



HOLLY PARK NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 28

FRIDAY 26th APRIL 2013

House Points for this week

Dragon Griffin	86	points
Unicorn	81	points
Hydra	78	points
Phoenix	68	points

Well done **Dragons** and **Griffins**!

Private Tuition

You may be aware that a private tutoring company were approaching parents on Bellevue Road after school last night. Although I believe it is every parent's right to decide whether or not to seek additional tutoring for their child, I want to make it clear that as a school we do not support, condone or promote services like these. We would encourage you not to use their services. Thank you

P.E. in the National Curriculum

We would like to remind you that P.E. is an important part of the National Curriculum, and we are keen that all pupils participate in their two P.E. lessons each week. In order to do this, each child needs to have a P.E. kit in school (both indoor and outdoor), and we suggest that as this is only worn for a maximum of two hours a week, it does not need to go home after every week, but could be washed during the half term and main holidays.

If your child is in school, then we expect that they are well enough to participate in P.E. lessons. If your child has a valid reason to miss P.E. – for example a sprained ankle or a painful back – then this needs to be explained in a note to the teacher. If we do not have this note, we may well insist on your child participating in the planned lesson.

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

Sainsbury's are helping schools to collect vouchers which can be used to buy sports and play equipment for the school. We make good use of this opportunity to improve our provision and resources even further, and would encourage you to collect the vouchers if ever you – or family, friends, or neighbours - shop at Sainsbury's stores, and bring them into school.

Holly Park Expansion Update

I am sure that like me you are aware that it's all gone a bit quiet on the proposed expansion front. I am liaising with Barnet council and they have told me that before proceeding to the next steps at Holly Park, the Council is reviewing again all options within the area to provide additional school places. This review will take into account all views that have been expressed concerning the proposed expansion.

I can tell you that only 60 places have been offered out for next year's Reception, and we have 55 children on our waiting list. As yet there has been no request for us to take an additional class next year.

Parent Governor Drop-in

A reminder that there will be a drop in session with our parent governors on Monday April 29th at 9.00am in the dining hall. This is open to all parents and carers of Holly Park children, but not to other members of our local community. Please come along for a chat about the school

Some Improvements for Next Year

The budget for the new financial year was ratified by the governors shortly before the Easter holidays. I am pleased to share with you some of the planned improvements which we were able to include in it:

- We will be redecorating the Nursery, the Dining Hall and the Main Hall over the Summer holidays
- We will be replacing the surface of the Ball Area with AstroTurf, and raising the height of the netting which forms its roof
- In early May we will be replacing the water fountains which seize up every winter with new ones which will work all year round
- The toilets outside Chestnut and Elm classes and the disabled toilet will be fully refurbished
- We are investing £13,000 in additional ICT resources, in addition to our four laptop trolleys
- We are investing £5,000 in equipment for the Early Years, particularly for the outdoor area
- We are creating three new teaching roles to support interventions for children of all abilities as well as covering the teachers' Planning, Preparation and Assessment time.

Summer Sports at Holly Park – a Reminder

- Our Infant Sports will take place from 10.30 am on Tuesday 9th July.
- Junior Sports will take place from 10.30am on Thursday 11th July.

We have not yet decided on the venue for these events, so please keep an eye out for updates. Parents are welcome to come along and support all the children at the sports days. **Obviously, these events depend on the weather**, and please make sure you are registered with our text service for any last minute changes. We look forward to seeing you there, and remember to come suitably dressed for the adults' race at the end!

Upcoming Dates

- May Day Bank Holiday – **School closed**
Monday 6th May
- Infant Choir Concert:
Wednesday 8th May at 6.30pm
- Half term holidays – school closed
Monday 27th – Friday 31st May
- Class Photos
Wednesday 19th June
- Infant Sports
Tuesday 9th July at 10.30am
- Reception Show
Wednesday 10th July at 10.30am
- Reception Show
Thursday 11th July at 2.30pm
- Junior Sports
Thursday 11th July at 10.30am
- Chamber Choir at the Barnet Music Festival
Monday 17th June at 7.00pm
- Junior Choir Concert:
Monday 15th July at 2.00pm
- Two Choirs Concert:
Wednesday 17th July at 7.00pm
- Last day of the Summer term
Wednesday 24th July – **school closes at 3.00pm**

Year 5 Secondary Transfer Meeting

We wanted to give you advanced warning that the parents of pupils in our current Year 5 will be invited to a short evening meeting about the process of applying for secondary school places later this term. This meeting will take place on Monday 24th June at 7.00pm in the hall. Children should not come to this meeting.

Music News from Mr Hogan

Week beginning Monday 29th April

Instrumental Tuition

All Instrumental Tuition lessons are as usual next week

Bands and Ensembles

Wind Band and the String Ensemble sessions continue at their usual times.

- The remaining String Ensemble sessions are May 3rd, 10th and 24th; June 7th and 14th.
- Wind Band will meet on May 9th and 23rd; June 6th and 13th. There is no session next week.
- Rock Band's first session will be on Friday 10th May.

Choirs

Infant Choir sessions (Thursday 3:30-4:15): the FULL Infant Choir will meet on May 2nd.

Chamber Choir (Years 5/6 Barnabas): May 7th and 21st; and June 11th.

Year 3/4 Barnabas: April 30th

Forthcoming concerts

- *Infant Choir Concert*: Wednesday 8th May at 6:30 p.m. Ticket details have now been circulated.
- Chamber Choir will perform in this Summer's *Barnet Schools' Music Festival* on the evening of Monday 17th June. This is held at the 'Artsdepot Theatre', North Finchley. Ticket details for this event have now been circulated.
- *Junior Choir Concert*: Monday 15th July at 2 p.m.
- *Two Choirs Concert* (Barnabas and Chamber Choirs): Wednesday 17th July at 7 p.m.

