Hillcross Primary School



2025 Welcome Meeting Updates

Think, Nurture, Thrive and Be Proud!



Welcome to Year Six

Lee Christy
AHT
Teaching and Learning
Class Teacher
Team Maple



Sophie Martin Maths Leader Class Teacher Team Juniper

Yuliya Constantinou

Teaching Assistant (Both Teams)

Hanka Selcuk

Teaching Assistant (Both Teams)

Attendance



There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a child misses puts them at a disadvantage and can affect their educational outcomes. Learning is a cumulative process and therefore it is not just the 7-8 lessons worth of learning that a child loses by being absent for one day – not being part of the lesson creates gaps in children's knowledge, skills and understanding that puts them at a disadvantage in future lessons. There is no time in the already packed school curriculum for staff to re-teach lessons to children who have been absent. As a result, each missed day can lead to progressively lower achievement, a lack of confidence and poor self-esteem. Longer absences such as visits to relatives and family holidays compound this significantly, yet there are 175 non-school days a year to spend as family time, visits, holiday and other appointments.



Punctuality



- **Punctuality** is also **crucial to ensuring a relaxed and smooth start to the day**. The staff will **carry out specific work every morning with the specific children**, so please try to arrive as close to **8.30am** as you can.
- School starts at 8.30am each morning (indicated by the school bell).
- At 8.45am a second bell rings and this means that all classroom doors and school
 gates will be locked. Registers are closed so if you arrive on or after the second
 school bell you will need to take your child to the school office to sign in and they
 will be recorded as late- this can upset children greatly too.
- School finishes at 3pm, gates will open soon before. Children will be dismissed directly from their class doors to a known adult. If someone different is collecting your child, please inform staff beforehand as we will not let children go with another adult without your permission they will also have to know the unique safeguarding password that you put on your school admissions form.
- **School gates are closed at 3.10pm** so if you do not enter and exit between these times, you will have access to the Ashridge entrance only.

Communication



There are three places that parents should look to ensure they are kept up to date with all relevant information about school life.

- Your My Child At School (MCAS) Account/App although the App may be more convenient, we recommend that families log on to their MCAS account from a desktop as regularly as they can as many parents have told us that this is much easier to navigate.
 - a. **Announcements** are short time related messages/updates that will be automatically removed when they are no longer relevant e.g. cancellation of an extracurricular club.
 - b. **Products/Store:** In the Browser, click 'Products, All'. In the App, press 'Store' at the bottom of the screen (Products will appear). In these sections you will find information about events, purchase opportunities and the Hillcross Children's Fund. You also book/purchase tickets for school led events from this section e.g. year group performances, film nights, discos and contributions to the whole school topic etc.

Top tip: If you can only purchase one of these items, it will disappear from the store when you have bought it.

- c. **Trips:** information regarding school trips and visits is sent via email (see section below). On receipt of the email you go to the Trip section and the trip/visit will be in the available section, once you have made your voluntary contribution your booking will appear in the enrolled/named section.
- d. **Wraparound Care:** you would go to this section if you would like to book an ad hoc (one-off) booking for Breakfast Club or After School Club (please indicate 5pm or 6pm pick up). If you would like to book a permanent place at either of these provisions you must email info@hillcross to make this request. You can book Holiday club sessions directly from here.

Communication



My Child At School Account/ App Continued

- e. **Clubs:** information regarding Extra-curricular enrichment clubs is sent via email (see section below). On receipt of the email you go to the Clubs section and the clubs option will be in the available to book at the specified time, once you have booked and paid for the club, your booking will appear in the enrolled/named section.
 - Top tip 1: This should not be booked as a families childcare option as they can be cancelled at short notice.
 - Top tip 2: Parents should make a note of when the different clubs are and are not running, the 'next booked session' will tell you when the next session will be.
- f. **Dinner/s:** This is where you book your child a school dinner if you would like the kitchen to prepare a meal for them.e. You select the date, choose school meal, halal meal or vegetarian and press submit.
 - Top tip 1: Booked meals will then turn green.
 - Top tip 2: It is significantly easier to book this via the browser! e. You select the date, choose school meal, halal meal or vegetarian and press submit. Top tip: Booked meals will then turn green. Top Tip 2: It is significantly easier to book this via the browser!
- 2. **The personal email inbox you used to open your Bromcom account** we will send emails when there is a lot of information to share and/or if the message contains information that you may wish to refer back to over time.
- 3. **The Weekly Bulletin published every Friday** an announcement is sent to alert you it has been uploaded and you can go to the website: Virtual Office; Bulletin/Newsletter to read it. The link is here for your ease: https://www.hillcross.merton.sch.uk/virtual-office/newsletter. From September we will be able to put the link to the Bulletin directly into the announcement.

School Uniform



School Uniform

- Maroon long sleeved cardigan or V-neck sweatshirt with school logo.
- White or maroon short sleeved polo shirt (with or without logo) or white shirt/blouse.
- Grey tailored pinafore dress, skirt, skort, shorts or trousers. Clothing should be knee length and tight pencil skirts are not appropriate as they are too restrictive.
- White, grey or black socks or tights (no leggings to be worn under
- · If your child wears cycling shorts, or similar, under a school skirt or dress, these must be white, black or grey and must not be seen below
- Plain black shoes (not sling-back, open toed or heeled) or trainers (no coloured markings) with Velcro fastening until children can manage their own shoelaces/buckle. No boots, plimsolls, canvas pumps or coloured trainers.

Warm Weather Options

- · Pink/white or red/white checked summer dress (no all in one or 'hybrid' versions)
- White/black closed toe leather sandals (in summer).

Other compulsory Uniform Items

- Hillcross Logo School Rucksack (Small rucksacks or book bags are available for children in EYFS & KS1). One small discrete key ring may be attached to help your child identify their bag.
- Transparent Water Bottle:
 - o From September 2024, Nursery and Reception will have a maroon or white lid. Alternatively, parents can source their own transparent water bottle with a black, white, grey or maroon lid/tint. (If as an existing parent you have purchased a different coloured lid already you do not need to purchase a new one unless you want to.)
 - Year 1 to Year 6 children will have a house team coloured lid Alternatively, parents can source their own transparent water bottle in their child's house colour (see picture for colour
- Sunhat Hillcross logo hat recommended (no visors as these do not provide full protection).











PE Kit (Year 1 to Year 6)

The PE kit listed is considered to be part of our school uniform and children should wear this to school on their confirmed PE day/s. Trainers for PE should be black, but please remember how often these get lost and that they will be worn in muddy conditions, so do not send your child to school with expensive trainers

- PE sweatshirt with school logo.
- (From Sep 2024) Year 1-Year 6: a plain t-shirt in your child's house colour; nursery and reception children will wear a plain white t-shirt.
- Plain black jogging bottoms or thick black leggings (no logos).
- Plain black shorts or thick black cycling shorts no shorter than mid thigh (no logos).
- Black indoor plimsolls or trainers for indoor sports (These must not have been worn outside, as they are required to protect the gym floor).
- Black outside trainers for outdoor sports (In the sports arena or field).
- School logo drawstring PE bag to store kit.
- *Please note earrings must be removed or covered with plasters (please provide plasters).











Indoor Shoes for PE Lessons in the Gym

We ask families to purchase indoor trainers/plimsolls for use in the school gym so that if the weather does not allow for PE lessons to take place outside, the lessons can be held inside. For health and safety reasons, we cannot allow children to take part in games such as football, basketball or tag rugby in bare feet. Whilst we appreciate that there may be periods of time that Teams are lucky with the weather and all their PE lessons take place outside, we cannot predict whether or not this will be the case. If it rains and a lesson has to take place inside, if children do not have indoor footwear, they cannot take part in the lesson. You will be aware that lessons are sequential and skills are developed and built upon each week, which puts those children who miss lessons at a disadvantage.

Please remember to label all items of your child's uniform - this includes shoes, lunchboxes and water bottles.

Think, Nurture, Thrive and Be Proud!

School Values: Aspiration, Courage, Honesty, Responsibility and Respect

The Hillcross Curriculum



At Hillcross, we have designed a bespoke curriculum that is reviewed and developed over time so that it incorporates all elements of the National Curriculum whilst considering the specific needs of the children in our school community.

Careful consideration has been given to what content is crucial for our children to learn and the best contexts in which they can learn this. Our curriculum is accessible and relevant to all children and reflects and celebrates the diversity of our school community and society as a whole.

As part of our Thinking School status, we encourage children to use a wide range of vocabulary effectively to think deeply about and discuss what they encounter reading is an integral part of this.

The Hillcross Curriculum



During Year Six, we will explore 6 different topics, as well as trailblazers chosen by the children themselves.

Trailblazers are topics which the children are keen to explore and a decision is reached through a democratic vote.

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Everybody Wants To Rule The World	A Class Act	War of the Worlds	What a Wonderful World!	Gane, Set, Match	Whole School Topic

Year 6 Topics...

- Everybody Wants To Rule The World
- A Class Act
- War of the Worlds
- Peace at Last
- Game, Set, Match
- Whole School Topic

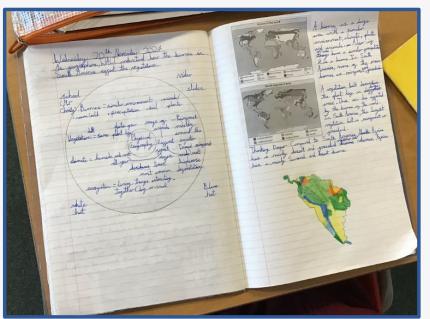


• Any Questions?

Everybody Wants To Rule The World



A Class Act

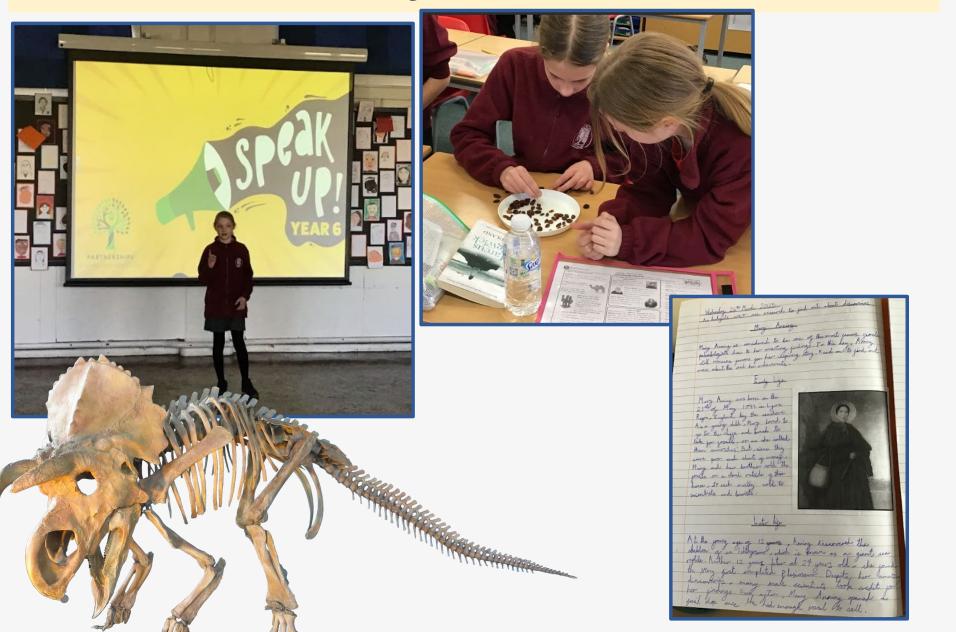




War Of The Worlds



What A Wonderful World!

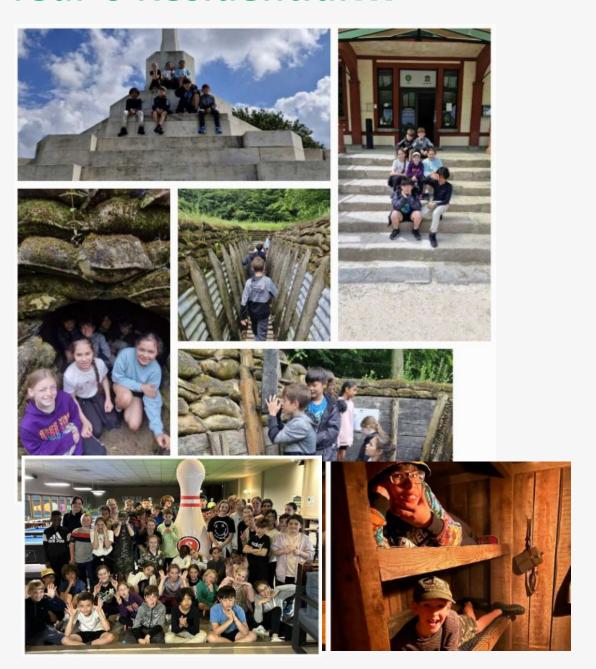


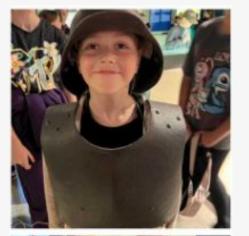
Game, Set, Match





Year 6 Residential...









Educational Visits in Year Six

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1
Tower of London	The National Gallery GAV Workshop in school	Portals to the Past World War Workshop in school	The Natural History Museum	Wimbledon* Ypres, Belgium

The Hillcross Curriculum

Our school website has an abundance of information to inform you as parents about your children's learning. Also, explore the Year Six page where you can find specific Year Six information, including pictures of our learning each week.

Knowledge Organisers

Knowledge Organisers are the 'foot soldiers' of our curriculum. They are tools to help children gain, retain and build the knowledge and skills as set out in our **curriculum intent**.

Children not only use these documents **to know more and remember more** but to make links across the curriculum.



Knowledge Organisers - here are some examples:

Hillcross Primary School

How will I keep safe when using electricitu?

- · Use the equipment safely and appropriately.
- Place your water bottle away from electricity.
- Turn off mains electricity before removing a plug.
- Adhere to any warning signs.

- Use the Don'ts equipment with wet hands.
- · Place anything into a mains plug socket.
- · Walk around the classroom with equipment.

Key Vocabulary:

Electrical circuit- A path or line through which an electrical current flows.

Do's

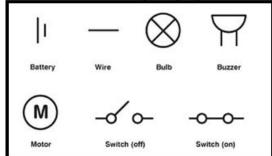
- Mains- electrical supply from power stations to households.
- Complete circuit- a complete loop of electricity
- Circuit diagram- graphical representation of an electrical circuit.
- Symbol a mark or character used to represent a component.
- Components—a part or element of the circuit.
- Cell-a device which generates electricity.
- Battery-a container consisting of one or more cells.
- Voltage—the electrical force that drives the current.
- Current- the movement of an electrical charge.

How can I make a bulb brighter or buzzer louder in my circuit? The number and voltage of cells in the circuit will change the brightness of a bulb or the volume of a buzzer. The more cells or a higher voltage will make the bulb brighter or the volume of sound a buzzer makes louder.

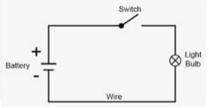
Everybody Wants To Rule The World

How does a burglar alarm work?

How can I draw a diagram of my circuit?



- Symbols are used for the components (parts) of a circuit. They are recognised across the world to ensure everyone is safe.
- The circuit is drawn with a ruler using straight lines for the wires.





Science Capital:

Lynn Conway was an American electrical engineer who designed microchips (used in electronic devices).



Year 6 Knowledge organisers

Applying Past Knowledge

This learning links with the lessons in year 4:

- Identifying appliances that use electricity.
- Creating a simple circuit to light a bulb or sound a
- Understanding what happens when the circuit is broken.

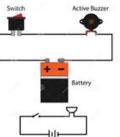




How does a burglar alarm work?

- A burglar alarm works by using a switch.
- An alarm doesn't sound when there is a break in the circuit (the switch is off) and the current is unable to flow. The alarm sounds when there is a full circuit (the switch is on) and the current can flow around the circuit.
- · The switch must be made using both conductors and insulators of electricity.





Knowledge Organisers - here are some examples:

Hillcross Primary School

Everybody Wants To Rule The World

Year 6 Knowledge organisers 2024





Will I be punished for what I have done?

Applying Past Knowledge

Continue to develop chronology (KS2); Note connections, contrasts and trends over time (Year 5 - The Maya); and continue to use historical vocabulary to deepen understanding (KS2)

How can I find out what happened if I disagreed with the monarchy?

- Going against the monarchy is called Treason.
- Throughout history there has been horrendous punishments for treason.
- We can use primary and secondary sources to tell us what happened to people who
 committed treason.

What are the similarities and differences between crimes and punishments of the past?

Roman period

The punishment would most probably be being placed in a sack of snakes and thrown into a nearby river or lake.

Medieval Period

The usual punishment for was beheading if you were a noble, or hanging, drawing and quartering if you were an ordinary person.

Tudor Period

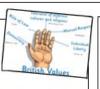
Executions, such as beheading, being hung, drawn and quartered or being burnt at the stake were punishments in this period.

Victorian Period

The Treason Act 1842 is an Act of the Parliament of passed early in the reign of Queen Victoria.

The police force was formed in 1829

The crimes that have been committed have tended to be very similar throughout our history, however the punishments have changed.



Has the past always treated people fairly?

During Tudor England, beggars and the homeless were sent to the stocks, whipped or branded (with a V for Vagabond on their forehead).

The Elizabethans believed in magic - both good and bad-but witches were punished.

Most witches were believed to be poor, single women who had noone to protect them. Witches were punished because it was believed they had made a pact with the devil.

They would punish witches by: ducking them in water. If the person floated, it was because the water had rejected them and they were guilty. If they sank, they were innocent. Of course, this meant that many 'innocent' people drowned!

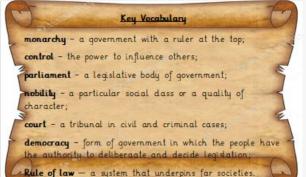




P4C Lessons:

What happens if I disagree with someone?

Should significant figures from the past have received the punishment they did?



Monitoring of Progress



In Year Six, children's progress and attainment are measured against statements directly linked to the National Curriculum Programmes of Study each term. This performance data and your child's progress is communicated to parents at parents' evening and in the end of year reports.

Termly Progress Celebration evenings also offer families the opportunity to come in and see the learning in the children's Writing, Maths and Topic books. Staff won't be available to speak to you during these evenings, it is however an opportunity for you and your children to sit and look at their learning (and the learning environment) together.

At various points across the year, you will either be invited into school or be able to see them in videos (via Google Classroom) to celebrate learning. This includes a Christmas Carol Service.

The Learning Environment



At Hillcross we believe the classroom (or any given learning environment) should be organised to support children's access to and engagement with their learning, helping to build the children's independence as a learner. A positive and safe learning environment will help to ensure children can focus on their learning, develop positive attitudes and give them the 'space' and confidence to take risks and meet challenges set.

We involve children in the creation their class environment to create a sense of ownership which supports teaching and learning and promotes young children's physical, mental and emotional well being. Clear routines and rules will be displayed in the classroom to ensure all children are upholding our values and high behaviour expectations. The children create the Class Charter (linked to the The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child- UNCRC) together.

An environment is not just a physical space; it is a 'feeling', a 'place to be'.

Class Charter for Team Maple

As <u>Rights Holders</u> , we have the	As <u>Rights Holders</u> , we will	As <u>Duty Bearers</u> , the Adults will	
Right to:	Respect the Rights by:	Respect the Rights by:	
Article Article Article Article Article Article 12 RESPECT FOR CHILDREN'S VIEWS Article	 Treat others with respect. Paying attention during learning- eye contact and voices off. Keep ourselves and others safe through our actions. Respecting others opinions through the kind words we use. Being fair with each other. Having high aspirations of ourselves. Not distracting others. 	 Firm but fair with behaviour. Show empathy and compassion. Kind. High expectations. Plans learning carefully. Treats everyone as individuals. Good sense of humour. Keeps us safe. Believes in us. 	

School Values: Aspiration, Courage, Honesty, Responsibility and Respect

Class Charter for Team Juniper

As <u>Rights Holders</u>, we have the Right to:

As <u>Rights Holders</u>, we will Respect the Rights by:

As <u>Duty Bearers</u>, the Adults will Respect the Rights by:

Articles 28 and 29





 Learn inside and outside of the classroom

Articles 3, 19 and 27







Be safe

Articles 2, 12 and 13







 Be respected by all members of our community

- Aspiring to do our best and aim high.
- Always use a positive mindset.
- Supporting all children's learning within the class.
- Working collaboratively with others, staying on task.
- Respecting and listening to each other's opinions and ideas.
- Respecting each others' right to learn.
- Saying 'please' and 'thank you'.
- Allowing ourselves and others' thinking time.
- Looking after the resources and keeping the classroom tidy.

- Respecting and listening to everyone's opinions, ideas and thoughts.
- Encouraging all members in Team Juniper to respect each others' right to learn.
- Promoting a calm, inspiring and engaging learning environment.
- Ensuring high expectations for everyone in Team Juniper.
- Encouraging every child to aim high and strive for success.
- Being there to listen to questions, worries and concerns.
- Making reasonable adjustments where appropriate.

Think, Nurture, Thrive and Be Proud!

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Statutory Assessment Test (SATs)

Key dates: Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May 2026

Your children will sit the following assessments during that week:

- Reading Assessment
- Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Assessment
- Spelling Assessment
- Maths Paper 1 Arithmetic
- Maths Paper 2 Reasoning
- Maths Paper 3 Reasoning

In summer, writing and science will be assessed by teachers and reported to the local authority and the government.

Home Learning

Home Learning is set on a Friday afternoon via Google Classroom.

There will be a Maths, Reading and Grammar workbook sent home with your child every Friday and we will give feedback in class every Wednesday.

Weekly Spelling Test linked to the spelling rule.

Our Hillcross Pledges



The Hillcross Handwriting Pledge

Taking care with our handwriting enables us to communicate with clarify and precision.

As a school, we pledge to teach and demonstrate a fully cursive style and to give you opportunities to learn and practise this every week at school and at home.

In return, you pledge to write using our school cursive style.

The Alphabet

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Ga Hh Ii Ji Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qa Rr Sa Tt Uu Vr Ww Xx Yy Zz



The Hillcross Reading Pledge Reading is power. We read today for a powerful tomorrow.



As a school, we pledge to share a 'Class Reader' with you every day for 10 minutes.

This could be a narrative, non-fiction or poem.

In return, **you pledge** to read at home for a minimum of 10 minutes every day (we encourage you to read for longer whenever you can).

By following this pledge, you will read over 140,000 words every year! This will not only help you improve as a reader but as a learner.



The Hillcross Times Table Pledge

It is better to solve one problem five different ways than to solve five problems one way.



As a school, we pledge to devote 10 minutes every day to practise times tables. This could be through a recall game or a teaching strategy.

In return, **you pledge** to practise your times tables at home, every day, for a minimum of 10 minutes.

By following this pledge, you will become more efficient mathematicians and be confident in applying your knowledge to different contexts in mathematics.

Healthy School



Hillcross has **Healthy Schools Status**. We are very committed to maintaining this standard and aim to promote and support healthy lifestyles and choices for the children, their families and ourselves.

- Year 6 children will engage in two PE sessions each week. PE kits are a vital part of school equipment to help teach the pupils about safety, health and hygiene. Year 6 children will be asked to come into school dressed in their PE kits on a Monday and Tuesday. Children will also need to have a pair of indoor plimsolls or trainers to be kept in school. These will be worn in the gym as and when the PE session is lead in here.
- All children should have a balanced diet, which includes plenty of water and fruit, alongside their three main meals. Breakfast is essential and we urge all families to ensure their children have a suitable breakfast before coming to school. Throughout their day they will have regular access to fresh drinking water via their water bottle to keep them hydrated and alert for learning.

Other important Information



Arrival and Dismissal

A smooth and stress free start to the day is essential for the children's wellbeing and development. In Years 5 and 6, children are allowed to walk to and from school on their own. If you would like to give your child permission to do this, please complete the form on our school website: https://www.hillcross.merton.sch.uk/virtual-office/forms/permission-to-walk-home-year-5-and-6 Permission will then be granted by the discretion of Lisa Francis. Children who walk to and from school by themselves may bring in a mobile phone and this will be locked away safely throughout the day.

Friends of Hillcross (PTA)

We are extremely lucky to have an active and hard working PTA, who organise a number of exciting fundraising activities throughout the year. Every parent or guardian with a child in the school are automatically members of the PTA. The aim of the PTA is to bring together parents, carers, teachers and others in the community who have an interest in supporting the school. Our main objective is to enhance the education of the children in the school. We do this by raising funds to enable the school to purchase the 'extras' that cannot be funded from the school budget. More information can be found on the school website.

Hillcross Children's Fund

The purpose of the Hillcross Children's Fund is to provide additional materials and opportunities to enhance the learning experiences of our children. Contributions can be made by clicking on the QR Code displayed on the website and around the school, by Parentmail, by cash/cheque, through vouchers from Charity Trusts or by monthly standing order. We recommend setting up a monthly standing order as this is a much easier way to contribute. We suggest a contribution of £10 per month (£120 per year) or you can choose any amount that is affordable to you.

The 100 Club

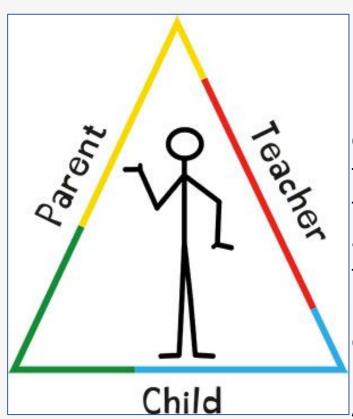
The Hillcross 100 Club as a fun way to raise additional funds for the school whilst also giving those who take part in the lottery style experience the chance to win some cash prizes. It is a monthly draw. Parents can pay £5 per month and are allocated a number (you can have more than one number if you wish to). Each month there are three prizes and the more members we have the more money you could win.

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Last but definitely not least...

Collaboration is key



Educating a child is a **team effort** and all three members of the team, child, parent and teacher, **need to play their part**. Each player occupying a corner of the triangle has a vital role to play. Take the child out of the picture and everything falls flat. Without the teacher, the triangle falls over and the same applies if we remove the parent. A triangle is a **stable structure** and can take on many forms and sizes and, because every child is different, it has to be so.

Please refer to our <u>Home School Agreement</u> and Acceptable Use Policies (<u>Child</u> and <u>Parent</u>)