



# HOLLY PARK NEWSLETTER

'We support our children to be their best.'

ISSUE 6

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024

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

## Y6 Residential To Norfolk Lakes

The Y6 children have had fun week in Norfolk and have been pretty lucky with the weather. Over the week they have done a wonderful range of activities such as: stand up paddle boarding, fencing, climbing, blind trail, Manor Olympics, archery, canoeing, survival skills, wide games, volleyball, giant canoeing, giant paddle boarding and camp fire.

Many thanks go to the staff who gave up their own time to be with the children every day in order to provide this amazing experience and to care for the children. It is not something that schools have to do and it is a great deal of work and responsibility. Thanks to Miss Michael who organised and led the trip and also to Miss Sampson, Ms Ter Horst and Mr Reid who accompanied the children for the week.



## Bikeability

Children in Year 5 and Year 6 have been learning how to cycle safely on the roads. Lessons began in the school playground and then they went out onto the streets to put what they had learned into practice.



## Digital Cameras

Do you have a digital camera at home that you don't use any more? We are looking for cameras for teachers to use to take pictures across the school year of the curriculum in action. If you do have a spare camera that you don't use any more, please bring it to the school office. We would be very grateful.



## Cross Country

On Tuesday Holly Park took part in the first race of the Barnet Schools Cross Country Event. All of our runners did really well and put in a good effort. Special mention goes Grace for coming 1st in her race and Bronagh for coming 2nd. The second part of the competition will be in March. Thank you to Mr Bourne and Mr Carini for preparing the children.



### 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 were not completely 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. 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 £30 per child** for the academic year 2024-25. We really appreciate your support with this. If you would like to offer less or more than £30 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 and we are very sorry that we have to ask.

### Noah's Ark Children's Hospice

We are proud to have chosen Noah's Ark Children's Hospice as our local charity partner for the 24-25 academic year! We look forward to working with them to enrich our children's school experience, and we have invited them in to host an assembly on **The Power of Kindness**, one of the values within our school vision, on 20th November. Later this term we will host a fundraising dress up day and cake sale – however – Holly Park families can make a difference from now by contributing to the 'From That Moment' campaign which is running until 10pm on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October. You can help Noah's Ark **double the difference** this October!

Every child and family Noah's Ark supports is unique, but all of them will remember the moment that everything changed. That's why they have launched 'From That Moment', their annual matched-giving campaign.

With support, Noah's Ark can be there from that moment when a family receives a life-altering diagnosis; enabling children to be children and not just patients; and supporting parents to be parents and not just carers.

Help to support children who are seriously unwell and their families by donating to Noah's Ark Children's Hospice's matched-giving campaign.

This is a fabulous charity which is located in Barnet and supports local children with serious illness.

From **now until 10pm on Monday 21 October** donations to the campaign **will be DOUBLED!**



Every £ donated will make double the difference.

To **donate** to or share the campaign please **scan the QR code** or visit:

[www.charityextra.com/fromthatmoment/hollyparkprimaryschool](http://www.charityextra.com/fromthatmoment/hollyparkprimaryschool)



The link above and below and the QR code links to a Holly Park page where you can see the donations made by Holly Park families. Any money given will be instantly doubled on the site.

If you donate £2 it will show as £4, if you donate £5 it will show as £10 that you gave, if you donate £10 it will show as £20 etc – if you do gift aid – it will show as even more! Any amount no matter how small will really help.

<https://www.charityextra.com/fromthatmoment/hollyparkprimaryschool>



We help children  
who are seriously unwell  
make the most of every day



## **Be Bright Be Seen Day- On Monday 14th Next Week**

Our annual "Be Bright Be Seen Day", to raise awareness of the importance of being safe on the streets especially as the nights draw in earlier in Autumn will be at the start of Walk to School Week **on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October**. We ask all of the children to come to school dressed in bright clothes – not just colourful – but as bright as they can find.



## **HARVEST – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October next Week**

Holly Park will be celebrating Harvest on **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October**. To mark this event, we will be collecting items 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 16<sup>th</sup>, and bring them directly to the hall where we will be ready to receive them to make an instant display for our assembly.

Every harvest festival Finchley Foodbank has relied on donations to help provide food to support people in our local community who are experiencing food poverty. Without your generosity they would struggle to continue, especially as demand has continued to increase this year. Last week they supported around 500 people with three days emergency food, essential toiletries, baby and household items. A third of the people they support weekly are children.

Traditionally they have always experienced an increase in demand at this time of year but this year with the added burden of rises in the cost of living and increases to electricity & gas bills as we start to enter the autumn, they really do need your support this Harvest.

Harvest is a time which marks the change in the seasons, when the farmers collect the food from the fields grown in the summer months and is stored in preparation for the long winter. It gives us the opportunity to reflect and be grateful for the variety and ample food that many are very fortunate to have. This festival also gives us the chance to remember our neighbours who don't have the same choices.

We are asking different year groups to provide different items for the foodbank so that we get a spread of goods:

**EYFS - biscuits or crackers**

**Year 1 - tea and coffee**

**Year 2 - oil and toilet rolls**

**Year 3 - jams, marmalade and honey**

**Year 4 - tins of fish, meat, vegetables, beans, tomatoes, fruit etc**

**Year 5 - Cereal & UHT milk**

**Year 6 - any toiletries**



## **Just One Tree –Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October next Week**

On **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October** we will be joining Barnet schools 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

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

Last academic year alone, Barnet schools and settings helped to plant 7,500 trees along the equator, where the impact is greatest – and we really need your help to achieve this year's ambitious target of 10,000 more trees!



## **Parent Gym: Six Weeks Of Free Parenting Workshops At Holly Park**

At Holly Park we are fortunate that our Learning Mentor Mrs Puzey is a trained Parent Gym Coach. Every year she runs free parenting sessions for parents. It's a great opportunity to come together in an informal social group to come along and join the sessions.

The sessions are a mixture of information sharing with lots of time to chat with other parents and to share ideas.

Parent Gym is a series of 6 sessions based on the following parenting themes:

**Chat** – How to communicate – You and your child talking positively every day

**Love** – How to show you care in lots of ways – how to balance warmth and discipline

**Behave** – How to be consistent in setting boundaries – bring order with rules & routines that work

**Care** – How to raise healthy children – keep yourself & your family happy and healthy

**Discover** – How to encourage learning – help your child to learn & grow and achieve

**Together** – How to build a support network – keep your family rock solid and help your child make friends

Mrs Puzey has run parent Gym classes for Holly Park parents in the past with great success. Now we would like to invite you to participate.

**There will be a taster session on: Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October.**

Do come along and meet Mrs Puzey and find out more. It's a great way to bond with other parents and make friendships now that your child is on their school journey.

If you decide to join the six-week programme, the sessions will run on Friday mornings from 9am to 11am.

**Sessions will be:** 25<sup>th</sup> October, 8<sup>th</sup> November, 15<sup>th</sup> November, 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 29<sup>th</sup> November and 6<sup>th</sup> December.



## **Car Seat Safety Check Event**

Did you know that nearly two-thirds of child car seats are fitted incorrectly?

Barnet Council is offering free car seat checks across Barnet to help residents identify and avoid common car seat errors, in partnership with Good Egg Safety.

Bring your family and have your car seats checked by an expert advisor, who will correct any fixable fitting errors and provide guidance on how to install the car seat properly. No appointment needed!

The last event is taking place next week so don't miss the opportunity;

- Thursday, 10 October 2024, from 10am to 3pm at Sainsbury's Broadwalk Shopping Centre, Station Road, Edgware (HA8 7BQ)

Make sure your little one is safe and secure!

## **Reception Coffee Morning**

Now that Reception children have settled, we are holding an informal coffee morning in the hall so that Reception parents/carers can come along and have a chat with each other – swap phone numbers etc. During the coffee morning, several key members of staff will come along and introduce themselves and explain their roles so that you can put faces to names! There will be tea, coffee and biscuits. Do try to pop along on **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October at 9am** in the school hall.



## **World Mental Health Day**

This week was World Mental Health Day. In assembly on Monday, I spoke to all of KS2 about mental health and what it is. We discussed that there are a whole range of emotions and how all of us experience this range every day. We talked about how we look after our physical health and how it is just as important to look after our mental health.

Here are a couple of resources that parents may find useful:

### **KOOTH**

<https://www.kooth.com/>

Kooth, from XenZone, is a free, safe and online counselling and emotional well-being platform for children and young people, accessible through mobile, tablet and desktop and free at the point of use.

### **MENCAP BARNET**

<https://www.barnetmencap.org.uk/>

Barnet Mencap can offer a range of support and events for children and adults with autism or a learning disability, and their families, who live in the London Borough of Barnet. Phone: 020 8349 3842

## 0-19 Barnet Early Help Hubs

<https://www.barnet.gov.uk/children-and-families/early-help-children-young-people-and-families>

Early Help is about providing this support as soon as possible to tackle difficulties for children, young people and families before they become more serious.

### YOUNG MINDS

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>

Young Minds is a website and helpline that parents and carers can use if your young person is struggling with their mental health or if their mood and behaviour seem different, and you're not sure why or what you can do to help.

### PLACE2BE – Parenting Smart

<https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>

The children's mental health charity, Place2Be, has a website aimed at helping parents with typical situations they can find themselves in with their children.



### Attendance

Whole school attendance for last week was 95%

Well done to Year 3 Hazel Class with the best attendance at 99%.

### Dates

Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Walk to school week
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Be Bright Be Seen
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Festival
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Just One Tree
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent Gym taster session
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Y6 National Assessment meeting for parents at 9am
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Y1 Little City workshop

### Half Term

There is facility to translate this newsletter and the whole school website at the bottom of the website home page.



WE HAVE  
ACHIEVED



# HOLLY PARK IS COLLECTING FOR HARVEST FESTIVAL



**THIS AUTUMN, FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY WILL STRUGGLE TO PROVIDE FOR THEIR CHILDREN**

**Food Bank Aid helps feed over 20,000 people (incl 5,000 children) a week by supporting food banks in North London.**

## WHAT THE FOOD BANKS NEED



**Tinned food -  
meat, fish, fruit & veg**



**Breakfast cereals &  
porridge**



**Rice, grains &  
noodles**



**Instant coffee, tea,  
sugar & UHT Milk**



**Honey, jam &  
marmalade**



**Cooking oil (1L)**



**Biscuits, crackers, cereal  
bars & dried fruit**



**Shampoo, toothbrushes,  
toothpaste & deodorant**



**Baby formula & nappies  
(large sizes)**



**Empty egg boxes**

**We will be collecting for Harvest Festival  
on  
16th October 2024**

**Thank you!**

Food Bank Aid registered charity no. 1194314