

HILLCROFT PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Nurturing children to achieve their personal best

November 29th 2024



Dear Parents & Carers,

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported our Christmas Fair. It was great to see so many of you and we are definitely starting to get into the festive spirit!

Please do check the key dates for upcoming Christmas Assemblies, Nativities and Prize Giving Assemblies. There is lots going on in the run up to Christmas so do check out our Instagram page (@hillcroftprimaryschool) where we will put reminders as well.

Key Dates:

Please click in the link below to access our key dates document. This is updated throughout the year and we encourage you all to check it regularly to ensure you have up to date information about the key events happening in school.

Key Dates Document



Salvation Army Donations

Thank you for all your kind donations for the Salvation Army Appeal. Your donation will help support families in need over Christmas.



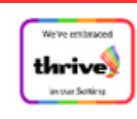
Clever Never Goes

Please find further information regarding our 'Clever Never Goes' teaching. The children have all taken part in lessons helping them to identify what to do if they are in situation when an adult asks them to go with them. Further information can be found here: <https://clevernevergoes.org/>



**MUFTI Day in return for Secret
Santa Gift- 6.12.24**

THRIVE



A message from Mrs Pearson.

WOW! We are so lucky at Hillcroft to be able to have these wonderful bright Thrive rooms for the children to go to, to help them with their social, emotional and sensory needs. We have now opened another area in Early Years for the children to go to.

I have attached photos of all the rooms for you to be able to see.



Early Years - The Rainbow



KS1 - Enchanted Forest



Mrs Painter's Room

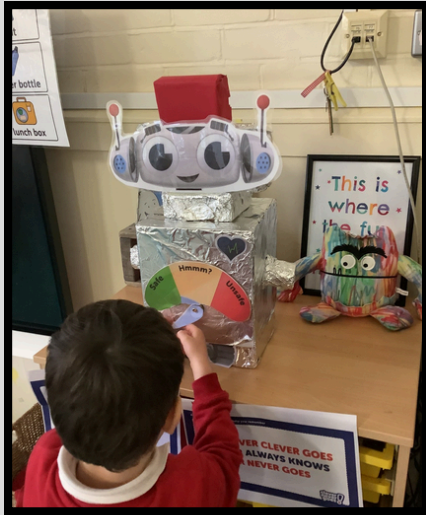


KS2 - The Treehouse

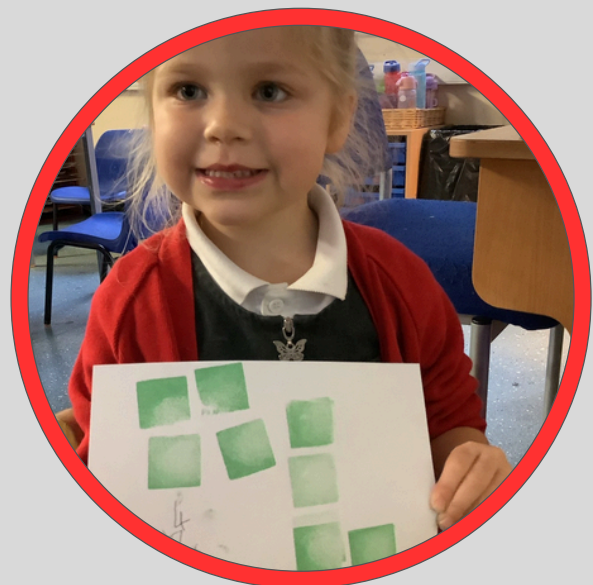
Early Years

In Nursery we loved meeting Clever robot and learning his important rule 'Clever never goes'.

We have also been learning about 'Safe Strangers' along with important vocabulary such as 'trust' and 'safe'.



In Reception, we have been learning about the composition of number 4. We made our own stampoline patterns using cubes and stamps.



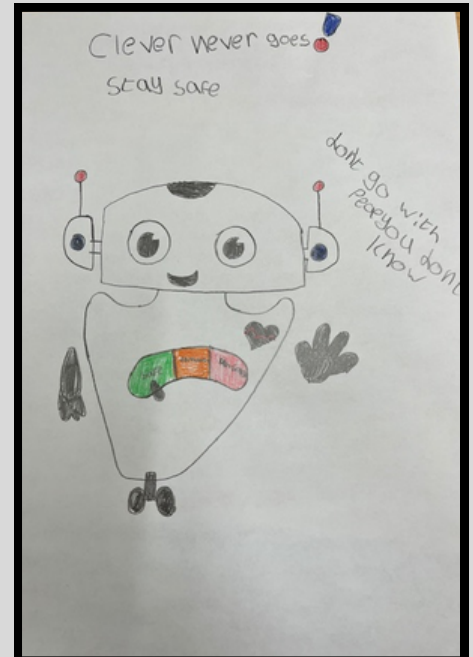
LKS2

In Year 3, children have been daubing their wattles as part of their Stone Age topic.



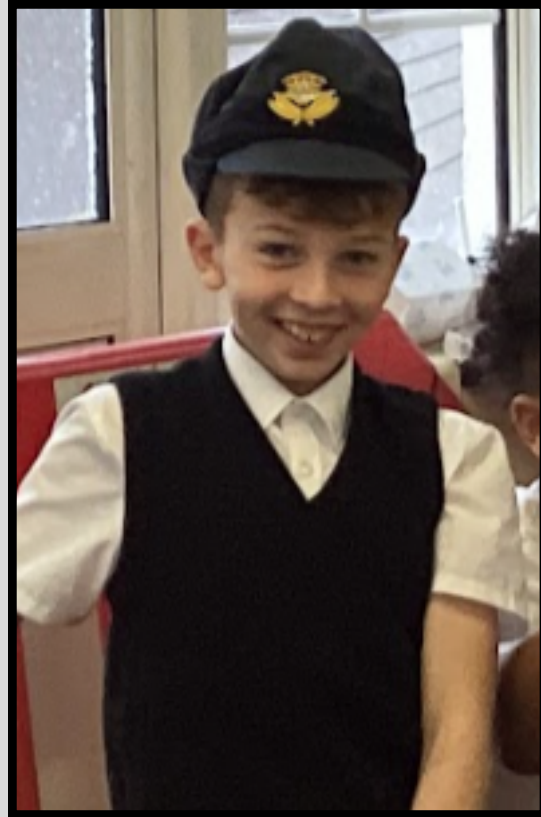
UKS2

In Year 5, children have created their own posters relaying the 'Clever Never Goes' message.



UKS2

This week, Year 6 had a WW2 day as part of their topic this half term. Children dressed up as evacuees and did a number of activities including code breaking, morse code and art. We were also lucky enough to have some visitors from Kenley Revival who spoke to us all about why Kenley was so important during WW2.



TALENTS AND INTERESTS

Every week in our Friday assembly we celebrate the talents and interests of our children. See the superstars we have celebrated over the last two weeks. If your child has a special achievement they would like to share please send some details and a photo to l.bonnell@hillcroftschool.org.

Isla	Year 1	Rugby
Rory	Year 4	Football
William	Year 3	Rugby
Stanley	Year 5	Swimming
Laila	Year 5	Football



SOCIAL MEDIA 101

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Social media platforms constantly evolve, with even the most popular platforms seeing fluctuations in engagement. Whether the child in your care uses Instagram, TikTok, or any new platform, understanding the key features will help you grasp the appeal and recognise associated risks.

10 FEATURES OF SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

- User Hashtags & Trends**: Hashtags help categorise and organise content, making it discoverable by users interested in specific topics.
- User Profiles**: Personal profiles are online identities, with usernames, bios, profile pics, and optional details.
- Interactions & Engagement**: Interactions between users such as likes, reactions, comments, shares or reposts.
- Search & Discovery**: Search finds accounts, hashtags, topics, and trending content. Discovery suggests new content based on interests.
- Newsfeeds/Timelines**: Displays content shared by users and the accounts they follow, tailored to user preferences, connections, and interactions.
- Privacy & Security Settings**: Options to control privacy, audiences, viewing permissions, and account security.
- Messaging & Communications**: Direct messages, group chats, voice/video calls facilitate communication between users.
- Notifications**: Alerts users about profile activities such as mentions, comments, likes, friend requests.
- Posting & Sharing**: Text, photos, videos, links, and articles shared with online connections or publicly.
- Connecting & Following**: Connections through friend/follow requests keep users updated on activities and content. Connections may be mutual (both users follow each other) or one-sided (one user follows another without reciprocation).

Something we are starting to see more of is the integration of AI as a more visible feature on social media platforms.

NO AGE RATING

! RISKS AND TOP TIPS ✓

Age Verification

- Most platforms have age ratings to stop users viewing age-inappropriate content.
- Not all platforms have robust verification methods.
- Ensure young people are registered as the correct age (a 12 year old who registers as 16 will see content designed for an adult after two years)
- Look for platforms using YOTI as their age verification method. This facial scanning technology is harder to get around than most other methods.

End-to-End Encryption

- This ensures a message between the sender and recipient can't be viewed by anyone else - even the police or hackers!
- Encryption provides an opportunity for predators to groom young users without detection.
- Make sure they understand what to do if someone is making them feel uncomfortable.
- Talk to young people about accepting requests or adding people they don't know.

Digital Footprint

- Whatever a young person posts online leaves a digital footprint that could impact their future.
- Universities, friends, and even employers might come across their previous online activity.
- Help your child set up their accounts so that posts are visible only to friends and not the public.
- Make sure a young person only posts content they would be comfortable with anyone seeing.

Algorithms

- The content a user interacts with or searches for influences what they will see next.
- This may affect an impressionable young person's thoughts and actions.
- Understand that one piece of harmful content can lead to the algorithm showing you more.
- Keep in mind the negativity bias. Just like staring at a car crash on the road, it doesn't imply a desire for more or an enjoyment of it, but rather reflects how our brains tend to focus on the negative for longer.

Persuasive Design

- Clever design features keep users engaged on social media platforms for longer, through things like the endless scroll or push notifications.
- This can lead to excessive screen-time and in some cases, addiction.
- Agree screentime limits with young people to promote a healthy balance between offline and online activities.
- Encourage them to recognise when they are being influenced to stay online.

Personal Information

- Information such as full names, locations, or other platform usernames are frequently shared on social media.
- Sharing this information may seem harmless to young people, but can be exploited by predators and cybercriminals for harmful purposes.
- Ensure children know what is appropriate to share online and what isn't.
- Make sure they know that bios can be seen by everyone, even with a private account.
- Remind them to scan their photos for anything that could identify them before they are posted.

Our aim is to give children and young adults the best possible start in life. To do this, we aim to run great schools for our communities of pupils, parents and staff.

Please help us understand how well we are doing, and how we can do even better by sharing your views in the Stakeholder Voice Survey for Parents.

Our parent and carer survey gives you the opportunity to express your views on how well we support your child's learning and personal development and how we communicate with you. Our goal is to for you to have your say and have your voice heard, so that we can create the best learning environment for your child.

To complete the survey, please [click here](https://edurio.com/poll/J3Hmdg):

<https://edurio.com/poll/J3Hmdg>



Please note that the survey will be open between 15 November and 2 December.

Surveys will take 20-30 minutes to complete and need to be completed in one sitting. Please note, your responses will be anonymous, so please be open.

Thank you for your support and views. If you have any questions or concerns, please be in touch.

We look forward to your feedback!

ATTENDANCE

Just to remind parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), then the following will apply:

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of the receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
1. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 9 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at a flat rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.

If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you NOT receive a third penalty notice - Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, per parent/carer, in the Magistrates Court under Section 444 Education Act 1996



Secret Santa muffi day



On Friday 6th December we are inviting the children to wear their own clothes for the day in return for a new and unused gift for an adult or child. This may be chocolates, a toiletry set or any other gift. Any new, unwanted gifts you have laying around at home will be gratefully received! The donations are for our whole school Secret Santa event which will be held in school on Thursday 12th December- more information to follow.