Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year everyone and all the best for the year ahead. We had our first whole school assembly this morning and talked about New Year resolutions and how all pupils should do their best in everything they do. The school academic year has started in full force. Last week we had two INSET days and looked at pupils’ progress and attainment results and all teachers came up with plans to help accelerate pupil progress and attainment. I am looking forward to the new results being handed in at the end of the first half of the Spring term, to see how much progress pupils have made.

Staffing
Miss Fisher, who will be the class teacher of Reception - Green Base, is arriving on 2nd February 2017 from Australia. In the meantime Mrs McDonald and Mr Sutherland will share class responsibility for Green Base.

Christmas Fete
We have raised a total of £663 for the Christmas Fete. Thank you again to everyone for their contributions and participation.

Year 6 Football Tournament
On Thursday 15th December 2016, a team of Year 6 students took part in a 7-A side football tournament. Every student played fantastic football against some tough teams. Jacks performance in goal and a skilful goal from Emmanuel were two of many positives from this tournament.

Clubs
Letters inviting children to sign up for clubs for the Spring term were sent out at the end of Autumn term. We still have spaces available for morning clubs on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The sessions are very affordable at £1 per session so if you are interested please request a letter from the school office as we are continuing to fill places for these clubs.

We are running a Music Theatre Club for pupils in Year 4 to Year 6. This will be delivered by a very enthusiastic experienced facilitator who has acting experience. This is the first time that we are delivering this club and have a few spaces remaining. The final club will be in the form of a performance by pupils to parents. Please request a letter from the office should you be interested in your child attending.
Croxley Park Art and Photographic Competition Winner

Isabella in Year 6 has won a prize at the Croxley Park Art and Photographic competition during the autumn term. Not only has she won a prize for herself but has also earned the school a cheque for £200. Well done Isabella!!

Challenge Cup – Geography

Our Year 4 pupils represented us in the latest Challenge Cup competition at Chater Junior School. They came third in the competition to design their own country. They represented us well so I would just like to congratulate Leandro, Uzair, Ellie and Spartak on their efforts.

Reception Class Admission for September 2017

Please be aware that the deadline for applications for Reception Class September 2017 is fast approaching. Parents will need to have made their application before the closing date of 15th January 2017. Any applications received after this date will be considered ‘LATE’ applications. Please apply at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions. All nursery parents who want their children to attend Holywell from September 2017 will need to apply. If you need assistance with your application, please see the office who can arrange for Mrs Bahirathan to assist you.

Curriculum maps

Handed to parents today are curriculum maps for Spring 2017. This sets out what your child will be learning throughout the term. We are in the process of finalising school trips and Festival of Learning dates, when complete I will publish in the diary dates below.

Physical Education

The majority of PE in the school is delivered by Premier Sports. I am happy to inform parents that we are increasing the amount of PE lessons for all pupils in Year 1 to Year 4. Your child’s class teacher will deliver the extra sessions to ensure that all pupils receive their entitlement of PE. This has been on our radar for some time now and I know many parents are keen for their children to do more physical activity at school. A letter has gone home this week to inform you of the extra PE days so please ensure that pupils have their PE kit at school. PE kits can be left at school on pupils’ pegs and taken home at half term to be washed.

Walk to School

Thank you all for your support on Wednesday. It was a lovely atmosphere out on the playground amongst pupils, parents, staff and our visiting mascot ‘Strider’. Over 450 badges were given out! We want to continue to drive this as a school. The benefits of walking for at least 10 minutes are endless. The letter sent home on 9th January 2017 explained that pupils need to walk to school at least once a week, every week, to receive a badge at the end of the month. Teachers are monitoring this daily. We would strongly encourage anyone driving to use the park and stride route. The map outlining this route is attached. Happy walking!
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 welcome to join us for a coffee afterwards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friday Class Assembly</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Whole School Assembly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Topic / Theme</strong></td>
<td><strong>Class</strong></td>
<td><strong>9:05am to Year 6 Olympic Hall</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looking forward, looking back</td>
<td>Mr van Straaten</td>
<td>Friday 13th January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Going for Goals</td>
<td>Willow</td>
<td>Friday 20th January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese New Year</td>
<td>Maple</td>
<td>Friday 27th January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celebrating diversity</td>
<td>Aspen</td>
<td>Friday 3rd February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-safety</td>
<td>Cedar</td>
<td>Friday 10th February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Half term</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good to be me</td>
<td>Elm</td>
<td>Friday 24th February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St David's Day (1st March)</td>
<td>Birch</td>
<td>Friday 3rd March</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Coffee Morning focus:

Our coffee mornings have restarted this Tuesday. We are just finalising the schedule and will then publish it to parents. Our Family Support Worker Sam, who leads the session is very experienced and knowledgeable about a range of subjects and topics and is willing to assist everyone. Please come along for advice, support or just a chat if you are able to each Tuesday between 9:00am and 10:00am.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Session focus</th>
<th>Session Leader</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; January</td>
<td>Communication&lt;br&gt;Tips on listening skills</td>
<td>Sam Ward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; January</td>
<td>Reading at home – Bug club &lt;br&gt;Accessing bug club at home and its benefits to reading with your child.</td>
<td>Mr van Straaten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; January</td>
<td>Quality time activities&lt;br&gt;rainy day activities (low/no cost)</td>
<td>Sam Ward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; February</td>
<td>Cyber safety&lt;br&gt;A guide on keeping children safe online. (What apps to be aware of)</td>
<td>Sam Ward and Mrs McLaughlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HALF TERM</strong></td>
<td><strong>KS1 SATS and how to further support developing an understanding of the</strong></td>
<td>Ms Keshiro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; February</td>
<td>Inclusion&lt;br&gt;Recognising possible additional needs</td>
<td>Ms Keshiro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; March</td>
<td>Money management &amp; budgeting tips</td>
<td>Sam Ward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; March</td>
<td><strong>KS1 SATS and how to further support developing an understanding of the</strong></td>
<td>Ms Keshiro</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Parent information sessions – Spring Term

Just pop in and join us for a coffee and discussion about the topic of focus for the week. No need to book in advance.
Where: Holywell conference room
When: Tuesday 9:00 am
Who: Sam Ward and members from Holywell Primary School

Charter and Star Certificates this week, congratulations to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Charter certificate</th>
<th>Star learner of the week award</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Charter certificate</th>
<th>Star learner of the week award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red Base</td>
<td>Tanmeet</td>
<td>Rick</td>
<td>Aspen</td>
<td>Ciara</td>
<td>Leighton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Base</td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>Amber</td>
<td>Pine</td>
<td>Haaris</td>
<td>Choe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Base</td>
<td>Zain</td>
<td>Kyler</td>
<td>Mulberry</td>
<td>Leandro</td>
<td>Ayman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sycamore</td>
<td>Demi</td>
<td>Frankie</td>
<td>Rowan</td>
<td>Spartak</td>
<td>Dayana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maple</td>
<td>Bailey</td>
<td>Momna</td>
<td>Cedar</td>
<td>Evelina</td>
<td>Mahnoor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oak</td>
<td>Kebba</td>
<td>Rania</td>
<td>Ash</td>
<td>Samuel</td>
<td>Jacob</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn</td>
<td>Michalina</td>
<td>Danae</td>
<td>Elder</td>
<td>Emily</td>
<td>Usman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazel</td>
<td>Maleeha</td>
<td>Oliver</td>
<td>Birch</td>
<td>Mahek</td>
<td>Jesika</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willow</td>
<td>Anabella</td>
<td>Kaiyantay</td>
<td>Elm</td>
<td>Mobina</td>
<td>Sabrina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beech</td>
<td>Kavya</td>
<td>Nana</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hot Dog in Roll with Ketchup

Vegetarian Hot Dog in Roll with ketchup

Potato Wedges

Beans, Spaghetti Hoops or Sweetcorn

Raspberry Ripple Ice Cream
Dates for your Diary

**SPRING TERM**

January 2017

Sunday 15th January 2017 – Reception Class applications for September 2017 close
Tuesday 24th January 2017 – Year 5 and Year 6 Indoor Athletics at Watford Girls School
Thursday 2nd February 2017 – Science Challenge Cup – Year 2 at Beechfield Primary School

**February 2017**

Monday 6th February 2017 – Festival of Learning Week
Tuesday 7th February 2017 - Year 3 and Year 4 attending Indoor Athletics at Watford Girls School
Tuesday 7th February 2017 - (15:30 – 18:00) – Parents Evening
Tuesday 7th February 2017 – Nursery Class for September 2017 – applications open – TBC
Thursday 9th February 2017 (17:00 – 19:30) – Parents Evening
Wednesday 15th February 2017 – Nursery Open Day at 9:30am (Applications for September 2017) – TBC

**Monday 13th February 2017 to Friday 17th February 2017 – Half Term**

Thursday 23rd February 2017 – Year 3 Pine Swimming Lessons start
Thursday 23rd February 2017 (2:30) – Nursery Open day at 2:30pm (Applications for September 2017) - TBC
Monday 27th February 2017 – Assessment week

**March 2017**

Wednesday 1st March 2017 – Secondary school for September 2017 - Allocation Day
Monday 6th March 2017 – Assessment Week
Monday 6th March 2017 – MFL Challenge Cup – German at Central Primary School - Year 5

Wednesday 15 March 2017 – Year 5 and Year 6 Tag Rugby at Queens School
Friday 17th March 2017 – Nursery Applications Open (September 2017) – TBC

Monday 27th March 2017 – Festivals of Learning Week

Wednesday 29th March 2017 – High 5 Netball competition at Queens School for Year 5 and Year 6

Friday 31st March 2017 – School closes at 1.30pm for Easter Holiday

Friday 31st March 2017 - PM Nursery group to attend AM session

**Attendance**

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

| Nursery am | 90%  | Aspen | 95%   |
| Nursery pm | 59%  | Beech | 94%   |
| Blue base  | 99%  | Pine  | 95%   |
| Green base | 92%  | Mulberry | 84% |
| Red base   | 99%  | Cedar | 99%   |
| Maple      | 97%  | Rowan | 95%   |
| Oak        | 96%  | Ash   | 94%   |
| Sycamore   | 96%  | Elder | 93%   |
| Hawthorn   | 94%  | Birch | 93%   |
| Hazel      | 93%  | Elm   | 97%   |

| Attendance: | Punctuality: |
| Ks1 - Maple  | Ks1 - Blue & Green Bases |
| Ks2 - Birch  | Ks2 - Ash & Elder |