

Hillcrest Mailbag 14th September 2018

News

Open Doors Day - We hope lots of parents will be able to join us between 9:00am and 10:00am on Monday. It will be an opportunity to find out about our plans for the year ahead and to take part in PSHE (Personal, Social & Health Education) workshop in the classrooms. (We'll be putting the information on the website for those that can't make it.)

Bomb Shelter - Did you know that there's a large WW2 bomb shelter under the higher part of the big playground? It's accessed via the manhole cover just beyond the grassed area. Parents who were at the school themselves may remember being taken down there to see the benches and children's drawings on the walls. It's apparently very wet and mucky down there now. Sadly, it's been deemed unsafe and is going to be filled in, hence the barriers and the forthcoming works. It's a shame that such an interesting piece of local history will be lost but safety has to come first. If a fire engine ever needed to get close to the building we wouldn't want it falling through!

If anyone has friends, neighbours or relatives that remember the bomb shelter and have any tales to tell please let Juliet know. Hopefully, there will be an opportunity to take some photos before the shelter is filled in. Look out for a feature on the website soon.

Phases - Instead of being referred to as EYFS, Key Stage 1 and KS2 the school years are now grouped into phases:

Phase 1 (led by Mrs Wyatt) - Reception and Yr 1

Phase 2 (led by Miss Silver) - Yrs 2 and 3

Phase 3 (led by Mr Taylor) - Yrs 4, 5 and 6

Homework this year will be on-line, using Spellodrome and Mathletics. Children will be getting their logins on Monday and parents can find out all about it at Monday's Open Doors Day. Don't worry if you can't make it; the information will be on the website too. The children will also have topic based homework throughout the year and, as ever, we encourage you to read with your child as much as possible.

Phase 1 (Reception & Yr 1) - We are doing reading assessments to find out where each child is up to and how best to support them. As soon as these are completed we will be sending reading books home for your child to read with you daily.

Start the day well - We had a great start to this school year with very few late pupils in the first week. Let's keep up this fantastic start for the rest of the year!

As a reminder, children need to be in school by 8:50am every day, ready to line up with their friends. This gives everyone a good start to the day and helps our children get into good learning habits. Arriving late and not knowing what they're supposed to be doing is stressful for a child. Getting to school late could also lead to your child being marked as having an unauthorised absence.

Yr 6 Camp Meeting reminder - Find out all about the Kilve Court programme and ask any questions you may have. 6:00pm on Tuesday.

Mrs Lewis continues absent, for personal reasons. The school is in safe hands with Ms Norman as Acting Head Teacher, well supported by our Senior Management Team and the Governors. We will update you when there is any further news.

Welcome - We are delighted to announce that Mrs Howells, who was 2JP's supply teacher in the Summer term (and has a child here herself), has joined the Hillcrest team. She will be teaching Puffins on Wednesdays and Toucans on Fridays, freeing Mrs Wyatt and Mr McIntyre to support Ms Norman as Acting Deputies.

Art T-shirts - An appeal from Mrs Bonner and Ms Sharples: Do you have any unwanted t-shirts that children could pop on over their clothes for messy art lessons? We need at least 30. Larger children's sizes would be ideal (adult sizes would be too big).

Do you have an interesting job? We would really appreciate parents coming in to talk to the children about what their work entails. Talk to your child's teacher or let us know in the office if you would like to come in.

Diary Dates

ASD Coffee Morning - 9:00am Monday 24th September

Volunteers' Induction - 9:00am Monday 24th September

Dyslexia Coffee Morning - 9:00am Monday 22nd October

Letters

[Yr 6 Camp Deposit letter](#)

Look out for your next Mailbag on Tuesday.

