



# HOLLY PARK NEWSLETTER

'We support our children to be their best.'

ISSUE 24

Friday 21st March 2025

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

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

## Neurodiversity Week Book Collection

A huge thank you to families who have already donated books – we are really so very grateful and it is very much appreciated. We are still collecting books for the next week.

Thank you in advance for supporting our community of young readers. Thank you to the those who have already sent in some beautiful books. Here are some of the books. It is still not too late to send a book in.



## First Aid lessons

First aid lessons have continued this week with children learning very important life skills. Every class has now had an annual first aid session.



## National Chess Competition

I am delighted to tell you that our two chess teams entered a national chess competition at the weekend. This was their first ever national competition. Both teams did extremely well. The under 11 team ended in third place and won bronze medals. Both teams will be going forward to the national semi-final competition in May. Huge congratulations!



## Wellbeing Week – Bloom With Kindness

The Wellbeing champions have been hard at work thinking of activities and a theme for this week. They have decided that the theme for our week will be 'Bloom With Kindness' This is all about showing kindness to others – being kind to others has a positive impact on our own wellbeing.

The wellbeing Champions have decided to link their idea with our work on getting involved with the local community. They would like all of the children from Reception to Year 6 to either - draw a bright, happy picture or write a happy cheerful message or to write a happy poem that we will send to three local care homes. Older people can quite often feel lonely or isolated – so we felt that this idea would be very kind.

Therefore, all of the children will bring home a petal shape. We would like the pictures, messages or poems to go onto these petals. On Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March we would like all of the children to come to school as brightly dressed as possible and to return their petal that day. These will be collected in buckets at the gate.

The wellbeing champions will then make flowers out of all of the petals and these will be made into cards that will be delivered to 3 different local care homes.

We hope that the drawings and messages will make the residents happy and will spread some kindness.

We also hope that our relationship with the care homes will blossom and that we can form strong links with children visiting the care homes in the future to read, play games and sing to the residents.

This weekend – please try and help your child to fill in their petal and return it to school on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March.



## The Infant Show

The infant show this term was fabulous. The children spoke, sang and danced beautifully. The scenery was superb. We hope that all the infant parents enjoyed it. Every child had a small part to play but together as a team they make up a lovely show. My personal thanks go to the KSI staff - teachers and all of our teaching assistants for their hard work putting it all together. The show really brought a well-known children's book to life – albeit our own version of the Lorax! The singing and dancing was joyous and whilst the Year 2 children had the speaking parts, the Year 1 children supported the show with their wonderful singing and dancing.





## Consultation Evenings Year 1- Year 6

Thank you to those of you who have already signed up for consultations for your child/ren via the 'Teachers to Parents.' system that we use for texts and e-mail. If you haven't done so already – please do as soon as possible as this will close in the middle of next week. If you are having difficulty logging in, please call the school office. A reminder that children should attend the meetings with you.

## Wheel to School Week

Next week as part of Wellbeing Week it is our Holly Park Wheel to School Week. As ever we would encourage children to walk or ride to school – at least for part of the way if possible.

## 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>

## Attendance coloured letters

Last week families will have received a letter to make you aware of attendance to the half way point of the school year. Some children will have received red letters for attendance (90% or below). This is significantly below the government expectation of 95%. We understand that there are reasons why children may be absent from school but 90% or below is classed as significant absence – it is judged to be persistent absence. As a school we do have a duty to keep parents informed of their child's attendance. A Barnet Education Welfare Officer (EWO) monitors our school registers and is aware of children who fall significantly below 95%. If attendance doesn't improve then the Local Authority Education Welfare Service will become involved and parents may be called to a meeting to discuss a child's attendance. If a parent is called to such a meeting, then the child's attendance will become a matter of formal record within the Barnet Education Welfare team and further action may be necessary.

Absence (non-attendance at school) whether authorised or not authorised is still absence and is time away from learning and education.

100% is excellent attendance and gives the very best chance of academic success

95% is very good attendance and gives a very good chance of academic success

90% is worrying and gives less chance of academic success- it is called persistent absence. The EWO may become involved.

85% is very worrying and gives less chance of academic success. The EWO will become involved.

80% is of serious concern. This will definitely affect academic performance. The EWO will become involved.

75% is a very serious concern. This will definitely affect academic performance and social interaction at school. The EWO will be involved.

## Attendance

Whole school attendance for last week was 93%

Well done to Year 4 Mulberry Class with the best attendance at 99%.

## Dates

Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Holly Park Well-being Week
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Holly Park Wheel to School Week
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	PTA Mothers' Day Shop
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	PTA Mothers' Day Shop
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	KS1 Book Look at 3.45pm
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Y1 trip to Ally Pally
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Y3 Roman Day
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Y5 to The Wallace Collection
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Parent zoom meeting 9.30am – learning strategies
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Y1-Y6 Consultation evening 4pm – 6.30pm
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Y1-Y6 Consultation evening 4pm – 6.30pm
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	End of term at 1.30pm





WE HAVE  
ACHIEVED



## A Holly Park Booklist: Celebrating & Supporting... Neurodiversity



Age Range	Name & Author
<b>EYFS+</b>	Thunderboots by Naomi Jones
	Cloud Boy by Greg Stobbs
	Giraffe and Half by Nicola Kent
	My Amazing ADHD Brain by Emily Snape
	Loud by Rose Robbins
	This Beach is Loud by Samantha Cotterill
	My Body has a Bubble by Nell Harris
	Bear: A Story of Autism and Difference by Val Jones
	Talking is Not my Thing – Rose Robbins
	My Brain is Magic – Prasha Sooful
	Too much, an overwhelming day by Jolene Gutierrez
	This is me by George Webster
	Me & My Sister by Rose Robbins
	Too much by Jolene Gutierrez
<b>KSI +</b>	Bee by Rachel Fuller
	What Makes a Lima Listen? by Samuel Langley-Swain
	Leo and the Octopus by Isabelle Marinov
	Aaron Slater, Illustrator by Andrea Betay
	A Day with No Words – Tiffany Hammond
	Through the Eyes of Us – by Jon Roberts
	The Fizzy Brain by Noah Foria
	My Brain is a Race Car by Nell Harris
	A Friend for Henry by Jenn Bailey
	Henry like always by Jenn Bailey
	Through the Eyes of Me - John Roberts
	Do you want to play? by Daniel Share-Strom
	Remarkable Remy by Melanie Heyworth
	I am a masterpiece by Mia Armstrong
<b>KSI/KS2</b>	Cally & Jimmy: Twins together by Zoe Antonideas
	Cally & Jimmy: Twintastic by Zoe Antonideas
	Cally & Jimmy: Twins in Trouble by Zoe Antonideas
	Wonderfully Wired Brains – Louise Gooding
	Neurodiversity? What's That! By Nadine Ramina Arthur
	Amazing Me, Amazing You! By Christine Mc Guinness
	My Mummy is Autistic by Heath & Joanna Grace
	Maria & Me by Maria Gallardo
	Brilliant Bea by Shaina Rudolph
	Too Sticky by Jen Malia

<b>KS2</b>	Casander Darkbloom and the Threads of Power by P.A Staff
	Just Like Me by Louise Gooding
	Reggie Houser has the Power by Helen Rutter
	Scarlet Ibis by Gill Lewis
	The Circle Breakers by Patience Agbabi
	The Boy with the Butterfly Mind by Victoria Williamson
	A Different sort of Normal by Abigail Balfe
	Check Mates by Stewart Foster
	Frankie's World by Aorfe Dooley
	The Guggenheim Mystery by Robin Stevens
	The London Eye Mystery by Siobhan Dowd
	Counting by 7s – Holly Goldberg Sloan
	Can You See Me? By Libby Scott and Rebecca Westcott
	A Storm of Strawberries – by Jo Cotterill
	Not if I can Help It by Carolyn Mackler
	Boy Underground by Isabelle Marinov
	Vivi Conway and the Sword of Legend – Lizzie Huxley-Jones
	Speak Up! By Rebecca Burgess
	ADHD is our super power by Soli Lazarus
	Just Like me by Louise Gooding
	This is my brain by Elise Gravel.
	Maya Plays the part by Calyssa Erb
	The girl who thought in pictures by Julia Finley Mosca
<b>Upper KS2 +</b>	Caterpillar Summer by Gillian McDunn
	The Space We're In by Katya Balen
	The Goldfish Boy by Lisa Thompson
	All the Pieces of Me by Libby Scott
	Like a Curse by Elle McNicoll
	Show us Who you are by Elle McNicoll
	Like a Charm Elle Mc Nicoll
	The Asparagus Bunch by Jessica Scot-White
	Rebel Girls: Celebrate Neurodiversity by Rebel Girls (series)
	A kind of Spark – Ellie McNicoll
	When I see Blue by Lily Bailey
	Anything but typical by Nora Raleigh Baskin