

Weekly Newsletter



Friday, 9th October, 2015

Volume 22; Issue 5

Parent Teacher Consultations - Thank you to everyone who came along to the Parent Teacher consultations yesterday. If you were unable to make the appointment, please do contact the class teacher to arrange an alternative time.

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

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 - Thank you to everybody who returned the questionnaires. We were delighted at the feedback with so many positive comments – *'the teachers speak to the children respectfully, calmly and, when need be, with authority which is reflected in how well the children respond to them'*; *'we think Holly Trees is a fabulous school and hope it is soon, as it deserves to be, recognised as an outstanding place to learn'*.

	Strongly agree or agree
My child is happy at this school	100%
My child feels safe at this school	100%
My child makes good progress at this school	99%
My child is well looked after at this school	100%
My child is taught well at this school	100%
My child receives appropriate homework for their age	96%
This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	99%
This schools deals effectively with bullying	98%
This school is well led and managed	99%
This school responds well to any concerns I raise	99%
I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	99%
Would you recommend this school to another parent?	99%

As well as being delighted that we are offering your children a happy and safe learning environment, we have also taken on board the ways in which we could improve further. The matters you have raised will be brought to the Senior Team's and Governors' attention and we will then share with you how we tend to address the matters. We have already been able to offer drop-in sessions for Mathletics during the consultation day yesterday and will be planning further parent support with this later in the term.

Despite the fabulously positive responses, no-one has yet added their views to ParentView which tells Ofsted how great you think we are. Please could you go online to do this as it only takes a couple of minutes.

Solar panels - After a lot of work from Byron Hocking and governors to enable us to be the first primary school in Brentwood to have solar panels, we have met a hurdle too great. Whilst Health and Safety at Essex County Council has told us that we must secure the panels by bolting the brackets to the roof, the Department at ECC responsible for buildings has stated that we must not bolt anything to the roof. As things stand, it looks as though we will not be able to go ahead with our eco plans.

Maths Club - There will be no Maths Club on 12th October. If your child is registered to attend Year 6 Maths Club, please let me know if he/she is not attending on any Monday so that I do not worry that a child has not attended.

Year 6 trip - The children have gone on their residential trip to Aylmerton today. Look out on the website and Parentmail for updates of their trip.

Fundraisers - Following the Fundraisers' AGM, I would like to congratulate Laurie Edmonds for being appointed as Chair of the committee, Claire Mooney as Vice Chair, Angela Long as Secretary and Christine Richardson as Treasurer. I know the committee will continue the amazing fundraising that they produced for the benefit of all our children. I would like to thank Tamsin O'Hagan and Velda Wells, who were Chair and Vice Chair respectively last year for their work that made everybody welcome, involved staff as well as parents and, over the last year, led to over £14,000 being raised.

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

Letters home

5th – Year 5 London river trip

9th – Football match

Forthcoming dates

9th to 12th Oct – Y6 Norfolk visit

15th Oct – Y3 visit to Chelmsford Museum

22nd Oct – Y5 London river trip

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

9th Dec – Y1 dress rehearsal

11th Dec – Y1 play

14th Dec – Y1 play

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 Teigan Partis-Ford, Aisha-Jasmin Birem, Muthu Ramanathan, Lola Russell, Madeleine Enticknap, Oliver Wyatt, Jess Hart and Alfie Frost.

Headteacher's Award went to Sharnell George.