENTAL COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS CONTACTS TOGETHER TO RAISE FUNDS FOR OUR SCHOOL**

**TUESDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**

**£85pp**  
INCLUDES BREAKFAST AND A 2 COURSE MEAL  
BREAKFAST 10AM / TEE OFF 11AM

FARLEIGH GOLF CLUB  
WARLINGHAM CR6 9PE

SCAN TO BOOK

We introduce Makaton in Nursery and incorporate small elements into whole school assemblies and as part of our teaching of key vocabulary in Early Years. Follow [this link](#) to find out how Makaton can help your child when they are in the early stages of speech.

## SAFEGUARDING



### 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## HELPING NEURODIVERGENT CHILDREN NAVIGATE THE ONLINE WORLD

Neurodivergent people tend to be early adopters of technology, and many influential innovators in this space are neurodivergent themselves. It's therefore likely that a neurodivergent child or young person may be drawn to the online world from an early age. This isn't a concern in itself, but understanding both the benefits and potential risks is essential. Here are ten key considerations to support safe and positive online experiences for neurodivergent children.

- 1 TREAT ONLINE LIKE THE REAL WORLD**

You wouldn't allow a child to cross a road without guidance – you'd hold their hand, use a pedestrian crossing, and model safe behaviour. In the same way, a neurodivergent child's first experiences online should be supported by an adult who can guide and explain safe and responsible digital behaviour to them from the outset.
- 2 MODEL RESPONSIBLE USE**

Children learn from what they see. Show all children, regardless of neurotype, what responsible internet use looks like. Reflect on your own use of social media and AI. Consider how often you use them and your own understanding of these platforms. Talk openly about when and why you use these tools, helping all children develop a balanced and informed approach.
- 3 KNOW YOUR LIMITS**

Current government guidance suggests no solo screen use below the age of two, with a maximum of one hour per day for two- to five-year-olds. Screen time can support communication and connection when shared with an adult. However, passive watching can affect neurodivergent children's attention and language skills. Focus on the type of content they watch, encouraging slower-paced and meaningful material rather than fast-paced, overstimulating content.
- 4 CONSIDER AGES AND STAGES**

For older children and teenagers, agreed limits are important. Screen time can be beneficial, but it should form part of a balanced lifestyle. Neurodivergent children may find online communication easier than real-world conversation, supporting their social interaction. However, it shouldn't be their only option. Encourage a range of activities, including creative play, physical exercise, and opportunities for real-world connections.
- 5 KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN**

Discussions about online safety should begin early and continue as children grow. However, neurodivergent children may worry about getting things wrong or being misunderstood, meaning these kinds of conversations should feel open and fair, rather than like a lecture. If a child encounters a problem – such as a scam or inappropriate content – they need to feel able to speak to a trusted adult without fear of judgement or embarrassment.
- 6 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE**

You aren't expected to be an expert, but it's important to stay informed about the platforms, games, or apps neurodivergent children use in order to provide practical support. Social media platforms have age limits, and many apps and games offer parental settings that can control access. Schools and families should work together to understand these tools, helping neurodivergent children use them safely while keeping up to date with new features and changes.
- 7 SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES**

Children and young people often know more about current technology than adults, meaning it's important to recognise that controls may be bypassed. Clear, predictable boundaries should be used, based on trust and consistency. Involving children in discussions that affect them helps them feel heard. This is particularly important for neurodivergent children, who may respond strongly to perceived unfairness.
- 8 UNDERSTAND AI CONTENT**

The internet now includes large amounts of AI-generated content, including images, videos, and stories. These can be difficult to identify. Children should be encouraged to question what they see and check the information using trusted sources. Neurodivergent children may interpret content literally, meaning adult guidance is important in helping them recognise what's real and reliable – and what isn't.
- 9 EXPLAIN AI LIMITATIONS**

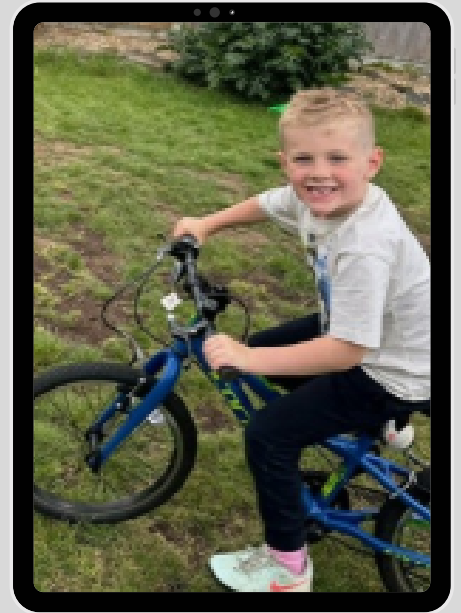
AI isn't the same as a search engine. It generates responses based on prompts and patterns, and its accuracy depends on how it's used. Sometimes, it produces incorrect or unrealistic information, known as 'hallucinations'. Both adults and children need to understand this and learn how to check information carefully using reliable and trusted sources.
- 10 CLARIFY AI RELATIONSHIPS**

AI can feel conversational and personal, but it's not capable of real relationships. It learns from patterns in user input rather than human understanding. Some neurodivergent children may experience a sense of connection with AI chatbots, particularly if they find social situations challenging. It's therefore important to explain that these are simulated conversations and aren't a substitute for real, human relationships.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Catrina Lovitt is a neurodivergent former SENCO and Advisory Teacher who works with nurseries, schools, colleges, and businesses to improve inclusion for neurodivergent people. She is the Founder and Director of Neuroteachers and the author of "The Other 29 – How Supporting Your Neurodivergent Learner Can Improve Teaching and Learning for the Whole Class".

**#WakeUpWednesday**  
**The National College**

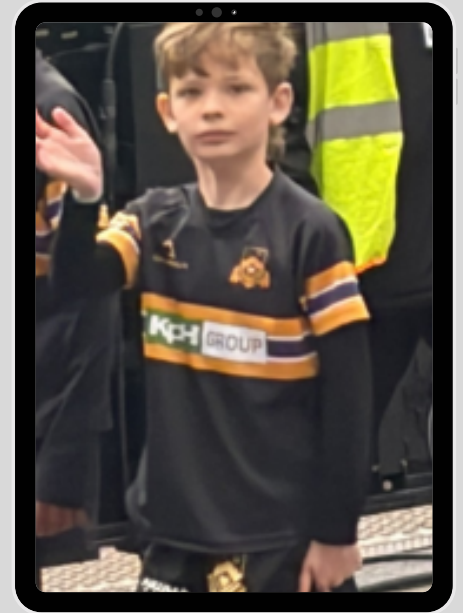
# TALENTS AND INTERESTS



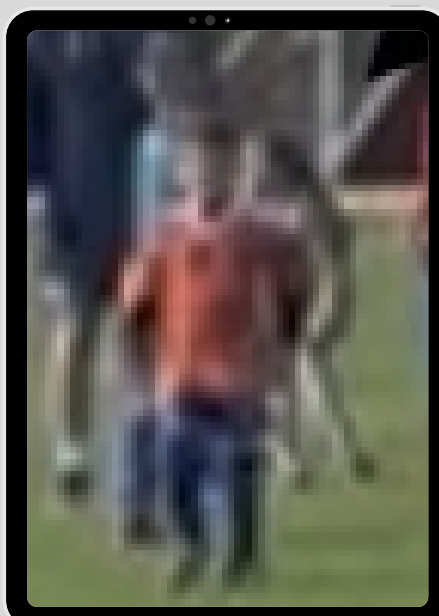
Benjamin	Year 2	Bike riding
Skyler	Year 2	Taekwondo
Ethan	Year 1	Taekwondo
Poppy	Year 2	Dance
Charlotte	Year 3	Bronze Scout Award
Ruby	Year 3	Running and Swimming



# TALENTS AND INTERESTS



Aurora	Year 3	Netball
Arthur	Year 4	Lego
Sofia	Year 4	Swimming
Will	Year 4	Community Pitch Walk
Poppy	Year 2	Origami
Roman	Reception	Pumas Debut





# Tandridge Family Centre

Friday Mornings from  
9am to 12 pm

## Family Support Drop-in sessions at the Family Centre

Come in to see us and talk in confidence with a member of our team

- Family Life
- Cost of living
- Parenting
- Relationships
- Housing
- Mental health
- Worries

Tandridge Family Centre  
Hurst Green Infant School, Wolfs Wood,  
Hurst Green, Oxted, Surrey, RH8 0HJ  
Call us on 01883 723 496  
Email us at:  
[tandridgefamilycentre@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:tandridgefamilycentre@barnardos.org.uk)

For more  
information scan  
the QR code or  
call: 01883  
723496



**BARNARDOS**

Changing childhoods. Changing lives.

# 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 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.
2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 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 the 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.
3. 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 will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, per parent/carer per child, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

## SICKNESS AND MEDICATIONS

### **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.