

# Weekly Newsletter



Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2015

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**Parent Teacher Consultations** - On 8<sup>th</sup> October school is closed for normal lessons but we will be sending a letter home next week with full details of how to book to see your child's teacher in the afternoon or evening on that date.

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

**Parentmail** - Thanks to our Fundraisers' Association, we have Parentmail as a quick and eco-friendly way of communicating with you. I am surprised to note that only three quarters of parents have registered to receive emails and texts via Parentmail. This means that we have to print 100 or more copies of letters that we send out each week. There is a link on the website to sign up for Parentmail and from 1<sup>st</sup> November, we will no longer be providing paper copies of letters, except where a reply slip needs to be printed. If you do not have access to the Internet, then please notify the office and we will provide you with paper letters.

**Year 6 journalists' reports** - On Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> September the Head Girl/Boy elections took place. When we asked the potential Head Boy, Achillea, his feelings, he replied, 'It feels trembley and you are so proud and scared'. We also asked potential Head Girl, Millie, who said, 'It was a thoroughly appreciated moment'. Voter, Preya Patel said, 'It was really hard to decide, but I came to a conclusion'. After the results were in, our Head Girl, Lola Callaby said, 'It's a great responsibility and I'm so proud of myself'.

*By Edmund Bass*

My name is Louise Clements and I have been appointed as one of the Year 6 journalists to write for the Newsletter. I know it is a great responsibility and I feel very privileged to be given the opportunity. I am hardworking, trustworthy and willing to have a go at anything. I even managed to keep Miss Holme's desk tidy and organised for two years, which was a challenge!

You may see me on the playground with my notebook interviewing children and adults about the different aspects of school life. I hope you will find my articles equally informative and entertaining.

The past couple of weeks have been very important in the life of Holly Trees, as they have been leading up to the annual election of Head Boy and Girl. Last week, Year 6 pupils were given a chance to deliver a speech to their year group and teachers, telling us how they wished to fulfil this highly sought after role of responsibility. This week has been especially tense, as we have finally found out who our lovely Head Girl and Boy are. After hearing the eight selected children's convincing, confident speeches in Wednesday's assembly, our new Head Girl and Boy were announced. Our new Head Boy is Alfie Phillips, Head Girl is Lola Callaby, Deputy Head Girl is Rebecca Smith and Deputy Head Boy is Achillea Tsatsa. Our owl captains are Stephanie Brown, Millie Waters, Berta Ciria Roca and Paige Hawtree. Well done to all, they made us proud to be part of the Holly Trees community.

**Breakfast Club places** - In the summer term we asked parents to let us know which days they would need Breakfast Club for their children. Many places, however, have not been taken up and so other people are being turned away when we could offer the service to more families. Spare places will be offered to those on our waiting list for any spaces not taken by the end of next week unless you have made arrangements with Mrs Taylor to reserve the space for longer.

**Questionnaire** - On Monday we will be sending home a questionnaire for you to give us your latest views of what we do well and what we could do to improve. Please return the questionnaires as soon as possible so that we can act on your suggestions as we have in the past. It might be that we need to change something or indeed, continue to do something that we did not realise you viewed positively.

**Census Day lunch – 1<sup>st</sup> October** - Please order a dinner for your child on 1<sup>st</sup> October. If we do not achieve a full take up in Reception, Years 1 and 2 our funding may be slashed which would impact on the money we have available to spend on the education of all our pupils. We urge you to support us and take up the offer of a **FREE** meal this Thursday.

We are committed to providing nutritious, high quality and tasty meals and the funding we receive will help us to continue to do this using locally sourced meats and vegetables. We thank you in advance for supporting the school.

**Headlice** - Please check your child's hair for headlice or nits and treat any problems as soon as possible. If your child has long hair, please ensure it is tied back. If you need further advice, please ask your local chemist or enquire at the school office.

**Holiday homework** - The homework that has been displayed in the upstairs corridor is of a fabulous standard and deserves to be appreciated. Please take the opportunity to come in after school with your child to have a look at the work.

**Family Fun Day** - We had a great day on Saturday at the Fundraisers' Family Fun Day with families enjoying a range of activities for free. There was den building, Kwik Cricket, relay races, cress planting, bunting decorating and refreshments. Even the weather was kind. Look out for news of future fundraising events.

**Fundraisers AGM – Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> October at Zizzi, Brentwood** - Everyone is welcome to attend. If you are interested in or would like more information on becoming an elected committee member, please email [hollytreespta@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:hollytreespta@hotmail.co.uk).

**Fireworks Night – Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> November** – Tickets (£5 per adult, £2 per child, under 2's free if purchased in advance) on sale at [www.hollytreesprimaryschool.co.uk/fireworks](http://www.hollytreesprimaryschool.co.uk/fireworks) for credit and debit cards and cash tickets on sale at the Londis, 19 Warley Hill from 1<sup>st</sup> October at 9:00 am.

**Attendance – 97% target** - Congratulations to Beech, Elder, Elm, Hornbeam, Larch, Laurel, Maple, 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 2 of the menu - please see the website for the new summer menus.

## Letters home

21<sup>st</sup> – Y6 - height and weight measurement (Provide)

21<sup>st</sup> – Beech and Birch – Forest School

22<sup>nd</sup> – Y6 visit to Imperial War Museum

## Forthcoming dates

8<sup>th</sup> Oct – Non-pupil day – Parent Teacher consultations

9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Oct – Y6 Norfolk visit

15<sup>th</sup> Oct – Y3 visit to Chelmsford Museum

26<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> Oct – Half term

4<sup>th</sup> Nov – Individual photos

5<sup>th</sup> Nov – Y2 – Great Fire of London theatre in school

6<sup>th</sup> Nov – Firework display

13<sup>th</sup> Nov – Y6 visit to Imperial War Museum

20<sup>th</sup> Nov – Y2 visit to Essex Fire Museum

16<sup>th</sup> Dec – Christmas dinner

17<sup>th</sup> Dec – flu immunisation

17<sup>th</sup> Dec – carol singing

18<sup>th</sup> Dec – last day of school – children return on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> January

## Congratulations

**Bronze Certificates** went to Evie Green, Harrison Williams, Liam Czop, Charley Fletcher, Poppy Knowles, Callum Bendelow, Petra Ndukwe, Jake Stanley, Ashleigh Giessing, Nathaniel Green, Anais Abrahams and Jamie Clough.

**Music for Schools Silver Award** went to Madeleine Enticknap and Amelia Bendall.