

Weekly Newsletter



Friday, 2nd October, 2015

Volume 22; Issue 4

Parent Teacher Consultations

On 8th October school is closed for normal lessons as published last year on our term dates calendar (please see the school website for the 2016-2017 closure dates). Your child should bring home your appointment for Thursday, tonight. If you are unable to make the appointment, please contact the class teacher direct to rearrange your meeting. Date Collection Sheets will be given out at the consultations. Please ensure you tell us of any changes and make sure you tell us your email address, any dietary requirements and medical conditions your child may have. These forms need to be returned to the school office as soon as possible.

Learning Powers

The new Learning Power that we will be focusing on next week is 'Be curious'. Remember to ask your child how they have used their new power next week.

Year 6 journalists' reports

This week our owl captains have been asked to find and support a charity. The captains have been asking their owl team members which charity they would like to raise funds for. The fundraising will carry on throughout the school year. Hopefully we will have more information next week and we are eagerly awaiting their final decisions - by Louise Clements

Autumn half term multi sports

Foundation Sports will be holding another course during half term. Sports include football, rounders, tag-rugby, netball, kwik-cricket, athletics, basketball, volleyball, dodgeball and ultimate frisbee. This course was very popular in the summer, so if you would like your child to attend any of the days, please return the booking form to the school office and make your payment through SIMS Agora as soon as possible.

Questionnaire

Many thanks to all of you who have returned your questionnaires. If you have not yet returned it, please could you do so by Monday so that we can start to act on your feedback. Without formal analysis, I can give you some response to the questionnaires we have already received. It is interesting to note that a number of you feel that the amount of homework is not appropriate. However, the comments range from telling us that there is not enough homework to telling us that we should not set homework. It looks as though this is an area where we are never going to please everybody but we will be reviewing our current practice. I was also disappointed that a couple of people feel that we do not respond to concerns they have raised, but since they have not given their names, it is very difficult to respond to this concern. I also appreciate the time many of you took to give written feedback much of which was very positive about what Holly Trees has to offer.

Many parents have requested support with using Mathletics. We will be organising a parents' workshop evening on Mathletics, but to respond quickly to this request, Mr Singh will be offering drop-in support on Thursday in the library during the parent teacher consultations if you would like to pop along.

Census Day lunch

Thank you for supporting us with our Census Day lunch, with 96% of infants having the school meal.

Parking

I have, yet again, had concerns brought to my attention about parents parking and driving in a way that puts their children and other people at risk. Please always consider other road users and the effect your driving may have on them or your children. One person injured as a result of poor driving or parking is one too many.

Caring for the environment

As an Eco School, we take a pride in our care of our natural environment. To assist with this, please ensure your children do not climb into the bushes near the entrance gate, as the shrubbery is being damaged.

Fundraisers

AGM – Wednesday, 7th October at Zizzi, Brentwood - Everyone is welcome to attend and you do not need to order anything to eat or drink. If you are interested in or would like more information on becoming an elected committee member, please email hollytreespta@hotmail.co.uk.

Fireworks Night – Friday, 6th November – We are proud to be hosting our second annual Fireworks Night. Ticket prices have been held at 2014 levels (£5 per adult, £2 per child, under 2's free if purchased in advance) at www.hollytreesprimaryschool.co.uk/fireworks for credit and debit cards and cash tickets from the Londis, 19 Warley Hill. Tickets will also be on sale after school on Tuesdays and Fridays from next week, in the playground near the willow dome. Please try and bring the correct money.

Attendance – 97% target - Congratulations to Elder, Elm, Hornbeam, Larch, Laurel, Mulberry, Spruce and Sycamore for having over 97% attendance since the start of the academic year (September). Because we are early in the school year, just one day's absence will mean that your child's attendance will only be 90% at the moment. Please make sure your child comes to school every day when he/she is well enough so that the most can be made of the learning on offer.

Menu

Week 3 of the menu. Please note that there may be some small changes to desserts due to unforeseen circumstances.

Letters home

25th – Parent/teacher consultations

29th – Year 6 Norfolk trip information

Forthcoming dates

8th Oct – Non-pupil day – Parent Teacher consultations

9th to 12th Oct – Y6 Norfolk visit

15th Oct – Y3 visit to Chelmsford Museum

26th-30th Oct – Half term

4th Nov – Individual photos

5th Nov – Y2 – Great Fire of London theatre in school

6th Nov – Firework display

13th Nov – Y6 visit to Imperial War Museum

20th Nov – Y2 visit to Essex Fire Museum

16th Dec – Christmas dinner

17th Dec – flu immunisation

17th Dec – carol singing

18th Dec – last day of school – children return on Tuesday, 5th January

Congratulations

Bronze Certificates went to Ben Phillips, Penny Blanchard, Alexa Camilleri, Tyler Chaplin, Mina Reeves, Lyla Said, Finley Vickerage, Ewan Hobbs, Zachary Osborn, James Barker, Samuel Keen, Bobbie Carillo and Oscar Platten.

Headteacher's Award went to Petra Ndukwe.