



HOLLY PARK NEWSLETTER

'We support our children to be their best.'

ISSUE 20

Friday 14th February 2025

You can translate this newsletter and the whole school website at the bottom of the website home page

www.hollyparkschool.co.uk



Valentine's Day

Sending love to all of our Holly Park Families



Science Workshops (Year 1 – Year 6)

We are very pleased to be having a Holly Park Science Week for the whole week beginning Monday 24th February. During our Science Week the children will be doing some science experiments in class, there will be science assemblies and there will be a science homework.

Mrs Smith (Y4 Sycamore teacher) is our Holly Park science leader. Mrs Smith has booked a very exciting workshop for all of the classes from Year 1 to Year 6 on Thursday 27th February.

Children will get to engage in a selection of experiments that may include:

- Cloud in a Bottle
- Balloon Experiments
- Mutant Ninja Germs
- Bouncing Bubbles
- Fire Tornado

The children will engage in critical thinking, observation & analysis and teamwork.

The cost for the day is very expensive and we are aware that parents already pay for the curriculum days and trips that are planned for the year group.

I am very pleased to let you know that The PTA committee have agreed to heavily subsidise these workshops with money raised from PTA events. The PTA are contributing £700 to the cost of the day.

This means that we are only asking parents for £1 per child in order to participate in these exciting science workshops. We hope that the science workshops will be enjoyable and educational and we are grateful to the PTA for their financial support to enable this event to happen.



Letting Our School Hall

Over the past couple of years we have been letting out our school hall at weekends for all kinds of events including parties. We also hire the hall out after 6pm on weekdays for clubs and groups e.g Karate. All lettings are booked through a company called 'Sharesy'

If you would be interested in having a birthday party in the school hall you can book this through the Sharesy website. Booking can include the main hall, the dining hall, the Astro ball area or the playgrounds.

If you would be interested in hiring a part of the school for an event you can go to:

<https://www.sharesy.com/v/holly-park-primary-school>

Read Together Sessions

On **Monday 24th February**, 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 at school you will need to decide which class to go to as there will only be time for one class. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate toddlers or buggies in the classrooms. The event will be repeated in the Summer term so there is a chance to read with your other children too. We hope that many of you will be able to visit.



World Book Day 2025

This year, World Book Day is on Thursday 6th March and we have lots of exciting activities planned! Our Holly Park theme this year is... *Heroes & Villains!*



- All children are invited to dress up as their favourite hero or villain from a book of their choice.
- The Holly Park World Book Day Pop-Up Museum will be back! This year we are asking pupils to bring in a decorated empty toilet roll – made up as a hero or villain from a book (examples, below). These will be collated in to an exhibition for every class to visit.
- Ms Sampson will be leading a whole school assembly.
- In keeping with the WBD theme 'Read Your Way' Children will be sharing & recommending their favourite books with each other.
- Pupils will receive their book tokens that can be used to buy special World Book Day books in shops (or £1 off a preferred book).
- Children will be taking part in various creative activities in class inspired by heroes and/or villains.
- If you would like to get involved with further activities at home then there are many suggestions on the World Book Day website:

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



Holly Park Book Swap Friday 7th March

The Holly Park book swap is a great way to re-use and recycle children's books. The idea is that on **Friday 7th March** every child in the school brings in 2 or 3 books from home that are still in good condition BUT that they have outgrown and don't want to read again. The books can be fiction, non-fiction or poetry books. On the morning of **Friday 7th March**:

Books from EYFS and KS1 children will be collected at the school gate.

Lower KS2 children (Y3/4) will take their books straight to the spare classroom

Upper KS2 children (Y5/6) will take their books straight to the upper junior shared area

The teaching assistants will receive them and will set them out on tables for the appropriate age group.

During the day, every class will have time to look at the books. Each child will then choose a book that they would like

to take home – this will be a new book for them to enjoy.



Neurodiversity Week

At Holly Park we will be celebrating Neurodiversity Week the week beginning 17th March.

As this is close to World Book Day and as we have done in the past, we are asking parents to donate one or two books to the school. We feel that it is very important for Holly Park children to see themselves and their friends and relatives in the books they read. In the past we have asked parents to donate books about different families, different religions, women, different cultures and climate change.

To celebrate and raise awareness of neurodiversity we have a book list (at the end of this newsletter) and we are asking parents to choose a book or two from the list and to send them in to Mrs Pelham. This way we can increase the range of books in school.

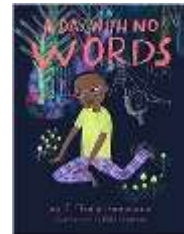
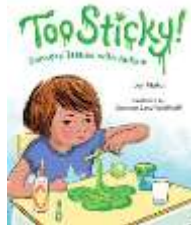
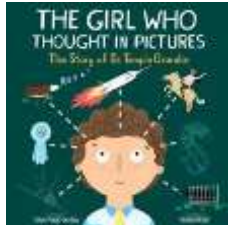
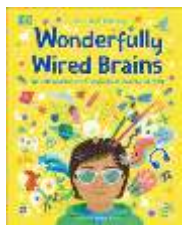
Books can be bought at a book shop or on Amazon and brought in and given to Mrs Pelham or parents can send an Amazon parcel directly to the school (with a gift tag).

Every book donated will have a book plate inside saying which children or family donated it.

We would really appreciate your support with this.

We want to start collecting books now so that we have them available for Neurodiversity Week.

Thank you in advance for your support.



Supporting A National Charity

The national charity that we are supporting this year is called "Autism on the Water". During Neurodiversity Week which is on 17th - 23rd March, we will be raising awareness of different neurological differences as well as raising money for the charity. Autism on the Water is an awareness charity, designed to raise awareness of autism through the sport of sailing and yacht racing and also encourages people with autism of all ages to access sailing and boating in a safe, fun and stress-free environment. They regularly take children who are autistic and their families on fun boats trips for free, allowing them to have new experiences that are fun and memorable.

Attendance

Whole school attendance for last week was 90 %

Well done to Year 4 Mulberry Class with the best attendance at 98%.

Dates

HALF TERM

Monday 24 th February	Read Together in class 8.45am to 9.15am
Monday 24 th February	Holly Park Science Week
Wednesday 26 th February	Cross-Country Competition
Thursday 27 th February	Science workshops
Wednesday 5 th March	Parent meeting on Zoom – Reading (decoding & fluency)
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day
Friday 7 th March	The Holly Park Book Swap
Friday 7 th March	Y4 Pyjama Party
Monday 10 th March	First Aid lessons this week
Monday 10 th March	Times released online for parent consultations
Tuesday 11 th March	KS2 maths meeting (4 rules of number) at 9am
Tuesday 11 th March	KS1 Book Look at 3.45pm
Tuesday 11 th March	Barnet Dance festival





WE HAVE
ACHIEVED



Books with a Neurodiversity theme

Thunderboots – Naomi Jones

Cloud Boy – Gregg Stobbs

Giraffe and a half – Nicola Kent

My amazing ADHD brain – Emily Snape

Bee – Rachel Fuller

What makes a Lemur listen – Samuel Langley – Swain

Leo and the Octopus – Isabelle Marinov

Anything but typical – Nora Raleigh Baskin

A kind of Spark – Ellie McNicoll

The Boy with the butterfly mind – Victoria Williamson

A different sort of normal – Abigail Balfe

Check Mates – Stewart Foster

The Space We're In – Katya Balen

The Goldfish Boy – Lisa Thompson

The London Eye Mystery – Siobhan Dowd

Frankie's World – Aoife Dooley

Loud – Rose Robbins

My Mummy is Autistic – Heath Grace & Joanna Grace

Cally & Jimmy – Twins Together

Like a charm – Ellie McNicoll

When I see Blue – Lily Bailey

A day with no words – Tiffany Hammond

Wonderfully wired brains – Louise Gooding

Too much - Jolene Gutierrez

I am a masterpiece – Mia Armstrong

The girl who thought in pictures – Julia Finley Mosca

Too Sticky – Jen Malia

Remarkable Remy - Melanie Heyworth

Maya Plays the part - Calyssa Erb

A friend for Henry - Jenn Bailey

Henry like always - Jenn Bailey

This is my brain - Elise Gravel.

My brain is magic - Prasha Sooful

Do you want to play? - Daniel Share-Strom

Through the eyes of me - Jon Roberts & Hannah Rounding

Through the eyes of us - Jon Roberts & Hannah Rounding

Me & My Sister - Rose Robbins

Talking is not my thing - Rose Robbins

This is me by George Webster

Too much, an overwhelming day by Jolene Gutierrez

Just Like me by Louise Gooding

The Spaces in between by Jaspreet Kaur and Manjit Thapp

Wonderfully Wired Brains - Louise Gooding

Amazing me, Amazing you - Christine McGuinness

ADHD Is Our Superpower: The Amazing Talents and Skills of Children with ADHD – Soli Lazarus