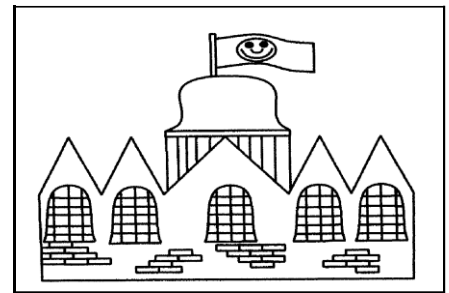


HILLOCKS PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

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Acting Head Teacher: Margaret Newcombe



Dear Parents and Carers,

What a strange half term this has been! We've all had to get used to class bubbles, hand sanitiser, having the windows open and sitting in rows. There have been no assemblies and no PE indoors; the children haven't been able to mix with anyone outside their bubble and have had to eat lunch in their classrooms. Despite all this, behaviour has been outstanding and it has been an absolute joy to have them all back in school.

We have reviewed our curriculum and made a few changes to ensure there is a good balance between all the subjects. We have also organised the content into 'projects' to make the learning more relevant to the children and to help them know more and remember more. The children certainly seem to be enjoying the changes – in fact one or two of them have been heard saying that they don't want it to be half term!

This week, Miss Holloway, our curriculum leader, and I have been looking at the fabulous work the children have produced. We looked at geography booklets created by KS1 along with writing about Neil Armstrong. In lower KS2 there was lots of exciting science with some very clear explanations about how our muscles, tendons and bones work together. Upper KS2 have been learning about the miners' strike. We also asked the children about their learning and were very impressed by what they remembered.

You may be aware that the government aren't providing food vouchers as they did in the summer holiday. If any of you are struggling to manage, you can request a referral form to the Let's all eat programme run by ATFEE or to Mary's foodbank. New Cross community church is working with the charity Share Wear and are able to provide free clothing for children.

Finally, I'd just like to say a big thank you to all of you for your continuing support. You have complied with everything we have put in place to try to keep the school safe and we are very grateful.

Despite the escalating infection rates and the current restrictions, I hope you all manage to stay safe and have a lovely half term break.

Looking forward to seeing you all on Monday 2nd November.

With very best wishes,

Margaret Newcombe