



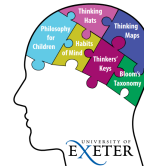
HILLCROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ashridge Way, Morden, Surrey, SM4 4EE

Tel: 020 8542 6936

info@hillcross.merton.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Lisa Francis



Wednesday 14th June 2023

Whole School Topic 2023



Dear Families,

Hillcross Whole School Topic –Family Team Competition

The whole school topic has begun! The children have already enjoyed the launch assembly and our 'Wear it Wild!' event. We are proud to announce we have raised £233 through our voluntary contribution buckets and this money will be going to the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). We are looking forward to sharing our work each week across the whole school community through our Twitter page and Year group website pages.

Every year, during the Whole School Topic, we hold a family competition. This year however we have decided to mix things up a little! Our competition this year will be a Year group competition where children, staff and family members all join together to develop an area of the school grounds. Through our topic focus on sustainability and how we can help and protect our planet, we also wanted to focus on our own school environment. We are so incredibly lucky to have such wonderful grounds to learn in and we want to develop these even more! Each Year Group has been assigned a key area of our environment to evaluate and improve. The children will be fully involved in planning and developing these areas to create a more natural, environmentally and wildlife friendly area. With a real focus on upcycling, naturally resourcing and planting, each area will then be developed by the children, staff and families.

The Planning stage

This week the children and staff will be researching, planning and designing their areas. In the week Beginning 19th June, next week, we will be inviting families into school at agreed times, see below, to look at the children's designs and ideas. We will require your help and input to decide how we can act on our ideas and will draw on your knowledge, skills and contacts to make the plans a reality! We will develop a wish list of resources and materials that parents and school will need to source and gather ready for week 4.

Date	Year group	Timing
Monday 19th June	PM/EDO Nursery , Reception	2.30pm
Tuesday 20th June	Year 1 and Year 2	2.30pm
Wednesday 21st June	Year 3 & 6	2.30pm
Thursday 22nd June	Year 5 & 4	2.30pm
Friday 23rd June	Nursery AM	10.45am
For families who are not able to attend the Team planning discussion, we will be uploading our year group plans to Google Classroom. You can then communicate with us about how you can get involved.		

Visit our Website: www.hillcross.merton.sch.uk





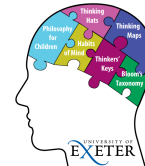
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No need to sign up to these sessions, we just ask that you arrive at 2.20pm, on the day of your child's year group planning session, at the school office, AM nursery parents please arrive at 10.40am on the morning of your planning session. The year group staff will then come and collect you 5 mins prior to the start of your session to escort you to the classroom. Please be aware that the session will start at 2.30pm (or 10.45am for AM Nursery parents) and if you arrive later than 2.40pm (or 10.55am for AM Nursery parents) you will not be able to access the session.

Actioning the plans

In the week beginning 3rd July, we will then be inviting families to sign up to a session of 'Taking Action', which will involve us all beginning to develop our year group areas. We would like to accommodate as many families as possible to come in and support this event so we will be offering the following dates and times.

Team Action Dates	Year group	Time slot
Monday 3rd July	Nursery PM/EDO & Reception	1.30-3pm
Tuesday 4th July	Year 1 & Year 6	1.30-3pm
Wednesday 5th July	Year 2 & 5	1.30-3pm
Thursday 6th July	Year 3 & 4	1.30-3pm
Friday 7th July	Nursery AM	9am- 10.30am

Please be aware that due to this being a practical and action packed session, it would not be suitable for younger siblings to attend. We may also look at some dates in the week beginning 10th July, if the project needs more time to be completed. If you would like to help but are not able to make these dates, please email info@hillcross and we will organise a mutually convenient time.

Judging

Winners will be announced at our Whole School Topic Finale, Monday 17th July. The judges will be our ECO Committee members, Almaz Ennis- Morris (ECO schools lead), Sharon Furlong, (ECO schools lead governor) and Lisa Francis. The judging will look at how eco-friendly the areas are, how sustainable and durable the new items are and how much has been recycled and reused to create and develop these spaces. The winning Year group will win a financial contribution to further develop their area, along with a year group celebration event.

I am sure you will agree that this topic will provide the children with some truly memorable experiences and valuable learning opportunities. We are also keen for the topic to leave a positive mark on our own environment as well as reaching out and supporting some local, national and global charities and organisations. Together we can make change happen!

Yours sincerely,

Steph Mayar

Whole School Topic Lead

Assistant Head Teacher [Visit our Website: www.hillcross.merton.sch.uk](http://www.hillcross.merton.sch.uk)

