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Hillcrest Primary School

TLC

NEWSLETTER

Friday 28th March 2025

Dear Parents /Carers,

Visit from our Member of Parliament

Earlier in the month, Hillcrest Primary School welcomed our new MP for the South-West Norfolk constituency, Terry Jermy.

Mr Jermy met with Mr Try, Mr Martin and Mrs White and listened to various concerns and grievances that we, like many other schools around the country, will be concerned about at the moment. Amongst the topics discussed was the uncertainty surrounding funding to supporting those children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). This conversation then led to a more general conversation around ever-tightening school budgets.

Concerns around the proposed changes to Ofsted inspections and the new 'Report Card' system of feeding back on school's strength and areas for development were also shared. However, we also did offer some positive feedback on some elements of the changes proposed.

Mr Jermy was then shown around the school and met with staff from our Specialist Resource Base. Mr Jermy was very impressed by the staff and resources available within this facility. The SRB staff also got the opportunity to share some concerns over the impact that ever-tightening school budgets are having on their recruitment of new pupils from other schools around the county. Despite the need for the services that the SRB offers being evident, it is concerning that some schools are put off from offering their children the opportunity to benefit from such provision due to funding concerns.

Mr Jermy listened well and asked many relevant follow-up questions which gave the staff a confidence that if he had any opportunity to influence the powers that be in central government, that he would do so.

Just days after his visit, Mr Try received a hand-written letter from Mr Jermy thanking him for the opportunity to visit our school and saying that he very much enjoyed speaking with our staff.

Hillcrest are now in communications with Mr Jermy's team regarding the possibility of opening up constituency surgeries from the school site for those parents who have a need that they feel their local MP can support with. We will keep you updated with the progress of these talks.

Class Drop-Ins

Summer Term Drop-Ins will be held on the following dates between 8.45 and 8.55am...

Wednesday 30th April

Wednesday 21st May

Wednesday 25th June

Wednesday 16th July

Sporting Success Outside of School

Recently, Hillcrest was presented with a trophy for being the 3rd placed primary school in the Ryston Runners Athletics Club Shouldham Cross-Country Grand Prix.

Six Hillcrest pupils spent their own time, on a Sunday, taking part in the cross-country event during the winter months.

Harry from Year 1 and his brother, Owen, from Year 4 along with three other Year 4s; Leo, Ethan and Katie also accompanied by Freya from Year 5; all represented Hillcrest well throughout the series of races. To finish third out of 16 schools represented is an amazing feat. A huge well done to them all.

Sports Days

We are pleased to confirm when this year's Summer Sports Days will be taking place.

EYFS	Tuesday 24 th June	1.30pm
KS1	Friday 27 th June	1.15pm
KS2	Wednesday 25 th June	12.30pm

Please note that after the success of last year's afternoon Sports Day for Key Stage 2, that we will be running all sports days in the afternoon this year.

In the event of poor weather we may have to rearrange the events for another day. However, unlike previous years when we share what our reserve dates are in advance, we have not set any at this time and will take a decision on a new date at the earliest possible opportunity should a decision to cancel be taken.

Parking

Please note that some extremely dangerous and inconsiderate parking has been noted immediately outside the school gate. Under NO CIRCUMSTANCES should any parent park on the zig-zag lines outside the front entrance to the school. It is against the law and a hazard to the families walking across the entrance to the school at the start and the end of the day as well as being a hazard for those cars leaving the site at that time.

One parent recently not only parked on the zig-zag lines, but also parked right across the front entrance, making it impossible for any cars arriving or leaving to use that access point. The police are aware of our concerns and will be called in the future if similarly inconsiderate parking is witnessed again.

Attendance Matters

Reporting Absence

Class	Target for MARCH	ACTUAL FOR MARCH	Target for April/May
Moons	96%	95.05%	96%
Suns	96%	96.10%	96.50%
Meteors	97.50%	96.60%	97%
Nebulas	96%	95.60%	96%
Comets	96.50%	95.68%	96%
Planets	96%	97.84%	98.50%
Mercury	96%	97.03%	97.50%
Pluto	96%	97.84%	98.50%
Tethys	97%	96.89%	97.50%
Mars	98%	94.07%	96%
Saturn	96%	95.43%	96%
Jupiter	96%	96.94%	97.50%
Venus	96%	95.41%	96%
Earth	96%	96.22%	97%
Neptune	96%	88.83%	96%

Well done to Suns in Reception, Planets in Year 2, Mercury and Pluto in Year 3, Jupiter in Year 5 and Earth in Year 6 for beating their targets for the month.

A special congratulations to Planets Class in Year 2 and Pluto Class in Year 3 for recording the best attendances for the month of March with 97.84% being recorded by both.

Early warning...SCHOOL CLOSURE

We would like to remind you that Hillcrest Primary School will be closed for the Easter holidays between Monday 7th April and Tuesday 22nd April (inclusive). School reopens at the usual time on Wednesday 23rd April.

NEXT NEWSLETTER IS OUT ON FRIDAY 25th APRIL