



# HOLLY PARK NEWSLETTER

'We support our children to be their best.'

ISSUE 21

Friday 28th February 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)

## Science Workshops

The science workshops on Thursday were great fun. Classes enjoyed seeing the aw and wonder of science. They got to see how a UV light shows germs on your hands even after you have washed them, how the colour spectrum works and white is created using the whole spectrum of colours. They saw how bubbles were strengthened using glycerine, how a stick can in fact pass through a balloon with out the balloon bursting. They saw how a cloud can be formed inside a large jar and they were amazed by a fire tornado. The sessions were great fun and really promoted a love of science. A big thanks to the PTA who were able to make this event happen by heavily subsidising the day.



## Attendance

As we have reached the half way point of the year, all children (except those new to the school) will receive a letter about their attendance as of the half term break. Letters will come out in the next couple of weeks.

The letter will indicate where a child's attendance is at for this mid-point in the school year.

It is very important that we make parents aware of attendance figures. We realise that some children may have had authorised attendance due to illness etc. however this still counts as absence – although it cannot be helped. Any absence from learning means that a child is missing out. The letter is just to make you aware of how your child's attendance looks so far this academic year and how they compare with the DFE expectation for all children to be attending 95/96% or more.

You will receive one of the following letters in an envelope.

**A green letter** will indicate attendance of 97% or more – which is better than average - this is great.

**An amber letter** will indicate attendance of 95%-96% - this is in line with expected attendance.

**A pink letter** will indicate attendance of 91% - 94% - this is of concern because it is below the expected attendance levels.

**A dark pink letter** which will indicate attendance of 90% or lower - which is of serious concern and will be flagged up and monitored by the Barnet Education Welfare officer.

### Parent Session- Reading Fluency and Decoding

On **Wednesday 5th March at 9.30am** Ms Sampson & Mrs Walton will be hosting a zoom meeting on how to support your child with their reading decoding skills. They will be explaining how phonics is used to help develop reading fluency from Reception through to KS2 at Holly Park. They will also be sharing strategies on how to support your child's reading fluency at home. Please do log into the Zoom link which is being emailed out. Here is the link below again:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/86334875644?pwd=qLkq1tUP9MEiu0EGjUET9mlvtFT848.1>

Meeting ID: 863 3487 5644

Passcode: 1dCbnN

### Who Are The Subject Leaders?

We thought that it would be interesting and useful for you to know who our curriculum subject leaders are. In a primary school every teacher has to be in charge of a subject.



Mr Carini & Mr Turner  
Computing



Miss Mountford  
Writing



Ms Sampson  
Reading



Mrs Mir  
Maths



Mrs Walton  
Phonics



Ms Echanove  
Spanish



Mr Llewellyn  
Art



Mrs Nichols  
History



Mrs Mehtar  
PHSE



Mrs Moore  
RE



Mrs Smith  
Science



Miss Wood  
EYFS SEND



Mrs Zane  
DT



Miss Yiannaki & Mr Bourne  
PE



Mrs Thomas  
Pupil Premium & LAC



Mrs Fitzpatrick  
Geography



Miss Halil  
Music

### Parent Coffee Mornings

Before COVID, Miss Michael and I held coffee mornings for parents in different year groups. The coffee mornings were an opportunity to chat and discuss matters about the year group. It was a good opportunity for us to talk to parents and hear parent views on a range of topics specific to the year group and for parents to ask questions.

We are going to run these coffee mornings again over the rest of this academic year – with two year groups combined. There will be a Nursery/Reception coffee morning, a Year 1/Year 2 coffee morning, a Year3/Year 4 coffee morning and a Year 5/Year 6 coffee morning. This time we will also be inviting along Mrs Puzey, Mrs Kelly and Miss Iglesias.

Mrs Puzey is our learning mentor and deals with friendship issues, behaviour problems and also social and emotional issues. Mrs Kelly is our special needs lead at Holly Park. Miss Iglesias is our Pupil Support Officer and deals with requests for absence, attendance, first aid, accidents, allergies and medicines. Parents may have questions they want to ask these staff members. The coffee morning for Nursery and Reception will be this half term. The other three will be in the summer term.

The coffee morning for Nursery and Reception parents will be: **9am on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March**

## World Book Day 2025

This year, World Book Day is on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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

Neurodivergent children see and interact with the world in unique ways. The term, 'neurodiverse', includes a range of diagnosis including ADHD, autism, dyslexia and dyspraxia. At Holly Park we are proud to be an inclusive school where neurodiversity is not something to be 'fixed' but something to be understood and celebrated.

At Holly Park we will be celebrating Neurodiversity Week the week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> 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).

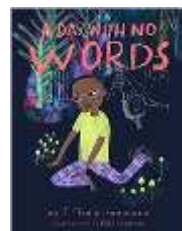
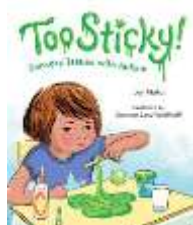
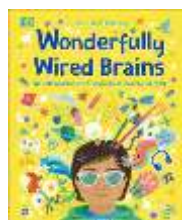
Every book donated will have a book plate inside saying which children or family donated it.

We would really appreciate your support with this.

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

We would really appreciate your help in expanding our reading provision to include more books that will help increase our pupils' understanding of neurodiversity.

Thank you in advance for supporting our community of young readers



### 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 92%

Well done to Year 5 Maple Class with the best attendance at 96%.

### Dates

Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent meeting on Zoom – Reading (decoding & fluency)
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	The Holly Park Book Swap
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Y4 Pyjama Party
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	First Aid lessons this week
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Times released online for parent consultations
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	KS2 maths meeting (4 rules of number) at 9am
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	KS1 Book Look at 3.45pm
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Barnet Dance festival



**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
Upper KS2 +	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