

Learning delivered with

Text Linked Curriculum



Hillcrest Primary School

TLC

NEWSLETTER

Friday 25th June 2020

Dear Parents /Carers,

Outdoor Learning

From September, Hillcrest staff will begin the planning process for a new Outdoor Learning Plan that will enable all areas of the Primary National Curriculum to be delivered outdoors in our extensive grounds if the use of the outdoors would enhance the learning that is planned.

Before the planning of activities can start in earnest, we needed to ensure that the areas we wanted to take the children in were as safe as possible and as tidy and as usable as possible. Therefore, staff spent some time this week mucking in, clearing rubbish, moving bricks, logs and tyres, pruning bushes, clearing the pond, turning soil, de-weeding and sweeping paths amongst other things in order to give the school suitable outdoor spaces in which to learn.



We also had our long-awaited Outdoor Classroom installed near our amphitheatre close to the Year 2 area of the school during the May half-term break. This will provide a base for outdoor learning to continue even when the weather may not be warm or dry. True outdoor learning continues in all weathers and isn't just a nice addition to the curriculum during the Summer Term when the weather is favourable. True outdoor learning has a positive impact on the children's engagement with their learning all-year round.

A huge thank you to the staff who got involved in the clear-up and to Mrs Farr and Mrs Wardle for their creative ideas in relation to Outdoor Learning that will benefit all of the children at some point going forwards.

New Assistant Head

We are delighted to confirm that there will be a new addition to the Senior Leadership Team from September with the appointment of Mr Martin as an additional Assistant Headteacher. Mr Martin joins Mr Try, Mr Reeve-Hayes and Mrs White on the SLT.

Applying for Free School Meals

There has never been a time in school when ensuring you are registered for Free School Meals has been more important.

The profile of Free School Meals has been raised hugely during the pandemic, especially since the high-profile involvement of footballer, Marcus Rashford, who backed the continued provision of Free School Meals during school holidays.

All families with children registered for Free School Meals have continued to receive weekly £15 supermarket vouchers throughout school holidays.

If your employment circumstances have changed as a result of the pandemic, you may find that you are also eligible to claim for Free School Meals. The criteria around which decisions about eligibility are made are as follows...

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Your child may also get free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

- younger than the [compulsory age for starting school](#)
- in full-time education

If you think that you may qualify, then you can go online at the address below to make your application direct to Norfolk County Council...

<https://fiso.norfolk.gov.uk/Synergy/Enquiries/Citizen/FreeSchoolMeals.aspx>

With plans due to be announced about the provision of food vouchers for the forthcoming Summer holidays, it is vital that, if you are eligible and want to benefit from these, applications are made ASAP.

Race for Life – have you signed up yet?

On Thursday 8th July, Hillcrest will be hosting its own Race for Life with funds raised being split. 60% will go to Cancer Research UK whilst 40% will go to the Friends of Hillcrest who are currently working towards raising funds for a Wellbeing Area in the 'i' Building for children requiring emotional support.

Sponsorship forms have gone home both via email and as a hard copy in the past two weeks. However, there is another included within this newsletter and you will also find one on the school website.

Whatever amount the children can raise will be going to two fantastic causes and past experiences tell us that the children will do a fantastic job adding to the massive totals they have raised in previous years for numerous good causes.

On this occasion we are asking that children raise a minimum of £3 so that they can receive the unique, one-of-a-kind medal that is being produced for the occasion.

There will be a prize for the pupil that raises the most money in each year group.

Sponsorship Form for the Children's Run

| Sponsor's Name | Sponsor's Address | Amount Sponsored | Tick if money received |
|----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Child's Name: _____ Class: _____

Total Raised: _____

(please return to school along with the money raised by Friday 16th July)

Race for Life - Still Time for Parents to Sign Up

We are also appealing to the parents and friends and family members of Hillcrest pupils who are interested in running and supporting charitable causes, to sign up and take part. Adults can book themselves and other interested friends, colleagues or family members onto one of several 20-minute time slots that will be open throughout the course of the day. These are at 1.45pm, 2.15pm, 3.45pm, 4.15pm, 4.45pm and 5.15pm. Places for the adult participants can be booked at a cost of £5 via your child's WisePay account. We would also ask that you then complete the form below, confirming that you have booked on and making a note of the time slot that you would like to book onto. Feel free to invite other friends and family members to participate.

The event will keep to a maximum of 30 runners in each group to ensure that we are Covid-compliant and the adults on site will not come into close contact with the children at any point.

Please return to school by Tuesday 6th July if you are an adult wishing to participate

Name of Child: _____ Child's Class: _____

1st Adult participating: _____

2nd Adult participating: _____

3rd Adult participating: _____

4th Adult participating: _____

I can confirm that I have been on to WisePay and paid for each person named above to take part in the Race for Life on

Thursday 8th July ***(please tick)***

Remaining Vigilant for Signs of Covid

Although we are hopefully coming out of the worst of the recent pandemic, case numbers nationally still remain stubbornly high with the Delta variant making its way across the country.

Although many aspects of daily life are returning to normal, we have to continue to monitor the children when we are concerned they may have a high temperature or a cough and we have to continue to insist that children displaying such symptoms remain at home until they have received a negative PCR test.

Please note that you should not be using the Lateral Flow Tests on children under the age of 11 and that these do not provide the same peace of mind as a PCR test anyway. It is only a negative PCR test that provides the best indication that your child does not have Covid.

DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IF...

- ***...they display a temperature of 37.6 degrees or higher;***
- ***...they have a persistent cough (regardless of whether you believe this to be caused by something else);***
- ***---they complain of a sudden and extreme loss of taste or smell.***

2021/22 Term Dates

Autumn Term 2021

Pupils return on Monday 6th September

Half – Term Holiday: Monday 25th – Friday 29th October (inclusive)

Last Day of Term: Friday 17th December

Christmas and New Year Holiday: Monday 20th December 2021 – Tuesday 4th January 2022 (inclusive)

Spring Term 2022

Children return to school on Wednesday 5th January 2022

Half-Term Holiday: Monday 14th February to Friday 18th February (inclusive)

Last Day of Term: Friday 1st April

Easter Holiday: Monday 4th April to Tuesday 19th April (inclusive)

Summer Term 2022

Pupils return on Wednesday 20th April

May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 2nd May – SCHOOL CLOSED

Half-Term Holiday: Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June (inclusive)

Last Day of Term: Friday 22nd July

Summer Holiday begins on Monday 25th July

Launches on
10th July!



Summer Reading Challenge 2021



WILD WORLD HEROES



Presented by The Reading Agency.
Delivered in partnership with libraries

Keep the kids busy during the summer holidays with our wild world themed reading challenge. It's all free and kids can earn themselves a medal by reading 6 books of their choice.

Sign up for your free pack at your local library and get ready to collect your stickers to solve the Summer Reading Challenge clues!

YES!

your local library is back open again and we welcome all families and new members!

Plus we've got loads of exciting wildlife themed online events taking place throughout the holidays. To find out more about the challenge contact your local library or visit: www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries

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WORKING TOGETHER TO
INSPIRE YOUNG
READERS TO STAND UP
FOR OUR PLANET

THE
READING
AGENCY



NEXT NEWSLETTER IS OUT ON WEDNESDAY 21st JULY 2021