

# Weekly Newsletter



Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2016

Volume 25; Issue 6

**Staffing news** – Next week we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Trott who has been supporting children's learning at Holly Trees for many years. We wish her every success with the future. Mrs Philips will be joining the staff in Birch Class from half term. We have also been successful in appointing a new full time teacher for Maple Class, Mr Steve Lawlor, who will be starting in the spring term.

**Clowns** – There has been a lot on the news about clowns scaring and threatening people. We have shared the Newsround article with the children explaining that scaring and threatening people is not allowed in school or in the wider community. We would appreciate your support in ensuring that this latest 'craze' is not glamourized in the eyes of our children.

**Parent/Teacher appointments** – If you were unable to attend your appointment yesterday, please arrange a separate time to meet with your child's class teacher as soon as possible so that you can support their learning at home.

**Supporting learning at home – EYFS parents** – We would like to invite EYFS parents (Acorn and Apple classes) to see how we teach phonics in school so that the same strategies can be supported at home. The demonstration sessions will take place on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> October. After dropping your children off, make your way to the small hall where the Fundraisers will be available to make coffee until the children are ready and have offered that they will run a crèche so that pre-school siblings do not disturb the teaching you have come to see. The demonstration will be in Year 1, as these children will be able to show parents how their phonics have progressed now that they are using a full phonics session, which Reception children build up to during the year.

**Big Summer Read** – Any children who completed the Big Summer Read at the library should bring their certificate to school to show Mrs Collins, who works in our school library, on Tuesday next week as we will then present the children with a gold school certificate.

**School photos** – The photographer will be in school on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> October to take individual photos of your children. If there are siblings in the school, they will also have their photos taken together. If you have pre-school children and would like a family photo taken, please take your children to the library from 8:30 am until the start of school.

**Home time** – At 3:15 pm it is home time. It is called this because it is the time to go home. As staff sometimes need confidentiality for meetings and discussion after school, which cannot take place whilst children and parents are potentially still within earshot, we will be closing the school gates at 3:30 pm from today. There will be access for those attending after school clubs, but all other children and parents should have left the school premises by this time. In addition, I would like to remind you that bikes and scooters should not be used on the school playground.

**New school telephone system** – We have improved our telephone system so that you will find the line engaged less frequently. This will mean that the number used to call you may be different from that which you have already saved to your phone. Please listen to any voicemails so that you know if it is the school calling you but please continue to ring us on 01277 212296 as the outgoing number cannot take incoming calls.

**Year 6 Secondary School applications** – Please remember to apply for a secondary school place for your child by **31<sup>st</sup> October, 2016**. Applications can be made online at [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions)

**Fundraisers – My Art Project** – Once again the Fundraisers will be organising this project for those who wish to participate. My Art Project is a fundraising scheme whereby the children can create artwork that can then be transformed into personalised Christmas cards and other gifts for parents/carers to purchase. My Art Project donates a percentage of the total order amount to the Fundraisers that is then used to fund the school projects that we are supporting. All children will be receiving a My Art Project pack in their schoolbag next week so that they can produce their artwork, if you want to participate, over the half-term period. This year, the order is taken at the same time as the artwork is submitted and, therefore, the payment (cheques only – no cash can be accepted) needs to come in at the same time as the artwork for the order to be processed (details will be given in the pack). Artwork and orders will need to be returned to school by **Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November** at the latest, via the classroom.

Don't forget that our Fireworks Night is on 4<sup>th</sup> November. Tickets are now on sale.

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

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

### **Letters home**

10<sup>th</sup> Oct – Y6 Beekeeping

10<sup>th</sup> Oct – Operation Christmas Child

10<sup>th</sup> Oct – Y2 educational visits

### **Forthcoming dates**

15<sup>th</sup> Oct – BCHS Masterclass in morning

17<sup>th</sup> Oct – individual school photos

18<sup>th</sup> Oct – 3:15pm Fundraisers' second hand uniform sale

21<sup>st</sup> Oct – last day of half term

31<sup>st</sup> Oct – children return to school

### **Congratulations**

**Bronze Certificates** went to Amelia Lawford, Toby Matthews, Evan Edwards, Oliver Rank, Woody Sansom, Amy Maher, Fleur Lelievre, Finley Vickerage, Skyler Collins, Archie McFarlane and Albie Berner.

**Music For Schools Silver Merit Certificates** went to Harrison Williams and Robbie Muncey.

**Headteachers Award** went to Ben Waddington.