

HILLCROFT PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Nurturing children to achieve their personal best

March 21st 2025



Dear parents/carers,

Children and staff have been embracing the spring weather over the last two weeks. Forest school in Year 3 is a real success and we appreciate the support you have given with your donations.

Year 1 have enjoyed a local walk (again with the support of families - thank you) and Year 3 had a great day at Hever Castle.

In the final weeks of Spring term we look forward to seeing many of you at our Prize Giving Assemblies (invite only).

Please keep an eye on the key dates document for upcoming events.

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



Spelling Bee

Congratulations to our Y5 and Y6 pupils who took part in the GLF spelling bee as part of the GLF Boundless Festival. The Hillcroft team made it through to the Grand Finals in June at Meridian High School!



Parent/Carer Questionnaire - Behaviour

We are reviewing our current Behaviour Policy and would value your input. Please answer this short questionnaire so you can have your say. Your views and opinions are important to us. If you would prefer a paper copy please ask at the School Office.

LINK



INSET DAY

Our Inset day in the summer has changed from Friday 27th June to **Friday July 11th**



Earth Hour

Saturday 22nd March

8:30 - 9:30 pm

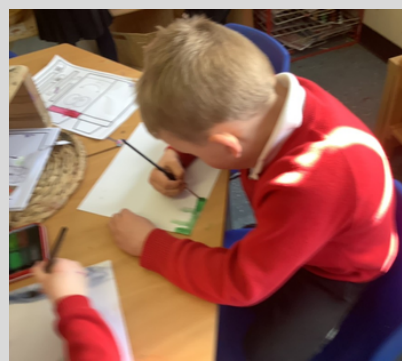
Nursery



This week In Nursery we have been learning all about the Crocodile Snap and practising using our 'snappy fingers' to hold pens and pencils. After practising our 'grip' we then enjoyed making our 'marks' together on a large roll of paper. It was so fun!

Reception

As part of our topic on 'Artists' Ash class have been exploring water colours. We have been using them to create our own 'Tiger in the Tropical Storm' art! This week in Elm class we have been reading 'The Day The Crayons Quit', and the Crayons left us a colour matching challenge! We used the egg cartons to colour match something green and something yellow from the big field and worked in teams to complete the challenge. It was great fun and a lovely outdoor learning opportunity for our class.

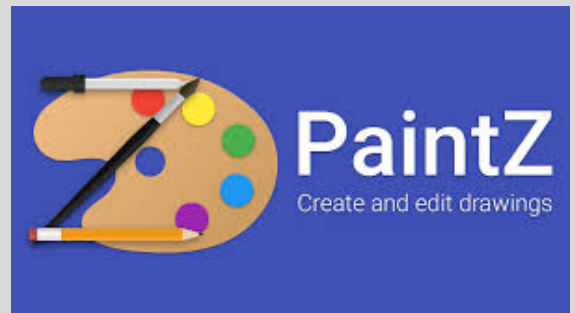


KS1

Year 1 went on a St Patricks day Leprechaun hunt and found a pot of gold!



Children have also been exploring the artist Kandinsky in their computing lessons. The plantz app has really inspired the children.



LKS2

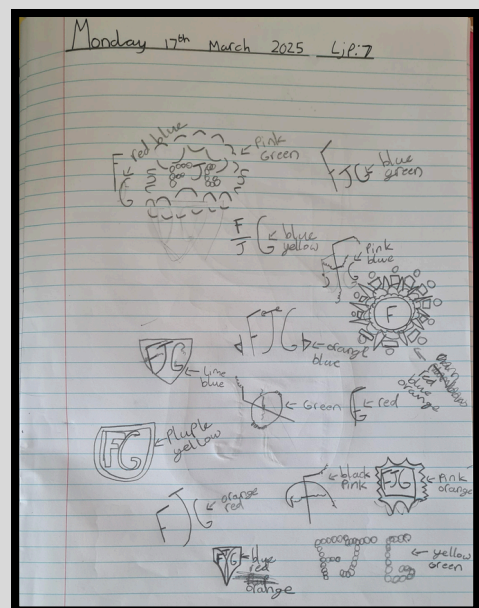
Yeah three are singing Bob Marley 'Three little birds' and learning to play it on the Glockenspiels.

We also has a wonderful trip to Hever Castle. The sun shone and the children discovered all sorts of intersting facts.

Thank you to all the parents who were able to support on the trip - we really appreciated the help.

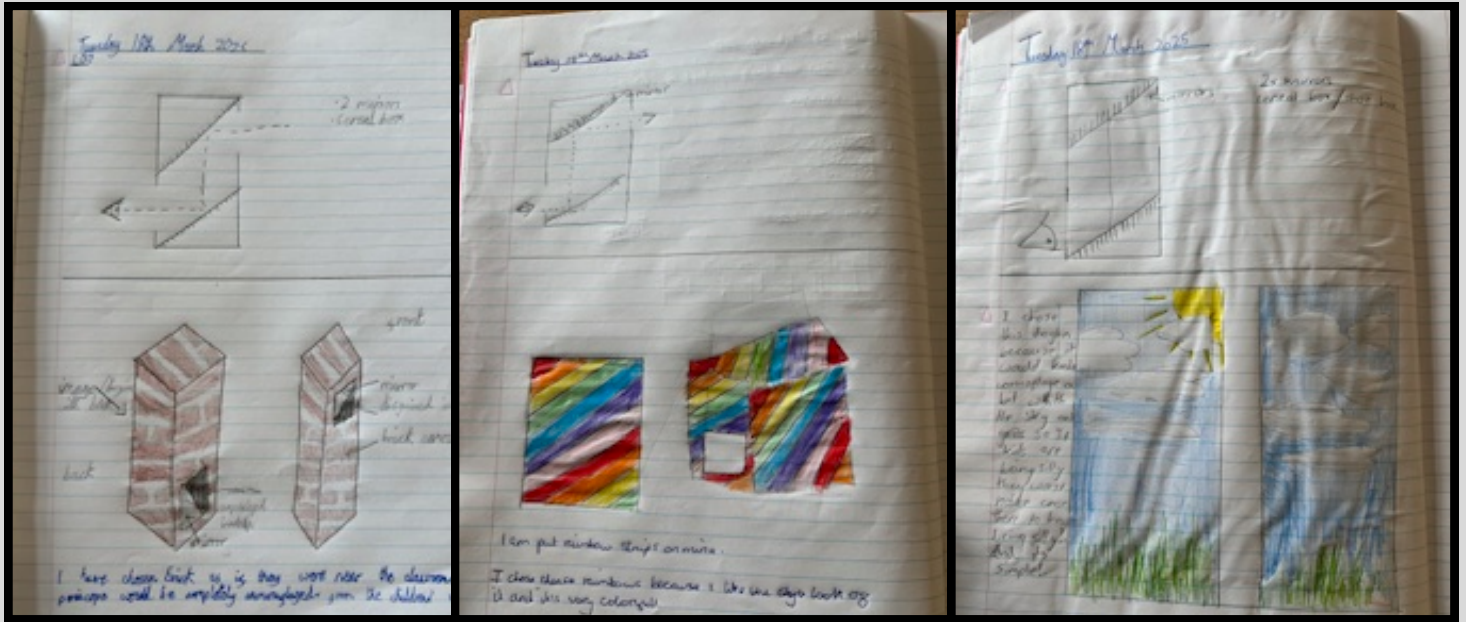


Year 4 have been exploring monograms as part of their history learning. They designed in pencil initially before printing their favourite design using styrofoam tiles.



Year 5

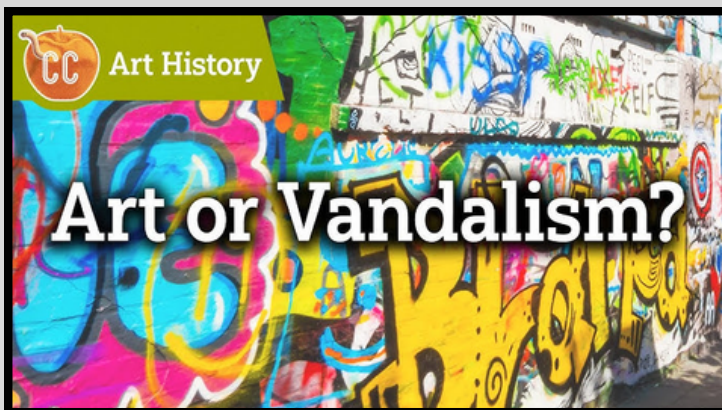
As part of the wider curriculum, Year 5 have been designing periscopes.



Year 6

Year 6 have had a busy week completing their final set of Mock SAT's. The year 6 team are so incredibly proud of how hard all the children are working and how well they have done this week.

They have also spent some time looking at whether graffiti is art or not and whether it should be legal or illegal. Lots of interesting discussions and debates took place in classes around this!



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.

Sena	Year 2	Gymnastics
Lucy	Year 1	Knitting
Isla	Year 2	Gymnastics
Alana	Year 2	Trampolining
Maddie and Libby	Year 4 and Year 2	Rugby
Cameron	Year 2	Art

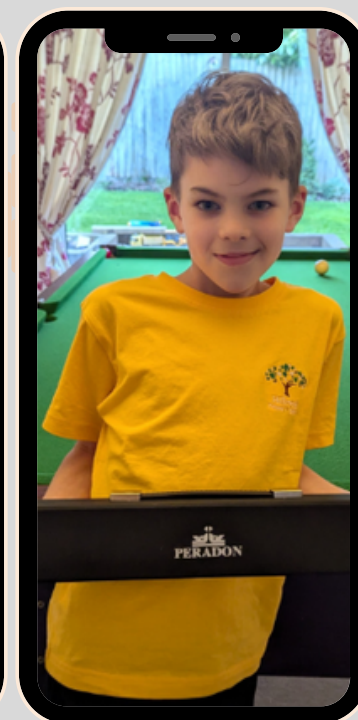
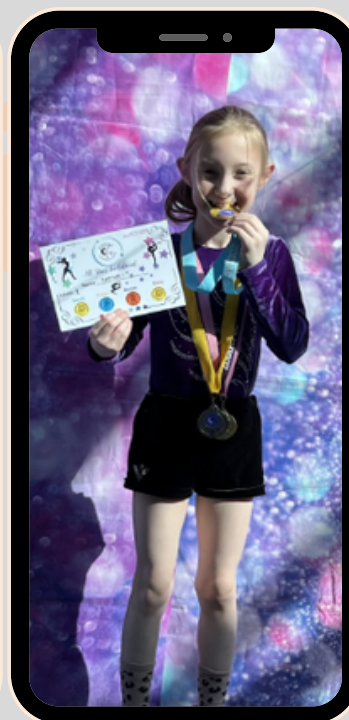


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Edward	Year 4	Snooker
Isla	Year 4	Football
Neve	Year 4	Gymnastics
Olivia-May	Year 4	Gymnastics



SEND UPDATES

Surrey County Council: Early Intervention and Support Service Offer

Neuro Diversity advice for Parents/Carers / PADLET

As Neurodiversity Advisors, with Surrey County Council, we are constantly looking for information to share with Parents and Carers to help navigate the maze of Neurodiversity.

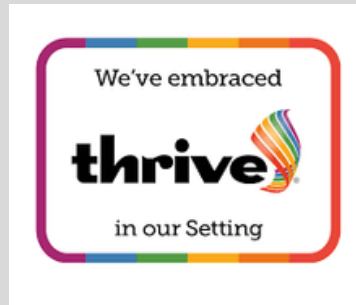
The below QR code takes you to the 'Parent Padlet' part of their website, where they have a range of resources under a number of headings, such as; Explaining Neurodiversity to your Child, Resources for home, Courses for parents, Neurodiversity friendly activities in Surrey, Local organisations etc..

We hope you find this useful.



Please also find link to Surrey Local Offer - which is also a helpful directory of local services to support a range of areas including SEND, Leisure activities and childcare, Health, Early Years.

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/children/support-and-advice/local-offer>



A message from Mrs Pearson.

Hope you all had a lovely relaxing and happy half term. During our Thrive time, we always talk about Fight, Flight and Freeze. Sometimes the children do not understand what their bodies are doing. Over the next few weeks, the children throughout the school are going to learn about these and to learn about how best they can control themselves once they are in Fight, Flight or Freeze. Have a look at the poster as I am sure, most of the children will show these at home as well as at school.

What is the fight, flight, or freeze response? The fight, flight, or freeze response refers to involuntary physiological changes that happen in the body and mind when a person feels threatened. This response exists to keep people safe, preparing them to face, escape, or hide from danger.

Examples of fight, flight or freeze.

A person is out running and suddenly encounters a large, snarling dog; this would activate the fight, flight, or freeze response. The person might:

Fight, becoming aggressive or throwing an object at the dog

Flee, increasing their jogging speed in order to escape

Freeze, causing them to stop running

Fawn by trying to calm the dog down

Flop, or become temporarily unconscious

When activated, the stress response can make you react in three ways:

*You fight the threat.

*You flight from the situation.

*You freeze and stay in place.

The Fight Flight Freeze Response Video


Fight Flight Freeze Response-Anxiety & Stress-The Downside Of The Survival Brain-How To Calm It Down

New Dates for Your Diary's!

Our next Thrive workshop will start in April. We are looking at running them on a Monday Night starting on 28th April 12th May 19th May 2nd June 9th June and 16th June. If you would like to book a space, please email me as they will go very quickly.

D.Pearson@hillcroftschoo.org

TEACH KIDS ABOUT THE STRESS RESPONSE

 WholeHearted School Counseling

FIGHT

CAN LOOK LIKE:

Yelling, Screaming, Using Mean Words
Hitting, Kicking, Biting, Throwing, Punching
Blaming, Not Taking Responsibility, Defensive
Making Demands or Taking Back

CAN FEEL LIKE:

Irritable, Angry, Furious,
Offended, Aggressive



MOVING TOWARDS WHAT FEELS THREATENING

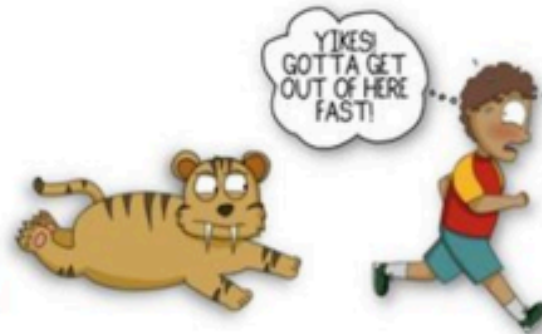
FLIGHT

CAN LOOK LIKE:

Wanting to Escape, Running Away
Hard to Focus or Pay Attention
Fidgeting, Restlessness, Hyperactive
Preoccupied, Procrastinating, or Avoiding the Situation

CAN FEEL LIKE:

Anxious, Panicked, Scared,
Worried, Overwhelmed



MOVING AWAY FROM WHAT FEELS THREATENING

FREEZE

CAN LOOK LIKE:

Mind Goes Blank and It's Hard to Think
Hiding or Trying to Be Alone (Isolating Self)
Not Wanting to Talk or Respond to Others
It's Hard to Complete Tasks

CAN FEEL LIKE:

Depressed, Numb, Bored,
Apathetic, Helpless, Zoned Out



UNABLE TO MOVE, FROZEN, OR STUCK

[DOWNLOAD NOW](#)

All About ... Twitter



Ineqe Safeguarding Group @ineqegroup

How it works (a thread)

7:08 PM • July 15, 2022

Tweets @How-tweets-work

Users can write updates (Tweets) as one-offs or threads.

7:07 PM • July 15, 2022

Community @How-tweets-work

Other users can reply, like, or share (retweet!) Tweets.

7:03 PM • July 15, 2022

Twitter Feed @what-did-they-say/7

Users view Tweets from those they follow on one page. 🙄

Tweets can also include photos and videos!

7:01 PM • July 15, 2022

Let's settle this... @what-do-you-think/7

Can include Polls to find out what people think!

52% Pineapple belongs on Pizza 🍕

48% It definitely does NOT! 🍍

7:44 PM • July 15, 2022

You have to hear this @straight-from-the-tweets-to-mouth

You can even add a voice recording of a Tweet! (up to 140 seconds)

0:50 (1) #voice

7:52 PM • July 15, 2022

Explore @How-can-i-see-more/7

This allows users to see topics by common themes or hashtags. 🌐

#FIFA22 fifa.com

7:53 PM • July 15, 2022

Trending Now @what-did-i-miss/7

Shows the current most popular #hashtags by country.

7:57 PM • July 15, 2022

Twitter is an online 'micro-blogging' social network founded in 2006. It's known for its short character limit of 280 characters, with the platform encouraging users to 'keep it brief'. It is also known for its use of hashtags, threads, and trending topics.

Even though Twitter is meant for users aged 13 or over, we've found that it's pretty easy for anyone to browse Twitter pages without being signed up – and a lot of popular 'clickbait' sites use published tweets in their content.



WARNING!!!

Twitter use may lead to...!



LOCATION REVEAL

Tweets can be geotagged, which could broadcast a user's exact location (or favourite places to hang out) to others.

PUBLIC SCRUTINY

All Tweets are public by default, meaning anyone can view, reply, and retweet regardless of their age or beliefs.

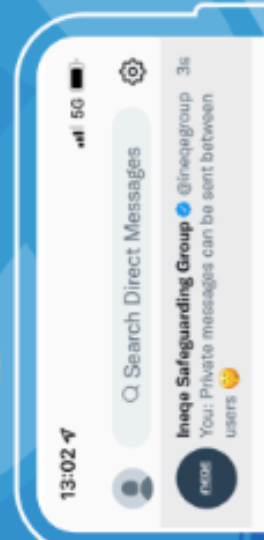


ADULT INTERACTION

A higher ratio of adults on the platform means age-inappropriate content is more likely to be viewed by younger users.

GRAPHIC / INACCURATE CONTENT

During violent or traumatic events, graphic or inaccurate content can be shared in real time, which may distress younger audiences.



It's common for Twitter @handles and #hashtags to be shared in live broadcasts or during film/television series promotion to encourage audiences to follow the conversation as it happens #allabouttwitter



#Hashtags are used to link topics together with one phrase across the platform!

Ineqe Safeguarding Group @ineqegroup

Don't panic! Twitter can be used safely when...

- 🔒 Safety Settings are enabled.
- 😊 Only kind words are used.
- 🕒 Screen time limits are in place.
- 👨👩👧👦 Trusted Adults are available.

GIF SAFETY FIRST!

8:23 PM • July 15, 2022

144 2.9K 5.8K



Scouts

1st Whyteleafe

Refreshments
available all
day!



Table Top Sales!



**2nd Sunday of the
month, 10.00-14.00**

13th April

11th May

8th June

13th July

10th August

14th September 12th

October



Scouts HQ

Church Road

Whyteleafe

CR3 0AR



Sellers tables available

£5 per table (£4 if pre-paid)

Set up from 8:30am

Email 1stwhyteleafewebsite@gmail.com
to book



Entrance 50p

Free for children

BEAVERS

cubs

SCOUTS

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

Autism -Chime



We are welcoming Cambridge University into school to work with children with autism on a project that looks into the impact of music therapy on reducing stress, improving mood and strengthening communication. Improvisational music therapy is one style of music therapy, in which a therapist and a child spontaneously co-create music together using singing, playing and movement, and assumes no prior experience with playing an instrument. This can create engaging opportunities for interactions and for children to express themselves. Previous research suggests that this kind of music therapy may be particularly useful for autistic children. We will test scientifically if improvisational music therapy helps autistic children to improve their social and communication skills, and their emotional wellbeing.

SICKNESS AND MEDICATIONS

Sickness & Medications/ Common childhood illnesses

When should I keep my child off school?

The Following NHS guidelines state;

- Chicken pox; for at least 5 days from the onset of rash and until all blisters have crusted over
- Diarrhoea and vomiting; return 48 hours after last episode of either
- Cold and flu like illnesses; if your child has no temperature then minor symptoms can be managed at school. With a temperature, keep them home until this has subsided and they are feeling well enough.
- Impetigo; Keep your child home until all sores have crusted and healed or 48 hours after they have started antibiotics.
- Measles; Keep your child home until at least 4 days after the rash first appeared.
- Mumps; keep your child home for 5 days after the swelling started
- Scarlet Fever; keep your child home until 24 hours after starting antibiotics
- Whooping Cough; keep your child home until 48 hours after starting antibiotics.

Children can attend school with;

- Hand Foot and Mouth, if they are well enough.
- Head Lice; Please ensure you treat the child/family according to the treatment, and repeat as instructed. Also, please let school know as soon as you are aware.
- Threadworms; Please treat accordingly and ensure hand hygiene is practiced often.
- Slapped Cheek
- Tonsillitis

Calpol may be administered in school if you feel there is a need for your child throughout the school day. Please speak to office staff who will provide a medication form to be completed. Where possible please supply the Calpol/paracetamol as we have only limited emergency supply.

Antibiotics can be administered again with a medication form, however only if the medication is needed 3 or more times a day.

A high temperature is classified as 38 degrees. If your child has a temperature during the school day, we will contact you to come and collect them. Please do not send your child/Children into school with a high temperature. Always seek medical advice from your GP.

LITTER PICKING

Registered charity no. 1071737



The Great Big School Clean

21 March - 6 April 2025

This Spring, join Keep Britain Tidy as the Great Big School Clean returns!



Since the movement began, millions of #LitterHeroes have pulled on their gloves, grabbed their litter-pickers, and pledged to pick up more than **four million** bags of rubbish.

When we all join forces and show we **love where we live**, the difference we can make is huge, instilling a sense of pride across communities, their desire to live in clean and attractive places and actively contribute to transforming, enhancing and maintaining our streets, parks, coastline waterways and countryside.

Please visit keepbritaintidy.org from 14 February to make your pledge.

As we mark a special milestone in 2025 with the tenth Great British Spring Clean, which the School Clean runs alongside, we're highlighting that **the environment belongs to everyone**, and encouraging everyone to **love where they live**.

We're calling on communities and individuals across the country to join us and take action to protect the neighbourhoods, parks, and open spaces around us, making them places to be proud of.

86% of participants felt they were **part of a national movement**, taking action to tackle litter

81% of participants agreed that taking part **helped to improve their mood**.

78% of participants **felt empowered** to make a change for good.



Brought to you by



Headline partner



Media partners



SEND UPDATES



Tandridge Family Centre

The last Friday of
each month
10.30-12.00

Connect Café Coffee Morning for SEN Parents

Come along to the Tandridge Family Centre and meet other parents and carers with SEN children. Share your experiences, struggles, ideas and tips in a supportive environment.

2025 Dates

31st Jan, 28th Feb, 28th March, 25th April, 30th May, 27th June
this is not a playgroup, but young children are welcome.

For more
information scan
the QR code or
call: 01883
723496



Tandridge Family Centre, Wolf's Wood,
Oxted, Surrey
RH8 0HJ

BARNARD'S

Changing childhoods.
Changing lives.

FOREST SCHOOL DONATIONS

As we develop our Forest School Provision we are keen to gather donations of the following items. Please can any items be passed on to Mrs Winsor (Year 3 teacher).

- Sticks, any shape and size, bundled and put in a bag.
- Wood from tree cuttings.
- Old metal buckets- even if it has holes! Old metal cake tins.
- Old cuts of carpet too so I can make a home for mini beasts.
- Old string/ rope/ wool.



EARTH HOUR

