

Learning delivered with



Hillcrest Primary School

TLC

## NEWSLETTER

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Dear Parents /Carers,

## SCHOOL CLOSED

***Hillcrest Primary School will be closed for Easter from Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March to Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April (inclusive). School will reopen at the usual time on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April. The staff at Hillcrest wish all of the families a lovely break.***

### Run Norwich Charitable Event

The children took part in the Run Hillcrest charitable event organised by Norwich City's Community Sports Foundation at school on Wednesday, with former Hillcrest Primary School pupil, Jade Nicholson, in charge of the event.

Despite it being the windiest day that we can remember for some time, all of the children went outside to cheer others on as well as run the course for themselves, battling the breezy and cool conditions.

The children were running the course, not only to have great fun and exercise, but also to help raise money for charity with 50% of the funds raised helping Norwich City's CSF to work with some of the more vulnerable groups in society and the other 50% going to the Friends of Hillcrest.

As of the time of writing this Newsletter, Hillcrest families had raised £1992 through payments online with several hundred pounds of cash also donated.

The deadline for paying money online via the QR code below, or by handing cash into school, is Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April. After this point, the staff from Norwich City's Community Sports Foundation, will come in to school to count the cash, add it to the total donated online and give us a final grand total. They will also work out which incentives need to go to which children depending upon the amounts each child raised.

We were delighted that enough money was raised to force Mr Try to wear the absolutely revolting (his words!!!) yellow and green outfit.

Thanks again to the children and families of Hillcrest who have demonstrated the lengths they will go to in order to raise money for great causes.

## **Pupils Represent School Superbly**

We have received lots of excellent feedback about the behaviour of our pupils at the St Winnold's Day Fair in Downham Market last weekend. The children, and staff, gave up their time on Saturday to show their pictures off at the event. Since then, we have received many kind comments from people, many of whom haven't even got a connection with the school, to say how well the children behaved and how good their artwork was.

## **Netball Success**

We are delighted to report that our Year 5/6 Netball Team had a huge success this week when they won the Cluster Netball Tournament held at the Downham Market Academy. The team now moves on to the regional competition which takes place at Lynnsport after the Easter break. Good luck everyone!

## **Sports Day dates**

We are delighted to be able to confirm the dates for the Summer Term Sports Days as we know that some parents like to book work off with plenty of notice.

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June, 1.45pm          EYFS

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June, 12.30pm          Key Stage 2

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 1.15pm                  Key Stage 1

Each Sports Day will take place in the afternoons. In the event that any of the Sports Days finish before 3.30pm, parents will be able to take their children and any siblings home early on those days.

## **Class Drop-Ins**

The Summer Term Class Drop-Ins will take place between 8.45 and 8.55am on the following dates...

- Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May
- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July

## **Important Changes Afoot**

From the start of the new school year in September will hopefully have launched a brand new mechanism for communicating all sorts of information with the parents.

For the past 10 years we have a Management Information System called Pupil Asset which stores all of the relevant information from parent's emergency contact details, to the daily registers and it is also used to record the academic progress of the children.

It would appear likely that the company who owns Pupil Asset will be winding it down at some point within the next year. Therefore, we will be transferring all of our management information across to a new provider called BromCom.

BromCom provide an app for parent called MCAS (My Child At School) which will be encouraging ALL parents to download over the Summer ahead of our September launch.

MCAS will be the main way that we communicate with parents going forwards from the new academic year. Initially, all communications will go through the app. Therefore, instead of our current mix of sending either texts or emails, all news about events taking place at school or other important information, will be shared via the app. This will become the single port of call for school information.

The app will also share both positive and negative behaviour news for each child along with a daily, live update of your child's attendance.

At some point, although probably not as early as September, we will also move away from WisePay and instead, use My Child At School for parents to make payments for everything from trips to school dinners and uniforms. We are aiming to release the payments feature in January 2027 and will continue to use WisePay until then.

## Attendance Matters

Class	Target for March	ACTUAL FOR MARCH	Target for April
Moons	97%	94.44%	96%
Suns	96%	85.89%	96%
Meteors	98%	93.10%	96%
Nebulas	99.50%	95.19%	96%
Comets	96%	93.52%	96%
Planets	98%	95.99%	96.50%
Mercury	98%	98.70%	99%
Pluto	99%	97.50%	98%
Mars	96%	93.97%	96%
Saturn	97%	96.39%	97%
Jupiter	96%	97.31%	98%
Venus	98.50%	97.13%	97.50%
Earth	96%	92.72%	96%
Neptune	96%	95.37%	96%

Well done to Mercury in Year 3 and Jupiter in Year 5 for exceeding their targets for the month of March. A huge congratulations to Mercury Class in Year 3 for achieving the best attendance of the month with 98.70%.

**NEXT NEWSLETTER IS OUT ON FRIDAY 24<sup>th</sup> APRIL**