

Weekly Newsletter



Friday, 26th February, 2016

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World Book Day – 3.3.16 – To celebrate World Book Day this year, we are focusing on two authors, Roald Dahl and Beatrix Potter. Roald Dahl's 100th birthday was at the start of the school year and Beatrix Potter would have been 150 in the summer. Next Thursday children are invited to dress as a Roald Dahl or Beatrix Potter character or as the authors themselves or just bring a book to school by one of the authors.

School of Rock at the Barbican – What a treat! I had the pleasure of accompanying the School of Rock on Monday when Mrs Brocklebank took them to the Barbican to sing for a Barnardo's concert. Their singing was amazing but so was their exemplary behaviour. It was a long day with rehearsals from 10:40am and finishing the concert at 9pm. It was a great concert and we left feeling very proud. I would like say a huge thank you to Mrs O'Hagan, Mrs Jones and Mrs Jackman for giving up their day to help on the day too.

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.

Fairtrade homework – Thank you to all the children who have brought in their homework about breakfasts. It looks fabulous and has clearly involved a lot of learning. It will be displayed in the main corridor next week.

2016 Fairtrade Fortnight Theme – 'Sit down for breakfast – Stand up for farmers'

Holly Trees are hosting a Big Fairtrade Breakfast on Tuesday, 1st March at 9:00 am for 9:10 until 10:10 in the school hall. Special guests will be Patrick, a Fairtrade tea grower from Central Kenya accompanied by Jo, Educational Campaign Manager from the Fairtrade Foundations. Other members of the community will include the Mayor and Phoenix FM Radio. We would like to invite parents and carers to join us for this special occasion. Please contact the office if you can come along. To find out more and support our Fairtrade status, go to Fairtrade.org.uk/breakfast

School Journalists – There are three beehives at Holly Trees. Each hive is surrounded by mesh to keep the woodpeckers out because they like to eat bees. Each Week four Y6 children are selected to help collect the honey. The children put on beekeeping gear – a hat covered in netting, an all-in-one suit, boots and thick gloves. The beekeeper smokes the bees to make them dozy and then the honey is collected, put in jars and sold to raise money for the school. *By Edmund Bass*

On Monday 22nd February, School of Rock, accompanied by Mrs Brocklebank and Mrs Masters, went to the Barbican to sing at a concert for the Barnardo's charity. Holly Trees was one of nineteen schools performing and it was very exciting. Once School of Rock had arrived, the group was led to the auditorium and onto the stage. School of Rock spent a total of 5 long hours rehearsing with our lovely conductor, Susannah Edom-Baker; it was worth it because the end result at the evening performance was spectacular. The words were sung perfectly and we sang in tune (most of the time). As well as the choir singing, a dance group performed and Susannah's daughter, Jessica, who is training to be an opera singer, sang some wonderful songs from the musical Wicked. All the hard work that went into practising was well appreciated as it showed in the amazing performance, the perfect end to a tiring, hardworking and enjoyable day! *By Louise Clements*

Easter Break Multi-Sports

There are still places available for the Multi Sports Camp. Sports will include football, rounders, tag-rugby, netball, kwik-cricket, athletics, basketball, hockey, volleyball, dodgeball and ultimate frisbee. Please collect a booking form from the office and pay through Sims Agora if you would like your child to attend.

Jazz Night – On 5th March we are holding our next Dixieland Jazz Night from 8:00 to 11:00 pm with tickets selling for £16, which includes a fish and chip supper. Order forms are available from the school office or you can book online at hollytreesprimaryschool.co.uk/jazz, but please be aware that this will incur a booking fee. The band is my own, Paula Jackman's Jazzmen, and we offer an evening of music and entertainment.

St Patrick's Day Disco, 17 March – Tickets are now available [online](#) until Monday, 14 March for the St Patrick's Day School Disco. The £3.50 ticket price includes a drink and a small snack. EYFS and KS1 children will be collected by volunteers from their classrooms for their disco starting at 3.15 pm and will finish at 4.10 pm. KS2's disco will be held from 4.20-5.15 pm. NEW for 2016 is a tuck shop for the KS2 disco! KS2 children can bring extra pocket money if they would like to buy extra goodies which will all be priced at 50p. If you are able to offer 90 minutes to help serving drinks or selling at the tuck shop we would be very grateful. Please contact hollytreespta@hotmail.co.uk

Music Room fundraising – The Fundraisers Association is nearing its target to provide our Music Room so that the library, small hall and mentoring area can be available for supporting all children's learning whilst music lessons are also taking place. They are, however, still a couple of thousand pounds short of the figure needed and I am desperate that we raise the money before the costs for providing the room increase. If you know any individual or business that would like to sponsor the Music Room, please notify me or Laurie Edmonds, chairperson of the Fundraising Association, with details (or a cheque!).

Breakfast Club – There are limited spaces available every day at Breakfast Club. If your child attends Breakfast Club, you will receive notification on Fridays about your credit or debit for the club. Please ensure any debt is settled the following Monday. Thank you.

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

Menu - Week 3 of the winter menu.

Letters home

23rd Feb – Y3 Brentwood walk

Forthcoming dates

1st Mar – 9:00 for 9:10 – Fairtrade Big Breakfast

3rd Mar – Y3 fire safety talk

4th Mar – Elm Class visit to Pizza Express

5th Mar – Fundraisers Jazz Night

11th Mar – Able Maths Day

15th Mar – Years 3 & 4 cross country am and Years 5 & 6 pm

15th Mar – Y4 performance of Pied Piper – evening

16th Mar – Y4 performance of Pied Piper – afternoon

16th Mar – Y6 visit to church for Easter Cracked

17th Mar – Y5 visit to Science Museum

17th Mar – Regional rugby final

17th Mar – Fundraisers disco

24th Mar – last day of Spring term

11th Apr – children return to school

Congratulations

Bronze Certificates went to Adam Bown, Toby Matthews, Rupert Thomas, Sebastian Osborn, Amy Clayden, Lewis Westcott, Mohamed Salih, Archie McFarlane, Kara Edwards, Kyan Sansom, Lacey Kershaw, Beatrice Bazely and Jack Rank.

ABRSM Grade 2 Violin (distinction) – congratulations to Thomas O'Hagan.

Basketball – Years 3 & 4 played Trinity School and won 2 periods and lost 4 periods resulting in an overall loss. Years 5 & 6 played Doddinghurst Juniors and won 3 periods and lost 3 periods but scored more baskets resulting in an overall win. Well done to both teams.