

Weekly Newsletter



Friday, 27th January, 2017

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Learning at home – This week's app recommendation is for 'PicCollage' which children can use to design posters. Year 2 has been using this in lesson time to model different types of sentence to make their posters more impressive. Another activity that you could try this weekend as a family, is the RSPB Garden Bird Watch. If you are unfamiliar with the names of some common garden birds or how to carry out the Bird Watch, there is a short Powerpoint presentation on the homework page of our school website that may help.

I would like to remind parents that all children, including Y6, should be reading with an adult at least five times a week. Even our good readers need to discuss what they are reading to develop their inference and deduction skills. Mathletics can also be used to enhance number work in addition to other homework that may be set weekly.

Parent survey – We are in the process of analysing the results of our parents' survey, but are delighted that 100% of responses confirmed that they would recommend the school to others. There were a couple of suggestions about moving/changing INSET days. INSET days are In Service Training Days and have to be set during term time (5 days per year, not including any Polling Day closures) at a time that will benefit staff training needs. As such, we cannot plan them to suit parental needs. Please see the school website for details of our planned INSET days up to July 2018. Further feedback from the questionnaires will follow.

Chinese New Year – As the Chinese New Year starts tomorrow, we have raised the Chinese flag on our school flagpole for this week. The Chopstick Challenge is drawing to a close and results will follow as soon as they are available.

Year 6 morning clubs – Mrs O'Brien will be offering Mr Hocking's book club on Monday morning next week in the library. If children usually attend Mrs Masters' reasoning club at this time as well, they may choose which to attend. We are hoping that Mr Hocking will then be able to resume his Wednesday sessions the following week, after his absence due to family bereavement.

Parking – This morning some parents surpassed themselves by not only parking entirely on the pavement so that pedestrians cannot pass but others chose to park on people's driveways next to their houses and then refused to move when asked to do so. Most people live within walking distance of the school and we ask that you either walk or park safely and legally when bringing children to and from school.

Hair adornments – It is perfectly acceptable for children to wear hairbands or bows in their hair, but some are getting incredibly large and are quite a distraction from learning. Please make sure hair bows are a sensible size.

Children's Book Club – This will be held at Brentwood Library on the last Monday of the month from 11:00 to 12:00. It is for children aged 7 to 11 and will start on 28th January, 2017.

Fundraisers – Thank you for supporting the non-uniform day last Friday. We raised £351 which will go towards funding school projects.

There will be a family barn dance on Saturday 25th February. Tickets are available from <http://hollytreesprimaryschool.co.uk/barndance> and cost £7 per adult, £5 per child and £20 per family.

Menu – Week 2 of the menu. Please follow this link <http://hollytreesprimaryschool.co.uk/school-lunches/>

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

Letters home

23rd Jan – Maple Class science lesson at BCHS

26th Jan – Parent Governor elections

Forthcoming dates

30th Jan – Parent/teacher consultations (3:30 to 5:30 pm)

30th Jan – Year 5 road safety walk

1st Feb – Science lesson at BCHS (Y5)

2nd Feb – Elm Class visit to Tesco, Gallows Corner

6th Feb – Y5 to BCHS to see Lord of the Flies

6th Feb – Reception health check

7th Feb – Reception health check

25th Feb – Fundraisers Barn Dance

18th Mar – Jazz night

21st March – Y4 play evening performance

22nd March – Y4 play afternoon performance

24th March – Y5 & Y6 Queens Theatre performance of Alfie Strange

Congratulations

Bronze Certificates went to James Reeves, Oliver Livett, Isabelle Lelievre, Talia Raghavan, Ryan Mussett, Joseph Gamblin, Casey Melpous, Paige Hunt, Isla Montgomery, Amye Swinney, Harrison Williams, Kieron Ramsey, Sharnell George and Emily Ward

Silver Certificates went to Ashdon Edwards, Cain Smith, Ben Chad and Dylan Hunt.

Music for Schools Silver Award went to Hester Gevaux

ABRSM Grade 2 Clarinet went to Madeleine Enticknap.

Headteacher's Award went to Sauda Rahman.

Well done to our basketball team who demonstrated an amazing team attitude, as well as winning 6-0 against Sunnymede.