



HOLLY PARK NEWSLETTER

'We support our children to be their best.'

ISSUE 4

Friday 6th October 2023

www.hollyparkschool.co.uk

Just One Tree

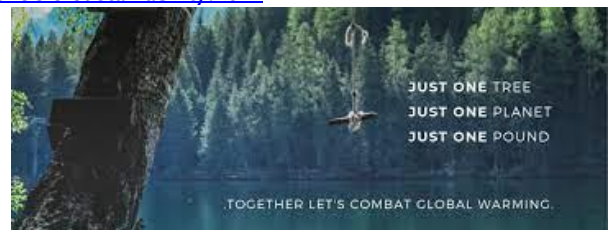
On Friday 13th October we will be joining Barnet schools across Barnet in celebrating and raising money for 'Just One Tree Day' Just £1 plants one tree. The charity help to Combat Climate Change through reforestation. JUST ONE Tree, make it simple to plant trees! They are a non-profit initiative making an impact in the fight against climate change through global reforestation. They plant their trees in areas severely affected by mass deforestation, maximising the effect.

As part of a borough wide project on the environment, Barnet are asking all Barnet schools to participate in this initiative.

Children need to wear green and/or brown clothes on 13th October and donate £1 on School Money. If every Barnet child brings in £1 for the non-uniform day, that is a lot of trees being planted by the charity in the Kenyan rainforest.

This project is helping to make children aware of the global community we live in.

You can find out more about the initiative at <https://www.justonetree.life/schools-sustainability.html>



HARVEST

Holly Park will be celebrating Harvest on Wednesday 11th October. To mark this event, we will be collecting tinned foods, cereals, porridge, rice, Noodles, tea bags, coffee, sugar, jams, oil, dried fruit, biscuits, crackers, washing up liquid, laundry tablets, bubble bath, shower gel, shampoo, soap, toothpaste, and baby formula for Foodbank Aid North London. It would be fantastic if everyone could donate something to support this very worthwhile cause. Please bring in all your donations on Wednesday 11th, and bring them directly to the hall where we will be ready to receive them to make an instant display for our assembly. Please see the poster attached to this newsletter.



The Zero Suicide Alliance (ZSA)

Parents may be interested in the work of The Zero Suicide Alliance (ZSA) who aim to empower, educate, and equip individuals and organisations to support suicide awareness and prevention.

They are UK based and are hosted by Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust and funded via Mersey Cares NHS Charity. They offer free online suicide awareness and prevention training and resources. They have a 20-minute suicide awareness training and have developed other editions of the training which include data and scenarios that are more targeted to specific audiences.

Their aim is to keep the training free and easy for anyone to do - so that more people feel confident and able to talk to someone who may be struggling with suicidal thoughts. You can find out more at: <https://www.zerosuicidealliance.com/>

Black History Month

October is national Black History Month. At Holly Park we will be marking this through the use of books. Each phase of the school will be using a different book.

In the nursery the children will be looking at a book called Baby goes to market by Atinuke and Angela Brooksbank.

The children compare the shopping at the African market to their own experience of shopping with their family.

Children learn about African culture and differences between people around the world.

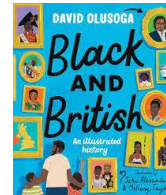
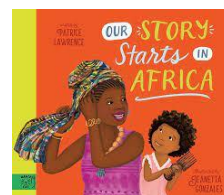
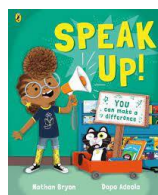
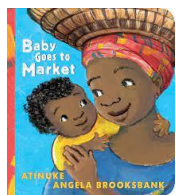
In Reception the children will be looking at the artist Lubaina Himid, she is one of the first artists involved in the UK's Black Art movement. She focuses some of her work on the experiences of refugees travelling. They will also be looking at a book called 'What is a refugee?' by Elise Gravel.

In Year 1 the children will be looking at the book by Floella Benjamin – Coming to England: An inspiring True story celebrating the Windrush generation.

In Year 2 the children will be looking at a book called Speak Up about a girl who organises a peaceful protest to save her local library. Her idea is inspired by Rosa Parks. In addition, the Y2 children will also look at a book – Little People, Big Dreams about Rosa Parks.

In Year 3 and Year 4, the children will be reading a book called Our story starts in Africa. The book links well with Y3 history work on the stone age and the Romans and also with the Y4 topic of Africa.

Year 5 and Year 6 will be looking at a book called Black and British – an illustrated history. Y5 will look at the Victorian section and Y6 will look at the WW2 section.



World Mental Health Day – Tuesday October 10th

Next week is World Mental Health Day. In school we will be talking to the children about it in assembly and they will be watching a short animated video in the classrooms – raising awareness of what mental health is. The Mental Health Foundation has chosen the theme ‘Mental Health is a universal human right’ this year to increase awareness and share helpful resources. World Mental Health Day also encourages people to practice self-care strategies and builds social and emotional skills to increase resilience.



At Holly Park we currently have 5 qualified Mental Health First Aiders – Mrs Puzey, Miss Michael, Mrs Kelly, Mrs Needham and Mrs Mehtar. They have all done the accredited training.

I have also completed the Department for Education accredited course and am the Designated Senior Mental Health Lead for the school.



Mrs Puzey



Mrs Kelly



Miss Michael



Mrs Needham



Mrs Mehtar

Parental Contributions

Thank you so much to those parents who have already made a contribution following my letter to all parents this week. This is very much appreciated. Any amount is greatly appreciated.

We are asking parents across the school to make a contribution towards the cost of resources to support the learning of the children. School budgets are tighter than ever. Falling pupil numbers in Barnet, seriously affects all school budgets. The teacher pay rises are NOT fully funded by the government and this has to come out of existing budgets – budgets that were already set in March last year. This means that money has to be taken from areas that would have been spent on resources for the children. High energy bills and rising costs generally affect schools too. We have cut back as much as we can and we have been ruthless on spending. Parent contributions last year were very generous and an enormous help which meant that we were still able to buy resources for art, DT etc so that curriculum provision in the classrooms was not affected. We know that we are not alone as a school in asking parents to make a voluntary contribution each year. Most schools both primary and secondary now ask for contributions from parents annually. All of our local schools do this. We are asking parents across the school to help us again with this so that we can continue to buy resources. We want to be able to continue to offer as broad and balanced a curriculum as we possibly can. Resources inevitably get broken or worn out with such a lot of use. We are therefore asking all of our parents to make a **contribution of £25 per child** for the period between now and April 2023. We really appreciate your support with this. If you would like to offer more than £25 then please call Miss Hounslow and she can alter your payment on school money to accommodate this. Several parents have already done this – which is amazing. We really do appreciate your support with this at this exceedingly difficult time and we are very sorry that we have to ask.

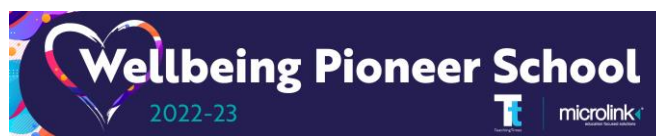
Attendance

Attendance for the last week was 95%

Well done to Year 5 Juniper Class with the best attendance at 98%

Dates

Monday 9 th October	Y6 assessment meeting 9am
Tuesday 10 th October	Y2 visit to the synagogue
Wednesday 11 th October	Harvest Festival
Thursday 12 th October	Nasal Flu
Friday 13 th October	Just One Tree Day
Monday 16 th October	Walk to school week
Wednesday 18 th October	Y3 to Neasden Temple
Friday 20 th October	Be Bright Be Seen Day



HOLLY PARK SCHOOL IS COLLECTING FOR HARVEST FESTIVAL



FOOD BANK AID

FOOD BANKS URGENTLY NEED DONATIONS

Food Bank Aid delivers your donations to 30 food banks each week, supporting 16,000+ people (including 5,200 children) across North London.

WHAT THE FOOD BANKS REALLY NEED



Tinned food - meat, fish, fruit, veg



Jam, honey and peanut butter



Breakfast cereals and porridge



Biscuits, crackers, cereal bars & dried fruit



Rice, grains & noodles



Laundry tablets and washing up liquid



Instant coffee and tea



Baby formula & nappies (large sizes), creams

We will be collecting donations for Harvest Festival on
11th October 2023

Thank you on behalf of Food Bank Aid!



Food Bank Aid: North London



@foodbankaid_nl

Food Bank Aid is a registered charity no. 1194314