



HOLLY PARK NEWSLETTER

'We support our children to be their best.'

ISSUE 7

Friday 3rd November 2023

www.hollyparkschool.co.uk

Resilient Schools Award

I am delighted to tell you that we have been awarded the Barnet Resilient Schools Award. The assessors thought that our evidence/application was one of the most comprehensive that they had seen and also with clear examples. The Resilient Schools programme provides a framework for schools to assess and improve mental health and wellbeing support within the school. Resilience is seen when pupils have a greater ability to "bounce back" when faced with difficulties and achieve positive outcomes. The aim: to provide a whole school approach to raising mental health awareness, providing coping strategies and reducing stigma and discrimination and thereby strengthening resilience. We are delighted with the award but will be continuing our work across the year.



Anti-Bullying Week 2023

Anti-Bullying Week will take place from Monday 13th to Friday 17th November. This year's theme, which is set by The Anti-Bullying Alliance, is "Make a noise about bullying". It will focus on discussing the difference between bullying and banter because often bullying is dismissed as "just banter".

- We will launch the week with "Odd Socks Day" to celebrate that we are all unique. Everyone will be asked to come to school wearing odd socks!
- The Anti-Bullying Ambassadors will display posters around the school to promote the week
- Assemblies will be about anti-bullying
- Each class will have a lesson about the difference between banter and bullying and they will write a short poem in an attempt to "make some noise about bullying"
- The Anti-Bullying Ambassadors will review the Holly Park Child Friendly Anti-Bullying Policy and then each class will read and discuss it during Talk Time
- Miss Michael will lead a meeting for all parents about Anti-Bullying

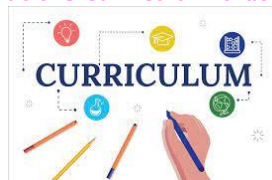
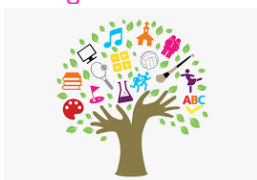


Anti-Bullying Parents Meeting

Miss Michael will launch Anti-Bullying Week on Monday 13th November with a meeting for all parents at 9am in the school hall. This will take place at 9am in the hall. We will look at the definition of bullying and look at some scenarios where children have faced challenges. Some of these scenarios will be examples of where bullying has taken place whilst others will be examples of friendship difficulties and conflicts. We will look at the Holly Park Child Friendly Anti-Bullying Policy and discuss what support is offered to children at Holly Park. We will also discuss what parents can do to help their children. Please do come along.

Curriculum Meeting for Parents

There will be a meeting on Friday 10th November at 9am in the school hall about the Holly Park school curriculum. Ms Sampson who is our Assistant Head for the curriculum will lead the meeting. The meeting is for all parents from Year 1 to Year 6. Come along and find out all about the curriculum that we offer to your children.



Read Together In Class

On Monday 6th November, parents are invited to go into school with the children to read. The session is from 8.45am to approx. 9.15am. Parents are welcome to read to children or listen to children read a book to you. Children love to read and share books with adults. You will be reading with a small group of children. If you have more than one child you will need to decide which class to go to as there will only be time for one class. The event will be repeated in the Spring and the Summer term so there is a chance to read with your other children to. We hope that many of you will be able to visit.



Consultation Meetings for Year 1 to Year 6

Next week, you will be able to book the consultations for your child/ren via the 'Teachers to Parents.' system that we use for texts and e-mail.

Please do ensure that the school has your correct mobile number or you will not receive the texts.

You will receive a text message telling you when the bookings will go live.

On the day the bookings do go live, you will get a text telling you that you can now book.

You just need to follow the link to book your slot with your teacher.

It is a first come first served system and parents can only book on available slots. This is a fair system we hope. Early booking when the link goes live is advisable.

Book Looks Year 1 to Year 6

These happen a week before the Pupil Progress Consultations.

They are advertised in the dates section of the newsletter a couple of weeks before.

There are 2 book looks so do be sure to get the right date

There is a KS1 Book Look – this is for Y1 and Y2

There is a KS2 Book Look – this is for Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6

The idea is that you can go into the classroom and sit down with your child and look at their work.

This will give you an idea about how you think your child is doing ahead of parent meetings. I attach below a series of things that you might look for.

The classrooms are open from 3.45pm to 5.45pm. You can come along any time within that window. (At the end of the school day, the teacher will indicate when you can come in once the teacher has made sure all of the children are safely accounted for)

I would estimate that you will probably spend approximately 20-30 minutes with your child and their books.

The teacher will not be present in the room as this is for children and parents to look together.

The event is not really suitable for toddlers. However, if it is unavoidable that they have to attend due to child care, we do ask that they stay with you and do not wander round the classrooms and play with equipment.

At the end of the session, please leave your child's work in a pile on the desk.

In the summer term, books will be sent home.

This term the book looks are:

Wednesday 15 th November	KS2 Book Look (Years 3-6)	3.45 to 5.45pm
-------------------------------------	---------------------------	----------------

Thursday 17 th November	KS1 Book Look (Years 1-2)	3.45 to 5.45pm
------------------------------------	---------------------------	----------------

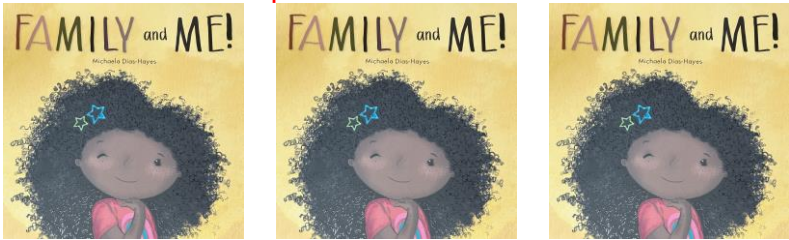
Cultural Day

As part of our work on Personal Development we will be having a Cultural Heritage Day on **Friday 10th November**.

On this day we would encourage children to come to school dressed in clothes that represent their cultural heritage, wearing flags from their cultural heritage or colours of the flags. The point of our day is to value the backgrounds of all of our children, to value and celebrate the diversity of our community and for children to get to know more about their class mates and their backgrounds. Knowing their cultural heritage can build children's confidence and give them a sense of belonging. Cultural heritage is about a person's unique, inherited sense of family identity: the values, traditions, culture, and artefacts handed down by previous generations. We absorb a sense of our heritage throughout our lives as we observe and experience the things that make our family unique. Cultural heritage includes: cultures, customs, beliefs, rites, rituals, ceremonies, social customs and traditions, arts, crafts and music. A cultural heritage is anything that was passed down from one generation to another. The heritage passed down can be tangible, like an heirloom, location, or object. It can also be intangible, like a tradition, belief, or skill.

We would like all of the children from Year 1 to Year 6 to put together a box (a shoe box is ideal) containing 6-8 items that represent their own cultural heritage. These could include: flags, religious artefacts, recipes, a photo, food items, clothing etc. Please support your child/ren to do this. The discussion about this at home will be very interesting and stimulating. The children need to bring them to school on **Friday 10th November**. They will have to talk about their box and the items in it. It may be a good idea to have a practice at home so that the children know what to say.

The children will bring their boxes home on the same day.
 In assembly this week we discussed the meaning of cultural heritage. I read the children the picture book below which explains how we inherit characteristics from our parents and ancestors.



Glue Stick Donations

We are again asking parents for donations of glue sticks. We have used what we ordered and have also gone through 250 extra sticks. If you would like to make a donation to your child's class – I know that the class teachers would be incredibly grateful for donations of glue sticks. We cannot use the tiny sticks as they break quite easily in a classroom with multiple use – we are looking for the 40g size. Many thanks in advance for any contributions. They will be very gratefully received by class teachers.



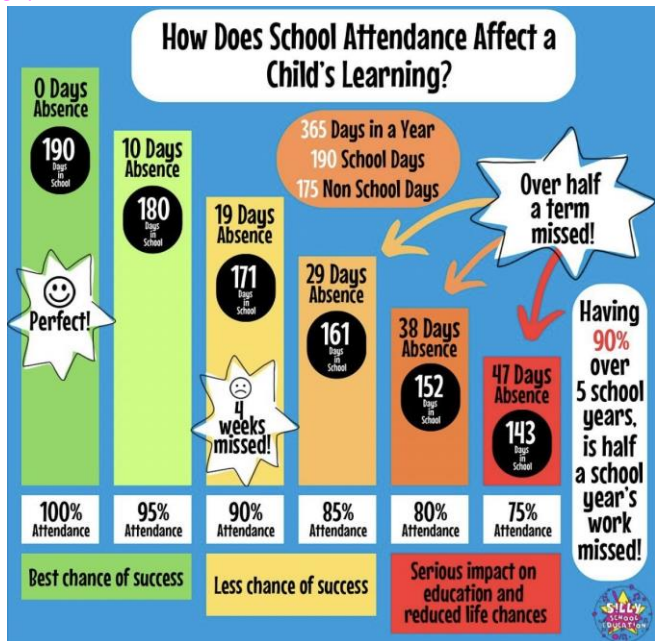
Attendance Is Part Of Safeguarding

A reminder that the new statutory safeguarding and child protection guidance for schools in England has been updated with the decision that being absent from education can be a warning sign of a range of safeguarding concerns, including sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or child criminal exploitation.

Children who are absent from education_refers to children who are registered pupils at a school but not attending regularly. This includes persistently absent pupils (who are absent 10 percent or more of the time from school) or severely absent pupils (who are absent 50 percent or more of the time).

Schools are required to put in place appropriate safeguarding responses for pupils who become absent from education, particularly on repeat occasions and/or for prolonged periods. Children with attendance of 90% or less will potentially need to be referred to the Barnet Educational Welfare Officer.

As we have now completed the first half term, we have held an attendance and safeguarding meeting this week and have looked at the attendance of pupils across the school with attendance below 90%. I will be contacting the parents of these children in the next week.



Donations of Dolls, Dolls Clothes, Pushchairs etc

Mrs Puzey would be grateful for donations of toy dolls, dolls clothes and dolls pushchairs for her lunchtime clubs please. The children love playing with them and Mrs Puzey needs more. If you have any at home that are no longer needed or wanted but are still in good condition, please donate to the school office. Thank you.

Attendance

Whole school attendance for the last week of the half term was 94%

Well done to Year 4 Mulberry Class with the best attendance at 100% in the final week of the half term.

Whole school attendance for the first half term of the academic year was **96% - FANTASTIC!**

The classes with the best attendance for last half term were: **Y4 Sycamore and Y5 Juniper with 98% - Well done!**

Well done also to **Y3 Willow, Y4 Mulberry and Y5 Maple all with 97%**

Congratulations to **Y6 Cedar, Y3 Hazel and Y1 Chestnut** who had **96% attendance** last half term.

Dates

Monday 6 th November	Parents in Class to Read Together 8.45-9.15am
Monday 6 th November	Notice for parent consultations Y1-6
Wednesday 8 th November	Y3 Maths workshop for parents & children 9am
Friday 10 th November	Curriculum Meeting for Parents (all year groups) 9am
Friday 10 th November	Holly Park Curriculum Day
Monday 13 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 13 th November	Parents Meeting about bullying (all year groups) 9am
Wednesday 15 th November	KS2 Book Look 3.30-5.30pm
Thursday 16 th November	KS1 Book Look 3.30-5.30pm

