



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

3 February 2023

Dear Parents & Carers

Internet safety day

Internet Safety day is on Tuesday 7th February 2023. As a school we will be completing various activities linked to the theme of 2023 which is **'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'**.

In addition, on Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd February, the Big Foot Theatre Company will be delivering workshops for the children. We will keep you up to date with all the details.

NSPCC Day

All of the children have completed different fun Mathematical challenges today in their class, using a range of different skills. They have completed challenges against each other as well as working in groups!

As a school, we have also raised awareness around the NSPCC "Speak Out Stay Safe" campaign and have raised money to support the charity.



Governor's Vacancy

We currently have two Parent Governor vacancies. If you would be interested in joining the Governing body, please email the school office admin@holywell.herts.sch.uk.

The Governing body has recruited new members recently, and is therefore in a strong position to develop its expertise.

Tuition

We have started our latest round of tuition for pupils. This funding has been made available by the Government to enable schools to identify pupils who need this extra support. We will continue to identify pupils for the next round of tuition.



Parents' Evening

Please book your parents' evening appointment for next week. I am sure as you can appreciate a lot of preparation and time goes into preparing and running these sessions, so please attend and get an update on your children's progress. Please book as soon as possible during the time slots available. If you are not able to attend on these days, please see your child's teacher to make an alternative time.

Mrs Keshiro will be available to see parents who want to discuss concerns around their child and special educational needs.

School Assemblies and Parent Coffee Mornings

This morning, we had a presentation from the School Council. The School Council talked to the children about internet safety and raised awareness of the pitfalls of the internet. Next week, Friday 10 February, will be our House Captains Assembly.

Please see the assembly schedule for Spring 2. We are now inviting you to a coffee morning after your child's class assembly. Our assembly theme for Spring 2 will be Reasoning.

| Topic/Theme | Class | 9:10 am Y1-Y6 Olympic Hall |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| St David's Day | Mr van Straaten | Friday 24th February 2023 |
| Shrove Tuesday & Ash Wednesday | Y2 Hawthorn | Friday 3rd March 2023 |
| Women's History Month | Mrs Keshiro | Friday 10th March 2023 |
| School Council | School Council | Friday 17th March 2023 |
| Mother's Day | Y1 Sycamore | Friday 24th March 2023 |
| Presentation Assembly | Mr van Straaten | Thursday 30th March 2023 |
| Easter production | Y3 Mulberry/Rowan | Friday 31st March 2023 |

Festival of Learning – Week Commencing Monday 6th February

This is an opportunity for you to come and see your children's learning. Entrance to the classes for the afternoon sessions will be through the small green gate.

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|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Nursery / Reception | Friday @ 9:05am |
| Year 1 Sycamore | Wednesday @ 9:05 am |
| Year 2 Hawthorn | Tuesday @ 9:05 am |
| Year 3 Rowan and Mulberry | Thursday @ 9:05am |
| Year 4 Cedar | Wednesday @ 2:55pm |
| Year 5 Chestnut and Elder | Friday @ 2:55pm |
| Year 6 Elm | Monday @ 2:55pm |

Essential School Wear

We were informed yesterday that Essential School Wear, our school uniform supplier, has gone into administration. In the short term, I appreciate that this will present you with some difficulty but can I please ask that your children still adhere to the school uniform policy. We have set up meetings for next week to procure a new supplier and we will inform you once a new supplier has been identified.

Beyond Outstanding Award

I received an email on the 31st January from the Headteacher of Chessbrook School on Tolpits Lane informing me of the bravery of one of our pupils. A copy of the email is below. It demonstrates the values that Jansen in Year 2 demonstrated while helping a member of the community. I think you would agree Jansen demonstrated all our school values and even though he is only in Year 2 modelled maturity, great kindness and community spirit in helping a stranger.

Dear Mr van Straaten,

I am writing to share some positive news about one of your students.

Yesterday afternoon, a man was taken seriously ill outside Chessbrook at around 3.30pm. A lady, Laura Mitchell and her son, Jansen (year 2) were first on the scene to assist the man and called for an ambulance.

A few of my staff and myself joined her to support the situation and carry out first aid. The situation became very serious at times as the man was very ill, and the ambulance did not arrive for a long time.

Throughout this time, Jansen very bravely provided assistance by directing passers by, keeping an eye out for the ambulance and looking after his mothers belongings while she was assisting with the situation.

The situation was scary at times and also occurred at the side of the road on Tolpits Lane at a very busy period.

Jansen was a real credit to himself, his family and your school. His behaviour and contributions were exemplary. I have prepared a certificate for him and have asked one of the outreach team to drop it into your school tomorrow. I would be very grateful if you could present the certificate to Jansen and congratulate him for his outstanding contributions.

Kind regards

Steve McShannon
Headteacher

Yours faithfully



Mr C van Straaten
Headteacher

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| Star & Charter Certificates – 3rd February 2023 |
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| Star Learner of the Charter Certificate | | |
|---|--------|-----------|
| EYFS | Eric | Khushi |
| Y1 Sycamore | Callie | Adam |
| Y2 Hawthorn | Junior | Gabriella |
| Y3 Mulberry | Nathan | Eden |
| Y3 Rowan | Liya | Amelia |
| Y4 Cedar | Aaron | Sathuja |
| Y5 Chestnut | Zain | Brenda |
| Y5 Elder | David | Ines |
| Y6 Elm | Helen | Jaida |

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| WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE FROM SEPTEMBER 2022 |
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92%

Week Commencing 23rd January - 27th January 2023

| Attendance by Class | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-------------|-----|
| Nursery | 82% | Y3 Mulberry | 97% |
| Reception | 90% | Y4 Cedar | 95% |
| Y1 Sycamore | 88% | Y5 Chestnut | 88% |
| Y2 Hawthorn | 91% | Y5 Elder | 88% |
| Y3 Rowan | 97% | Y6 Elm | 95% |

| Attendance | |
|--|----------------------|
| <i>Best Classes in the whole school for attendance</i> | |
| Key Stage 1 | Y2 Hawthorn |
| Key Stage 2 | Y3 Mulberry/Y3 Rowan |