



We are a learning community with the spirit to succeed

Holywell Primary School

Tolpits Lane, Watford, Herts, WD18 6LL
Tel: 01923 225188 email: admin@holywell.herts.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mr C van Straaten

Friday 7^h September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to start by welcoming everyone back after the summer break. It already seems a long time ago. Teachers and staff have been in over the holiday to prepare for the new academic year and we had a very productive INSET day on Monday. Pupils have settled quickly into their new classes and learning is well underway.

Sports Award

Holywell Primary School has been awarded the Bronze Sports Award; this is a big achievement for us. A lot of work has taken place over the last year to raise the profile of healthy living with pupils. We are very excited to receive this award as recognition of the work that we are doing and we are now working hard towards achieving the Gold Sports Award.



Catering

I am pleased to confirm we have successfully taken over the catering in school. Meals are now cooked by our own staff and we would like to welcome them to Holywell Primary School. We have a much wider range of meals on offer to our pupils and the cost of each meal is £2.20 per day, £11.00 per week. The price of our meals is very reasonable compared to the other catering companies within Hertfordshire. Each day we offer a meat option, a vegetarian option and a halal option. If pupils do not like the options on offer they can always opt for a jacket potato. Parents of pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal under the Universal Free School scheme. Unless pupils have specific allergies we would expect them to take up this very good offer. We kindly ask you to discuss your child's dietary needs with their Class Teacher if they are not taking up this free school meal offer.



If you think you might be eligible for free school meals please check on the Hertfordshire County Council website www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals or telephone Hertfordshire County Council 0300 123 4048

Meet the Teacher

Next Thursday, 13th September 2018 we will be hosting a "Meet the Teacher" evening which all parents are invited to. This is an opportunity to meet your child's Class Teacher and also to receive information about the curriculum and other important events. There will be two sessions both starting in the Olympic Hall, introducing the Class Teachers. The first session will start at 3:30pm and the second at 4:15pm. We hope to see all parents there.

Cashless

As you are no doubt aware, the school has moved to a cashless system which will help us be more efficient in the use of our resources and staffing. The system, called "School Money," has been very well received by the many parents who have been using it over the past year. The office staff have been helping parents who have experienced problems accessing the system and are more than happy to assist parents with on-going issues.



Attendance and Punctuality

This year, one of our priorities will be to ensure that pupils arrive to school on time. Punctuality has been okay this week, but unfortunately we still had a few children arriving late. We would like to remind you that school starts each day at 8:55am, this means that children should arrive in school, at the latest, 8:50am. Arrival to school on time is pertinent to children's success in school and research has proven this. If pupils arrive on time they are calmer and concentration levels are better. It also means they do not miss the start of their lessons which commence immediately after registration.

Even though we do not authorise leave for children during term time we still have many parents who take their children abroad or out of school for various reasons. This unauthorised leave means parents could be issued with a fixed term penalty notice by the local authority or even face court action. The school has the authority to remove pupils from their roll if they have not returned to school within 10 days. The term dates for 2018 – 2019 have been included in this newsletter to enable parents to plan their holidays.

Holywell Charter and Star Certificates!

Congratulations go to:

Class	Charter certificate	Star Learner of the Week award	Class	Charter certificate	Star Learner of the Week award
Blue Base	-	-	Mulberry	Bailey	Mariam
Red Base	-	-	Cedar	Zuzanna	Luis
Sycamore	Tyson	Amira	Elder	Romeo	Wiyam
Maple	Hamza	Samanta	Ash	Benjamin	Maryama
Hawthorn	Joseph	Zain	Chestnut	Zainab H	Leo
Hazel	Tida	Stefan	Rowan	Ellie	Rodrigo
Pine	Bentley	Lois	Elm	Zuzanna	Prasun
Beech	Nicola	Haris	Birch	Shiloh	Elliot
Aspen	Kian	Yasmin			

School Uniform

We would like to remind you about the school uniform expectations. All pupils should adhere to the requirements as set out in our Home School Agreement. From next week onwards we will be carefully monitoring school uniform. Don't forget all long hair is to be tied up.

Bicycles in the playground

For health and safety reasons we do not allow bicycles or scooters in the playground. We have lots of parents/carers with much smaller children that walk in the playground and the bicycles and scooters pose a risk to them. We have a bicycle shed at both main gates that are used for storage during the school day. Remember to lock up your bicycles and scooters as the school cannot take responsibility for them.



Parent Information Sessions

Just pop in and join us for a coffee and discussion about the topic of focus for the week. No need to book.



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TERM DATES FOR 2018-2019

AUTUMN TERM 2018

Monday 3rd September 2018 INSET Day – school closed for pupils

Tuesday 4th September 2018 – first day of term

Half Term – Monday 29th October 2018 to Friday 2nd November 2018

Friday 21st December 2018 – last day of term (school finishes at 1:30pm)

SPRING TERM 2019

Monday 7th January 2019 INSET Day – school closed for pupils

Tuesday 8th January 2019 – first day of term

Half Term – Monday 18th February 2019 to Friday 22nd February 2019

Friday 5th April – last day of term (school finishes at 1:30pm)

SUMMER TERM 2019

Tuesday 23rd April 2019 INSET Day – school closed for pupils

Wednesday 24th April 2019 – first day of term

Monday 6th May 2019 – Bank Holiday

Half Term – Monday 27th May 2019 to Friday 31st May 2019

Friday 19th July 2019 – last day term (school finishes at 1:30pm)





"Children who speak more than one language are multiply advantaged over their monolingual playmates – in communication, cognition and social interaction ... Studies show that a bilingual child is better able to cope with tasks that involve attention, memory and concentration. The mental gymnastics needed to constantly manage two or more linguistic systems increases cognitive flexibility and makes learning easier."

Source: Cambridge University's Department of Theoretical and Applied Linguistics

JULY, 2018

La Jolie Ronde French Programme – Autumn 2018

Dear Parents of Holywell School,

We are delighted to offer places for **La Jolie Ronde French Programme Autumn 2018** which will run **during lunchtime from week commencing 10th September, 2018**. Our programme has won the What's On for Junior Awards for the last 4 years.

This is what La Jolie Ronde classes provide:

- A **structured and progressive** language course which holds an Early Language Learning badge awarded by the DTI and supports the National Curriculum Scheme of Work for England and Wales. This means an independent assurance of quality with content which is relevant and works towards academic achievements.
- An **excellent accent** for the children to develop as all teachers are **native speakers** as well as **DBS certified**. At a young age, it is possible to make best use of a child's ability to listen and copy new sounds, intonation and gesture. Learning, when they are most receptive and uninhibited.
- **Small classes** so your child can receive **plenty of individual attention** and learn with children of his/her own age. **New children joining are integrated fully with recycling of content at several stages.**
- **To achieve a high standard through activities that are interesting, rewarding and fun.**
- An **awareness of France**, its geography and culture.
- **Termly reports on your child's progress and French certificates** awarded on completion of each stage.

La Jolie Ronde classes run separately from those offered in the curriculum to children at KS2.

The programme is designed to enhance learning skills and to challenge the children, which means that they not only **excel** in languages, but also become more receptive to learning in other subjects.

Classes are offered at the rate of **£6.50** per 30 minute sessions, paid termly in advance.

An integral part of the course is the fun activity book and interactive CD or Smartphone App, to help with your child's learning at a cost of £15 which lasts for a full year until the next level is reached.

Places will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis.

To ensure your child has a place with La Jolie Ronde, please email your child's name, class name, as well as your telephone contact details, to raksha.d.kotecha@gmail.com or call **07956 230060** for more details. An enrolment pack will then be sent after a place is confirmed. Please also visit our website at www.lajolieronde.co.uk.

Kind regards,
Raksha Kotecha
La Jolie Ronde Tutor and Licensee - License no. 10193



For brothers, sisters and parents of children with additional needs

WEDNESDAY'S 4.00-5.30PM

Stanborough Centre
St Albans Road, Watford WD25
9JL

September 19th, 26th
October 3rd, 10th, 17th

Last few remaining
free places available.

To find out more and book your
places:

Email:
Francine@familiesinfoocus.co.uk
or
Call:
07867510027



For siblings:

For siblings aged 5-10 years, of brothers and sisters of children with additional needs and their parents. Therapeutic play, fun and games with discussions, sharing and expressing feelings, understanding more about your brother or sister and why they do what they do. Find new ways of coping with difficult things and meeting other children who live in family similar to yours.

For parents:

Parents will meet in their own group with Francine and Lesley to understand the needs of siblings and how to best support them, share concerns and learn effective communication techniques to build strong supportive positive family relationships with other parents of children other children who live in family similar to yours.

The important bit

- Siblings must be accompanied by parent/s to all sessions.
- Parent will need to arrange alternative care and accommodation for the child with SEND.
- There will be simple fun family tasks to take home to support learning (taking about 10 minutes per week)



Dates for your Diary

AUTUMN TERM

September 2018

Thursday 13th September 2018 – Year 4 Cedar swimming
Thursday 13th September 2018 (15:30 and 16:15) – Meet the teacher
Monday 17th – All clubs restart
Monday 17th September 2018 – First day for Harvest collection
Thursday 20th September 2018 – Year 4 Cedar swimming
Friday 21st September 2018 – Last day for Harvest collections
Thursday 27th September 2018 – Year 4 Cedar swimming
October 2018
Thursday 4th October 2018 – Year 4 Cedar swimming
Monday 8th October 2018 – Warburton Bakery in to visit Year 3
Monday 8th October 2018 – Year 6 Health Screening
Tuesday 9th October 2018 – Warburton's in to visit Year 3
Wednesday 10th October 2018 – Warburton Bakery in to visit Year 3
Thursday 11th October 2018 – Year 4 Cedar swimming
Tuesday 16th October 2018 – Friday 19th October 2018 – Black History month – Bigfoot Theatre
Thursday 18th October 2018 – Year 4 Cedar swimming
Monday 22nd October 2018 to Friday 26th October 2018 – Festival of Learning week
Tuesday 23rd October 2018 (15:30 – 18:00) – Parents Evening
Thursday 25th October 2018 – Year 4 Cedar swimming
Thursday 25th October 2018 (17:00 – 19:30) – Parents Evening
Monday 29th October 2018 to Friday 2nd November 2018 – Half term
Wednesday 31st October 2018 – Secondary school applications for September 2019 – Close

November 2018

Monday 5th November 2018 – Reception Class applications for September 2019 - Open
Monday 5th November 2018 – Start of Poppy Appeal
Tuesday 6th November 2018 – Wizard Theatre
Thursday 8th November 2018 – Year 4 Mulberry swimming
Monday 12th November 2018 – Flu Immunisations – Year 1 – 6
Monday 12th November 2018 to Friday 16th November 2018 – Whole school Assessment Week
Thursday 15th November 2018 – School Photographer – Individual and family photos
Thursday 15th November 2018 – Year 4 Mulberry swimming
Monday 19th November 2018 – Year 1 Assessments continue
Wednesday 21st November 2018 – Reception Open Day – 9:15a.m
Thursday 22nd November 2018 – Year 4 Mulberry swimming
Thursday 29th November 2018 – Year 4 Mulberry swimming
Friday 30th November 2018 – Christmas Decoration Day

December 2018

Thursday 6th December 2018 – Year 4 Mulberry swimming
Thursday 13th December 2018 – Year 4 Mulberry swimming
Friday 21st December 2018 – Nursery finishes at midday
Friday 21st December 2018 – End of Autumn Term – school closes at 1:30pm