

# Hillcross Primary School



## Year Six Welcome Meeting

At Hillcross, we nurture our children to think critically and creatively within a collaborative community.



# Welcome to Year Six



**Lee Christy**  
AHT  
**Teaching and Learning**  
Class Teacher  
Team Maple

**Sophie Martin**  
**Maths Leader**  
Class Teacher  
Team Juniper

**Nida Ghauri**  
Teaching Assistant  
(Both Teams)

**Hanka Selcuk**  
Teaching Assistant  
(Both Teams)

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

# Attendance and Punctuality



- **Attendance** at school is paramount to ensuring your child continues to learn and develop. If children miss sections of their learning it can become difficult to ensure they catch up on missed skills. **Children benefit greatly from consistent periods of time in school.**
- **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.

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# Attendance and Punctuality



Average learning time per day: **5 HOURS.**

If you are 15 minutes late each day, you will have missed **2 FULL WEEKS** of school in one year.

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# 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 uniform).
- 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 the hem**.
- **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

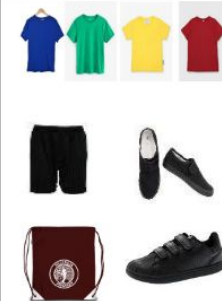
- Hillcross Logo School Rucksack (Small rucksacks or book bags are available for children in EYFS & KS1). One small discrete key ring may be attached to help your child identify their bag.
- Transparent Water Bottle:
  - From September 2024, Nursery and Reception will have a maroon or white lid. Alternatively, 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 guide).
- 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.

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# 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.

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# The Hillcross Curriculum

The Hillcross website has an abundance of information to inform you as parents about your children's learning. Please take to have a look at each of the subjects to find out more.



[Home](#) [Our Learning](#) [The Hillcross Curriculum](#)

## The Hillcross Curriculum

Our **Curriculum Intent** sets out the aims and scope of our curriculum. The subject progression grids outline the knowledge and skills that our children will gain at each stage through the school's curriculum. At Hillcross, we have designed a bespoke and ever-changing curriculum that considers what end points the curriculum is building towards and incorporates all elements of the National Curriculum. We also carefully consider the specific needs of the children in our school community, what content is crucial for them to learn and the best contexts in which they can learn this. Our challenging and innovative curriculum reflects and celebrates the diversity, promotes and sustains children's interest and enthusiasm for learning and inspires them to take action to engage with, and influence, local, national and global issues.

**Subject Progression Grids** carefully sequence the acquisition of knowledge and the application of skills in our curriculum for each subject and across all year groups. This enables us to offer an ambitious and aspirational curriculum journey to our children. The element of these grids that show the content of the curriculum for each subject can be found on each subject page.

**Curriculum implementation** refers to how the planned curriculum is delivered to the children - the method and practises used to facilitate learning. It is about the teaching and assessment of learning that takes place every day to enable children to make progress, the interactions between people, the learning environment and the learning tasks themselves; the resources made available; and the opportunities provided. The teaching method and practises (pedagogy) at Hillcross can be accessed by clicking on the link on the right-hand side of this page.

The positive **impact of the curriculum** on the children's learning and development is significant. We are really proud of what our pupils achieve as a result of their learning across the curriculum. For specific information about how our children progress through each subject's curriculum, please see the **Subject Stories** that can be found on the subject pages by clicking the relevant link on the right-hand side of this page.

[Curriculum Intent](#)

[Curriculum Implementation](#)

[Curriculum Evening 14th Sept 2023](#)

[Curriculum Presentations 2023/24](#)

[A Thinking School](#)

[A Rights Respecting School](#)

[An Eco-School](#)

[A Healthy School](#)

[Mental Health and Wellbeing](#)

[SEND](#)

[Early Years Foundation Stage](#)

[Art & Design](#)

[Computing](#)

[Design & Technology \(DT\)](#)

[English](#)

[Languages \(Spanish\)](#)

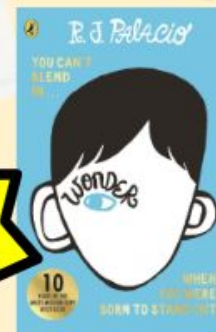
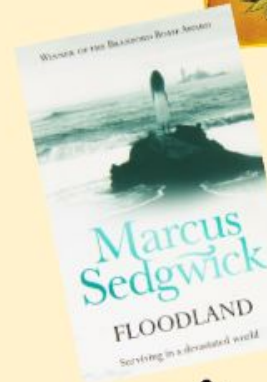
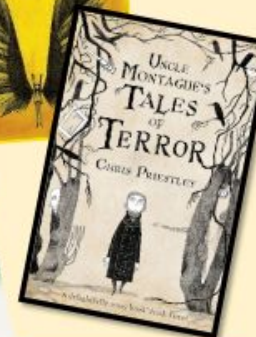
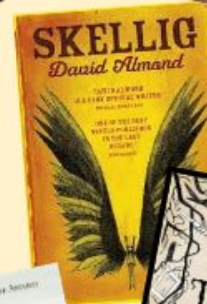
[Geography](#)

[History](#)

# 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?



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# Educational Visits in Year Six

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

**On Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March**, we will be holding a 'Y6 Residential Trip to Ypres' at 6.00-6.45pm for parents.

# 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.**

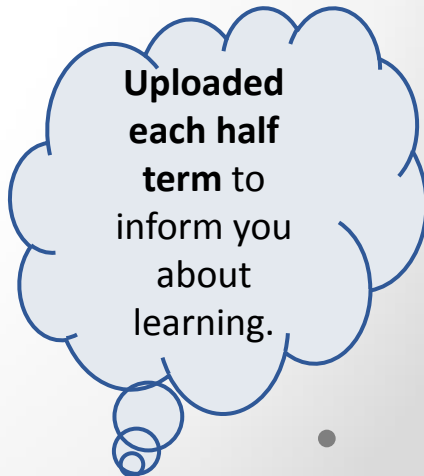
We involve children in the creation their class environment to create a sense of ownership which supports teaching and learning and promotes young children's physical, mental and emotional well being. Clear routines and rules will be displayed in the classroom to ensure all children are upholding our 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.

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# 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.



**Uploaded  
each half  
term to  
inform you  
about  
learning.**

# Knowledge Organisers - here are some examples:



Hillcross Primary School



**How will I keep safe when using electricity?**



Do's

- 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.



Don'ts

- Use the 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.
- **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.

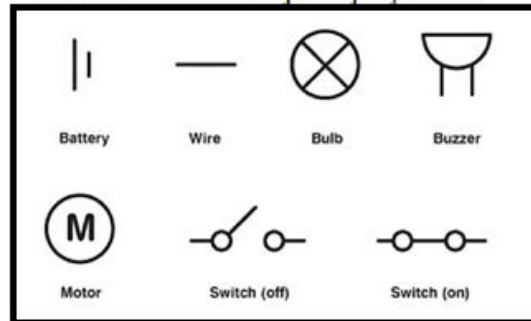
### How can I make a bulb brighter or buzzer louder in my circuit?

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.**

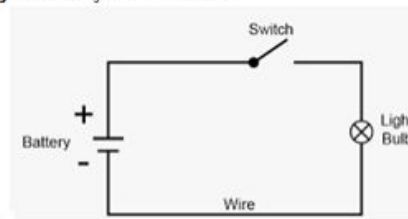
## Everybody Wants To Rule The World

How does a burglar alarm work?

How can I draw a diagram of my circuit?



- **Symbols** are used for the different 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

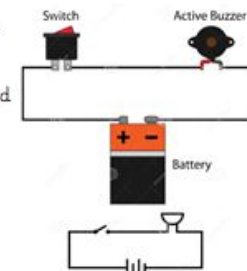
This learning links with the lessons in year 4:

- Identifying appliances that use electricity.
- Creating a simple circuit to light a bulb or sound a buzzer.
- 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



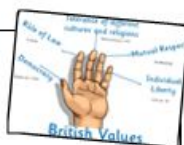
### Will I be punished for what I have done?

#### 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 no-one 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?

#### Key Vocabulary

**monarchy** - a government with a ruler at the top;

**control** - the power to influence others;

**parliament** - a legislative body of government;

**nobility** - a particular social class or a quality of character;

**court** - a tribunal in civil and criminal cases;

**democracy** - form of government in which the people have the authority to deliberate and decide legislation;

**Rule of law** - a system that underpins far societies.

# Statutory Assessment Test (SATs)

**Key dates: Monday 12th May to Thursday 15th May 2025**

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 and must be turned in by the following Wednesday by 8:00am.

[Home](#) → [Our Learning](#) → [Home Learning - Homework](#)

## Home Learning - Homework

We believe home learning is a key way of preparing children for new learning and/or practising key skills they have learnt in school. Performance information shows that those children who continue their learning at home make comparatively better progress than their peers who do not.

There are often conflicting views amongst different members of the school community about homework expectations. Some people think children should be doing more than is asked of them and others think we are not asking for enough! At Hillcross, we have attempted to find a balance by providing some elements of home learning that are non-negotiable and some that are optional extras. We have also tried to incorporate a degree of flexibility for those parents who find it difficult to fit specifically structured tasks into their already busy lives.

**Directed home learning tasks will be set every Friday and will be due in by the following Wednesday.** All home learning tasks will be uploaded to Google Classroom. Please refer to the Google Classroom links on the right hand side of this page to find out how Google Classroom works.

Please refer to the Home Learning Policy for more information.

Investing time to support your child's home learning can really help improve their progress and achievement. Try to make homework part of the family routine and create the time and space for your child to do their homework without distraction from the TV or radio. Together we can make sure that your child achieves the best possible outcomes.

[Google Classroom Parent Guide](#)

[Google Classroom Presentation Video](#)

[How can I support my child at home?](#)

[Homework Help](#)

[Google Classroom: Viewing Feedback from Teachers](#)

[Home Learning Policy](#)

[Nursery Expectations](#)

[Reception Expectations](#)

[Year 1 Expectations](#)

[Year 2 Expectations](#)

[Year 3 Expectations](#)

[Year 4 Expectations](#)

[Year 5 Expectations](#)

[Year 6 Expectations](#)



# Our Hillcross Pledges



## The Hillcross Handwriting Pledge

Taking care with our *handwriting* enables us to *communicate* with *clarity* 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 Gg*

*Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn*

*Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu*

*Vv 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 **Wednesday**. 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**.

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# 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

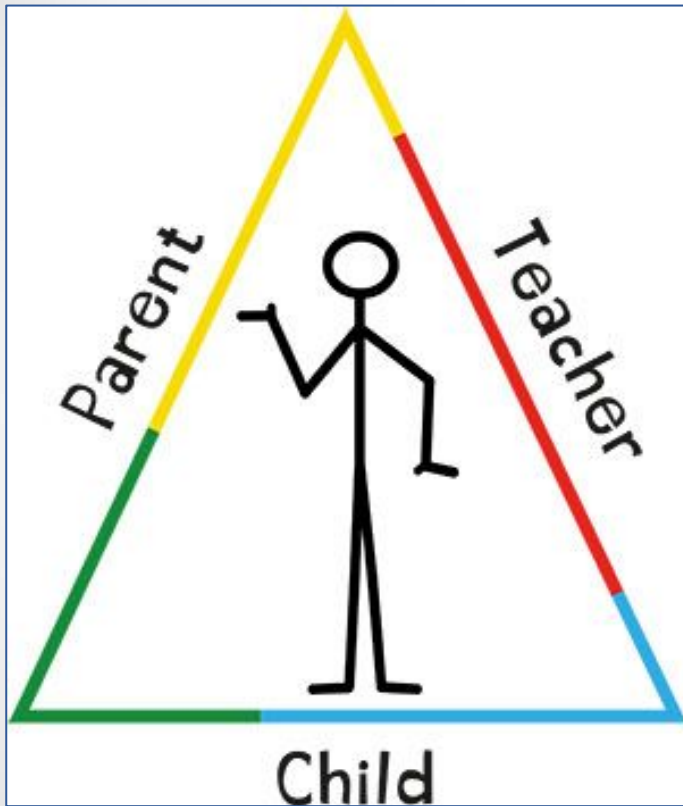
The Hillcross 100 Club as a fun way to raise additional funds for the school whilst also giving those who take part in the lottery style experience the chance to win some cash prizes. It is a monthly draw. Parents can pay £5 per month and are allocated a number (you can have more than one number if you 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 [Home School Agreement](#) and Acceptable Use Policies ([Child](#) and [Parent](#))



Aspiration Challenge Compassion  
Respect Responsibility



## Join our Breakfast and After School Club (The Copse)...



*We offer high quality wrap-around care for all our children*

Breakfast Club start times/costs per session:

7:30am - £7.50

7:45am - £6.75

8:00am - £6.25

Breakfast provided e.g. cereal/toast/pancakes

After School Club finish times/cost per session:

5.00pm - £10.75

6:00pm - £15.25

Light snack provided.

*We use both the indoor and outdoor space to play a range of sports and games including craft activities, construction, cooking, puzzles and role play. There are also spaces to relax and complete homework.*

Click here to view our website: [Breakfast and After School Club Information](#)

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