



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 11th November 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reception Class – September 2017

I would like to remind all parents with children of Nursery age that school applications for September 2017 close on Sunday 15th January 2017.

We have 2 Open Days where parents have the opportunity to come into school and meet our Reception team and be shown around the classrooms. Our Open Days are Wednesday 23rd November 2016 at 9:15 am and Wednesday 7th December 2016 at 2:15 pm.

Children currently attending our Nursery do not automatically transfer into the Reception classes. Parents/Carers must apply for a place in Reception class. This can be done on line www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions. Alternatively, if you do not have access to the internet you can request a printed version of the application form from Hertfordshire County Council Customer Service Centre by calling 0300 123 4043.

Parent Governor

Our Governing Body is going from strength to strength in working with the Leadership Team to continue to improve the school. There is currently a Parent Governor vacancy and we are asking parents that are interested in becoming a School Governor to contact the school office. The Governing Body meets monthly and each Governor has an area of responsibility linked to the school's many priorities and operations. They also act as a Link Governor for a year group. This allows Governors to meet Class Teachers and have year group visits. I am happy to discuss this further with parents who are interested. Irvin Needle, the Chair of Governors is also very keen to speak to interested parents.

Children In Need

Thank you to all the parents who helped their children wear something SPOTacular to help raise money for Children In Need. Lots of innovation was shown and many children looked great. Due to lots of events over this time of year we had to raise awareness one week early. We will be able to tell you how much we raised in the newsletter next week.

Remembrance Day

Thank you to Hazel Class for their assembly on Remembrance Day today. The whole school gathered in the Olympic Hall at 11 o'clock to respectfully observe two minutes silence.



Assessment Weeks

Assessment Week will conclude next week Friday.

Occasional Day

Just a reminder that school will be closed on Friday 25th November 2016.

Coffee Morning focus:

I would like to remind parents about our coffee mornings that are taking place every Tuesday. This is an opportunity for parents to meet with Sam Ward our Parent Support Worker and ask questions and discuss issues related to the topic of the session. Please come along if any of these sessions interest you.

Date	Session focus	Session Leader
14 th November 2016	KS1 Phonics How you can support your child's phonics development at home	David French
21 st November 2016	Time-out parenting strategy. A strategy for parents to gain control and be able to discipline effectively	Sam Ward
28 th November 2016	Reading – Key Stage 1 Understand how reading is taught in school and support your child reading at home.	Toyin Keshiro
5 th December 2016	Developing your child's self-esteem How to promote your child's self-esteem and how to recognise possible low self-esteem.	Sam Ward
12 th December 2016	Reading – Key Stage 2 Understand how reading is taught in school and support your child reading at home.	Sarah McCay

Assemblies: We have a whole school assembly every Friday that parents are able to attend. Please come and support your child during their class assembly.

Topic / Theme	Whole School Assembly	
	Class	9:05am - Olympic Hall
Anti-bullying week	Beech - Year 3	Friday 18th November
Road Safety Week	Oak - Year 1	Thursday 24th November
St Andrews Day (30th November)	Hawthorn - Year 2	Friday 2nd December
Hanukah Jewish Festival of Lights (24 th December to 1 st January)	Mulberry - Year 4	Friday 9th December
Christmas concert to parents	Key Stage 1 – time to be confirmed	Friday 16th December

Attendance

Whole school Attendance up to Friday last week
for this academic year is 96 %

Charter and Star Certificates - Congratulations to:

Class	Charter certificate	Star learner of the week award
Red Base	Francesca	Ayan
Green Base	JJ	Shrubhransu
Blue Base	Kiera	Yenara
Sycamore	Ayman	Darina
Maple	Arman	Nicola
Oak	Stella	Tiana
Hawthorn	Abhi	Omi
Hazel	Eduarda	Ashley
Willow	Naweesha	Neja
Beech	Kavya	Marusia
Aspen	Werfaan	Zainab
Pine	Mahdi	Matei
Mulberry	Kohinoor	Daniel
Rowan	Vlad	Luana
Cedar	Kriti	Tanu
Ash	Jacob	Ethan
Elder	Vicky	Dion
Birch	Eva	Lenny
Elm	Mobina	Ryan

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

Attendance:	Punctuality:
Ks1 - Hawthorn	Ks1 - Blue Base, Sycamore & Hawthorn
Ks2 - Elder	Ks2 - Pine

DIARY DATES

November 2016

Monday 14th November 2016 – Anti Bullying week

Monday 14th November 2016 – Assessment week

Tuesday 15th November 2016 - U11 Basketball at Queens School

Tuesday 15th November 2016 – Year 1 Challenge cup at The Grove Academy

Wednesday 23rd November 2016 – Reception Open Day – 9:15 am

Thursday 24th November 2016 – Non Uniform day – Bottles and Jars

Thursday 24th November 2016 – Year 2 on trip to Willow Farm

Friday 25th November 2016 – Occasional Day – SCHOOL CLOSED

Tuesday 29th November 2016 – U9's Speed Stacking competition at Watford Girls School

Tuesday 29th November 2016 – Drama Challenge Cup at Warren Dell Primary School

Wednesday 30th November 2016 – Christmas Decoration Day

December dates continued on next page

DIARY DATES – continued

December 2016

Thursday 1st December 2016 – Christmas Tree Decoration Day

Thursday 1st December 2016 – Non Uniform day – Raffle prizes and ‘nearly new’

Monday 5th December 2016 – Year 4 Stone Age workshops

Wednesday 7th December 2016 – Reception 2017 Open Day – 2:00pm

Friday 9th December 2016 – Nursery & Reception Christmas Panto in school

Monday 12th December 2016 – Carol concert at Watford Colosseum

Thursday 15th December 2016 – Year 5 Victorian School

Thursday 15th December 2016 - Christmas fete – TBC 3:30pm to 5:00pm

Friday 16th December 2016 – 9:05am Key Stage 1 Christmas Concert to Key Stage 1 parents

Monday 19th December 2016 – 9.05am Key Stage 1 Christmas Concert to Key Stage 2 parents

Monday 19th December 2016 – 6.00 pm Key Stage 1 Christmas Concert to parents

Tuesday 20th December 2016 – Christmas Dinner Day

Wednesday 21st December 2016 – 1.30 pm School closes

Wednesday 21st December 2016 PM Nursery group to attend AM session – 9:00 am to 12:00 midday

Wednesday 21nd December 2016 – Wednesday 4th January 2017 School closes at 1:30 pm for Christmas break