



Hillcroft Primary School

Friday 26th April 2024

Nurturing children to achieve their personal best

Nurture Inspire Strive

Dear Parents & Carers,

We are racing into the Summer term with lots of fantastic learning and events planned for the children this term. Over the past 2 weeks the children have been getting stuck into their new topics. This half term there is a focus on Science so children will be exploring their enquiry question through this lens. Here are the general overviews for each year group so you know what all children are learning across the school:

- Nursery - Growth and change.
- Reception - Classifying living and non-living things.
- Y1 - How do scientists compare animals?
- Y2 - How does an animal's habitat provide it with what it needs to live?
- Y3 - What do all plants have and need in order to survive?
- Y4 - How are living things and their environment connected?
- Y5 - The way things grow affects the way we live. Support or Challenge?
- Y6 - What is variation and what does that mean for all living things?

This week we have had some visitors to the school- a sheep and her two lambs! This year we have been lucky to participate in the South of England Agricultural Society 'Loan a lamb' scheme. The lambs were dropped off by the farmer on Monday and have spent the week with us. This has given the children the opportunity to pet, feed and look after them- learning about the life of sheep, understanding how to care for them and gaining an insight into farming life! On Thursday we were interviewed by BBC Radio Surrey. The piece is expected to be broadcast on the radio next week so keep your ears tuned!

Thank you to those year 1 parents who attended our Phonics Screening Check workshop yesterday. If you were unable to attend then further information will be sent out to year 1 parents and will also be available on the website.

Finally, a message from Mrs Hardcastle:

Dear parents,

I was overwhelmed with your generosity, kind words and good wishes at the end of last term. Thank you all. It was a pleasure to work with you and your children.

Best wishes

Donna Hardcastle

Key Dates:

Introduction to THRIVE parent workshop- 7th May- 9am in the Main hall

Please see link to whole school Key Dates calendar:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/18bNylZgww2qdmfvcFkypQe-ZxIRc6hJTGnHXv9cLGrM/edit>



A message from Mrs Pearson.

WOW! I cannot believe how quickly the Easter Holidays went. I hope you all had a lovely relaxing two weeks making lots of beautiful memories. On the last day of term, we celebrated our "Thrive Day" with lots of wonderful things for the children to enjoy. We had Rachael Reynolds School of Dance doing a workshop for our KS2 children, Tara was our storyteller for KS1. The children made wonderful animal plates, rainbows and let's play Music. Here I have attached some photos for you to look at.



Date to remember!

Our next Thrive workshop will start in the Summer Term. We are looking at running this on a Tuesday Night starting on 4th June to 9th July. If you would like to book a space, please email me as they will go very quickly. D.Pearson@hillcroftschoo.org

A Reading Community

This week, Mr Fuhrman, a Year 2 teacher, shares his recommendations:

EYFS

You Choose! By Pippa Goodhart

A bright, colourful book full of great illustrations where the children choose what makes up their story. Will it be a castle or jungle setting? What will their outfit be? How will they travel around their story's world?

KS1

The Diddle that Dumbled by Kes Gray

A laugh-out-loud musical story full of hilarious word play and silliness from the author of Oi Frog!, brilliantly illustrated by Fred Blunt. Flinty Bo Diddle is writing a tune for his fiddle. All his diddles have lined up nicely - except for one who keeps going DUM, right in the middle! A story about standing out from the crowd that will have you in fits of giggles!

LKS2

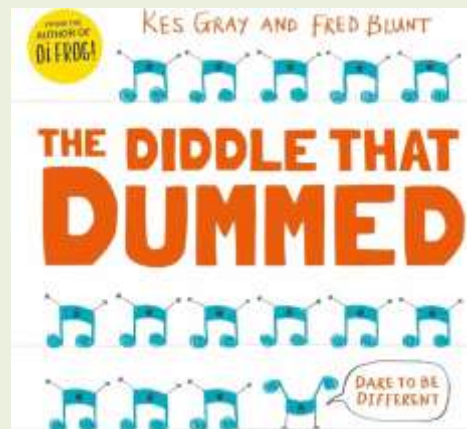
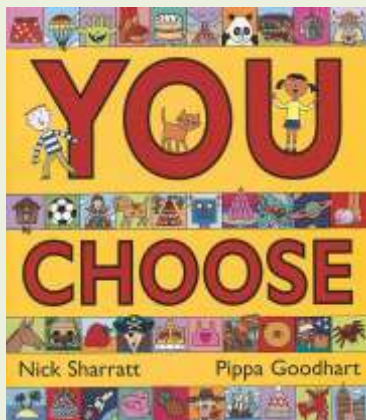
The Nothing to See Here Hotel by Steven Butler

Frankie Banister and his family run the Nothing to See Here Hotel, which is cunningly hidden from human view by magic and lots of really, really bad TripAdvisor reviews. It's not for humans, you see, and instead is the perfect getaway for magical creatures of all kinds. Things take a turn though when a particularly difficult guest arrives!

UKS2

Land of Roar by Jenny McLachlan

When Arthur and Rose were little, they were heroes in the Land of Roar, an imaginary world that they found by climbing through the folding bed in their grandad's attic. Roar was filled with things they loved – dragons, mermaids, ninja wizards and adventure – as well as things that scared them. Now the twins are eleven, Roar is just a memory. But when they help Grandad clean out the attic, Arthur is horrified as Grandad is pulled into the folding bed and vanishes. Is he playing a joke? Or is Roar . . . real?



Our Children's Talents and Interests



Sophie in Year 3 has used her photos of sunsets to create her own artwork. Well done!



Luka in Year 5 was selected to compete for his athletics team Croydon Harriers in the under 11s 600m race and he won! Hard work pays off as this was Luca's fourth time to run the race and his first victory. Well done!



On Sunday Maddie, Imogen, Emelia and Fraser in Year 3 played in the Dorking Rugby Festival. They had a brilliant day, showing excellent teamwork, and putting their rugby skills into action during the matches! Well done!



Ava Year 4 overcome her fear this weekend by managing to get to the top of the climbing wall! She was so scared and kept considering giving up but she kept trying and was so proud of herself. Well done!



Imogen Year 3 recently completed stage 5 at swimming and has now moved up to her Bronze Award and Elowen Year 2 has completed stage 3 and moved up to stage 4.

Well Done!



Thalia Year 1 - Thalia has passed her grade 2 roller skating and now working on the skills for grade 3.

Amazing!



Grace Year 2 - Grace did some amazing art work yesterday this was her first attempt of drawing a dragon, what great art skills.

Well Done!

Celebrating Earth Day at Hillcroft

To celebrate Earth day we took part in the Extraordinary Earth Project where children get a chance to learn about what Climate change means to the earth. We made pictures out of junk which we will now submit to the Students Rebuild project. Each piece of artwork raises \$5 from the Bezos foundation towards charities raising awareness for climate change. You can take a look at their website <https://www.studentsrebuild.org/> to find out more about the charities. Many thanks to all of you for sending in your junk mail.



In other news...

Computing Update from Mrs Winsor

Roblox - How to Report

Most users of Roblox will probably know how to report content or other players on Roblox. There is a 1-minute video on YouTube showing users how to report on Roblox [HERE](#)

Attendance Notice

A reminder to parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authority, they will be liable to receive a penalty notice. Currently the amount payable under a penalty notice is £60.00 per parent/carer per child if paid within 21 days. Thereafter the amount increases to £120.00 if paid between 21 and 28 days. If the penalty notice remains unpaid after 28 days, the Local Authority will consider a prosecution in the Magistrates Court. Please note that penalty notices are issued per parent/carer per child so a family of two parents and two children will receive 4 penalty notices.

Volunteers

We are always looking for volunteers in school to hear children read or support on school trips. If you are able to offer any support, however big or small- please email Mrs Page on a.page@hillcroftschoo.org. Your time and support is really appreciated.