

Weekly Newsletter



Friday, 16th September, 2016

Volume 25; Issue 2

Parents supporting learning – As a school, we encourage activities that we know will have a positive impact on children’s learning. Our analysis of last year’s results has proved that the children who were most successful attended extra learning opportunities, did their homework and their parents attended meetings designed to support home learning. Those who were not successful did not engage with the school and, as a result, did not make the progress that they could have.

If we offer a meeting for parents or an activity for children, please consider that we feel it is necessary for your children to make the progress they deserve. Obviously we focus on learning in school and expect children to have some time with families doing activities other than school work, out of school, but children are at home for more of their waking hours than they are at school, so we need to work together. Thank you to all parents who do engage with us already.

Reminder – Year 6 parents information session 21st September at 7:00 pm.

Learning and safety – The whole school evacuated the building on Tuesday in a couple of minutes for a fire drill, proving that our school community would be safe in the event of a fire. However, on this occasion, this activity was designed to support learning in Year 2 where the children are learning about fire and particularly The Great Fire of London. Mrs Priest was demonstrating what would happen nowadays if someone burns the bread!

Jeans for Genes (23rd September) – In memory of Philippa Deamer, a member of staff who died last year from a genetic disease, we are supporting Jeans for Genes day next Friday. Any child who wishes to wear jeans to school and bring £1 for the charity is welcome to do so, whilst ensuring they are still safe and comfortable to spend the day in school. Year 6 will be on their residential trip next Friday and have been advised not to wear jeans as they take a long while to dry if they get wet. However, if Year 6 children still wish to donate to the charity, they can bring the money to the school office in the morning.

School toilets – Please remember our facilities are for the school community, not public facilities. You should not plan to need to use school toilets during the school day except in emergencies.

Foundation Sports clubs – The clubs run by Foundation Sports (see below) will only take place if parents return permission slips for children to attend. If you need new letters with reply slips, please ask at the office.

French Club – There are still places available in French Club. If your child is interested, please see Mrs Bright after school on Tuesday in Holly Class.

Extra-curricular activities –

Monday	Recorders with Miss Burden (lunchtime) FS Running Club (before school) Y6 arithmetic club – Mrs Masters (before school) PASS football – KS2 (after school)
Tuesday	BCHS netball for Y6 (lunchtime) Table tennis club – run by Y6 (lunchtime) BCSWT Supaclub (lunchtime) PASS football – KS1 (after school) French club (after school)
Wednesday	FS netball (before school) Y6 spelling and grammar club – Mr Hocking (before school) Eco club – Ms Butler (lunchtime)

	School of Rock (lunchtime)
	Karate (after school)
Thursday	Girls football – Y3 & Y4 run by Y6 (lunchtime)
	FS Y3 & Y4 tag rugby club (after school)
Friday	Maths club – Mrs Dawson (lunchtime)
	Y5 & Y6 football refereeing club – Mr Hocking (lunchtime)
	Lego Club – Mr Collins (lunchtime)

Thank you Fundraisers – I would like to say thank you to the fundraising committee and all parents who support our fundraising activities for all the money raised during the last school year. As a result, our new music room is being used, five extra classes have new interactive flat screens and they have just provided us with £1,000 to purchase high quality dictionaries for Years 4 to 6 and £3,000 to buy new books and iPad apps for across the school.

Family Fun Day - Remember to come along for the Family Fun Day tomorrow (12 noon start). There is no admission charge, lots of activities and an opportunity for the whole family to spend time together in a safe environment. The event will take place come rain or shine, although the forecast is for dry weather.

Dates for the Diary

The Fundraisers have begun to put together a calendar of activities and social events for this year to raise money for new fiction books for the classrooms and licences for new apps for the class iPads. Further to tomorrow's Family Fun Day, please save the date in your diaries for the following:

9 am, Wednesday, 28 September 2016	Coffee morning Stay back after school drop-off if you can to chat with other parents over a coffee and biscuit.
8 pm, Tuesday, 4 October 2016	Fundraisers' AGM Further details to follow.
3.15 pm, Tuesday, 18 October 2016	Second-hand Uniform Sale Plain and logo-ed uniform available at school pick-up.
Half-term, October 2016	My Art Project Get ahead for Christmas with your own artwork made into cards and gifts.
Friday, 4 November 2016	Firework Display A professional display of fireworks on our school field with hot food and drinks available to buy.
Tuesday, 8 November 2016	Bags2School Please bring outgrown or old clothes at school drop-off to be recycled. No towels or bedlinen unfortunately.
Thursday, 8 December 2016	Christmas Grotto Meet Father Christmas and receive an early gift together with entertainment available in the School Hall.
Monday, 19 December 2016	Secret Santa Gift Shop Pupils can buy a surprise present for someone special.
Spring Term 2017	Barn Dance Jazz Night Sponsored Walk School Disco
Summer Term 2017	Race Night [adults only]
A Thursday in June 2017	Inflatable Day Various bouncy castles and inflatables on the field after school.
July 2017	Summer Fete

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

Menu – Week One of the new autumn menu. Please check out our exciting new menu on the school website. Please follow this link <http://hollytreesprimaryschool.co.uk/school-lunches/>

Letters home

- 12th Sept – Y4 Anglo-Saxon Day and Hampton Court Palace
- 13th Sept – Y3 Chelmsford Museum
- 15th Sept – Beech and Birch Forest School

Forthcoming dates

- 17th Sept – Fundraisers family fun day
- 21st Sept – Y6 parent information meeting (7:00pm)
- 23rd Sept – Y6 trip to Aylmerton
- 23rd Sept – Jeans for Genes day
- 26th Sept – Y6 return from Aylmerton
- 28th Sept – Fundraisers Coffee morning
- 30th Sept – Y4 Anglo Saxon day
- 4th Oct – Fundraisers AGM
- 12th Oct – Y6 parent information meeting (2:30pm and 7:00pm)
- 13th Oct – School closed to pupils – parent/teacher consultations
- 14th Oct – flu immunisation
- 15th Oct – BCHS Masterclass in morning
- 17th Oct – individual school photos
- 18th Oct – 3:15 Fundraisers' second hand uniform sale
- 21st Oct – last day of half term
- 31st Oct – children return to school

Congratulations

Bronze Certificates went to Henry McGilway, Adam Bown, Kimberly Chen, Ben Phillips, Maicey Southwick, Michaela Angeles, Scarlett Bauers, Michael Gabbett, Alexander Deakins, Barney Mizen-Pheby, Charlie Bussandra and Harriet Dennison.

Gold Certificate went to Jennifer Joseph

Headteacher's Award went to Tia Chaplin.