

HILLCROFT PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



Nurturing children to achieve their personal best



Community Spirit

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we continue through the term, there are a number of opportunities for our whole community to contribute to the life and continued improvement of Hillcroft.

Have your say

Next week, we will be inviting pupils, staff, parents and carers to take part in our Hillcroft school survey. This is separate from the wider GLF Schools survey later in the term and will give us valuable, school-specific feedback about what is working well and where we can continue to improve.

Further information and the survey link will be shared next week. I would encourage as many families as possible to take part.

Welcoming Jo Parish

I am also delighted to share that Jo Parish has been appointed as our Family Link Worker. Jo will work alongside children and families, helping to strengthen the partnership between home and school and supporting families to access help when needed.

Jo has already begun meeting with colleagues and completing a handover, and we look forward to introducing her more widely to families over the coming weeks. Many of you will know Jo as one of our HLTA team. Jo's appointment of course leaves a vacancy which we are recruiting for actively.

Hillcroft Working Bee

Our next Hillcroft Working Bee will take place on Saturday 10 October, from 9.00am to 11.30am.

We would love parents, carers and members of our wider community to join us as we work together on improvements around the school site. Whether you can stay for the whole morning or lend a hand for part of it, every contribution makes a difference.

Our Working Bees are a wonderful example of the collaboration and community spirit that we want to continue building at Hillcroft.

Caterham Carnival

We are also delighted that Hillcroft has been invited to be part of Caterham Carnival. At present, the exact nature of any commitment is not finalised. However, this is another exciting opportunity for us to come together as a school community and play an active part in our wider local community.

If we are able to gather enough adult support, our involvement could also help us raise much-needed funds to continue improving our school facilities for the children.

Should we decide to accept this offer, there will be more information about how families can get involved, but for now, please look out for further details.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. Whether through sharing your views, supporting our children and families, lending a hand or getting involved in community events, there are many ways in which we can all contribute to making Hillcroft the very best it can be.

One School. One Team. One Approach. Every Child a Shared Responsibility.

Yours sincerely,
Paul Jensen
Headteacher

HILLCROFT PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



Nurturing children to achieve their personal best



Open Afternoon



OPEN CLASSROOM AFTERNOON KS1 & KS2



Wednesday
14th
October



3:30pm –
4:20pm

We warmly invite parents and carers to visit their child's classroom and discover more about how we teach:



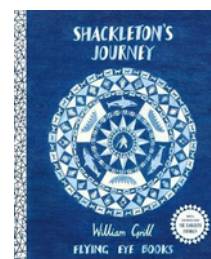
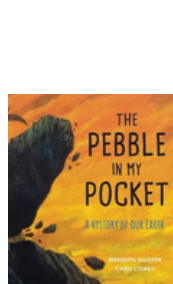
Reading

During the afternoon, you will have the opportunity to:

- ★ Visit your child's classroom
- ★ Let your child proudly share their learning with you
- ★ Explore some of the resources and approaches we use in school
- ★ Chat with teachers and ask any questions you have about the curriculum



 We would love you to join us!



Key Dates

- Year 6 Secondary School applications. You can apply for a secondary school place from 1 September 2026. The closing date for on-time applications for secondary schools is **31 October 2026**.
- INSET Day – **Friday 16th October**. School closed to pupils for staff training.

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

HILLCROFT'S GOT TALENT!

Friday Celebration Assembly

Has your child really sparked in an activity outside of school recently? We would love to celebrate their achievements!

From swimming certificates and sporting trophies to drama performances, music milestones, or chess competitions, please send details to Mrs Bonnell in the office at L.Bonnell@hillcroftschoo.org

A quick note on photos and timings:

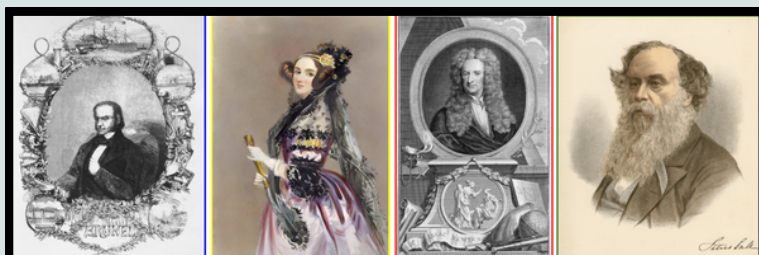
- Photos: If you attach a photo, we are happy to display it on screen during assembly. Photos will not be included in the whole-school newsletter.
- Shout-outs: If time runs short in assembly, any achievements we cannot feature on Friday afternoon will be shared and celebrated in your child's classroom.

Congratulations to the following children on their amazing achievements. We loved celebrating with you in assembly.

Cara	Scootathon
Jaiden	Swimming
Lucy	Sewing
Florence	Run Reigate



Congratulations to
**LOVELACE and
DARWIN**
houses who
achieved the most
housepoints in the
last two weeks.



HOUSE POINTS

SAFEGUARDING

Staying Safe on Bikes



It is great to see so many of our children cycling to school. Please take a moment to remind your child about looking out for pedestrians and other road and path users, particularly when approaching and leaving school.

We recently had a near miss where a younger child was almost knocked over by a child cycling on the path without looking carefully. Please encourage children to slow down, look around and give pedestrians plenty of space.

We also strongly encourage all children to wear a cycle helmet when riding their bike.

Thank you for helping everyone travel to and from school safely.



The National College®

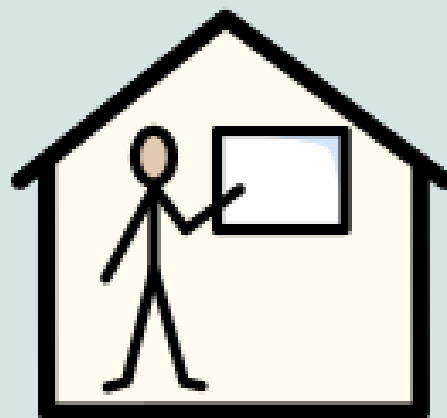
A wealth of free training and resources are available for parents and carers on the National College Website.

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.



SALVATION ARMY



Christmas WITH CATERHAM SALVATION ARMY CHURCH

Dear parents, carers and guardians,

Caterham Salvation Army Church is inviting you to help us make it a brighter Christmas for families who are struggling this Christmas by donating

- a new, unopened gift for children aged 0 to 11 (pre-school / primary school)
- a toiletry set or £15 (or combinations of £5) Amazon / One4All gift vouchers for teenagers aged 12/16 (High School)
- Please leave the gifts unwrapped as we need to match them to the children referred. Wrapping paper, gift tags or a box of mince pies, chocolate / sweets sharing bags are also welcome.

We look forward to receiving donations up to the end of November, which can be dropped off at local shops with a collection point or at The Salvation Army Church Office at 92 Banstead Road, Caterham, CR3 5QE. (Please call 07407 500920 to check someone is in to receive the donations - please do not leave them on the doorstep).

Are you struggling this year? Do you know a family who is struggling this year? We would be delighted to brighten Christmas with a gift or two. Referrals, with the consent of the parent/carers, should be made to caterham@salvationarmy.org.uk and we will come back to you for further details. It is fine to self refer.

Many thanks for your generosity,
God bless, Ailsa Flinders
Toy Appeal Coordinator

Caterham Salvation Army Church, 92 Banstead Road, Caterham, CR3 5QE | 07407 500920 | caterham@salvationarmy.org.uk



The Salvation Army is a Christian Church and registered Charity No. 214799



The Salvation Army is a Christian Church and registered Charity No. 214799

Caterham Salvation Army Church | 07407 500920 | Office 92 Banstead Road, CR3 5QE

0-2 Years
Duplo, rattles, musical toys, mobiles, soft toys, play matt, bath toys

3-4 Years
Playdoh, dress up, dolls, dinosaurs, cars, trains, blocks, books, musical toys, large size jigsaws,

5-7 Years
Craft sets, trains, junior Lego, action figures, books, jigsaw, colouring books, soft toys

7-11 Years
Foot or hoops balls, Barbies, crafting, construction toys, puzzle books, painting sets, warm hats/gloves, rucksacks, books

Families
Family board games, baking kits or hot chocolate kits, wrapping paper, gift tags

12-16 Years
£15 (or multiples of £5) One4All or Amazon gift vouchers, make up, toiletry sets (male and female), nail varnish, after shave, fluffy socks

Treats
Box of mince pies, chocolate or sweets sharing bag, large bag of savory crisps or nibbles

GIFT IDEAS TO "BE A STAR" THIS CHRISTMAS



The Salvation Army is a Christian Church and registered Charity No. 214799

Be a Star!

Caterham Salvation Army's Christmas Appeal 2026

Each year we ensure that Christmas is special for those who may be struggling. The 2025 Christmas Appeal provided 494 presents to families and carers, and also supported those who did not have the means for a Christmas meal.

39 presents went to babies and toddlers

218 presents went to primary aged children

95 presents went to young people aged 12-16 years

126 Christmas hampers were gifted

16 Christmas lunch ingredients were gifted

You can help spread the spirit of Christmas this year to children who would otherwise not receive the joy of opening a gift by donating a NEW UNWRAPPED GIFT.

Or for those who do not have means for a Christmas meal help by giving a financial donation

Help us reach this years target of gifting 400 presents and 80 hampers.

To get involved or find out more information about the appeal please contact caterham@salvationarmy.org.uk | 07407 500920