



### Term Dates:

**Last day of SPR 1: Thursday 11th February**

**Friday 12th February 2021 CLOSED**

**First day of SPR 2: Monday 22nd February—Wednesday 31st March**

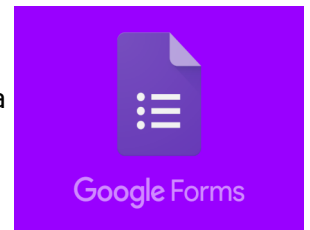
Please make sure you take some time to reset family batteries. We will be in touch ONLY if there are Government announcements which impact on bubbles and pupils returning.

As it stands (today), we are expecting current plans to continue as they are.

### Results

The SLT and I will be looking carefully at the results of the Home Learning Survey. The vast, vast majority of people seem to be happy with Hillsgrove's set up so we won't be in a rush to change things.

We will of course, continue to review impact on learning and liaise with parents/carers as best we can, as and when we make changes.



*Dear Parent/Carers,*

*Teaching and working from home is tough! Week 4 down and I can't imagine it is getting any easier for those of you trying to juggle working, cooking, cleaning, parenting as well as teaching from home! I can only imagine the strain you are all under at home and from speaking to teachers working from home, I truly sympathise with your situations.*

*Times are really tough at the moment...all of our mental health is taking some damage. It is not helped by the dark, cold, rainy, windy and general winter weather. We all need to support each other and get through this together. Thank you to everyone for their words of support for the school and staff but this letter is for those of you at home.*

*Firstly, WELL DONE! You are getting through a pandemic! This never came with a survival guide or a 'how to' book so you are doing great. Whatever battles you are facing at home, we think you are doing a superb job.*

*There will be times when you doubt yourself. However...if your child has missed some zooms, that's ok. If your child didn't go to bed on time, that's ok. If you had to put on CBEEBIES while you caught up on work, that's ok. If you missed listening to them read, that's ok. We know you are doing everything to keep your children safe, happy and cared for and these are the most important things at the moment.*

*We know that we have high expectations at Hillsgrove and we are setting lots of work each week. All that we ask is that you do your best. If your best is to join in just morning sessions...that's ok! If you want to do all of the work set...that's ok too. Please do not let school work put any extra pressure on you and your family.*

*Finally, we may not currently be open to all pupils, but all of your teachers are still here for our families. If you need support, please reach out to someone.*

*Please take care of all of your loved ones, stay safe and just think one day we will get back to some normality and be able to tell our Grandchildren about 'the time we experienced a pandemic'.*

*Yours sincerely,*

*Mr Winstone and the whole staff at Hillsgrove*



**For all of those DIY pupils/parents out there...**

The Nursery children and staff have asked if there are any people out there who have got the time, skill and resources to make them some outdoor bird feeding tables.

<https://freshpatio.com/diy-bird-feeder-plans/>

The site above gives plenty of ideas and we would welcome novice to expert designs. If you feel like you could take on this challenge please email [nursery@hillsgrove.bexley.sch.uk](mailto:nursery@hillsgrove.bexley.sch.uk) and liaise with Mrs Abernethy about how best to organise dropping your creation to school for the children to enjoy some bird watching.



For those of you feeling particularly adventurous, here is one I ~~Googled~~ completely made myself...

**What are you missing**

To all the children out there...what are you missing most about school?

If you have some free time, why not make a poster about what you are missing most?

Take a picture of you with it, then send it in to your class email for Mr Winstone!

We can then make one of our videos to share with the world!

We miss you all too!

**Pen Pals**

Long ago in a time forgotten there used to be a way of sending letters other than electronically! People used to write using a pen and piece of paper and post things in ancient things called letter boxes!!



If you are missing school, or just want to write to say 'hi', I would love to hear from you!

Why not write a letter to the school, put it in a S.A.E and then post it to us on a daily exercise walk!



You may even get a hand written letter back!!!

**Lateral Flow Testing (LFT)**

**For staff only**

This is purely for parent/carer information:

As of this week **Staff** who are currently working **AT** school have been taking part in voluntary COVID testing .

We apologise for the knock ons to child care and home schooling due to closure of school bubbles but hope we can minimise the impact on children's education.

Thank you for your support.

**NEED HELP PRINTING SCHOOL, COLLEGE OR UNI WORK?**

A4, A3, colour, duplex - whatever you need, free

**HAPPY TO HELP ANY WAY WE CAN**

5 Pickford Lane, Bexleyheath DA7 4RD t: 020 8304 4010