



Thank you

As we approach week 3 of home learning, all of the staff at Hillsgrove want to say a huge thank you to all of the parents/carers for taking on the challenge of home learning. It has been made easier by the effort of staff and children being so brilliant but parents/carers have had such a challenging role. I wonder how many of you are considering a role change to a teaching career after lockdown is over!?!



Virtual meetings are...fun?

We are well aware at Hillsgrove that screen time is increasing for everyone and wanted you to know that we are always reflecting on how to make things better. The feedback we are getting is that we are well ahead of many schools but that doesn't mean we can't make things even better.

At school we understand that your living room/bedroom/kitchen has become a work place, a school, an office, a staffroom, a playground, a virtual mess to name but a few. So, we will be working with you to make sure we adapt and change in ways that best suit everyone.



Mrs Laurie is going to be meeting with Parent Forum Representatives to see if there is any way we can move our home learning forward. We are always open to ideas...

Missing the social side

We completely understand that the hardest thing moving forward is children missing out on social time.

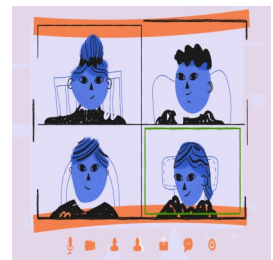
I had an email from one parent this week who was very thankful of all the support and plans the school has put in place. However, they were most impressed with 1 child who had been ringing her daughter every day to check she was ok. I was so impressed with this selflessness that I personally zoomed the child to say thank you (you know who you are!). It got me to thinking that with all this extra screen time...



Have you zoomed or video called your best mate?

Have you text or messaged someone you haven't heard from?

Could you set up a quiz session for your class mates?



Cherry Tree Car Park

Please be aware that this car park is not for parent/carer use



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 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...

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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

Devices and Laptops

We are in the process of converting school laptops so that families without devices can have access to online learning. As soon as they are ready/delivered we will get them out to families who need them. Please be aware that there is clear guidance on who will qualify for this offer and we will work through the priority list as quick as we can.

Some families have contacted the school to donate devices and we would happily take any devices you can spare for families in need. If you can, please reset them to factory setting, ensure you have all the necessary leads and contact the school office to arrange dropping them to the school.

Please see the below link for how much of a difference a device can make:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p093cwh6>