

# Hillcross Primary School: Whole School Newsletter 5

## Vision 2025:

To enable a resilient school community of compassionate global citizens, with a focus on well-being and mental health, fairness and environmental sustainability.

Dear Families,

The spring term is shortest of the school year and yet so much has happened! This newsletter is packed full of information about the term—there is so much to celebrate! The girls cricket club has been a huge success and there is a flyer towards the end of the newsletter providing details of the opportunity available at the Old Ruts to join the girls team.

Whilst we are looking forward to resting and spending time with family and friends over the Easter break, we are also looking forward to the summer term. We have incorporated the Parental Communication Bulletin which contains lots of information about the term ahead into this newsletter—please make sure you refer to this so that you are kept up to date. There will be a few changes to our staffing structure after Easter. We say good-bye to Caroline Lei and Janet Butt, who have been covering in Reception and Nursery and welcome back Rebecca Mitchell from maternity leave.

The children will enjoy two Trailblazer Topics and a Whole School Topic in the summer term—more information will follow on the Whole School Topic after the holidays. In the first half of the term Year 6 children will be taking their SATs, the whole school will enjoy a Malawi Day (read on for more info on this) and Year 4 and Year 6 children will enjoy their residential trips. In the second half of the summer term the children will take part in the sports days, Y1 children will complete the Phonics Screening Check, Y4 children will complete the Multiplication Check, the Friends of Hillcross will be hosting the summer fair—it is a little earlier this year on Saturday 15th June so please save the date and do get involved as much as you can, the more people who help the better the event will be and you can still enjoy the day! We have also provisionally booked the arrival of the outdoor classroom for June and have requested that it be installed during a school week so the children can watch it being constructed.

March and April host many religious festivals including Holi, Easter, Eid ul Fitrl, Pesach, and Vaisakhi. Greetings and best wishes to those in our school communities who celebrate them.

Best Wishes, *Lisa Francis*, Headteacher

## Hillcross Parental Communication Bulletin - Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March

### Whole School

#### Diary Dates

**Monday 15th April** - Children return to school for Summer Term 1

**Thursday 18th April** - Pre-loved uniform and new water bottle sale 8:30am

**Saturday 27th April** - FoH Colour Run <https://shorturl.at/osuRZ>

**Monday 6th May** - Bank Holiday, School Closed

Click here to view key dates: <https://www.hillcross.merton.sch.uk/virtual-office/calendar>

#### Handwriting Pens—Thank You!!

A huge thank you to Mr Saini-White, a parent of a child in Year 1 and a child in Year 3, who runs the South London Stationers and Printers in Morden. He has come to the rescue by negotiating favourable terms with his suppliers so that we can buy the preferred handwriting pens, and refills, for our children in KS2. South London Stationers and Printers in Morden is an independent business offering school supplies, office stationery and printing services. So as a thank you for his help, do think of them if you need stationery or printing for your work or home life.

#### Friends of Hillcross Communications

FOH are keen to ensure all parents are kept informed. They have set up a **one way, announcement only** WhatsApp group where details and reminders of their events will be shared. 86 people have signed up so far— if you would like to join, the link is <https://chat.whatsapp.com/DXIBzalijsEUF6fpSwj3Z>



**Nurturing our children to think critically and creatively within a collaborative community.**

School Values: aspiration, challenge, compassion, responsibility and respect



## Hillcross Parental Communication Bulletin - Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March

### Whole School

#### Termly Discos

The school disco is a very popular event with the children. We provide this as an additional opportunity each term and our staff and the Friends of Hillcross work exceptionally hard both before and during the events to make sure the children have fun and are safe, without them the discos cannot take place. In order to ensure the discos can continue, whilst also minimising the frustrations and upset that has been felt by some members of our community, we will be introducing some changes.

#### Changes to the way in which parents purchase disco tickets

Starting from Summer 2024, disco tickets will be purchased via ParentMail so that school staff can check quickly on the day who has and has not paid. This will also mean that we can keep ticket sales open until 9am on the morning of each disco and still have registers in place by the end of the school day to ensure safeguarding measures are in place.

The new system will mean that the cost of the tickets will increase slightly in order to take account of the ParentMail charges that are applied by the system and to accommodate the additional workload for school staff who will administer the event on behalf of Friends of Hillcross. This is because Friends of Hillcross member do not and cannot have access rights to ParentMail.

Information about the date of the discos and how to book a ticket for your child will continue to be shared regularly prior to the event via direct ParentMail, the Weekly Parental Bulletin and on the Friends of Hillcross events page. Please make sure you read/check these regularly so that your child does not miss out. If you have any difficulty accessing ParentMail, please contact the school office prior to the deadline and they will help you to resolve the issue.

#### Changes to the way we operate the tuck shop at the KS2 disco

A further challenge faced by the Friends of Hillcross volunteers is the operation of the tuck shop, a very busy experience at the best of times but at the last disco some children brought in excess of £20 to spend and two children took tuck without paying. These incidents were reported and dealt with but took up unnecessary staff time. Therefore, the ticket cost of the Phase 2 disco has also been increased to include £2 towards tuck items of their choice. We are not able to offer a choice of pricing for those children who choose not to buy tuck or who do not spend up to the full amount but parents should liaise with the school if their child has special dietary requirement.

The dates of the next disco are:

- **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June** for EYFS (Nursery and Reception) - 3-4pm
- **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June** for Phase 1 (Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3) – 3-4pm
- **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June** for Phase 2 (Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6) - 4.15-5.45pm

**The cost for EYFS and Phase 1 will be £6.50.**

**The cost for Phase 2 will be £8.50.**

#### Disney Lion King Tickets

For families that purchased Lion King tickets for Thursday 2nd May. Please be advised that the theatre will be sending the tickets to school after the Easter holiday. Providing they are received on time, we endeavour to disseminate these to you by Tuesday 23rd April.

#### Amazon Wishlist—Thank You!!

From when we launched Amazon wish lists in September to 20.03.24 donations for each year group have equated to the following: EYFS £303.60; Year 1 £387.47; Year 2 £124.61; Year 3 £116.98; Year 4 £178.92; Year 5 £176.54, Year 6 £114.87, SEND £95.35, Copse £96.19; with **a grand total of Total £1594.53**

# Happy Easter

**We have been revisiting the Easter Story and the Christian holiday of Easter during our collective worship sessions.** Easter is a Christian holiday celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ. According to Christian history, Jesus was crucified on a Friday (Good Friday) and rose again three days later on Easter Sunday. Easter occurs after 40 days of Lent where Christians fast, pray and undertake acts of penance. Easter is considered the holiest day of the year by many Christians. It does not occur on the same day each year but is always celebrated on the Sunday after the first full moon, which is on or after March 21st. This means Easter is celebrated in either March or April, with the earliest possible date being March 22nd and the latest being April 11th.



## What is the history of Easter?

Because Easter is the celebration of Jesus' resurrection, the history of Easter starts in the year in which Jesus died almost 2000 years ago. Prior to Easter, similar pagan celebrations did take place around this time of year. The earliest known record of people celebrating Easter is from 2 A.D. This is because Easter actually started as a pagan festival celebrating the coming of spring in the Northern Hemisphere. Following the evolution of Christianity, Easter time became associated with Jesus' resurrection.

Easter is the celebration of Jesus conquering death when he was resurrected from the dead, and this is connected with the celebration of spring arriving and bringing new life, leaving the cold winter behind. It is generally a public holiday in countries with a large Christian population. While Easter is celebrated throughout the world, some Easter traditions are removed from the Christian significance of the holiday. Instead, the presence of eggs to represent life and the arrival of Spring, through to the giving out of chocolate eggs for Easter have become more of a focus for some people.

The Easter Bunny is a legendary Easter gift-giving character that originated in Germany. In some traditions, children put out their empty baskets at night for the Easter Bunny to fill up while they sleep. The myth comes from a German tale about a woman who used to decorate eggs and leave them for children to find. As famine was plaguing the land at the time, eggs were a valuable gift! It's claimed that children saw a bunny rabbit hopping away as they found the eggs, and assumed it was the bunny who had left the eggs for them. The very first Easter baskets were designed to imitate a bird's nest when eggs were placed inside.

At the Spring Fair the children had the chance to take part in an Easter Egg Hunt, win a chocolate egg in the tombola, make an Easter/Spring themed pizza or an Easter/Spring themed biscuit.

It was a wonderful opportunity for the Hillcross Community to come together. Thank you to the Friends of Hillcross and all families who supported the event for making it such a huge success.







# Aspiration Challenge Compassion

Respect Responsibility



## Spring Fair

Thank you to all our families that participated in the Bake-off Competition and for the generous contributions for the Spring Fair. At the event, children enjoyed decorating biscuits with different coloured icing and meeting our Local PCSO's Robyn and Sandra! New for this year was the opportunity to create their very own Easter pizza that they could bake at home. As always, the Easter Hunt was very popular, along with the tombola's where lots of Easter treats and refreshments were won.

Once again, a very big thank you to the Friends of Hillcross for their commitment to planning this event and to all of the volunteers and staff that supported. Collectively the event raised £2024.91 but the real success was the wonderful community atmosphere that was enjoyed by all.



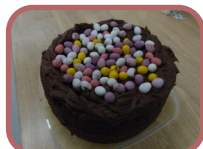
## Bake Off Competition Winners

As you can see from the photos, the Bake-Off competition entries were absolutely amazing and it was no mean feat to determine the winners in each category due to the high standard of all the creations. The winners that received the golden handshake along with a small prize, were informed during assembly on Thursday 28th March.

Thank you to everyone that participated, it looks like this may be a Hillcross favourite for future events!

### Large Cake Winners

1<sup>st</sup> Arlo



2<sup>nd</sup> Lucy



3<sup>rd</sup> Lowen



### Cupcake Winners

1<sup>st</sup> Ivy & Astrid



2<sup>nd</sup> Reyaa



3<sup>rd</sup> Ayla



### Biscuits and Traybake

1<sup>st</sup> Oliver



2<sup>nd</sup> Logan



3<sup>rd</sup> Kaylee & Kiera





## Aspiration Challenge Compassion

Respect Responsibility



The holy month of Ramadan will come to an end during the school holidays and Eid celebrations will be enjoyed by many of our families. Eid al-Fitr also known as just Eid, is a religious holiday that occurs at the end of Ramadan. It marks the ending of a long fasting period for (non-exempt) Muslim adults. The meaning of Eid al-Fitr, translated from Arabic, means 'the feast of the breaking of the fast'. This celebration at the end of the fast allows Muslims to show their gratitude to Allah for giving them the strength to complete their fast. This is not just a fast of food and drink but of impure or unkind thoughts and actions too.

Celebrations continue for one, two or three days, and people wish each other Eid Mubarak (Blessed Eid) or Eid Said (Happy Eid). Celebrations vary by country and by family but include gatherings to view the new moon, decorating homes inside and out, family visits, eating special sweet foods, neighbourhood fairs, visits to amusement parks, wearing new clothes and giving and receiving gifts. Eid al-Fitr will be celebrated this year during the week beginning 8th April 2024.

Eid will be celebrated at Hillcross during the first week back after the Easter holidays (week beginning 15<sup>th</sup> April), families of all faiths are encouraged to join in. We will start the week with a Collective Worship led by staff, parents and children who celebrate Eid with their families and we will finish all Collective Worship sessions that week with an Eid prayer or message.

Every classroom has already been given a Ramadan lantern and we would like to add additional decorations to our classrooms. During the school holidays, we encourage all children to make decorations in the shape of moons and stars that can be threaded onto ribbon to make Eid bunting or a mobile, depending upon how many the children bring in.

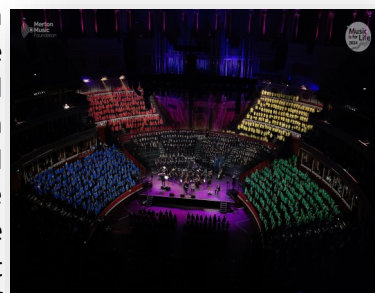
Children are also invited to make and send Eid Cards – as with Christmas cards a short space of time will be given at the end of each day during the first week back for children to give out cards if they have chosen to do so.

Many families celebrate Eid by giving to less fortunate people in the community. Each team will have a charity jar that they can fill with loose change throughout the week. They will research and choose a local charity and will donate the money they raise to them.

If you have any Eid decorations, books or other resources that we can use to help our in-school celebrations, please do get in touch.

### Y5 Royal Albert Hall - Music is for Life Performance

Merton Music Foundation showcased the amazing talent across Merton with a spectacular concert held at The Royal Albert Hall. It was an incredible experience for the Y5 children to be involved in and children who attend MMF orchestras and bands outside of school also participated in the event so many other children from the Hillcross community were also involved. Year 5 have worked with other local schools, Soo Bishop (from MMF), Pete Churchill (one of the composers of the specially commissioned piece called 'Turning Points') and the soloists in the piece as part of the massed choir. As well as the awe-inspiring opportunity to perform at the world famous Royal Albert Hall, the children gained a real understanding of the effort that goes into a large production and the benefits of singing in a large group with an orchestra.



**Nurturing our children to think critically and creatively within a collaborative community.**

School Values: aspiration, challenge, compassion, responsibility and respect

## The Hillcross Colour Run

—help us to join in with the most famous part of the Holi Festival  
on Saturday 27th April, 12-3pm



### What is Holi?

Also known as the **Festival of Colours**, the **Festival of Spring**, and the **Festival of Love**, Holi is primarily a [Hindu](#) festival, celebrated by followers of the Hindu religion. However, people from all kinds of backgrounds and religions around the world are encouraged to have fun and take part in the Holi celebrations! Although now a worldwide celebration, Holi is mostly acknowledged in countries in Asia, such as India, Nepal, and Bangladesh. It is a celebration during which people famously throw colourful powder and water at one another!

The Holi festival takes place over one night and the following day. In the days before the festival begins, people will stock up on supplies, such as food, drinks, pigments, and wood to create an effigy for the bonfire.

The first night is known as Holika Dahan and takes place on the first full moon (Purnima) of Phalguna in the Hindu calendar, which roughly translates to February/March in the Gregorian calendar. This is when people light a bonfire, dance, sing, perform rituals, and burn an effigy.

The next morning is known as Rangwali Holi, or simply as Holi, and is the most famous part of the festival. Throughout the day, street carnivals are held where people celebrate, dance, and throw colourful powder (called [gulal](#)) and water at one another! In the evening, they dress up and visit family and friends to share meals and celebrate together.

The Holi festival has many meanings attached to it. It signifies the end of winter and the beginning of spring, the blossoming of love, a celebration of friends and family, the triumph of good over evil, and the chance to make amends and repair broken relationships.

### What is the Hillcross Colour Run?



**The Friends of Hillcross are keen to support all school initiatives and wanted to find ways to help the school increase awareness of the different religions that are represented in our community. Linking to the Festival of Holi, we will be holding a colour run at school in order to raise money towards the Design and Technology Workshop whilst joining in the fun of Holi celebrations (we appreciate the dates don't quite match but we thought April might be a bit warmer!!).**



We are very excited to announce our partnership with a local charity African Vision Malawi and Mlumbwira School. The partnership will give an opportunity for a linking of two cultures and a unique learning experience for children in both schools.

Each year we will be visited from a representative from the charity who will collect letters and educational packs from our children to share with children at Mlumbwira School. On their return from Malawi, African Vision Malawi will share similar packs that the children at Mlumbwira have created for us. We hope the partnership will broaden our children's understanding of life outside the UK but also enable them to recognise the similarities they have with the children despite very different experiences.

To launch our partnership, we will be having a 'Malawi day' on Monday 29th April. During the day children will learn all about Malawi and what it is like to be a child in Malawi as well as produce work on this year's partnership theme of 'Food and growing'. The children's projects will be collated to share with our partner school. On this day children are invited to come to school wearing the colours of the Malawi flag red, green and/or black. We will be asking for a minimum charity donation of £2 per child which will go directly to African Vision Malawi and Mlumbwira School and fund vital basic school resources such as stationary and uniform.

Further information about the work African Vision Malawi do can be found on their website <https://www.africanvision.org.uk/>

Thank you in advance for your support.





Aspiration Challenge Compassion

Respect Responsibility



# Time is all around us, all the time!

At Hillcross, we used Science Week 2024 as a '**TIME**' to delve into all things science and explore our scientific enquiry lens. Throughout the week, we were visited by some Hillcross scientists (identified by their lab coats and clipboards) and shared daily investigations for children to attempt at home, and engaged in science enquiry lessons to guide children to discover answers about the world we live in.

In our Nursery class, children had the fascinating experience of observing ducklings hatch from eggs. Meanwhile, children in Reception took on the role of problem solvers as they tried to build bridges that could balance bricks on.



Our Year 1 children used pattern seeking to investigate which materials are waterproof. By comparative testing, Year 2 explored how different materials can be changed using different forces including bending, twisting, folding and tearing.

In Year 3, the children observed over time to prove the function of the stem in plants by using food colouring in water. As chemists, our Year 4 children used fair testing to investigate the different melting points of different states of matter including chocolate, butter and ice.



As physicists, Year 5 explored how pulleys work and applied their problem solving skills to investigate how it possible to lift an equal weight using less force using Newton-metres. Taking on the role of Charles Darwin, our Year 6 children explored evolution and how bird beaks have adapted overtime using different 'beaks' to eat different foods.

Some of the many scientists in school that week set challenges as part of the Science Week investigation!



Nurturing our children to think critically and creatively within a collaborative community.  
School Values: aspiration, challenge, compassion, responsibility and respect





### The Year 2 and Year 4 Production of:



This half term, Year 2 and Year 4 children worked **collaboratively** to perform an **incredible** production of the Wizard of Oz. Year 2 children learnt choreography by Julia Legg and sang with enthusiasm and spirit!

After a lengthy audition process, Year 4 took on the acting and singing roles. We are so proud of the **determination** and **persistence** it has taken them to learn and perform their lines with such aplomb!

Rave reviews were given from children, teachers and families alike. Thank you to all the families for their support and contributions to the costumes which made the show extra special!







## Aspiration Challenge Compassion

### Respect Responsibility

#### Darren Harris Visited Hillcross

On Monday 18th March, we were visited by Darren Harris (the most capped England blind footballer). He led the school in an assembly, telling us about his childhood and his career. The children were inspired by his journey to overcome adversity and demonstrated the Hillcross values of compassion and respect when given the opportunity to ask him questions. Key Stage 2 teams took part in a workshop where they learnt how to play blind football relying on their senses of sound and touch, enabling the children to develop an even deeper respect for the challenges faced by others with a disability.



#### Learn an instrument at school with MMF

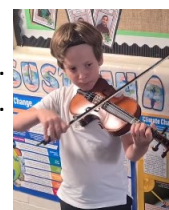


Access to instrumental tuition is transformative for children and young people. Music is both a skill and a passion and the cognitive benefits of learning an instrument are well documented. The Merton Music Foundation deliver over 850 instrumental and vocal lessons each week to children in Merton, the majority of them in school.

MMF are keen to support more young people to start their musical journey. Currently at Hillcross they deliver Piano and Violin Lessons on a weekly basis.

Click here for more information about lessons in school <https://mmf.org.uk/mertonschools/>

Please click the link to watch the short video from MMF: <https://youtu.be/I9sWlFkT8Mw>



#### MMF Invite you to the Hands on Day Event

What's next for your musical child?

## HANDS ON DAY

A CHANCE FOR YOUR CHILD TO TRY A RANGE OF INSTRUMENTS TO SEE WHICH ONE IS RIGHT FOR THEM.

- ACCORDION - BRASS - GUITARS -
- SINGING - STRINGS - WOODWIND -

SAT 20 APRIL  
£8 PER CHILD  
SUITABLE FOR AGES 7+

MERTON MUSIC FOUNDATION  
MERTON ABBEY PRIMARY SCHOOL  
HIGH PATH, SOUTH WIMBLEDON, SW19 2JY

BOOKING ESSENTIAL!  
[WWW.MMF.ORG.UK/HANDSON](http://WWW.MMF.ORG.UK/HANDSON)





# Aspiration Challenge Compassion

## Respect Responsibility



The **Hillcross 100 Club** is 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.

The **100 Club** has only sold 20 numbers to date and it has already raised £1490 of which £926 has gone into the Hillcross Children's Fund and £524 has been paid out in prizes. The more people who join, the more money we raise for the school and you could be in for an even bigger pay out if you are the monthly winner.

### How does the 100 Club work?

The 100 club is a monthly draw which takes place in school, aiming to raise extra funds for resources for the children. Please note there is no draw in August when the school is closed. Parents, staff or governors 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.

### How will it benefit the school?

The prize money will be 40% of the membership fee taken that month. The remaining 60% goes to the school via The Hillcross Children's Fund to help purchase equipment, resources and opportunities for pupils.

Therefore, if 100 tickets are sold, the 1<sup>st</sup> prize will be £100, the 2<sup>nd</sup> prize will be £60 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize will be £40. The remaining money will be spent on your children so even if you don't win, your children will still benefit!

Please click on the link below to view the Terms & Conditions:

<https://www.hillcross.merton.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=714&type=pdf>

Please click on the link to view and download an application form:

<https://www.hillcross.merton.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=713&type=pdf>



Inspire Curiosity & Creativity

### Easter Family Project

**Easteroo** is ootiboo's annual egg-citing Easter-themed project, designed for the whole family. Anyone, any age, anywhere can take part!

Draw, paint, make or bake your Easter creation based around one of our four themes: eggs, bunnies, flowers, and chicks. You really don't have to be an amazing artist to take part - just use your imagination and share your entry with them. There are some great prizes to be won. Click on the link for more information on how to participate: <https://play.ootiboo.com/news/easteroo-launches>



In line with our Times Table Pledge, children in years 3-6 should complete 10 minutes of times tables practice each day. Times Table Rockstars is an invaluable resource that children can access on any device which supports the rapid recall of fact fluency. Please encourage your child to make use of this every day as part of their home learning. After Easter, we will be launching weekly tournaments across KS2 in order to encourage children to participate more frequently and improve their knowledge and understanding of multiplication facts whilst taking part.

### Keep up to date!



**Hillcross Primary School are on X (previously Twitter)!** It is a quick and easy way to keep up to date with all the activities happening in school.

We try to tweet on a daily basis. This may be information about events or pictures of the teaching and learning taking place around the school.

### Income from Lettings

We generate an increasing amount of income from renting out different parts of the school for a range of events. If you are looking for a space either for personal use or for use by an organisation you have a link with, please refer to our lettings policy to see if Hillcross can meet your needs. Don't forget to recommend us to other people too!







# Aspiration Challenge Compassion

## Respect Responsibility

### Meet The Author



### Catherine Doyle's Visit to Hillcross

We were absolutely delighted to welcome bestselling author Catherine Doyle to Hillcross on 19th March. Catherine introduced her new book 'Pirates of Darksea' to Year 4, 5 & 6. The children were fully immersed and inspired by the Pirate adventure story and how Catherine based two of the characters on her brothers. Isaac from Year 4 was delighted to receive the Pirate Diary for his imaginative idea of a 'Puffer Fish Ship', he has actually started to plan his own model of this that he will create at home.

We would like to offer a special thank you to everyone at **Nomad Book Store** in Fulham for their continued support and proving these opportunities for our children. Click here to visit their website and to discover more about this award winning independent bookstore: <https://nomadbooks.co.uk/>



Merton libraries



### Magical Quests' Easter Adventure

Wimbledon library - Thursday 11 April at 11am and 1pm

Join Magical Quests for this egg-citing performance! The Easter Bunny is in trouble because all of his magical eggs have gone missing. Somehow, they have got mixed up into the world of Fairy Tales and everything is scrambled. It's up to the children to go on a quest to find them before they get eaten by a Gruffalo or poached by The Queen of Hearts. An inclusive event for children of all ages. Signed supported English and Makaton will be incorporated throughout the show. Please note there are two performances at 11am and 1pm. Please book the ticket for the session you'd like to attend. To book, visit our [events page](#).



Take part in The Big Merton Libraries Easter Hunt this Easter Half Term to win fantastic prizes! Find the hidden letters at your local library to uncover an Easter word for your chance to win a £20 gift card OR, visit all our Merton Libraries and uncover all of the Easter words for your chance to win a scooter.

#### Important info & T&Cs:

- The competition will run from the 2nd to the 13th of April (Easter Half Term).
- Entry sheets can be collected from a member of staff at your local library
- To enter the prize draw, participants must borrow a minimum of one book on the day at the library and show their printout or borrowed books when submitting their entry form to a library member of staff.
- If participants are taking part in the Merton Libraries big prize draw for their chance to win one of two scooters then a book/s must be borrowed at each site on the day of the visit and a staff member will sign next to the completed word at the site to confirm that a book/s were borrowed.
- Only one entry per participant. There will be one winner selected from each library via a prize draw to win a £20 gift card.
- For successful completers of the libraries wide Easter hunt, two winners will be selected via prize draw to win a scooter each.
- Successful winners will be notified the week commencing the 15th April.
- Library accounts will be checked to confirm that a book/s were borrowed at the required sites as per the T&Cs.





Aspiration Challenge Compassion

Respect Responsibility



## Hillcross Children's Fund

(formally the Curriculum Enhancement Fund)

How we use the funds to support projects:



Music Room ✓

Art Studio  
(coming in  
Autumn 22)

DT Workshop  
(fundraising in  
2022-23)



Food Tech Room ✓



Examples of how we use the fund every year:

Theatre Performances  
(whole school)

Anti-Bullying Workshops  
(Y1-Y6)

Playground Equipment  
(whole school)

Consumables:  
e.g. pasta, flour,  
sponges & cooking ingredients

Association Membership: e.g.  
Historical Association,  
National Trust & Sing Up

Children's newspapers and  
magazines (library and in-class)

Update books for library

Other ways the fund is used:

- Curriculum/Topic Resources
- Visitors & Workshops
- Allotment & Woodland Area

Contributions can be made in the following ways:

- ✓ Click on the [Hillcross Children's Fund](#) QR code
- ✓ [Parentmail](#)
- ✓ Monthly standing order
- ✓ Cash, cheque
- ✓ Vouchers from Charities' Trusts

You said

We did



We recommend setting up a monthly standing order as this is a much easier way to contribute for your child. We suggest a contribution of £10 per month (£120 per year) or you can choose any amount that is affordable to you.

Nurturing our children to think critically and creatively within a collaborative community.  
School Values: aspiration, challenge, compassion, responsibility and respect



**WORLD AUTISM ACCEPTANCE WEEK!**

**FRIDAY 5TH APRIL**

**11AM - 1PM**

**MORDEN HALL PARK**

**MEET AT GARDEN CENTRE CAFE**

Join us for a walk, a chat  
and refreshments

◆ and meet other parent / carers of ◆  
people with autism

To book your place contact Niki

[office.manager@mertonmencap.org.uk](mailto:office.manager@mertonmencap.org.uk)  
or 020 3963 0599

Company limited by Guarantee No. 5892213  
Registered in England and Wales. Charity No. 1113444

West Wimbledon Primary  
School Present

*My Autistic  
Wings*



*Joely  
Williams*

In conversation with Joely Williams about  
her journey from childhood to adulthood, the successes,  
hardships and quirks through school, uni and into work.

Wednesday 24th April 2024

3.45- 4.45pm

£5 a ticket







# Girls Cricket at Old Ruts



We welcome girls of all ages to come along and try Cricket with us! We train every Tuesday through the summer starting 16th April 2024 at Old Ruts, Poplar Road SW19 3JS.

5-6.20pm

- All Stars - reception to year 2
- Dynamos - year 3-6 softball
- Hardball Cricket for beginners

6.20-7.50pm

- Hardball year 7-13

Please contact Pete Day if you are interested or have any questions:

- Tel: 07769 255214
- Email: [oldrutsgirlscricket@gmail.com](mailto:oldrutsgirlscricket@gmail.com)
- join at: <https://oldruts cricket.co.uk/join-junior-cricket/>





RUTS YOUTH FC



# FOOTBALL TRIALS

RUTS YOUTH FC ARE RECRUITING FOR 2024/25 SEASON

## BOYS & GIRLS

### U7-U15

### (Current School Years 1-9)

2.00pm - 5.00pm

## 20TH APRIL

HILLCROSS SCHOOL, SM4 4EE

REGISTER



To register, scan QR code or email  
[oldrutstrials@gmail.com](mailto:oldrutstrials@gmail.com)

[www.rutsyouthfc.com](http://www.rutsyouthfc.com)

The Clubhouse, Poplar Road, Merton Park, SW19 3J5

**RESTON  
WASTE**  
MANAGEMENT LTD





# THE PUPIL PREMIUM

The pupil premium is a Government scheme that provides funding of up to £1,320 per eligible pupil.

The school can use this money to support your child, eg: providing new equipment or possibly additional teaching staff.



## THE PUPIL PREMIUM WHAT IT OFFERS...

- 1** Funding to the school to support your child
- 2** A saving of hundreds of pounds to you in the cost of school dinners
- 3** Healthy, nutritious food (which can link to doing well!) provided free of charge

## GOOD THINGS FOR YOUR CHILD & SCHOOL

*All the info you need to know...*

### Q: How can I apply?

Simply click on the link below to complete the online form :

<https://sd1.merton.gov.uk/service/Pupil-Premium-and-Free-School-Meals-application>

### Q: Why should I apply?

The main reason – you will be helping the school (and therefore your child) as the school will then be able to claim pupil premium funding from the Government. This is worth up to £1,320 per eligible pupil!

It'll only take five minutes to complete the form – why not do it now?



Also, you've probably heard that children in Key Stage 1 (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) can now receive school meals free of charge. If your child is in Year 3 or above (and you meet the pupil premium criteria), the school will be able to provide them with school meals free of charge. This can help save you hundreds of pounds a year and is a service the school will be happy to provide for you.

### Q: My child receives free school meals as they're currently in Key Stage 1. Do I still need to complete this form?

Yes! In order for the school to receive pupil premium funding we need you to complete this form so we can confirm you qualify. Even if your child is already receiving free meals in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, please complete this form – it'll help both your child and their school.

If you think your child may be eligible for Free School Meals and Pupil Premium Funding, please click on the following link below to apply :

<https://sd1.merton.gov.uk/service/Pupil-Premium-and-Free-School-Meals-application>



merton