

Weekly Newsletter



Friday, 9th December, 2016

Volume 25; Issue 13

Holly Trees' success – I am pleased to announce that, with 421 children on roll, Holly Trees Primary School is now at capacity, a sign of our popularity as a result of well-mannered children, excellent staff and high quality learning.

Thank you – I would like to thank Shell for responding to Mr Neville A Brown's application for some funds to provide child-friendly cooking equipment which will enable our children to develop all the skills required in the new National Curriculum.

I hope you have all seen our amazing Christmas tree in the foyer which has been sponsored by Calcott Hall farm.

Santa's Grotto – Thank you to the Fundraisers and our amazing Year 6 elves for providing an opportunity for children to meet Father Christmas yesterday.

Secret Santa's Gift Shop - £1 per present – maximum of 2 presents per child. Please ensure that you send in your money by Monday, 19th December if you would like your child to buy presents. Please send the money in to the class teacher, cash only, in a named envelope. The shop will be open for this day only.

Transport trouble – TfL have asked all local schools to advise families that there will be no rail service between Brentwood and Shenfield from 3rd January until late May 2017 due to engineering works for the Crossrail link. TfL apologies for the inconvenience and will be operating a 'frequent rail replacement bus service'.

Year 6 morning clubs – Both Arithmetic and Spelling clubs will take place next week and these will be the last sessions of this term. Next term, Arithmetic club will be replaced by Reasoning club and letters for this and the Spring term Spelling club will be sent out to invited children next week.

Football kits – Please return your football kits to Mrs Hooper as soon as possible, as there are no more games this term.

Early Years singing – On Monday, 19th December at 2:30 pm the children in Apple and Acorn classes will be singing some Christmas songs for their families with mince pies for our guests. This will be an informal event to set the Christmas scene.

Carol singing – I would like to invite you all to join us at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, 20th December for community carol singing. There will be hot chocolate and mince pies. Wrap up warm, bring a torch and come and join the festivities.

Christmas lunch – Our school Christmas lunch will be on Tuesday, 20th December at the usual school meal price of £2.20. Should you wish to only pay for the school Christmas meal online, unfortunately we will have to pass on the transaction charge of 20p making the meal cost £2.40. If your child has the occasional meal and you put the minimum of £11 online, £2.20 will be deducted in the usual way. The balance will not expire and can be carried over to next year and can be transferred to siblings. The lunch will comprise of traditional roast turkey or a vegetable parcel served with seasonal vegetables, stuffing and pigs in blankets followed by ice cream or a minced pie. There is no pre-ordering as dinner should be ordered on the day of the lunch, as usual. The vegetarian option is only available to those who we know to be vegetarians. On this day, we also invite children to wear their Christmas jumpers instead of their school sweatshirts. All other uniform should be worn.

Christmas holiday homework – We are setting the whole school the homework of having a fabulous time with their families and enjoying all of the cooking, decorating and present wrapping involved. If your child could have a go at reading and using Mathematics in the New Year before returning to school on 9th January, that would be great too.

Year 1 Nativity – Please remember that no pre-school age children are allowed at the performances. A crèche is available on Tuesday, 13th December, which can be booked online via SIMS Agora.

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

Menu – Week 3 of the autumn menu. Please follow this link <http://hollytreesprimaryschool.co.uk/school-lunches/>

Next Wednesday, 14th December, the roast dinner will be chicken. On Monday, 19th December there will be homemade cheese and tomato pasta with garlic bread and a mixed salad followed by lemon drizzle cake. Tuesday, 20th December is the Christmas dinner and Wednesday, 21st December will be battered fillet of fish served with chips, peas or beans, followed by a variety of desserts.

Letters home

6th Dec – Y3 & Y4 visit to Brentwood Theatre

8th Dec – Y6 visit to meet author

Forthcoming dates

13th Dec – Y1 Christmas play performance – a creche will be provided for pre-school children so that parents can attend this performance.

14th Dec – Y1 Christmas play performance

19th Dec – Secret gift shop

19th Dec – Acorn and Apple classes singing for parents (2:30 pm)

20th Dec – Christmas lunch. Christmas jumper day. Carol singing (6:00 pm)

21st Dec – last day of term

9th Jan – children return to school

Congratulations

Bronze Certificates went to Douglas Muncey, Evan Ross, Isobelle Gray, James Barker, Natalie Clements, Kaylan Burnett, Maple Class, Billy Coates and Jasmine Leaver.

Silver Certificates went to Holly Mooney, Paige Armstrong, Jude Mason-Gates and Callum Bendelow.

Gold Certificates went to Joshua Lawford and Isabella Scharvona.

Pen Licences went to Lola Slattery, Charley Fletcher, Ashdon Edwards, Ellie Smith, Ashton Harman-Day, Oliver Wyatt, Jude Mason-Gates and Georgie Franklin.

Headteacher's Award – went to Sam Anderson.