



Happiness  
Esteem  
Achievement  
Responsibility and  
Respect  
Truth  
Spirituality and Service

# Hilltop Infant School

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@HilltopInfant



Head of School: Mr D Chapman

## Weekly Newsletter

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2017  
Newsletter No: 9

**Attendance w/beg:** 06.11.17  
Whole School: 97.7%  
Class of the week: **Willow – 100%**

Chestnut 95.0%	Cherry 98.96%	Oak 94.0%
Ash 98.33%	Birch 99.19%	Elder 98.33%
Maple 96.98%	Willow 100%	

**Lunchtime Craze of the Week KS1**  
Top Trumps

### Letters Home

3 Week Menu  
Attendance  
Christmas Performance Booking Information  
Mrs Jackson  
Shipmates AGM Notice

**Week Beginning 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

### School Dinners

Week 3



### Forest School

Class	Group
Chestnut	B – Morning (Friday)
Cherry	B - Morning
Oak	B - Morning



### Upcoming Diary Dates

#### November

13<sup>th</sup> 2:45pm KS1 Parents/Carers view homework  
14<sup>th</sup> CLC – Year 2  
17<sup>th</sup> Outdoor Learning for Elder class  
17<sup>th</sup> Non-School Uniform for Children in Need  
17<sup>th</sup> 2:30pm EYFS Workshop - Phonics  
24<sup>th</sup> Dress Down Day for Christmas Bazaar, donations of chocolate  
24<sup>th</sup> 2:30pm EYFS Workshop - Maths

#### December

1<sup>st</sup> Christmas Bazaar  
11<sup>th</sup> 2:15pm EYFS performance with Crèche  
12<sup>th</sup> 9:15am KS1 performance with Crèche  
12<sup>th</sup> Christmas Dinner  
13<sup>th</sup> 9:30am EYFS performance  
13<sup>th</sup> 2pm KS1 performance  
14<sup>th</sup> 9:15am KS1 performance  
15<sup>th</sup> Last day of school

### Janeway



Last week we welcomed Mr Chapman to Hilltop Infant School and this week we welcome the lovely Janeway. She has been greeting our families outside of school in the morning and sat beautifully in assembly on Monday. Janeway spends most of her day in Mr Chapman's office but gives him a little bark when she wants to go and visit the children! When Janeway is walking round school she is accompanied by Mr Chapman and wearing her harness.

### Year 2 - Poetry Slam at the CLC

On Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> Year 2 will be visiting the CLC for a Poetry Slam with other Wickford schools. Classes will be going either in the morning or afternoon. They will be learning poems in class to recite and there will also be a competition for the winning girl and boy from each class to perform at the CLC.

### Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2:45pm

The adult who is collecting your child at the end of the day is welcome into Ash, Birch, Elder, Maple and Willow classes to view the homework that the children have been working on. Please can all projects be brought into school in the morning on 13<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Congratulations!**

Congratulations to Mrs Boroughs who has heard this week that she has achieved The National Professional Qualification for Senior Leaders. We are very proud of you Mrs Boroughs!

### **Colder Weather**

Now that the weather has started to get a little colder, please ensure that you send your child to school with warm outdoor clothing. Please can you make sure that all hats, scarves and gloves are named.

### **Craze of the Week KS1**

Next week Mr Ashman will be starting Craze of the Week for KS1 at lunchtimes. Each week will be a different craze. Next week will be Top Trumps. We have packs of Top Trumps in school but children are welcome to bring their own cards into school but they must be named.

### **Children in Need, Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November**

Our School Council have decided on charities that they would like to support and the first one is Children in Need. They have decided to have a non-school uniform day on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November for a donation of £1. Please send your donation into school in an envelope and pass to the class teacher.

### **Change to menu**

Please note, there has been a slight change to the dinner menu for Week 3. On Monday, the all-day breakfast will be a piece of omelette instead of scrambled egg.

### **Christmas Dinner**

Please can all Christmas Dinner requests be returned to the office by **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November** so that the order can be placed at the butcher. Unfortunately, any requests received after this date will have to have a packed lunch.

### **Absence**

If your child is absent from school due to illness you need to follow the absence procedures that can be found in the HEARTS Attendance Policy on our website.

If a child is absent from school the parent/carer must follow the following procedures:

- Contact the school on the first day of absence before 9am. The school has an answer phone available to leave a message if nobody is available to take your call, or call into school personally and speak to the office staff. If we do not hear from you we will make a home visit and, if necessary, contact the police or social care.
- Contact the school on every further day of absence, again before 9am
- Ensure that your child returns to school as soon as possible

### **If your child is absent we will:**

- Telephone, text or visit you on the first day of absence if we have not heard from you
- Make a home visit to ascertain the safety of the child if we have concerns for their welfare
- Contact the police at the end of the first day's absence if we do not know of your child's whereabouts
- Write to you if your child's attendance is below 95%
- Invite you in to school to discuss the situation with our pastoral/attendance worker or Head of School if absences persist
- Refer the matter to the Local Authority to request a formal School Attendance Meeting if attendance deteriorates following the above actions The Missing Education and Child Employment Service Parents are expected to contact school at an early stage and to work with the staff in resolving.

### **Premier Sport Dodge Ball**

Due to the Christmas Bazaar taking place on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December, there will be an additional dodge ball session on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December.

***'What goes red, black, red, black, red, black?'***

A sunburnt penguin rolling down a hill



### **Executive Headteacher News**

I am delighted to have taken up my new role as Executive Headteacher at Hilltop Schools on 1<sup>st</sup> November. This is a wonderful opportunity for me to work with staff from both the Infant and Junior Schools to build on the good practice that is already in place and to develop other areas. After 11 years as headteacher at Hilltop Infant School and several years working as a National Leader of Education, I am excited to be focusing on the learning and development of our children from 4-11 years.

Mr Dan Chapman has now joined Hilltop Infants as Head of School and will be working in this role full-time from January. Mr Paul Hillson took on the role of Head of School at Hilltop Junior School last week and will be working alongside Mrs Alison Waite to lead the school on a day to day basis. Mr Hillson will be remaining as SENCo and will continue to liaise with families as he has been doing since the end of last term. I would like to welcome Mr Chapman and Mr Hillson into their new roles.

As a Leadership Team, we will be focusing on ensuring that Hilltop provides the best possible education for all of our children.

With the new leadership structure in place, we would like to clarify the contact arrangements for parents and carers. In the first instance, please would you send all emails to [hilltopinf.admin@heartsacademy.uk](mailto:hilltopinf.admin@heartsacademy.uk) (for The Infant School) or [hilltopjun@heartsacademy.uk](mailto:hilltopjun@heartsacademy.uk) (for The Junior School). The office staff will then ensure that your email is forwarded on to the appropriate member of staff. You are, of course able to make contact in person via the school office. Teachers in both schools will be available at the end of the school day for informal conversations.

Unfortunately, I am currently on sick leave following planned surgery but will be back at work at the end of next week healthy and raring to go.

Looking forward to some very happy and exciting times as part of The HEARTS Academy Trust.

***Karen Mackenzie***

# Shipmates Newsletter



## **Autumn Disco**

Thank you to all who attended our Family Discos last Friday, it was a fantastic evening and was so lovely to see everyone having a great time. We have raised an amazing amount of £691.60!

## **AGM – Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November**

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our AGM where we will once again be providing complimentary cheese and wine. This is a meeting where we elect our Board Members for the upcoming year. Although this may sound boring it is a great chance for parents and carers to come along and introduce yourself and get to know a bit more about Shipmates and the people involved.

Mrs Mackenzie has very kindly donated a magnum of Harrods Champagne which will be raffled off at the AGM, everyone who attends the meeting will receive a free raffle ticket. We hope to see many of you there!

## **Non Uniform Day – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November**

We are having a Non-Uniform Day on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November in exchange for Chocolate for the Christmas Bazaar. Please can all children take their chocolate donations in to their classrooms on the day.

## **Christmas Bazaar – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December**

It's that time of year again when we ask for your support at our biggest fundraising event of the year! If you are able to help set up, man a stall or clear away, even if it's just for an hour, your help would be greatly appreciated. We are still very low on numbers and without your support we are unable to run these brilliant events for the families of Hilltop. Please send your contact details to [hilltopshipmates@gmail.com](mailto:hilltopshipmates@gmail.com)

## **Cake Competition!**

Following last years success we have decided to give the children some fun at home and ask their parents/carers to help bake a homemade cake for the Christmas Cake Competition. The Cake doesn't need to represent Christmas- any design will be fine. Please bring cakes to the school office on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December. The cakes will be judged and a winner from each class will receive a prize. The cakes will then be sold on the refreshment stall at our Christmas Bazaar that day.

## **Wine Donations**

We are looking for Wine Donations for the Christmas Bazaar for one of our most popular stalls. If anyone would like to donate any wine, please take this along to the office.

**Thank you for your continued support.**

St Luke's  
Hospice



# Christmas Market

St Luke's  
Hospice

Saturday 25th November  
Basildon College  
11am - 3pm

Santa's Grotto Games BBQ  
Christmas Stalls Animal Nativity  
Entertainment on stage all day  
and our Memory Tree

Plus Special  
Appearance from  
X-Factors  
Lauren Platt



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

Registered Charity No. 289466



St Luke's  
Hospice



# Upcoming Events

St Luke's  
Hospice

Light Up A Life Services Throughout December

Treks & Challenge Open Day 20th Jan 2018

Test Track 10 18th Feb 2018

Golden Mile 10th March 2018

Summer Fete 9th June 2018

Sunflower Summer Day July 2018

Contact our fundraising team on 01268 524973 or  
email [fundraising@stlukeshospice.co.uk](mailto:fundraising@stlukeshospice.co.uk) for more information

@stlukeshospicebasildonthurrock

@StLukesHospiceB

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

Registered Charity No. 289466

