

Weekly Newsletter



Friday, 13th May, 2016

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Circus at Holly Trees – We look forward to seeing many of you at our circus tomorrow. The homework at half term will be for children to use their maths, writing or other creative skills to produce a piece about circuses (as some people are worried by clowns, we do ask that children think of all aspects of a circus so that we can display their work in the corridor without causing any concern).

No smoking – I would like to confirm that our No Smoking Policy includes the use of e-cigarettes anywhere within the school grounds during school time and at evening and weekend events.

Internet safety – We constantly strive to keep our children safe in this technological age. There are two opportunities for parents to find out how they can help in this matter. On Wednesday, 25th May, our Years 5 and 6 children will be going to Becket Keys with five other primary schools for some e-safety training and in the evening parents are invited to an information session. Due to the number of people involved, this is only open to Years 5 and 6 parents and we ask that just one parent per family attends. **If you plan to attend, please notify the school office by Friday, 20th May.** Also, any Holly Trees parents are invited to a CEOP session on Tuesday, 21st June at 5:00pm in our school hall. More information about this will follow.

Regular reading – I was shocked to discover that half of our infant children did not read at home at all last week. If children are to progress with their reading, they should read at home most days, even when the weather is lovely.

Catering Manager – We have a vacancy for a Catering Manager. If you are interested, please collect an application form from the office or apply online at www.essexschooljobs.co.uk

School shoes – When parents are buying new school shoes for their children, please consider how smart these shoes are. Many companies seem to be marketing trainers as school shoes and these are not smart enough for school. School shoes should be the sort that can be polished because they are leather (or look like leather) and should not bear any brand name or symbols often linked to sportswear. In addition to children's school shoes, all children should bring plimsolls or trainers to school during this term for outdoor PE.

INSET day – 23rd June – Because our school will be used as a Polling Station on the day of the EU Referendum, there will be no school that day. Please be aware that Year 6 children attending BCHS next year will be required to go to BCHS on this date for induction.

Musical Soiree (19th May) – It is the time of year again when we invite the musicians in school to perform for friends and family. The event will start at 7:00 pm. Tickets available online.

Preparing for the Summer Fete - Save the date 2 July in your diary. This year, the Fundraisers are asking the parents of each class to organise a stall. We have plenty of games in the shed that you can use – or you might want to come up with fresh idea of your own! We'll be sending out more information to parents next week to explain the set up – in the meantime, you may want to think about who you will nominate to be your stall leader.

Parent Governor Elections – You should all have received your voting forms for parent governor. Two envelopes and ballot papers have been sent home with each family to enable both parents to vote. Each parent may only vote once even if you are a single parent family and have received two forms. Unfortunately, some of Chris Sansom's statement got omitted and should read as follows:

I am a dad of 2 children (Years 1 & 3) who would welcome the opportunity to support the governing body in continuing the success of Holly Trees school. I am a registered social worker and a trained counsellor who has worked with both looked after and children in need of protection./safeguarding. I currently work as a counsellor with children and young people and work in partnership with schools across the mid-Essex area, including providing inset day training to school staff. I have a keen interest in how schools can support children of all needs and abilities and being married to a primary school Headteacher I feel that I have an insight into some of the challenges and demands that schools face. I am also involved with my son's football team and their cubs/beavers groups which I enjoy.

Kingfishers Pre-School is celebrating 30 years Anniversary. If you have had any connections with Kingfishers, please come along and join us at Brentwood Baptist Church, Kings Chase on Sunday 15th May from 2 to 4 pm. Party entertainment starts at 2.15pm and drinks and cakes will be served afterwards.

Sainsbury vouchers – Sainsburys have now stopped issuing vouchers so we would be grateful if you could search your pockets and purses for any vouchers you may have before we place our order. Many thanks.

Attendance – 97% target - Congratulations to Beech, Elm, Hornbeam, Larch and Sycamore for having over 97% attendance since the start of the academic year (September).

Menu – Week Two of the new summer menu. Please note that Thursday's menu has been swapped for Friday next week as Thursday is Census Day and the number of meals taken will affect our school budget.

Letters home

9th May – EYFS & Y1 UFSM data collection
9th May -Y5 Time Travellers & Wild Forest Gym
12th May – Parent Governor elections – ballot papers
12th May – Year 2 - Universal Free School Meals

Forthcoming dates

14th May – Happy's Big Top circus
19th May – Musical Soiree
25th May – Y4 visit to Hampton Court
30th May to 3rd June – Half term
6th June – non-pupil day
10th June – Class and group photos
13th, 14th, 16th & 17th June – Y6 Bikeability
15th June – Y6 Crucial Crew
15th June – Author visit
23rd June – school closed for polling
24th June – Holly Trees Talent Competition
27th June – District Sports
30th June – Y1 visit to Barleylands
1st July – Y5 History Off the Page
2nd July – Summer Fete
5th July – Y5 Wild Forest Gym
8th July – Sports Day
22nd July – last day of term
14th July – Open afternoon (3:00 to 6:00pm)
22nd July – Last day of summer term
5th Sept – children return to school

Congratulations

Bronze Certificates went to Amelia Lawford, Ruby Bailey, Tyler Woehrle, Amber O'Leary, Delphina Poole and Aganthira Rajamanikam.

Silver Certificates went to Nathan Chege, Chloe Wheeler, Douglas Muncey, Issy Tiller and Tristan Hersant.

Gold Certificates went to Achillea Tsatsa; Year 6 decided to present Gold Certificates to Mr Hocking, Mrs Masters, Mrs Barnwell, Mrs Bowring and Mrs Flatman.

Headteacher's Award – after this week's SATs I felt the Headteacher's Award should go to a child in Year 6 but, in fact, I could not decide who, as all of the Year 6 children have behaved with an excellent attitude this week.