



# HOLLY PARK NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 25

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2021

[www.hollyparkschool.co.uk](http://www.hollyparkschool.co.uk)

## 'What We'll Build' Displays

Following on from the book 'Here We Are' By Oliver Jeffers that we used in the Autumn Term when the children returned to school as a whole school project, we used another of his books called 'What We'll Build' as a one week project for our first week back together after Lockdown Three in order to celebrate the enjoyment and pleasure of being back together. The book is about the physical building of things but also the more abstract ideas of building other less tangible things. It also explores the idea of protecting your feelings, trying to stop yourself getting hurt or scared, and how by opening up, listening and talking together this can really help. The book draws on wider world knowledge around building walls and creating borders –the divisions created between people. The book also considers how humans have constantly innovated and invented to solve problems and improve life, from the earliest times. The book also focuses on building identity and hopes for the future. Each class made a display of the work related to this project.



## COVID Reminders For Parents

The sun is shining, the weather is warmer and some restrictions nationally have been lifted – however I just wanted to remind parents that COVID is still very much around and part of our lives and that nothing has changed with regard to procedures in school.

We still require parents coming onto the school premises at the start and end of the school day to wear a face covering. We still require parents to try to maintain social distancing and to keep the lines coming onto the premises at the end of the day flowing. Please do not stop to chat with your child, put on coats etc Please keep the line moving like a conveyor belt so that there is no gathering at the bottom near the children.

Any contact between parents and staff will still be mainly via telephone, on a screen or if necessary outside in our story garden.

Please continue to help us to keep everyone safe. Thank you for your support.

## School Shoes

A reminder that children should be wearing the correct black school shoes. Now that non-essential shops have re-opened it is possible to go and buy new shoes if needed. We will be looking out for correct footwear as in our uniform policy over the next few weeks. Thank you for your support with this.

## From Mrs Hassan

To The PTA and Parents of Holly Park School

I would like to say a massive thank you for my retirement gifts. I just loved the box with all the “goodies” inside. When I got home and I found the Amazon vouchers - I was blown away - you have been so generous.

I had an amazing send off - totally unexpected. I could not have asked for more.

Holly Park has been a huge part of my life - 27 years - I have so many memories, but I am really looking forward the next stage of my life. Being able to do what I want, when I want, will be liberating. I intend to spend a lot of time in my garden, sometimes gardening and sometimes relaxing and drinking Prosecco in the sunshine! And, I am sure, my grandchildren will keep me busy.

I wish each and every one of you health and happiness for the future.

Love Janis Hassan xxx

## PTA Easter Hunt & Stalls In The Local Area

Over the Easter break, the PTA set up an Easter Egg hunt around the local streets. On two of the days they ran stalls in front gardens in the local area as part of the hunt. The sun shone and lots of fun was had by everybody. Children and families enjoyed running the stalls. There was candyfloss, cakes, sweet pots, books, uniform, balloons and much more. Thank you to Nathalie and Marilena for organising this. Thank you to the families who ran the stalls and to the families who came along and visited the stalls. The events raised a total of £800 – which was amazing.





### **Our New Office Manager**

In preparation for Mrs Hassan's retirement as Business Manager we had a formal restructure of our office. Following a successful restructure, we then placed an internal advert with a formal interview process for a new School Office Manager role. I am delighted to tell you that Michelle Hounslow was successful and is the new Office Manager with immediate effect.

Miss Hounslow will be responsible for lots of financial and administration matters within the school. She will lead the school's administration team. Miss Hounslow will be working with the nursery regarding our extended day provision and is responsible for any financial matters regarding this including 30 hour codes. Miss Hounslow is also responsible for the administration for school trips, breakfast club and school lunches. Miss Hounslow is responsible for checking if children are eligible for Pupil Premium funding. She monitors and updates our pupil database and pupil files regarding pupil information and will deal with any first aid matters in the absence of Mrs Needham.

You can contact Miss Hounslow via the school telephone but also via email at [office@hollypark.barnetmail.net](mailto:office@hollypark.barnetmail.net).



### **Parents In School**

We continue as we have done for this academic year, not having parents on the school site except for those dropping and collecting children to nursery. We anticipate that this will be the case for the rest of this academic year. Meetings about the curriculum, annual review meetings for children with an EHCP and the meeting for parents new to nursery and Reception will continue via Zoom. We will ensure that children do not miss out on the annual special activities such as sports days. It is likely that these events will go ahead as normal but without parent spectators. Year 6 will still go ahead with their show and Reception will have an end of year assembly for parents. However, it is highly likely we may have to record these performances for parents to watch – as we did with the Year 3 nativity. I meet frequently with the Headteachers of our local partnership of schools and we will be discussing together our thoughts about the return of parents on site over the term to ensure that we are all offering the same kind of experience for our families.

## A Parent Governor Vacancy

We have a vacancy currently for one of the six places on the governing body reserved for parents of children currently at Holly Park. Next week we will be looking for parent nominations. If we have more than one applicant there will be an election. Holly Park is a richly diverse school. The best governing bodies are also diverse in their membership, and it is important to the school and to the current members of the governing body, that the team of governors really do represent the rich, cultural diversity of the school community. The governing body will benefit from a new parent governor with a deep commitment to this belief and to all the children of Holly Park School.

## Trips and Visits

School day trips and visits are now able to go ahead in the summer term. We have taken the decision that Holly Park we will not resume trips out of school until the new academic school year in September. The reason for this is that we are aware that parents will still be anxious (as are the staff) about COVID – especially travelling on public transport. We generally try to travel on public transport for trips as this is free for school groups and keeps the cost of trips as low as possible for parents. If we were to arrange trips by coach, then this adds quite a significant amount to the cost of trips. We will plan local area walks, trips to the park, have visitors in to school and have curriculum days as appropriate. The only possible exception to this will be for Year 6 who will have an activity week (12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> July) Details of this will be shared with Y6 parents nearer the time.

## British Values Day – Project Britain

Today we celebrated our British Values Day. There was a special British school lunch including fish and chips, sausage and mash, trifle and Victoria sponge cake. The children learned about one of the British values in detail. For Mutual Respect they discussed what it is and performed some role plays. For The Rule Of law they talked about rules in school and in wider society. For Acceptance and Tolerance they discussed how we are all different and special, they painted self-portraits and made friendship bracelets. For Democracy the children made posters showing what it is. Classes looked at some famous British artists such as Banksy, Lowry, Bridget Riley and several others. They learned about the story of George and the dragon. The whole school homework is about researching some British traditions. The children came to school wearing red, white and blue clothing.

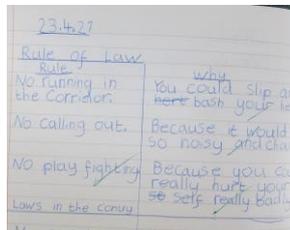
## Dressed In Red, White and Blue

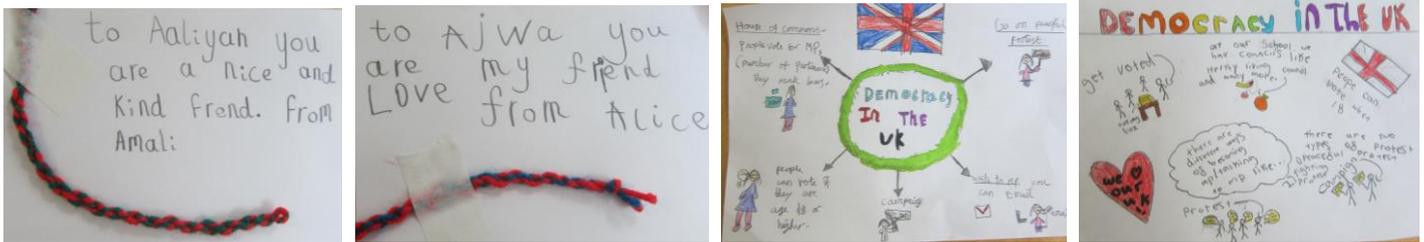


## Lunch

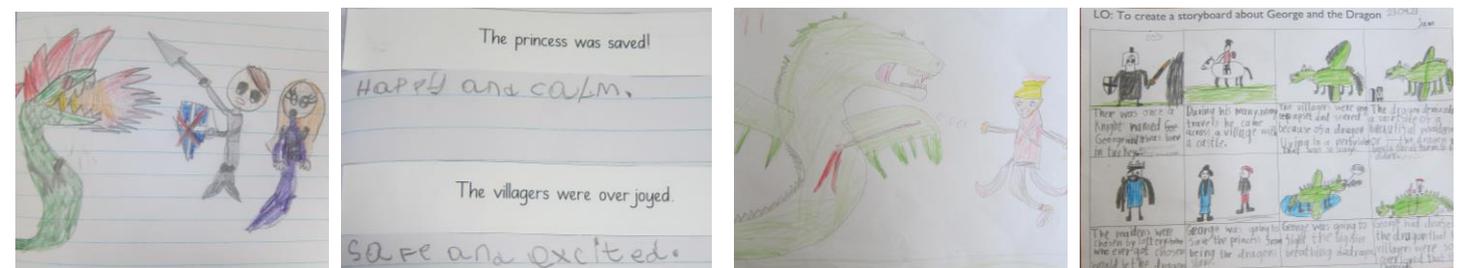


## Learning About The British Values





**George And The Dragon**



**Looking At The Work Of British Artists**





### Attendance

Attendance for the last full week before Easter was 95%

Well done to Palm Red Class for the best attendance with 99%

Attendance for the last three days of the Spring term was 96%

Well Done to Y2 Rowan, Y5 Maple and Y6 Beech who all had 100% attendance

Attendance for the Spring Term when schools returned on 8<sup>th</sup> March to the end of term was 97%

Well Done to Y2 Rowan Class who had the highest attendance for this period with 99%

### Dates

A separate document with summer term dates has been emailed home. Important dates can also be found on the calendar on the school website.

Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Y4 Reading meeting for parents 9.30am
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Y3 Maths meeting for parents 9.30am
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	International Day
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	End of Half term at 3.30pm
<b>HALF TERM</b>	
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	INSET Day
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	School begins
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Online safety session for parents (pre-recorded can be viewed until Friday)
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Online Safety Day
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	House Challenge
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Secondary transfer meeting for Y5 parents at 9.30am
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Class Photos

