

Holywell Primary School

Tolpits Lane, Watford, Herts, WD18 6LL

Tel: 01923 225188 email: admin@holywell.herts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr Coert van Straaten MA. Ed, Dip Edu, NPQH

we are a learning community with the spirit to succeed

13th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Staffing

We have been severely understaffed this week because of staff who are required to shield and self-isolate. The staff that have been here, have been amazing, supporting other adults and children in the school. A huge thank you goes out to them for the support they have shown their colleagues and the pupils that they work with, or not, in some cases. Thank you everyone.

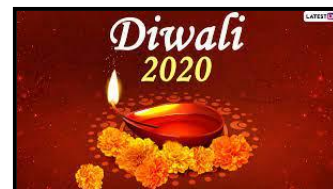
Children in Need

Today we collected money for Children in Need. This is a worthwhile charity as we know, that supports families across the world. Thank you to parents who made donations and sent their children in with the correct clothing. Our assembly this morning, presented by Year 2 Hazel was about Children in Need. They looked fantastic!



Diwali

We would like to wish a Happy Diwali to all our families celebrating Diwali this weekend.



Questionnaire

As is custom, I ask that parents give us their views by completing our Autumn Term Questionnaire. There is a dialogue box at the bottom of the survey for parents, if they wish, to give general feedback about any current issues, for example, experience of Parents' Evening or maybe you want to tell us something good about your child's teacher or learning. I am looking forward to receiving your views. Please note the survey closes on Monday 16th November 2020

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/N95DJDM>



DfE Update on COVID-19

The DfE have update their guidance to parents on many issues. To see these updates please click on the link <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

COVID-19

As a result of the COVID-19 lockdown we have tightened up on our procedures in school. We are limiting the movement of adults and pupils around school. Reducing contacts, so how many people come into contact with another, reducing the places pupils and adults go, as well as sharing of equipment, all in an effort to reduce the risk of spreading the virus. We need parents to support us in this, so we ask that:

- Everyone comes to school on time each day. If a child is late, then a member of the office needs to escort that pupil around the site which doubles the contact and increases the risk of the virus spreading. We must avoid this, therefore pupils who are few minutes late can still be sent to their classes the usual way.
- Children come to school prepared, so lunch boxes and PE kits will not be delivered around the school.
- Parents wear face coverings when entering the school site.
- Let the school know if a member of your household, including your child, is self-isolating or getting tested.
- No-one from your household is to come to school if any member of the household is waiting for a test result.

Reception and Nursery Classes – September 2021

The on-line application system to apply for a place in Reception for September 2021 is now open. We would like to remind parents who have children born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017 that they must apply for a place in a Reception class, they do not automatically transfer from Nursery to Reception.

Nursery applications, for children born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018, also opened on Monday 2nd November 2020. For an application form please visit the school website <http://www.holywell.herts.sch.uk/our-school/admissions/> or call the school office.

Open Day – New to Reception – September 2021

As a result of the new lockdown measures currently in place, we have had to postpone the original scheduled Open Day. The new date for the Open Day is Wednesday 9th December 2020, we ask you contact the school office by telephone 01923 225188, or email admin@hollywell.herts.sch.uk to book an appointment.

Open Day – Nursery – September 2021

The Open Day for Nursery is Wednesday 6th January 2021, again we ask you contact the school office to make an appointment.



Anti-Bullying Week

It is Anti Bullying Week from Monday 16th November 2020 until Friday 20th November 2020. Usually we have visitors in school who work with the children, but as we have a strict no visitor policy at the moment, teachers will be doing activities with children in their classes.

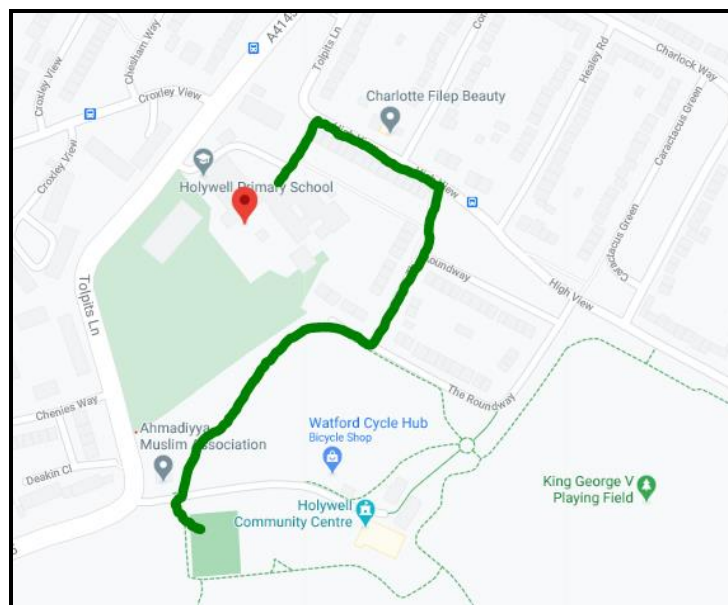
We will kick off Anti-Bullying Week on Monday with Odd Socks Day. All pupils are asked to wear odd socks to show that they are unique and we will be doing activities with the children during the day.



Park & Stride Car Park



We would like to remind parents of the Park & Stride facility in King George V Park adjacent to the school. This offers a large free car park and a pleasant 10 minute walk along a surfaced path through King George V Park and a quiet residential road to the High View entrance. Children taking this route can qualify for the monthly Walk to School awards. Research has shown that a walk before school results in happier, healthier children who are energised and better able to take advantage of their learning. Adults, too, benefit from some exercise and relaxation and a chance to share quality time with their children. The car park entrance is in Chaffinch Lane off Tolpits Lane.



PE - Jogging Bottoms

We are pleased to have jogging bottoms in stock to sell as part of the Holywell Primary School PE kit. They are the same colour and fabric as our school sweatshirt and embroidered with our school logo. These should look good as part of our PE Kit, and feel warm, which is necessary at the moment while the children are coming in to school in their PE kit on PE day. They cost £8.50 and you can purchase them online in the usual way through School Money.

Armistice Day – Wednesday 11th November 2020

On Wednesday at 11:00 am, all classes held a 2 minutes silence for Remembrance Day. Teachers have spoken to pupils about the significance of this day and explained the importance of marking occasions like these



HOLYWELL STAR LEARNERS

Blue	Oliwia	This awarded for getting better at phonics
Red	Aisha	For great work in maths; she can now recognise numbers up to 10
Maple	Owen	For challenging himself in phonics
Hawthorn	Maisey	For trying really hard in her maths homework on multiplication
Hazel	Riley	For his excellent effort in maths, even when it was tricky!
Cedar	Robert	For an excellent effort all week in all assessments
Mulberry	Maddison	For writing a well-detailed and correctly formatted magazine report
Rowan	Lorena	For showing a positive attitude and having a fantastic first week at school
Chestnut	Carolina	For writing a fantastic letter that empathises with Floella Benjamin's experience living in England
Elder	Ammar	Ammar is a role model to all. He embraces all challenges and pushes himself at every opportunity. He is a pleasure to teach! Well done for an amazing week!
Elm	Eduarda	For her excellent work on fractions and decimals
Birch	Aghness	For always showing a positive attitude in learning and applying maths skills

HOLYWELL CHARTER CERTIFICATES

Blue	Karina	This is awarded for getting more independent
Red	Emilia	For a great first week in Reception
Maple	Mathieu	For showing excellent reflective skills in English
Hawthorn	Sarah	For being resilient and putting a lot of effort into her assessments this week
Hazel	Faith	For being resilient in learning her lines for her assembly
Cedar	Madeline	For continually showing the 6 R's
Mulberry	Amol	For reflecting on his learning in maths to improve his addition
Rowan	Katherine	For showing resilience when trying to reflect on her work in maths
Chestnut	Ihtisaam	For reflecting on using column addition correctly
Elder	Adaeze	For motivation, resilience and determination when it comes to pushing herself to achieve her goals especially in our assessment week this week. I am so proud!
Elm	Esa	For always reflecting on his work
Birch	Areeba	For always being a role model in following 6 R's Holywell Primary School