

Hillcrest School

Winter Newsletter

Thank you for supporting the staff at Hillcrest to have a fabulous year with your wonderful children. It was great to see so many of you at the Church and at the Christmas Fair this week. By working together we can make a difference.

Hope you all have a wonderful Christmas.

Mrs Mead

Class HS

Class HS have worked hard to make products for the Christmas Fair. These included an army of snowmen, Santa logs and candle holders. We have enjoyed learning new skills and using different equipment. Over the half term we have been designing, ironing and sewing to make our very own Santa sacks with guidance from Mrs Harrison.



Class EW/RA's endangered animals project.

Over two weeks students raised over £70 selling hotdogs and pizza on Thursday break times to all members of our school family. This money has enabled us to adopt as a class 3 spider monkeys at Monkey World in Dorset and a Polar bear with WWF. This week our class began by washing staff cars to raise money. They washed a total of 6 cars. We hope to be able to adopt a sea turtle and at least one other animal by the end of the week and our fundraising activities.



Class SK

What a brilliant term we have had in Class SK! The whole class have challenged themselves everyday in lessons and have produced some spectacular work. We have a real collection of artists, scientists, mathematicians, writers, cooks... the list is endless! As well as that we have had some great trips out, including the cinema, Hungry Horse and Woodhorn Colliery where our learners have represented the school beautifully. It has been a privilege to have been part of team SK this term and we look forward to many more adventures in the new year. Thank you for all your support. We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.



Class SF

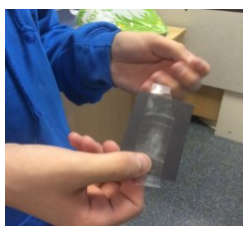
This term all the pupils in class SF have worked extremely hard to create items to sell for the Winter Fare. Our Thrive sessions have also been a real highlight. We made Santa sacks where we learnt new skills, how to tack and sew our bags. We printed and ironed our designs onto our bags. We worked very hard with Mrs Harrison on these. In CLL we wrote about winter, and feelings and senses. With this we created a snow globe to piece together with our writing. In Thrive we have made mini snowmen, created friendship bracelets for each other, designed a safe imaginary space and had real fun with sensory play. We look forward to continuing this in the new year. We spent the past 2 weeks creating Christmas decorations and they look



Class SW

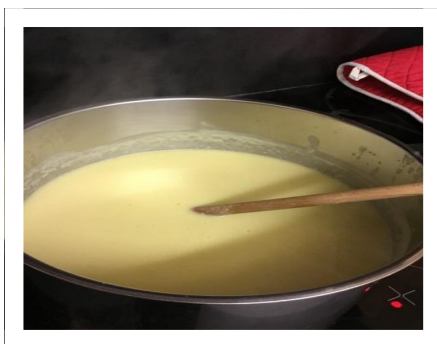
Class SW are working towards their OCR Science award. So this term we have been looking at Biology. We have taken a practical approach as far as we could. We first looked at the different systems in our body. We created the journey of some food, following it all the way down the digestive system to it coming out of the body, it's amazing what you can make with bread, vinegar a balloon and a pair of tights! After creating cells and DNA out of sweets we looked at how individual we are, investigating our fingerprints. It really helped that we have a forensic specialist in our class, Mrs Hawkins-Hobson brought some great real life applications to us becoming CSI specialists. However, the highlight of the term, definitely in the students' eyes, was when they got to dissect some hearts. There was a very varied approach as to how to reveal the chambers and valves inside.

It has been a really enjoyable term, we're now looking forward to all the Chemistry experiments!



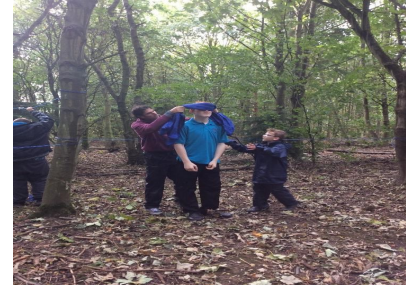
6th Form

Our 6th form have worked hard this term making soup, baguettes and a variety of hot drinks to sell to the staff of Hillcrest. Working together to achieve success in our Café, making profits and gaining valuable work experience. This has also helped us with our social skills taking orders on Tuesday from staff around Hillcrest. On Wednesday the class visit the local Aldi store to buy supplies needed to make our baguettes and hot drinks.



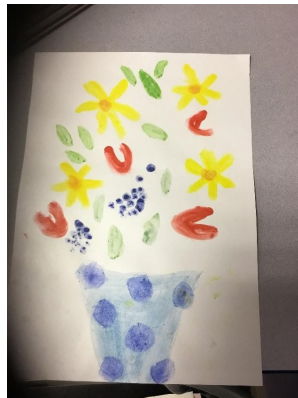
Class NB

As the end of the first term approaches Form NB have been reviewing their year so far! This has included building friendships and independence at Forest School. Although in its infancy, students are progressively seeing the benefits of being outside playing together in the woods and experiencing woodcraft and fire making! In Science this term we have had so much fun modelling and making things like model boats to see how they float and investigating circuits to create our World War 2 fighter planes with working propellers!



Class YS

This term, Class YS have been working to improve our art skills. We have been working on line, tone, shade and blend. The class have worked with different media including art pencils, pastels, chalks, watercolours and acrylics with the aim of producing a final piece based around an image of a local landscape. The class have produced some incredible pieces of artwork as seen below.



Class ER

It has been a very positive term for class ER. We have come together as a team, had a lot of laughs and completed some really impressive work! For Duke of Edinburgh, we have worked hard on our sculptures. We used a variety of materials to produce some amazing results. We used ModRoc, Clay, Paper Mache, plastic bags, cardboard and whatever else we could find to sculpt. We loved being creative and working with our hands. In topic we learned about The Sea. We looked at how Humans affect the ocean and what we can do to help it. All of us completed an independent study on a chosen sea creature. We learned loads and they look brilliant!

