



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

Monday 3rd October 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

Apologies for the delay in getting the newsletter out at the end of last week. With the individual photographs being taken on Friday it is a big juggling exercise for everyone. The pupils were well turned out for their photographs and it was good to see many families coming in after school for family photographs.

#### **Fun Lunch**

On the 6<sup>th</sup> October 2016 we will have a special fun lunch for all pupils to give everyone an opportunity to try a school dinner. Pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal under the Universal Free School Meal offer and pupils just need to let their class teacher know that they will be having a school dinner instead of a packed lunch on the day. Anyone can have a school dinner at the cost of £2.15, which needs to be paid in advance please. The menu for the 6<sup>th</sup> is: Beef burgers in a roll or veggie hot dogs served with chips, peas and sweetcorn and for desert there is an option of fruit jelly & ice cream or fresh fruit & yoghurt.

#### **Parent View**

Ofsted are keen to hear from parents in schools and therefore have a website where parents can share their views. We collect parent's views regularly during our Parents Evening and when we have other events where we invite parents into school. Please feel free to share your positive comments about the school on this forum as well. We are due an Ofsted this year and want to do as well as possible. Your many positive comments about the school will reinforce parent's positive views about the school and the learning that their children are receiving at Holywell Primary School. Is it also a good opportunity to share and express views about the many other opportunities we provide pupils with, such as trips, clubs and our range of drama groups coming into school. The following link takes you to the parent view website:

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

We would like to remind parents that any concerns they might have should be raised with the school to enable us to resolve them. Always speak to the Class Teacher first and then please approach the Leadership Team if necessary.

The Leadership Team consists of Miss Bigham (Nursery / Reception Leader); Mrs Keshiro (Year 1/ Year 2 Leader); Mrs McLaughlin (Year3/ Year 4 Leader); Miss McCay (Year 5/Year 6 Leader). Apart from the Leaders linked to year groups, parents can also see Mrs Beale or myself to help resolve any concerns that they might have.

#### **Black History Month**

Our Black History Workshops are taking place this week and I know that all pupils will have a great time. The workshops presented by the Bigfoot Theatre Company focus on the theme 'Carnivals'.



## Harvest

Many thanks for all the donations that we have already received for our Harvest collections. We hope to finish the collection this week. We are collecting tinned food and any other food items that will keep, like dried food items.

## Lumio

We have invested in Lumio which are on-line maths games that pupils can use at home. All pupils will be issued with a username and password which will give them access to this great online resource. Parents are encouraged to log on with their pupils and explore the fantastic site. The web address is: <https://web.lumioeducation.com/app/signin.html>

## Term dates

I have included important dates for parents at the bottom of the newsletter. Please take note of trips etc. that relate to your child. Every week there will be a week-in-advance look for parents as a reminder.

## Parents Evening

We will be spreading our Parents Evening over two weeks as a result of staff training planned for Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016. Parents' Evening will take place on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016 between 3:30 pm – 6:00 pm and on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October between 5:00 pm and 7:30 pm. This is an opportunity to meet your class teacher and discuss the progress that your child has already made this year and also to see what your child's targets are and how you could help to assist them in reaching these targets. A letter will go out later in the week that will give parents an opportunity to choose a suitable time slot.

## 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.

Black History	Cedar - Year 4	Friday 7th October
6Rs - Responsibility	Elder - Year 5	Friday 14th October
Diwali	Rowan - Year 4	Friday 21st October

## Courses available:

Date	Session focus	Session Leader
4 <sup>th</sup> October 2016	<b>KS2 SATs</b> How to prepare your Year 6 child for SATs (Reading, writing, SPAG and maths) in May.	Mr van Straaten
11 <sup>th</sup> October 2016	<b>The benefits of extra-curricular activities</b> Realise the positive effects socially and educationally that extra-curricular activities can have on your child.	Sam Ward
18 <sup>th</sup> October 2016	<b>KS1 SATs</b> How to prepare your Year 2 child for SATs (Reading, writing, SPAG and maths) in May.	Mrs Keshiro
<b>HALF TERM</b>		
8 <sup>th</sup> November 2016	<b>Building a positive relationship with your child.</b> Looking at how to create a closer connection with your child.	Sam Ward

Date	Session focus	Session Leader
15 <sup>th</sup> November 2016	<b>KS1 Phonics</b> How you can support your child's phonics development at home	Mr French
22 <sup>nd</sup> November 2016	<b>Time-out parenting strategy.</b> A strategy for parents to gain control and be able to discipline effectively	Sam Ward
29 <sup>th</sup> November 2016	<b>Reading – Key Stage 1</b> Understand how reading is taught in school and support your child reading at home.	Ms Keshiro
6 <sup>th</sup> December 2016	<b>Developing your child's self-esteem</b> How to promote your child's self-esteem and how to recognise possible low self-esteem.	Sam Ward
13 <sup>th</sup> December 2016	<b>Reading – Key Stage 2</b> Understand how reading is taught in school and support your child reading at home.	Ms McCay

#### AUTUMN TERM

##### October 2016

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2016 – Black History workshops all week (Bigfoot theatre)  
 Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2016 Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016 – Book fair  
 Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2016 – Last day for Harvest collections  
 Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016 – Parents Evening - 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm  
 Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2016 – Festival of Learning week  
 Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2016 - Year 4 on a trip to Cassiobury Park  
 Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016 – Year 4 on a trip to Cassiobury Park  
 Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016 – U10s Cross Country at Watford Boys School  
 Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016 – Year 2 Challenge Cup at Holywell Primary School  
 Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2016 – Parents Evening – 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm  
 Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2016 – Ark Farm in to visit Reception and Nursery

##### Monday 24<sup>th</sup> – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2016 – Half term

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016 – Year 3 Trip to Verulamium Museum - Pine and Beech  
 Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016 – Secondary applications for September 2017 – Closes

##### November 2016

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016 – Poppy Appeal starts  
 Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016 – Flu Immunisations – Year 1, 2 and Year 3.  
 Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2016 - Year 3 on trip to Verulamium Museum - Aspen  
 Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2016 – Year 4 Mulberry – swimming starts  
 Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – Assessment Week  
 Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – Sycamore and Maple on trip to Whipsnade Zoo  
 Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – Reception Applications for September 2017 opens  
 Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – U11 Hockey Tournament at Watford Boys School  
 Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – Wizard Theatre Panto in school  
 Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – Year 1 Oak on trip to Whipsnade Zoo  
 Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – Year 3 Challenge Cup at Laurence Haines Primary  
 Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – Anti Bullying week  
 Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – Assessment week  
 Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016 - U11 Basketball at Queens School  
 Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – Year 1 Challenge cup at The Grove Academy  
 Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2016 – Reception open day – 9:15 am  
 Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – Non Uniform day – Bottles and Jars  
 Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – Year 2 on trip to Willow Farm  
 Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – Occasional Day – SCHOOL CLOSED  
 Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – U9's Speed Stacking competition at Watford Girls School  
 Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – Drama Challenge cup at Warren Dell Primary School  
 Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – Christmas Decoration Day

**December 2016 – continued on next page.**

#### Attendance

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

Nursery am	96%	Aspen	96%
Nursery pm	85%	Beech	97%
Blue base	97%	Pine	96%
Green base	92%	Mulberry	99%
Red base	93%	Cedar	98%
Maple	95%	Rowan	97%
Oak	100%	Ash	94%
Sycamore	97%	Elder	99%
Hawthorn	93%	Birch	98%
Hazel	94%	Elm	96%
Willow	90%		

Attendance:	Punctuality:
Ks1 - Hazel	Ks1 - Hawthorn
Ks2 - Cedar / Rowan	Ks2 - Mulberry/Cedar/Rowan

## AUTUMN TERM

### December 2016

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016 – Christmas Tree Decoration Day  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016 – Non Uniform day – Raffle prizes and ‘nearly new’  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016 – Year 4 Stone Age workshops  
Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2016 – Reception 2017 Open Day – 2:00pm  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016 – Carol concert at Watford Coliseum  
Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2016 (3:30 – 5:00) – Christmas fete - TBC  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2016 – Christmas Dinner Day  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2016 (1:30) – School closes  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2016 PM Nursery group to attend AM session – 9:00 am to 12:00 midday

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

### Charter and Star Certificates this week, congratulations to:

Class	Charter certificate	Star learner of the week award	Class	Charter certificate	Star learner of the week award
Red Base	Grace	Natasa	Aspen	Luca	Mohammad
Green Base	Ellie-Mae	Anushka	Pine	Ishmeet	Stephen
Blue Base	Sofia	Kyla	Mulberry	Nabeela	Jenna
Sycamore	Kian	Demi	Rowan	Isa	Chloe
Maple	Temilola	Humzah	Cedar	Kasandra	Calvin
Oak	Madara	Joy	Ash	Krish	Louiza
Hawthorn	Mariam	Charity	Elder	Ayaan	Emilia
Hazel	Maisie	Ada	Birch	Mahek	Pranab
Willow	Maya	Romaine	Elm	Kasheka	Leo
Beech	Nana	Jack			