



Holywell Primary School

Tolpits Lane, Watford, Herts, WD18 6LL

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

we are a learning community with the spirit to succeed

31st March

Dear Parents & Carers

Reading at home

From our monitoring of pupil's progress and discussions with teachers, it is clear that pupils benefit from reading at home regularly. All pupils will come home with a book to read and while pupils do a lot of reading in school, this is additional reading, especially for those pupils who have phonics in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

Fire Brigade Visit

Yesterday, pupils across the school were treated to a visit from the Fire Brigade. The children were able to talk to the Fire Fighters, and had the opportunity to look inside the fire engine.



Attendance and Punctuality

I am happy to report that lateness has reduced this week. This is great to see and I want to thank parents. We know that pupils arriving to school late is severely affected as a result of the learning they are missing. We will continue to monitor this after half term.

School Meals

We have resisted increasing the price of school meals for some time but with the increasing cost of ingredients we have to increase the cost as the school is having to make up any shortfall in costs.

From Tuesday 18th April 2023, the cost of a school meal will increase to £2.80 per meal per child. We hope we will not have to increase the cost again in the near future. We are very pleased that we have managed not to increase this cost for quite a few years.

Please find the Summer Menu on our school website.



English Lesson Visits

On Tuesday 18th April 2023 you will be able to take part in a class visit on the teaching of English in school.

We would like all parents to come into school to see how we teach English. This insight will give you ideas on how you can support your children at home. You will be able to enter the classes from 9:05 and stay until 9:30. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

Absences

If your child is absent for any reason please call us on 01923 255188 and leave a message. Alternatively, please email us on absence@holywell.herts.sch.uk. Thank you.

Clubs

Clubs will restart on week commencing Monday 24th April. If you would like your child to take part in a club please sign them up by logging onto our on-line payment system.

Easter Hat Parade

The children looked marvellous in their Easter hats yesterday. Lots of effort and creativity has gone into making these hats as you can see from the photos. Thank you to all who supported your children with this.



A Message from the Watford Borough Council

From May 2023, the law requires voters to present an approved photo ID when voting in person at their polling station. The approved ID, such as your photo driving licence or passport, will be accepted even if they have expired, as long as they show a true likeness to the holder. Those without an acceptable form of ID can apply for a free **'Voter Authority Certificate' (VAC)** until the deadline on 25 April 2023. If you miss this date, you can still apply but your VAC won't be ready for you to use at the 4 May 2023 local elections. If residents have any questions or require help applying for their free Voter Authority Certificate (VAC), direct them to our Elections Team (elections@watford.gov.uk) who will be able to assist them.

SPIRIT TO SUCCEED WINNERS



	Adult Vote	Child Vote
EYFS	Hania - for working so hard with her RWInc learning and lovely handwriting.	Zahran - for his kind skills organising and tidying up with them and with the adults.
Y1 Sycamore	Florence - for being a responsible school council member and for being a wonderful role model not only the way she behaves and shows respect to both adults and peers, but also by inspiring others with her positive attitude to learning, always challenging herself to achieve more. She will always offer to help others stuck with their learning with a big smile of encouragement on her face.	Lei - Lei received the most votes in Sycamore class due to him consistently following the 6R's. He is a great role model and leads by example behaving responsibly, showing resilience when tackling new challenges and treating peers and adults with respect.
Y2 Hawthorn	Godfrey - Godfrey has made fantastic progress this term, he has developed his confidence and self-motivation and tries his hardest in all of his learning. He always follows the 6Rs, he is super responsible and always making the right choices. I can always reply on Godfrey to help others as he is a kind and caring friend. We are so proud of Godfrey, keep it up!	Karina - Karina has shown fantastic resilience over this term. She always gives 100% in all she does, even when it is tricky. She is a brilliant friend to all as she is kind and helpful and she includes everyone. Karina has started to come out of her shell and is contributing more to lessons and trying her work more independently. We are super proud of her attitude this term!

Y3 Mulberry	Mathias – I voted for Mathias because he is new to the school and always follows the 6 Rs	Lael - This award is for a boy who at the beginning of the year was very quiet and did not contribute much in the class, but now he is participating in oral and group discussions and is becoming a good friend towards his peers and respectful towards his teachers.
Y3 Rowan	Amelia - Amelia has made excellent progress throughout the year. She has also become more confident with sharing her ideas in class and is a great role model for all children. Amelia is also a great friend to all!	Amelia Rose - Amelia Rose is a fantastic friend to all and very helpful around the class. She continually shows the 6Rs and is always trying her best in class.
Y4 Cedar	Maisey - The student who has been chosen for the Student Choice Spirit to Succeed Medal consistently shows the 6 R's and treats everyone with respect. This person is proof that it is cool to be kind and is one of the reasons that Cedar Class is such a lovely class to be in. Anything you ask of her is never too much, and she always strives to help others and lead by example. She is a positive learner, although sometimes she lacks the belief in herself that she can do it. You can Maisey Baxter.	Mikayla - The student who has been chosen by the adults in Cedar as the winner for the Spirit to Succeed Medal is someone who has made huge progress in their learning this term. They have taken everything on board by listening to the adults around them and trusting the process, especially in Phonics. Her writing is coming along nicely and it proves that with hard work, good listening and occasionally some brilliant advice from teachers, that steps towards excellence is possible. Well done, Mikayla
Y5 Chestnut	Shailah - Shailah has worked so hard on her determination and motivation in all areas from September but especially in Maths. It is now evident that she wants to achieve and although Maths can still be a little tricky this person now takes on the challenge and I have seen a fantastic attitude and eagerness with her learning, striving to achieve well and reach her goals. She is gaining confidence in her own abilities (which we will continue to work on) but if something isn't understood she will ask for help if it is needed and not only listen, but learn from what has been said. This person is a true role model to all in Chestnut Class which we are so proud of. Not just in her learning, but attitude and also when modelling the 6Rs! Amazing!	Nived - Nived has consistently shown that he is a role model to all. He tries incredibly hard in all areas and gives 100% in all that he does. He loves a challenge- especially in Maths but has an all-round determination to succeed in all areas... along with a fantastic sense of humour too.
Y5 Elder	Amina - Amina was described as a good friend. We have seen her become more independent in her work and come out of her shell to become more confident now contributing in class. She is a role model on and off the playground.	Samanta - Samanta was described as a good friend, kind and sweet. She always getting the work done and will be focused within class. She will always help people, shares their things with everyone. They become friends with everyone they meet.

<p>Y6 Elm</p>	<p>Kayla - for being an excellent role model and always following the 6Rs. She has a fantastic attitude to learning and takes great pride in all her work which is reflected in her assessments and quality of written pieces. She also is a supportive member of Elm, who helps others to succeed as well as herself.</p>	<p>Zain - for being a kind and helpful member of the class who always tries their hardest and helps others to succeed.</p>
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Attendance Certificates

The Bronze Attendance Certificates were awarded to:-



And the Silver Certificates were awarded to:-



Mrs Bara Vecchi Awarded this terms Spanish Achievement Awards to the children below.

This was awarded for showing an excellent attitude to learning and making good progress



Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C van Straaten', written in a cursive style.

Mr C van Straaten
Heateacher