



HOLLY PARK NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 8

Friday 9th November 2018

www.hollyparkschool.co.uk

Remembrance

We held a lovely remembrance assembly today for the children in Years 1-6. We had readings and poems about poppies and what they symbolise, we learnt some facts about WWI, we thought about why it is important to remember, we learnt about Remembrance Sunday. We also learnt about **Percy Llewellyn Evans** who was a Sergeant, 14th Battalion, Middlesex Regiment, who died on 12th February 1917 on home service, aged 30. He was buried in Friern Barnet Churchyard. He was a teacher at Holly Park School. He was married to Evelyn Evanson, who was also a teacher at Holly Park. They lived at 17, The Crescent, Friern Barnet. The Friern Barnet parish magazine of March 1917 reported "the death of Mr Percy Evans, Assistant Master at Holly Park School. He joined the Colours, but contracted the disease that caused his death. He was a great favourite among the boys and at his funeral practically the whole school followed him to his grave." We purchased a perspex cut out figure to display in the assembly as part of the 'There but not There' project. The installation is to remember the fallen of the First World War. It allows communities to take the names of those who made the ultimate sacrifice in this conflict and put them back into the spaces they left behind. Every child at Holly Park made a poppy to go on our whole school display in the hall Please do pop in and take a look – it is beautiful. The children attending Forest School decorated stones to look like Poppies and the After School Club painted poppies on tiles and made their own lovely 100 year anniversary display. Even Poppy the school dog had her own remembrance bandanna! The After School Club Poppy sale raised £123 for the appeal.



Inappropriate Online Games

It has come to my attention that some children as young as 5 years of age are playing and having access to completely inappropriate games. One of these games is Fortnite: Battle Royale. This game has several features that can be fun, but there are also risks. These include:

- There is cartoon violence in the game. You can use a variety of weapons to kill other players, such as guns and axes.
- There are in-app purchases, which can become expensive.
- You can make online friends
- Epic Games: Fortnite Battle Royale says it does not direct the game to children under the age of 13 in the UK. The PEGI rating for this game is 12 years old.

Can I remind parents that these games have age ratings for a reason. There is also the knock on effect that they can be discussing these games with other children in the playgrounds – which is not desirable. If it comes to our attention that your child is accessing inappropriate games for their age then we have a duty of care and may need to pass this information on to social services if we feel it necessary.

Anti- Bullying Week – Next week – 12th – 16th November

The theme for Anti-Bullying Week 2018 is: 'Choose Respect' We will hold Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Week again on the first day of Anti-Bullying Week (12th November) The idea is meant to be fun BUT also is an opportunity for children to express themselves as individuals and appreciate individuality. Our older children will look at online bullying. The aim of this week is to support children to understand: The definition of respect, That bullying is a behaviour choice. That we can respectfully disagree with each other i.e. we don't have to be best friends or always agree with each other but we do have to respect each other. That we all need to choose to respect each other both face to face and online. The children will have a series of lessons and assemblies next week.

Parent Information Forms

We are required to send out a new information form. New legislation for safeguarding says that parents must give the name and contact details of 2 emergency contacts in addition to parents. It is your responsibility to check that these emergency contacts are happy for the school to hold their information. I know that it is a nuisance to keep filling in forms but it is good practice to ask for up to date information on an annual basis. The forms will go out next week (1 per child) and we would appreciate the swift return of the forms. Thank you in advance for your co-operation. Look out for these next week.

Diary Dates

Monday 12th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Wednesday 14th November	PTA Coffee Morning 9am
Thursday 15th November	Y2 maths workshop for children and parents at 9am
Friday 16th November	Y4 PTA Cake Sale at 3.15pm
Monday 19th November	Meeting for parents new Nursery parents at 7pm
Wednesday 21st November	Parent Consultations for Y1 & Y2 2.30-330
Thursday 22nd November	Green Day
Thursday 22nd November	Parent Evening for Y1 & 2 3.45-8pm
Thursday 22nd November	Parent Evening for Y3-6 2.30-8pm
Friday 23rd November	INSET DAY

New Pedestrian Entrance Gate

The new entrance gate has arrived and been installed and looks a lot better than the old rusting gate. The gate automatically opens at 8.45am and is magnetically held open at the start of the day. It will automatically close shut at 9.03am. It again will automatically open at 3.20pm.

Indoor PE Health and Safety – Bare feet & Verrucae

I am often asked about why it is that children have bare feet for gym or dance in the hall. So I am sharing advice with you from the Barnet PE advisor and national guidelines. This advice is that: Good practice and safe practice determines that children should be in bare feet for Gymnastics and Dance activities. This is also written in our PE Policy and shared on our website. The definitive National Subject Association guidance from Association for Physical Education (AfPE) 'Safe Practice in PE, School Sport and Physical Activity' current version states; 'In gymnastics, barefoot work is the safest, whether on the floor or apparatus, because the toes can grip. Barefoot work in both gymnastics and dance can also improve aesthetics by allowing the foot and toes to move through a full range of flexion and extension, which in turn strengthens the muscles, bones and joints.' There should never be an occasion where most children are in bare feet and some in trainers. Verrucae can be covered (in theory they are not contagious in dry conditions) however those with verrucae may find it more comfortable to cover them with plaster or surgical tape that wraps completely around the foot otherwise they just tend to fall off. Socks or plimsolls/trainers should never be worn.

Attendance and Punctuality Winners for the Week

Winners of Punctuality parrot		Y2 Rowan Class Y3 Willow Class Y5 Maple Class
Winners of Attendance Alligator		Y2 Rowan Class

Housepoints for this week

Hydra	252	points
Unicorn	248	points
Dragon	245	points
Phoenix	242	points
Griffin	223	points

Well Done **Hydra**

Music News

Instrumental Tuition and Ensembles: All sessions are taking place. **Spring Term Instrumental Tuition Fees** Please look out for a letter with the details of how to pay for your child's Instrumental Tuition for next term.

Barnabas Choir and Infant Choir: No more after-school sessions until next term.

We are sending the choir members home with copies of the lyrics for the Candlelight Concert. These should be assembled into a plastic wallet file or ring-binder. We would like the children do their best to commit the songs to memory by the time of the concert. **'Candlelight Concert' on Tuesday 4th December at 6:30 p.m.** Ticketing details to follow.

Parent Consultation Sign Up

Thank you to all parents who have signed up for appointments. The system worked very well and we have had some excellent feedback from parents who have used both the old and new system – saying the new one is much easier. There were a couple of small hiccups for a few individuals but other than that, all went well. A big thank you to Miss Hounslow who masterminded the whole process.

PTA News

Thank you to everyone who contributed delicious treats to our bonfire night treat stall. All your donations, hard work and creativity made £104.60 for the school.



Parent Governor

Any parent who is interested in being a parent governor should make an appointment to discuss the role with Mrs Pelham and to collect a couple of booklets as soon as possible. The closing date is Thursday 15th November at noon.

