



HOLLY PARK
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Holly Park Highlights!



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AUTUMN TERM 2020

Extraordinary Times

What an extraordinary term it has been. So much new vocabulary and terminology: bubbles, zones, face coverings, staggered starts, blended learning, social distancing etc

We all came back in September with new routines and systems in place – the likes of which have never been seen before! The staff and children adapted to them amazingly well and it has been so wonderful to be back at school with the children back in a learning routine. Attendance has generally been fantastic across the term and compared to many other schools we have been very lucky with the number of bubble closures. We have managed to hold all of our planned events: parent events, parent evenings, PTA events, special days etc (Many are shown in this edition.) We have done them by hook or by crook and with lots of creativity – this I think is testament to our fantastic Holly Park community of parents, staff, children. PTA and governors. I must pay special thanks to the HPS staff who have just been amazing.



Year 3 Nativity

The Year 3 Nativity was wonderful. The children danced beautifully, sang sweetly and said their lines extremely clearly. Many thanks go to the Year 3 teachers for their hard work and commitment. Thanks also to Mr Mock & Mrs Spann for organising the costumes and to Mrs Jones the music teacher.

Government guidance allowed a small audience for nativity

shows with appropriate safeguards. Some of our HPS governors provided a cheery audience to support and encourage the cast! Mr Graveney our Chair of Governors commented that: 'It was the best ever!' Thank you for the parental emails of support and appreciation that we were able to make it happen and video it for parents and extended family to see.

Supporting Our National Charity

We celebrated World Children's Day. The children marked the day by taking part in an Enabling Enterprise Challenge Day where they had to work in teams to research, design and make greetings cards to celebrate this special day. We also marked the day by raising money for Coram the UK's oldest children's charity that has been supporting vulnerable children for 280 years.



HAPPINESS BOXES



In September, we asked the children to think of things that make them happy in their life and put objects, or pictures or short sentences into a box or bag to show that things can still be positive. Children were invited to bring their box or bag in to school and talk about the contents of their bag/box. The children really loved doing this.

HOLLY PARK FOREVER



As part of our Recovery Curriculum, we were very keen to support pupil wellbeing and to facilitate the children being school ready and to feel part of the HPS community again under one roof. We decided to have a two week Holly Park Forever Project. **The main idea** was to reunite the children with each other and welcome them back to our school – to the school community they are part of. Each class took a slightly different angle on the project and looked at areas such as: New beginnings

after the lockdown, Holly Parkers together. – The HPS family, the people who help us at Holly Park, a day in the life of the adults at Holly Park, the global village of Holly Park – diversity of HPS, what Holly Park in the future might be like, The history of Holly Park, what it means to be a Holly Parker and Maps of the school. Each class made a display of their work.

HERE WE ARE PROJECT



We undertook a project called 'Here We Are' based on a book by Oliver Jeffers. The idea of this project was to acknowledge that this has been a year of significant world events, disrupting and changing the ways of life of people across the globe. This unit of work was to support

the children to re-connect with each other and re-engage with school life, thinking beyond themselves & the school to the wider world. The book helps children to make sense of their world and their role in it. It provides a powerful vehicle for children to reflect on and make sense of the world we are all living in. At the end of the two week project, each class produced a display in their classroom to reflect the work they had been doing.

Be Bright Be Seen DAY



CLASS CHARTERS



Each class spent the first weeks of term creating a Rights Respecting Class Charter. They started by becoming familiar with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and all the

different articles. The aim of a charter is to make the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) more prominent and relevant. A charter helps to establish and build shared

values and relationships for creating a rights respecting ethos in the classroom and across the school. Each class agreed which articles were most important to them. The children decided what actions they would need to take to ensure the chosen rights are respected and the adults as the duty bearers also decided what they would need to do.



In October after the clocks went back and the nights were growing darker earlier, we wanted to raise awareness of the importance of children being seen as they travel to and from school. We asked children to come to school dressed in bright clothes and talked to them about how important it is to wear bright clothes so that drivers can see them. There were lots of very bright colours and fluorescent clothing.

ANTI BULLYING



In National Anti-Bullying Week, we reminded children about what bullying is. Our school definition of bullying is: "Bullying is **a repetitive series of actions**, carried out on purpose, and designed to hurt someone's feelings and make them feel ashamed of who or what they are." We have a child friendly version of the anti-bullying policy so that children can understand it easily. There were a couple of assemblies about this during this specific week. The children also watched the John Lewis advert in class and discussed it. It is all about showing kindness and links really well with Anti-Bullying and also filling our Holly Park buckets with kindness.

The national theme this year was "United Against Bullying". This year, more than ever, we've witnessed the positive power that society can have when we come together to tackle a common challenge. Anti-Bullying Week is no different. Bullying has a

long lasting effect on those who experience and witness it. By channelling our collective power, through shared efforts and shared ambitions, we can reduce bullying together. From parents and carers, to teachers and politicians, to children and young people, we all have a part to play in coming together to make a difference. We're all a piece in the puzzle, and together, we're united against bullying. Each class did a lesson on this very idea. Each child decorated a paper person to look like themselves. These were all attached together to make a visual reminder in the classroom that we should be united against bullying.



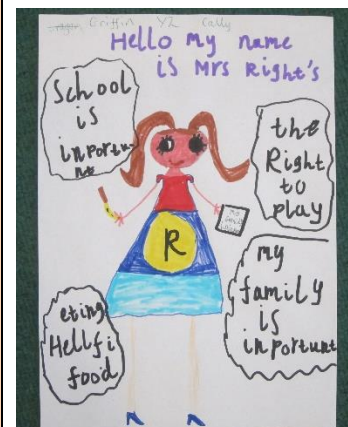
BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Before half term, there was a whole school Black History Month homework. The homework included ideas about representing all cultures from within our school. Ideas for the homework ranged across the curriculum. Year 3 looked at Geography –The UK is a very diverse place, with lots of different cultures influencing things like our food, music and language. The children chose another country and thought about how its influence has been felt in the UK. Year 1, Year 2 and Year 4 did DT – Where Food Comes from. Children chose a recipe that they felt represents their family and culture. The children made it at home and took photos with the special dish. Year 6 focused on researching black heroes. There were some amazing power points and even video dramas! Year 5 connected their homework to their current curriculum. They looked at entertainment during Victorian times. The children researched Pablo Fanque who was a famous black circus performer.



HOUSE CHALLENGE

The aim of the Autumn House Challenge was to create a Rights Respecting Mascot. The children had to think of a name for their mascot and design the mascot thinking of which rights they represented. The children worked in a house group within their year group bubble. Each house group was awarded house points for teamwork and creativity. Miss Michael chose the winning design to become our official Rights Respecting Mascot



The chosen mascot:



Holly Park Lockdown Bunting



The children were given a piece of bunting to capture a memory from lockdown. They were supported in creating their bunting through teacher-led conversations at an age-appropriate level about the positive aspects of lockdown life. As part of our September recovery curriculum and wellbeing activities we wanted the children to reflect back on Lockdown and see that it was by no means a completely negative experience and that out of strange, unusual and difficult situations can come

positives. The bunting was then strung together to make a classroom display of positive lockdown memories.



Welcome To Holly Park

NURSERY

The nursery children have all settled in really well and they very quickly got to grips with the daily routine. They are all getting to know each other and we are starting to see some lovely friendships begin to form. The children have been so busy over the last few weeks and they have enjoyed learning new skills. They are getting very good at putting their own coats on and they have been trying hard to use tricky tools such as pens and scissors. They enjoyed Nursery Rhyme Week.

RECEPTION

Palm Red and Green have made a fantastic start to the school year! All the children have settled into their new routines very quickly. They start each day with smiles and are all eager to get into their classrooms to start their learning. The children are now very familiar with the routines; they are attentive during Carpet Sessions, helpful at tidy up time and enjoy their lunchtimes in the Dinner Hall. The children really are enjoying their learning and they are making some fantastic friendships.

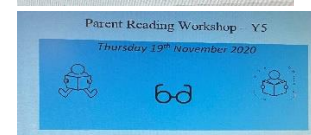


Parent Zoom Meetings



At Holly Park, we really value parental engagement. In KS2 we offer a workshop each term for each year group where parents can come and find out about the curriculum. Although with COVID we cannot invite parents in to

school at the moment, we were determined to offer online sessions for parents about the curriculum. These were very well attended and we received very good feedback.



Our Global Book Wish List



have an enormous number of beautiful new books that reflect our school community and these are now on our bookshelves for the children to enjoy.

Thanks to the huge generosity that many families showed, we received so many books from our list. Each donated book has a bookplate with the names of the family or child who donated stuck inside the front cover. We now

