



We are a learning community with the spirit to succeed
Holywell Primary School

Tolpits Lane, Watford, Herts, WD18 6LL

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Headteacher: Mr C van Straaten

Friday 10th March 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Assessment Weeks

With the Assessment Weeks coming to an end today the curriculum will resume in full swing next week. We will be looking at children's writing next week and meetings with teachers will take place to discuss children's progress.

We have started a morning Reading Club for Year 6 pupils. Letters are going out today to target some pupils for before and after school Booster Classes. If you have received a letter, please ensure that your child attends these sessions as it is beneficial for them in preparation for their SATS.

Parents' Questionnaires

I am pleased to publish here the results of the Parents' Questionnaire that was completed during Parents' Evening in February.

I am pleased to say that results remain high and are climbing in some areas. Results continue to compare well to previous years.

In the Leadership Team Meetings we are looking at the comments left by parents and are addressing concerns raised. Some comments about communication and behaviour in Year 6 are being addressed. Lots of positive comments were left about many year groups and other areas within the school. We are especially pleased with the comments regarding Reception.

Science and DT Week

During the afternoons next week pupils will always be taking part in science, design and technology activities in school. It is National Science Week and we will raise awareness of the week this way.

World Maths Day

It is also World Maths Day on Sunday 12th March 2017. As a school we will be celebrating this day on Monday 13th March. During the day, pupils will take part in special activities designed by their teachers to stimulate reasoning and problem solving skills.





The Fun Run is taking place next week where pupils are raising money that will be put towards levelling off the school field. If your form has not been returned yet, can you please return it to school as soon as possible. Pupils need to remember to bring in their PE kit next week for the days when they are taking part in the Fun Run. Pupils will need trainers for the event so please provide a pair for your child. Pupils can wear a tee shirt or jumper linked to their house. Red (Cassio), Yellow (Vicarage), Green (Brightwell) and Blue (Ebury). All money must be sent into school no later than Monday 27th March 2017.

Timetable for Fun Run:



Hazel	Tuesday 10 – 10.20
Pine	Tuesday 10.30 – 10.55
Beech	Tuesday 11. 20 – 11.45
Cedar	Wednesday 9.10 – 9.35
Mulberry	Wednesday 9.45 – 10.10
Rowan	Wednesday 10.20 – 10.45
Elder	Wednesday 11.20 – 11.45
Ash	Wednesday 11.55 – 12.20
Aspen	Thursday 9.10 – 9.35
Elm	Thursday 9.45 – 10.10
Birch	Thursday 10.20 – 10.45
Reception Blue base	Thursday 11.20 – 11.45
Reception Green base	Friday 9.20 – 9.40
Reception Red base	Friday 10.00 – 10.20
Nursery	Friday 10.30 – 11.00

Parking

We are continuing to receive complaints regarding parking from not only the local neighbours but also from our own parents. Some parents are parking in an inconsiderate way around school. Can I please appeal to everyone to consider neighbours, other parents and pupils who are being put at risk because of their actions. There is plenty of parking around the Holywell Community Centre, Chaffinch Lane and the King George V Playing Fields. From there it is an easy walk through the Holywell School back gate and through the wildlife area into the playground. Please leave yourself enough time in the mornings and take a relaxing walk to school which will also counts toward Walking to School badges.

Walk to School

Thank you for your continued effort to encourage pupils to walk to school. Badges from February were distributed earlier this week.

73% of pupils are walking to school, that’s nearly 9,000 journeys on foot. The remainder are using scooters, park & stride etc., but 10% are travelling by car for the whole journey – that’s still a lot of vehicles around the school entrances as well as less healthy families. Let’s try and get this percentage up next month!





If anyone has any stories about their journey to school these would be welcome and can be emailed (with pictures/photos if relevant) to wow@holywell.herts.sch.uk or brought to school and given to Mrs Clark.



What did you see? (nature/unusual), , what did you do? (play I-Spy, race Dad on the scooter, sing songs), why do you enjoy about walking/biking/scooting?

Law change for using your mobile phone whilst driving

It is illegal to use a hand-held phone or similar device while driving, or riding a motorcycle - this is still the case while stopped at traffic lights or queuing in traffic.

Did you know? It is also illegal to use a hand-held mobile when supervising a learner driver or rider.

New penalties now mean that motorists and motorcyclists caught using a phone while driving and riding will receive six penalty points on their licence and a £200 fine. This means that new drivers, within two years of passing their test, run the risk of losing their licence for a single offence.

[Keep safe](#) – put your phone away in the glove compartment.



Many thanks for your help with this.



Sainsbury's vouchers

Thank you to those that have already donated vouchers to us. We are still collecting vouchers in the box in the main reception area, outside the school office.

Assemblies:

Please see below the assembly schedule for spring term. All parents are invited to attend our Friday whole school assemblies so come along and support your child. Parents are also able to join us for a coffee afterwards.

Topic / Theme	Whole School Assembly	
	Class	9:05am - Olympic Hall
St Patrick's Day	Rowan	Friday 17th March 2017
Mothering Sunday (26th March)	Pine	Thursday 24th March
Easter	Sycamore	Friday 31st March



Coffee Morning focus:

Parent information sessions – Spring Term

Just pop in and join us for a coffee and a discussion about the topic of focus for the week. No need to book in advance.

Where: Holywell Conference Room

When: Tuesday 9:00am

Who: Sam Ward and members from Holywell Primary School

Date	Session focus	Session Leader
14 th March	Puberty Guide for parents (and children)	Sam Ward
21 st March	KS1 SATS and how to further support Developing an understanding of the Year 2 testing/assessment process and tests and what you can do at home to help.	Mrs Keshiro
28 th March	KS2 SATs How to prepare your Year 6 child for SATs (Reading, writing, SPAG and maths) in May.	Mr van Straaten

Charter and Star Certificates this week, congratulations to:

Class	Charter certificate	Star learner of the week award	Class	Charter certificate	Star learner of the week award
Red Base	Okamiyo	Fozia	Aspen	Zainab	Isaac
Green Base	Amber	Brian	Pine	Emily	Gaby
Blue Base	Rhyley	Amna	Mulberry	Insa	Ali
Sycamore	Husnah	And	Rowan	Mohammad	Luana
Maple	Arnov	Nicola	Cedar	Callum	Kasandra
Oak	Lorenzo	Cayden	Ash	Chanice	Haroon
Hawthorn	Sid	Omi	Elder	Dion	Eduarda
Hazel	Chloe	Maleehah	Birch	Leah	Kairo
Willow	Lenny	Amina	Elm	Samuel	Isabella
Beech	Kaiyah	Funmi			

Knitting Club Certificates this week, congratulations to:

Funmi (Beech)	Mahek (Mulberry)
Dani (Beech)	Kohinoor (Mulberry)



Dates for your Diary

SPRING TERM

Wednesday 15th March – Year 5/6 Tag Ruby at Queens School
 Friday 17th March – Nursery applications close for September 2017
 Monday 27th March – Festival of Learning Week
 Wednesday 29th March – High 5 Netball Tournament at Queens School – Year 5/6
 Friday 31st March – PM Nursery to attend AM session
 Friday 31st March – School closes at 1:30pm for Easter Holiday
 Monday 3rd April 2017 to Monday 17th April – Easter Break
 Tuesday 18th April 2017 INSET Day – school closed for pupils
 Wednesday 19th April 2017 - First day of Summer Term

PTA Dates

Wednesday 22nd March 2017 - Years 1 & 2
 Easter Cake Decorating Class

Thursday 23rd March 2017 - Years 3, 4, 5, 6
 Easter Cake Decorating Class

Thursday 30th March 2017 - Movie Night!!

Attendance

Whole school Attendance up to Friday last week for this academic year is 94 %

Nursery am	90%	Aspen	94%
Nursery pm	74%	Beech	98%
Blue base	97%	Pine	93%
Green base	96%	Mulberry	91%
Red base	98%	Cedar	93%
Maple	95%	Rowan	88%
Oak	96%	Ash	93%
Sycamore	95%	Elder	95%
Hawthorn	97%	Birch	95%
Hazel	99%	Elm	98%
Willow	94%		

Attendance:	Punctuality:
KS1 Maple	KS1 Red Base
KS2 Beech	KS2 Cedar & Ash