



NEWSLETTER

Friday 26th June 2026

Dear Parents /Carers,

Extreme Weather

Thank you to all of the parents for their patience and understanding whilst we navigated the decisions that needed to be taken this week to balance the need for the children to continue to receive an education whilst also looking after their health.

On Wednesday afternoon the inside temperatures within the classrooms reached 30 degrees at around 2pm having crept up throughout the day. Despite taking all of the measures that are recommended by the Department for Education and health bodies to keep buildings cool, we still saw temperatures skyrocket inside during the day.

There was a lot of consideration over the course of the night on Wednesday into Thursday regarding the right option to take. Initially, we were going to allow the day to start as normal and then only contact parents to collect their children if, and when, the temperatures reached 30 degrees. However, on reflection we were concerned that giving such short notice during the day would disrupt parents more than making the decision at 6.30am to close in the afternoon.

The forecast was then showing no signs of an improvement for Friday so were able to take a much earlier decision about the half-day closure for today.

The Finance and Personnel Committee of Hillcrest's Governing Body have met today and the Emergency Closure Policy has been revised to reflect the more challenging climate that we face with future heatwaves almost a certainty.

In future, if the inside of the classrooms reach 30 degrees at any point in the day, parents will be offered the opportunity to come and collect their children once a message has sent home to that effect. However, on that first day the school would not close at that point. The temperatures reached on the first day would be taken into consideration alongside the ongoing weather forecast and both would assist the decision regarding whether to close the school for a full day or a half day on the very next day and on all future days until the heatwave breaks.

As with Snow Days, if the school closes for a full day due to extreme heat, no work would be set on the first day of the closure. However, work would be provided by the class teacher from the second consecutive closure day.

Class Drop-Ins

The final Class Drop-In of the year takes place on Wednesday 15th July between 8.45 and 8.55am.

Rearranged Sports Days

The recent hot weather has prevented this week's planned Sports Days for EYFS and KS2 from taking place.

The KS2 Sports Day will now take place next Monday (29th June), starting at 12.30pm. The Civray gate will open from 12.15pm for parents.

The EYFS Sports Day will take place on Wednesday 1st July, starting at 1.45pm with the Civray gate opening from 1.30pm.

Hopefully, the KS1 Sports Day will get to take place on the date that it was originally scheduled for which is Friday 3rd July, starting at 1.15pm. The Civray gate will open at 1pm for parents.

Please note that all access on and off the site for any of the Sports Days will be via the gate onto the field from Civray Avenue.

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.

Each of these events is also open to further postponement in the event that the extreme heat returns or there is rain.

Meet the Teacher Evenings

In order to give parents the opportunity to meet their child's new class teacher for next year, we will be holding Meet the Teacher Evenings towards the end of term.

On Tuesday 7th July at 5pm, parents of children who will be moving into Year 2, 4 and 6 will get the opportunity to hear from their child's new teacher and to ask any burning questions they may have. Parents of children moving into Years 1, 3 and 5 will get the same opportunity at 5pm on Wednesday 8th July.

Pedestrian Crossing

Many thanks to all the parents who electronically signed the petition for pedestrian crossings in Hillcrest and Civray Avenue.

177 positive responses in support of the proposal were sent by families with just the one person disagreeing with the pedestrian crossing in Hillcrest.

This information will be shared with the Councillor Gould who is attempting to get support from within the local authority for this move.

Attendance Matters

Class	Target for June	ACTUAL FOR JUNE	Target for July
Moons	98%	91.25%	96%
Suns	96%	93.88%	96%
Meteors	98%	95.26%	96%
Nebulas	97%	98.60%	99%
Comets	96%	97.60%	98%
Planets	99%	97.34%	98%
Mercury	97.50%	96.04%	96.50%
Pluto	98%	96.15%	96.50%
Mars	97%	95.47%	96%
Saturn	97%	95%	96%
Jupiter	98.50%	95.83%	96.50%
Venus	97%	97.60%	98%
Earth	96%	91.38%	96%
Neptune	96%	95.31%	96%

Well done to Nebulas in Year 1, Comets in Year 2 and Venus in Year 5 for beating their target for June.

A huge well done to Nebulas Class in Year 1 for being the most well-attended class in the school on 98.60%.

Early warning...SCHOOL CLOSURE

We would like to remind you that Hillcrest Primary School will be closed for the Summer holidays between Monday 20th July and Wednesday 2nd September 2026 (inclusive). School reopens at the usual time on Thursday 3rd September 2026.

NEXT NEWSLETTER IS OUT ON FRIDAY 17th JULY