

# Weekly Newsletter



Friday, 13h January, 2017

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**Parent Consultations** - Please note that parent appointments for 26<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> January can be booked from Monday online with the exception of Hornbeam Class, who will make a separate arrange in lieu of 26<sup>th</sup> January. Details to follow.

**Outstanding learning at Holly Trees** – We received a visit this week from Andrew Binnell, a respected educational advisor, who agreed that the children are offered an exceptional learning experience at our school. He was full of praise for the positive and conscientious attitude he observed in both children and staff. Well done everyone.

**Year 6 morning clubs** – Mrs Masters' maths reasoning club will start next Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> January and Mr Hocking's reading club will be begin on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> January. Both start at 8:00 am sharp.

**Learning outside the classroom** – At Holly Trees we remain dedicated to maximising the learning opportunities offered outside the classroom, be it on the school grounds or further afield, through such things as educational visits and Forest School. We are seeking parents' feedback on how much they engage with the outdoor environment and any particular locations that are of particular interest to children. We are also asking if you have any old waterproof coats that are no longer required, then could you please donate them to the school.

**Parent survey** – We are always keen to continue to improve what we offer our children and would value your views. If you have not already done so, could you please complete the questionnaire sent out earlier this week.

**Snow closure info** – In the event of any future disruption due to snow and we are forced to close, we will inform parents at the earliest opportunity via our website and by Parentmail. Of course, we will do our utmost to maintain business as usual as long as it is safe to do so.

**Chinese New Year** – To welcome the Chinese New Year, the Year of the Rooster, Mrs Horgan will be organising a chopstick challenge during the week commencing 23<sup>rd</sup> January. The chopstick challenge is 'How many marshmallows can you pick up in 1 minute?' for KS1 and 'How many dry pasta shapes can you pick up in 1 minute?' for KS2. This fun activity will take place in school where chopsticks will be provided. These can be taken home for those who wish to practice. Ten children from each class, across both KS1 and KS2, will be selected at random to take part in this exciting challenge!

**Children's Book Club** – This will be held at Brentwood Library on the last Monday of the month from 11:00 to 12:00. It is for children aged 7 to 11 and will start on 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2017.

## Poppy Appeal

Thank you very much for your support. The school managed to raise £238.37.

**Census Day (Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> January)** – We will have a special menu on Thursday as we need to collect the number of pupils who take up a **FREE** school meal and report to the Department of Education. If we do not achieve a full take up in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, our funding may be slashed which would impact on the money available to spend on all pupils. Please support us and take of the offer of a **FREE** meal this Thursday, **if you are entitled to one**. The menu will be Beef burger or Quorn burger in a bun (cheese slice optional) served with skinny fries, BBQ beans or salad followed by iced fruit smoothies, a variety of fruit, jelly or yoghurts.

**Menu** – Week 3 of the menu. Please follow this link <http://hollytreesprimaryschool.co.uk/school-lunches/>

**Attendance – 97% target** – Congratulations to Elm, Hornbeam, Laurel and Maple for having over 97% attendance since the start of the academic year.

### **Letters home**

9<sup>th</sup> Jan – Y5 & Y6 Forest School  
9<sup>th</sup> Jan – Parent governor nomination letter and form  
9<sup>th</sup> Jan – Reasoning Club and Book Club  
10<sup>th</sup> Jan – Football match v St Helens  
11<sup>th</sup> Jan – Parent survey  
12<sup>th</sup> Jan – Football match v Doddinghurst  
12<sup>th</sup> Jan – Y5 & Y6 Gymnastics Club  
12<sup>th</sup> Jan – KS1 & KS2 Running Club (by Parentmail)

### **Forthcoming dates**

16<sup>th</sup> Jan – Reasoning Club starts  
17<sup>th</sup> Jan – Fundraisers meeting at 7:30 pm  
20<sup>th</sup> Jan – Fundraisers' non-uniform day  
23<sup>rd</sup> Jan – Reception class road safety  
24<sup>th</sup> Jan – Reception class road safety  
26<sup>th</sup> Jan – Parent/teacher consultations (5:00 to 7:00 pm)  
30<sup>th</sup> Jan – Parent/teacher consultations (3:30 to 5:30 pm)  
30<sup>th</sup> Jan – Year 5 road safety walk  
1<sup>st</sup> Feb – Science lesson at BCHS (Y5)  
25<sup>th</sup> Feb – Fundraisers Barn Dance  
6<sup>th</sup> Feb – Reception class health checks  
7<sup>th</sup> Feb – Reception class health checks  
18<sup>th</sup> Mar – Jazz night  
21<sup>st</sup> March – Y4 play evening performance  
22<sup>nd</sup> March – Y4 play afternoon performance  
24<sup>th</sup> March – Y5 & Y6 Queens Theatre performance of Alfie Strange

### **Congratulations**

**Bronze Certificates** went to Evangelos Tsatsa, Amy Coppin, Violet Scott, Archey Mizen-Pheby, Samuel Keen, Jasmine Callaby, Louie Dennison, Taylor Land, Lola Slattery, Emily Pinder and Herrick Asante.

**Silver Certificates** went to Elvienne Squire, Rhys Gale, Alfie Frost, Freddie Nelson and Bobbi McGovern.