



# Holywell Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr Coert van Straaten MA, Ed, Dip Edu, NPQH  
*we are a learning community with the spirit to succeed*

23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

As we come to the end of what feels like a long half term, I would like to extend a huge thank you to all staff and parents for their support of pupils at Holywell Primary School. The knock-on effect of the lockdown is clearly visible in many areas. It is fantastic to see the resilience that the pupils have shown and the progress that they are already showing in their learning. In classes they are focussed and determined to do well in their learning.

We had a visit from our School Improvement Partner during the week and I am pleased to report she was impressed with what she saw while walking around school. Some excellent engagement and outstanding learning was observed in many areas across the school.

This has been a long week, with the visit from the School Improvement Partner and Parents Evening, the teachers have earned a well-deserved break next week.



## Half Term

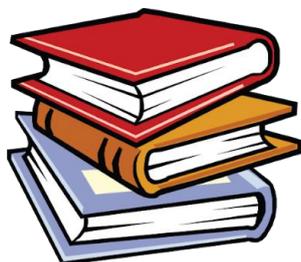
Half term is from Monday 26th October 2020 until Friday 30th October 2020 when school will be closed.

## Curriculum Enrichment

As we get better at social distancing in school, we will start to allow certain visitors back into school to work with children. Organisations that come in will have to submit to us in advance safe COVID-19 working practices as well as their risk assessment. I want to reassure parents that these curriculum enrichment activities are carefully considered and our number one priority at all times is the safety of our pupils.

## Before and After School Reading

We are starting before and after school reading groups after the half term break. If your child has been selected to attend we will contact you so we can work together to support pupils reading.



### Collection Times

As we move into autumn and winter and the weather worsens, we are reviewing our COVID-19 arrangements in school. We want to shorten the amount of time that parents and pupils have to wait in the possible rain and cold. Collection after half time will be -

<b>Reception</b>	<b>3:15pm</b>
<b>Year 1 and Year 2</b>	<b>3:10pm</b>
<b>Year 3/4</b>	<b>3:10pm</b>
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>3:10pm</b>
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>3:15pm</b>

We will need to be organised if this is going to work and we will review after one week if necessary.

### Parents' Evening

It was very impressive to see the online conferencing that took place between parents and teachers this week. I know it was a different way of working but I was very impressed with the resilience and determination shown by our teachers and parents in making it work. It could possibly be the new way of working in the future!



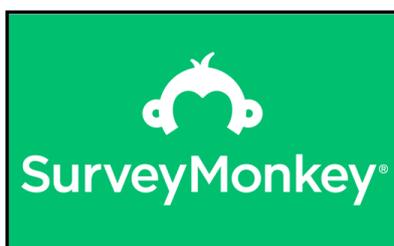
For those parents who missed their appointment, your child's teacher will be in contact with you shortly to arrange a new appointment.

The Parents' Evening reports will be emailed to parents this afternoon by teachers.

### 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.

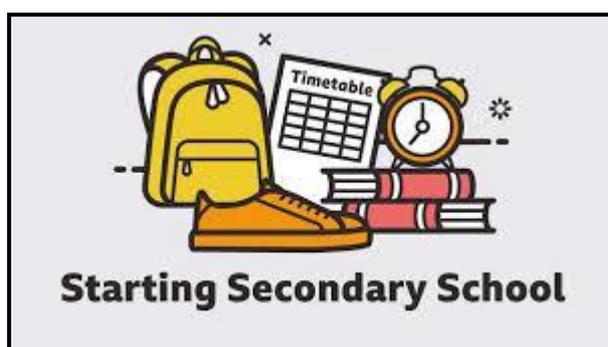
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/N95DJDM>



## Year 6 Secondary School Transfer – September 2021

Please be aware that the deadline for applications to secondary school is fast approaching. Parents will need to make an application online or on paper before the closing date, Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020.

Parents should apply online at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions) or alternatively, if you cannot access the internet, you can request a printed version of the application form from Hertfordshire County Council – Customer Service Centre by calling 0300 123 4043



## Reception and Nursery Classes – September 2021

The on-line application system to apply for a place in Reception for September 2021 opens on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020. We would like to remind parents who have children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017 that they must apply for a place in a Reception class, they do not automatically transfer from Nursery to Reception.

We will be holding an Open Day for new to Reception on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020 from 9:30am. To book your place please contact school office.

Nursery applications, for children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018, also open Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

The Open Day for Nursery is Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021 from 9:30am. Further details to follow.



## Self-Isolating

Parents are requested to notify the school if they need to self- isolate because of Coronavirus. The school has set up remote learning that pupils can access if they need to stay at home. Once the school has been notified, the class teacher will contact parents and let them know how to access the learning. If remote learning is not possible then we will make alternative arrangements.

### Lois – Year 5 Chestnut

After school on Friday 16th October 2020, Lois went to Tesco with her mum and they bought food for the food bank. Lois spent £31 in total.

Lois used the food bank website to understand and follow the items that they normally put into food parcels. On Saturday they went to the food bank and donated the goods. The volunteer that met them took the food inside and was very grateful.



### October and November Festivities

In the month of October some families might choose to celebrate Halloween and November Fireworks night. Hertfordshire County Council has asked that we inform parents about safer activities that they can do at home instead of venturing out. We will keep parents posted on other activities as we are notified of them.



<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/news/news-archive/herts-leaders-advise-stay-safe-for-halloween-2020>

## HOLYWELL STAR LEARNERS

Blue	Sibela	This award is for her great work on repeating patterns
Red	Makanaka	For independently sequencing and labelling the 4 stages of making bread
Sycamore	Abu Bakar	For writing some fantastic sentences about Mr Big in English and using his imagination during the lessons
Maple	Amelia Rose	For always trying hard and challenging herself in all she does
Hawthorn	Skyla	For her brilliant use of speech marks in her story writing
Hazel	Patrick	For producing fantastic homework
Cedar	Rebeka	For writing an excellent newspaper report on Earth Hounds
Mulberry	Harley	For showing a positive attitude towards his learning and always willing to try his best
Rowan	Angel	For showing resilience in her learning and always trying her best
Chestnut	Raisa	For writing a lovely story based on the book Cloud Tea Monkeys
Elder	Hassan	For giving 100% in everything that he does and for being an amazing role model to the class all of the time - Hassan has done nothing but impress me so far in Year 5. Well done!
Elm	Sean	For his excellent work on Time this week
Birch	Sabreen	For showing good understanding in converting between 12 hour and 24 hour time format

## HOLYWELL CHARTER CERTIFICATES

Blue	Millie	This is awarded for showing good manners and being helpful
Red	Aidan	For being polite and kind towards his friends
Sycamore	Deborah	For demonstrating responsibility by making sure that she is always focused and ready to learn
Maple	Ammar	For being reflective in phonics
Hawthorn	Lily-Rae	For trying her best to work independently in all lessons
Hazel	Hannah	For reflecting on her work every day and improving
Cedar	Poppy	For following the 6Rs and in particular developing her reflection skills in class
Mulberry	Tanmeet	For reflecting on her learning in maths and finding ways to improve her understanding
Rowan	Harvey J	For reflecting on his learning in English when writing in the role of an alien
Chestnut	Haris	For solving addition and subtraction calculations mentally
Elder	Margarida	For fantastic listening and reflection when improving on her own writing and maths work - even those challenging questions! Margarida has done nothing but impress me since our return to school. Well done!
Elm	Nuredin	For always reflecting on and improving his work
Birch	Zamin	For reflecting on his handwriting and improving the quality of his work



# Watford Rugby Club Girls Rugby

*Not Just for Boys*

*Rugby is for Everyone, come and give it a Try*

For ages:  
10 to 15 years

Girls Rugby Taster  
Session Sunday  
8 Nov 1-2pm

- TEAMWORK •
- RESPECT •
- ENJOYMENT •
- DISCIPLINE •
- SPORTSMANSHIP •

For further details:  
**07802892276**

WRFC Radlett Road, Watford,  
Hertfordshire WD24 4LL

All coaches are db's checked and RFU Qualified