



HILLCREST NEWS

ISSUE 3

HILLCREST EARLY YEARS ACADEMY NEWSLETTER
WEEK ENDING 14TH FEBRUARY 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we wrap up our first half-term after the Christmas break, I wanted to share some thoughts as your new Acting Headteacher. The children have been absolutely amazing, showing incredible resilience, enthusiasm, and a real love for learning. Their progress has been fantastic, with each child growing both academically and personally. It's been a joy to see their achievements and how they've tackled new challenges with such positivity. I'm so proud of our children and grateful for the support from our dedicated staff and wonderful community.

This half-term, I've thoroughly enjoyed getting to know as many parents and children as possible. It's been a pleasure spending time in different areas of the school that I hadn't seen in action before. On a more personal note, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the warm welcome I've received in this role. It's been a pleasure chatting with many of you at the end of the school day.

At Hillcrest, our door is always open. If you have any questions or need support, please feel free to drop by and see myself or Mr. Inman. Thank you again for your continued support of the Academy.

I hope you all have a wonderful and well-deserved half-term break. We look forward to seeing you when school returns on Monday, 24th February.

With my very best wishes,

Mr Lewis Commander - Acting Headteacher

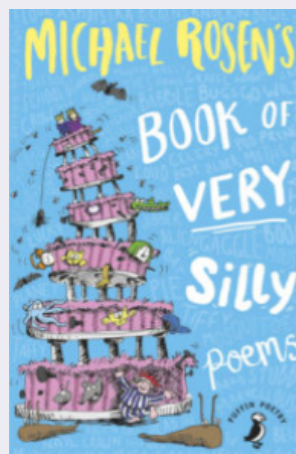
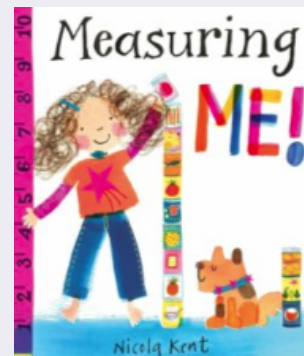
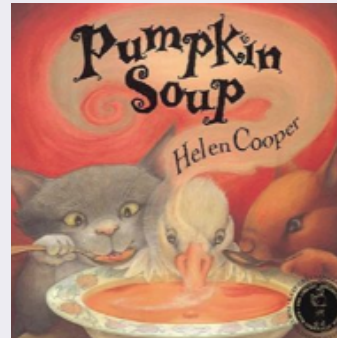
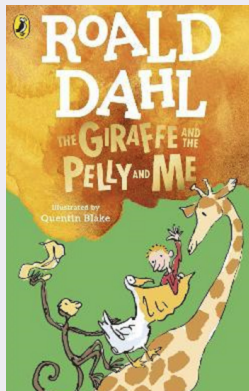
Clubs

Clubs letters will be coming out before February half-term, so watch this space - they are on a first-come, first-serve basis!

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
After-School Club (3:30 - 4:30pm)	Photography Club (Thursday) 20 spaces Year 2 with Mr Inman	Choir (Thursday) 20 spaces Year 1/2 with Mr Inman	Art - Portraits (Thursday) 20 spaces Year 1/2 with Mr Inman	Computing Club (Wednesday) 20 spaces Year 1/2 with Mr Schofield & Mrs Dennett	Ballet (Thursday) 20 spaces Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 with Miss McCutcheon	Tag Rugby (Monday) 20 spaces Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 with Coach Freya
		Gymnastics (Monday) 20 spaces Year 1/2 with Coach Freya	Gymnastics (Monday) 20 spaces Reception with Coach Freya	Multi skills sports club (Monday) 20 spaces Year 1/2 with Coach Freya	Drums and Percussion (Thursday) 20 spaces Year 1/2 with Mr Inman	Cricket Club (Thursday) 20 spaces Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 with Mr Carlisle/Mr Commander
		Craft Club (Tuesday) 20 spaces Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 with Miss Jones & Mrs Gibson	Sewing Club (Wednesday) 15 spaces Year 1 and Year 2 with Mr Wilson and Mrs Ingram		Multi skills sports club (Monday) 20 spaces Reception with Coach Freya	
Lunchtime Club			Craft Club - Friendship bracelets (Tuesday) 20 spaces Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 with Miss Longland and Mrs Dennett			

Aim high and achieve...

Spring Recommended Reads



Aim high and achieve...

Notice Board

When sending your child to school can you please ensure that they are wearing appropriate footwear. We have recently seen a rise in falls and tumbles due to children wearing wellies for the whole school day.



Thanks to generous funding from Tesco, we are thrilled to announce that we can now offer a variety of fruit choices to our children as they enter the classroom each morning. This initiative allows us to provide a wide range of delicious and healthy fruits to all our children.

If your child has any fruit allergies that we are not yet aware of, please visit the school office to update our records. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Thank you!

Little Sparkles & Little Gems

Do you have a child who is 2 or 3 and would like to join one of our wonderful Nursery classes? We still have a number of places available for September.

Please contact the main school office to register your interest.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Attendance Myth Busters



What parents/ carers have told us.....	The truth.....
The school aren't helping me get my child to school.	We do everything to support you, however, we cannot pick your child up and bring them to school.
School fine parents and keep the money	Lincolnshire County Council issue fines and the money is not given to schools
It's the school's job to get children into school	It is the parent or carer's legal responsibility to get children into school so they can access full time education.
My child's attendance is above 90% - that's good!	Ideally, children should attend every school day. Therefore 100% is the expected level, however, 95% is considered as good attendance. Anything below 95% is not good enough.
If my child is late, they will still get a mark in the register.	Whilst it is better to arrive late than not at all, if your child arrives at school more than 30 minutes after registers close, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Arriving late can cause distress and anxiety to children who have to walk into a classroom of children who are settled and working.
School staff visit our homes to check up on us.	If children are not in school, we have a legal duty to know where they are and why they are not in school. If we do not hear from you for up to 3 days, we may pay a home visit.
The school makes up rules about how long children can have off for certain illnesses.	Schools follow regulations set by Public Health England and the NHS. Further information can be found on the NHS website under the heading "Is my child too ill for school?"
School won't contact me if my child becomes ill.	School will always contact you if your child is too unwell to remain in school.
School is being difficult asking for medical evidence for my child's absence.	Schools may ask to see proof of dental/ doctor appointments. Lincolnshire County Council may request further medical evidence in legal cases.
Schools can authorise holidays if they want to.	As a rule, holidays cannot be authorised. Lincolnshire County Council check that we are not authorising holidays.

Aim high and achieve...

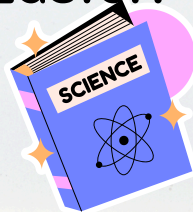
Half-term Ahead

- 24th February- Return to school
- 24th February- Final gymnastics club (EYFS)
- 26th February- Sapphire Class Swimming
- W/C 3rd March- New clubs begin.
- 4th March- Academy Reading Evening
- 6th March- World Book Day
- 7th March- British Science Week
- W/C 24th March- Parent Consultations
- 3rd April- Easter Craft Afternoon
- 4th April- Break up for Easter.

WORLD

BOOK

DAY



Aim high and achieve...

Hillcrest In the Community



A Big Thank You to Gainsborough Tesco!

We are incredibly grateful to Gainsborough Tesco for their generous support throughout this academic year. Thanks to their funding, we have been able to provide our children with a wide range of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Thank you, Tesco, for helping us promote healthy eating at our Academy!



More Generosity from Gainsborough Tesco!

In addition to their generous fruit vouchers, we are delighted to announce that we have recently received a wide range of school uniforms donated by Gainsborough Tesco. This wonderful contribution will enable us to assist families in need and further support the amazing families within our community.



Exciting News!

Thanks to our wonderful community's support and nominations at Asda, our Academy has been awarded a generous cashpot of £132.79. Stay tuned for our next newsletter to find out how this money will be put to good use!



Aim high and achieve...



Laybo's Fest

🎓 Calling All Schools: Join Gainsborough's Biggest Choir! 🎓

We are thrilled to invite schools from the local area to be part of Gainsborough's Biggest Choir of Young People, an exciting collaboration between Laybo's Fest and the Lincolnshire Music Service. This is a fantastic opportunity for your students to perform alongside other incredible young people, sing uplifting songs, and be part of something truly special!

★ Event Highlights:

- Date: May 18th, 2025
- Location: Gainsborough Trinity Football Ground
- Kids go FREE - all you need to do is give them the time to learn the songs!

BELOW ARE THE SONGS THAT THE CHILDREN WILL BE LEARNING, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A SING-ALONG AT HOME!

The Songs

Proud - Heather Small
Laybo's Anthem - Emily Kitchener
Power in Me - Rebecca Lawrence
Stand By Me - Ben E. King
Can't Stop the Feeling! - Justin Timberlake
Sweet Child o' Mine - Guns and Roses

