

# Weekly Newsletter



Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2017

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**Learning at home** – This week's app recommendation follows on from Year 2's trip to Tesco this week. They learned about healthy eating, the benefits of eating fruit and vegetables, healthy cereals and snacks and they made their own healthy cereal. They were also told about the Sugar Smart app which is produced by Change4Life. The app enables you to discover how much hidden sugar there is in any product by scanning the barcode. Why not have a go and improve your healthy eating at the same time as learning about hidden sugars?

Thank you to all the children who took part in the Garden Birdwatch last weekend. I would like to mention particularly Amy Clayden who took the time to find pictures of the birds she saw to show others.

**Year 6 Fundraisers** – Our Year 6 Owl Captains have chosen a charity each. They will be raising funds, with the help of their Owl team members, over the year. The charities are St Francis Hospice (Barn Owls), SNAP (Eagle Owls), Air Ambulance (Snowy Owls) and British Heart Foundation (Tawny Owls). Their first fundraising event will be on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> February when they will all be holding a cake sale at playtime. They would like children in their Owl teams to donate cakes (if they are homemade, please include a list of ingredients) and for everyone to bring in money to buy the cakes on Thursday. It would be useful if the money was in multiples of 10p so that minimal change will be required.

**Staff news** – I would like to congratulate both Emma Palmer and Steph Hakes who are both expecting babies in May. Mrs Hakes will be starting her maternity leave at Easter whilst Miss Palmer hopes to continue working until nearer her due date.

**World Book Day** – In preparation for this event on 2<sup>nd</sup> March, we are asking children to turn a shoebox into a book. The contents of the box should illustrate what the book is about with models, pictures or information, whilst the front of the shoebox can look like a book. We suggest this could be an activity for the half term holiday. On the day, there will be other book related activities which will involve children being able to share and discuss a favourite book. Please note, by popular request, the children will not be asked to dress up on this day and should wear normal school uniform.

**Year 5 visit to Brentwood School** – On Monday afternoon, Year 5 has been invited to see a child-friendly production of Lord of the Flies at Brentwood School. The children will walk to the school and return to Holly Trees by about 3:30 pm.

**Impressive learning** – I had the pleasure of seeing some Year 3 writing this week. The children had written a newspaper report ensuring they had used the five Ws. Ask your children what the five Ws are and see if they can find them in a newspaper article.

**Chopstick Challenge** – Well done to all the children who took part in the Chopstick Challenge. I have been most impressed with their concentration, determination and effort. A great start to welcome the Chinese New Year, the Year of the Rooster.

The Chopstick Challenge came to a close this week. Winners from each class across both KS1 and KS2 competed in the final round for the title of Chopstick Challenge Champion. Here are the results:

KS1 Chopstick Challenge Champion goes to Kimberley Chen (Y2 – Elder class). She picked up an impressive 43 marshmallows in one minute!

2<sup>nd</sup> place goes to George Bourne (Y1 – Birch class). He picked up 31 marshmallows.

KS2 Chopstick Challenge Champion goes to Emma Blake (Y6 – Sycamore class). She picked up 52 dry pasta shapes in one minute. Wow!

2<sup>nd</sup> place goes to Isobelle Gray (Y4 – Laurel class). She picked up 44 pasta shapes in one minute.

Congratulations to Kimberley and Emma. They are our new Chopstick Challenge Champions!

*Mrs Horgan*

Well done to everyone who took part in the Chopstick Challenge and the Chopstick Challenge Finals. It took place in Beech Class where I was fortunate enough to experience the event along with around eight other Year sixes who helped. An extra congratulations to Emma Blake (Year 6) who was the winner of KS2 and to Isobelle Gray (Year 4) who was the runner up. Also Kimberly Chen (Year 2) who was the winner of KS1 and to George Bourne (Year 1) who was the runner up. Each of the 1<sup>st</sup> place winners will receive a pair of chopsticks, a red money bag, a fortune cookie and a certificate – that they will get in Mrs Horgan's assembly next week. The runners up will also receive a fortune cookie and a certificate – which they will also get in Mrs Horgan's assembly. Happy Chinese New Year! 中國農曆新年快樂! Zhōngguó nóngli xīnnián kuàilè!

*By Hannah Long (school journalist)*

**Year 6 morning clubs** – Both Monday and Wednesday clubs will take place as originally planned next week.

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

**Danish Menu – 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2017** – The menu will be Danish meatballs with gravy or stuffed peppers served with potatoes and mixed vegetables followed by Danish apple cake or jelly, yoghurt or a variety of fruit.

**Menu** – Week 3 of the menu. Please follow this link <http://hollytreesprimaryschool.co.uk/school-lunches/> Please note that next week's Monday and Tuesday menus will be swapped. On Monday it will be pizza and on Tuesday it will be lasagne.

**Attendance – 97% target** – Congratulations to Elm, Holly, Hornbeam, Larch, Laurel, Maple and Sycamore for having over 97% attendance for last week.

#### **Letters home**

31<sup>st</sup> Jan – Football match v St Helens

1<sup>st</sup> Feb – Able Writers' Day

2<sup>nd</sup> Feb – Forest School – Acorn and Apple classes

#### **Forthcoming dates**

6<sup>th</sup> Feb – Y5 to Brentwood School to see Lord of the Flies

6<sup>th</sup> Feb – Reception health check

7<sup>th</sup> Feb – Reception health check

21<sup>st</sup> Feb – Fundraisers meeting

23<sup>rd</sup> Feb – Danish menu

25<sup>th</sup> Feb – Fundraisers Barn Dance

28<sup>th</sup> Feb – Music for Schools parents meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> March – World Book Day

18<sup>th</sup> Mar – Fundraisers Jazz night

21<sup>st</sup> March – Y4 play evening performance

22<sup>nd</sup> March – Y4 play afternoon performance

24<sup>th</sup> March – Y5 & Y6 Queens Theatre performance of Alfie Strange

#### **Congratulations**

**Bronze Certificates** went to Sully Smith, Freddie Westwood, Kelsey Davies, Wajih Alam, Lottie Nibbs-Ramsay, Auberon Charles, Harrison Blake, Marley Burnett, Gracie Dines, Casper Jeffries, Jaden Freeman and Zachary Osborn.

**Silver Certificate** went to Chloe Wheeler.