



HOLLY PARK NEWSLETTER

'We support our children to be their best.'

ISSUE 1

Thursday 11th September 2025

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

www.hollyparkschool.co.uk

Healthy School Award

I am delighted to share with you that in July 2025 just as we broke up at the end of the school year that we were awarded the Silver Healthy Schools London Award. This was approved by the Barnet quality assurance group. As we had done lots of work for our Bronze Award on healthy eating and healthy activity, the focus of our work for this award we decided would be around mental health and wellbeing. Feedback on our application was:

"Holly Park is clearly a school that cares about the mental wellbeing of the pupils. They have chosen well-considered actions that will hopefully help to build whole-school resilience. One outcome that was particularly interesting to me was around reducing social isolation by asking pupils if they had someone to play with at breaktimes."

and

"Well done on a clear and comprehensive action plan to address and improve emotional health and wellbeing. It's good to see how this builds upon your previous work within the Resilient Schools programme. We look forward to seeing the impact of the planned actions in your Gold Case Study"

Meet Maisy



Hello everyone!

My name is Maisy and I am very excited to be joining Holly Park. I have never been to school before but I hear that Holly Parkers are very kind and I cannot wait to make lots of new friends!

I am 8 years old (I will be 9 in September) and am an English Cocker Spaniel. My favourite things are (in no particular order): eating, going for walks and being stroked. I have my very own pet human called Ms Sampson (some of you may know her) and she will bring me to school with her – she's even got me a special school uniform!

I'll be spending time with Mrs Puzey, Mrs Pelham and even Miss Michael too!

I have heard all about your previous dog, Poppy, who I understand was very special to you all. I hope that I can follow in her paw-prints and also be a loyal, kind and caring Holly Barker.

See you soon,

Maisy.

Attendance

Below are our attendance figures for the past three academic years:

HPS attendance from September 2024 to June 2025 was 95%	National was 95%
HPS Attendance from September 2023 to June 2024 was 95%	National was 94%
HPS Attendance from September 2022 to June 2023 was 94%	National was 93%

Books

Thank you to all of the families who donated £7.99 last term to help us raise more money for books in school. I am delighted to tell you that the donations raised £1,853 extra money for books. Ms Sampson is thrilled to use this money to buy new books for the library.

Holly Park Playgroup

Our new Holly Park playgroup is about to open next week on Wednesday 17th September in the morning from 9am to 10.30am. The playgroup will be run by Miss Nichols and Mrs Puzey – supported from time to time by Miss Mornington. The playgroup is for 0-5 year olds who are not yet in school.

There will be lots for babies and toddlers to do and a chance for parents and carers to come along and chat together. The playgroup will be open to our local community: parents, grandparents, carers, child minders, family friends and anyone living in our local community. There will be a very small weekly fee of £2. Do come along if you have a child of this age and please share the information with friends and family who live in the local area.



Looking for a Reception Place for September 2026?

If you or any of your family, friends or neighbours are looking for their child to start school in September 2026 then please come and join us on a tour to find out more. Call the school office to book your place

Thursday 25th September 1.30pm

Friday 10th October 10.45am



In The Know Programme – Reducing Waste

As part of our School Improvement Plan, we're taking part in a waste awareness programme!

We asked to be included in this project and had to apply. We were one of two Barnet schools who were chosen to be part of the project.

This year our school is excited to be taking part in the North London Waste Authority's (NLWA) In the Know programme!

NLWA is challenging primary schools across north London to take a deep-dive into their bins and try to lighten the load. The programme aims to establish a low-waste culture in the mindset of our school through education and hands-on activities. We will gain insights into waste behaviors at our school to see where we can become more sustainable.

Why are we taking part?

- Education for pupils, staff and the school community on tackling waste and reducing our carbon footprint
- Insights into our waste at school through pupil-led waste audits
- 5 days of hands-on, educational activities from the NLWA across the year
- Guidance on forming long-term strategies to prevent waste in the future
- Improvements to our services and bins to maximise our ability to reduce waste

What do you need to know?

Our **Eco Council** will be working closely with NLWA to make changes around the school to tackle waste. If your child is taking part in the waste audit or further activities, we will send them home with a letter.

To involve the whole school community in the programme, NLWA have some great advice for our PTA to help identify areas where waste can be reduced and assist in the planning of low-waste activities, such as uniform/clothes swaps and sustainable events. Look out for information from them coming soon!



The Start Of The School Day

A reminder that the school gate closes at 8.55am so children should be at school by 8.55am. Thank you.

Holly Park Homework

Following consultation last year with parents, staff and pupils we decided to change our homework policy and offer in order to improve outcomes for pupils and to most effectively meet the need of our pupil cohort across the school. Our new homework is clear and will be consistent. It will be set weekly and builds on work done in class.

The homework set in each year group is designed to have the greatest impact and is intended to support children to meet national expectations at each stage.

Homework will be **set each week using Google Classroom** so that parents can see clearly what the weekly homework tasks are. Homework will be done either on paper (KSI) , on TTRS (Y3 & Y4) or in a homework book (Y5 & Y6). It will no longer be uploaded to Google Classroom.

Based on parental feedback – we want to make sure that children at Holly Park know that we value homework, therefore, children at Holly Park will be rewarded each half term for doing their homework.

Children in KSI and Year 3 will receive house points for doing their homework.

In KS2, at the end of each half term children who have done the majority of their homework that needs to be handed in each week will receive Golden Time. Golden Time will be done in year groups.

Golden Time for homework will be 15 minutes and will be extra playtime, Amazon Climber, ball area etc supervised **by one teacher**

*Children who have not done the vast majority of homework that needs to be handed in will not participate in Golden Time **supervised by the other teacher**

Flu Immunisations For Pupils

Flu immunisations are being offered to all pupils in schools between Reception and Year 11. Parents can choose between having a nasal vaccine or an injection for their child. It is the responsibility of parents to sign their child up for this. Nurses come into school and carry out the immunisations. The whole process is organised by the NHS.

Information has been emailed home and is again at the end of this newsletter.

Parent Feedback

Last year, across the year through emails, parent council and report comment feedback we have received many lovely positive comments about the school. Here are just some:

- The joyfulness of the school – this is seen in the children, the adults and the architecture of the school buildings.
- I like 2 form entry and I like the fact that classes get mixed up along the journey
- The integrated day and the fact that KSI children are not sitting at desks and it is more informal.
- Love the nursery - my children were happy. Great interactions with staff.
- The Y4 pyjama party will be a lifelong memory.
- I am unable to put into words how grateful I am to the nursery staff for their support and charming personalities.
- We want to thank and congratulate the school for their true dedication, hard work, love and support. It is a blessing to send our child to Holly Park.
- We love the length of service of staff – the experience of staff – the stability of staff – the fact that everything is very well established at Holly Park
- We like the location in terms of the fact that it wasn't on a main road – like that it is tucked away and on a quieter road away from pollution
- We like the curriculum on offer
- We think the nurturing environment and the transitions between phases is excellent.
- We are enormously grateful for the education our daughter is getting and the environment that she is able to enjoy.
- We are seeing such positive progression in all aspects.
- A wonderful start to school life.
- My daughter speaks highly of her love for learning and her teachers.
My son has had a most enjoyable year at Holly Park.
- We like the fact there are 3 different playgrounds
- The Headteacher is friendly and personable.
- The SEND provision caters for all
- The Reception team are fantastic in every way and set each child up with the key reading and writing skills as well as the personal skills they need to move onto the next stage and beyond. They are a real asset to Holly Park.
- My child has had a happy year and I have been impressed with her learning.
- I want to thank my child's teacher for their kindness, honesty and support.
- I always recommend my friends to bring their children to Holly Park.
- The teachers and assistants are calm, patient and supportive and clearly have a strong team dynamic that can be felt amongst the students and parents.
- We really enjoy the cultural diversity at the school and the recognition of it
- We like the website and it helped us choose this school.
- I found the process of admission and the info given very clear and useful and friendly. A smooth start as we joined

part way through the school.

- My child's individuality is appreciated and she is recognised as a valued member of the class.
- My child has had an amazing Reception year.
- It has been lovely to see how my daughter has been doing with her creative endeavours.
- The school provides my child with a nurturing environment to educate her in.
- Holly Park is an excellent school academically and professionally.
- The end of year report was a fair assessment of my sons first year at the school.
- My child's report gave me a good insight into the year they have had. So much effort has gone into writing it – it was personal and detailed.
- We want to thank the school for all the extra-curricular opportunities that have been offered to our son and that he could engage with. He continues to have very positive relationships with his peers and the teaching staff.
- I am pleased that my son has been stretched and am grateful for the extra challenges that have been set.
- We are grateful for the care taken by the fantastic teachers and support staff.
- The staff have got to know my child inside and out and he has really benefitted from their support.
- We are delighted that our child is demonstrating kindness, empathy and maturity. These qualities mean so much to us as parents and we are delighted that they are recognised and nurtured in school.
- Our son has many positive things to say about his year and his teacher. He is very ready to move on to the juniors.

Harvest Festival

Advance notice that we will be holding our Harvest assembly on Wednesday 15th October for Food Bank Aid. This year they have made a special request. They would like JUST donations of breakfast cereals. This is part of their breakfast champions campaign. As cereal is a key feature of Harvest, this is the theme of the Harvest collection this term. This is a new initiative to help ensure that no child or adult in North London has to start their day hungry. I am letting you know with advance notice in case when you are doing your weekly shop over the next month that you might want to buy a breakfast cereal from time to time and put it away ready for our collection.



Attendance

Whole school attendance for the last week was 94%

Well done to Y2 Elm Class with the best attendance at 100 %.

Dates

Friday 12th September	INSET DAY
Wednesday 17th September	Playgroup begins 9am
Thursday 18 th September	Meeting for Nursery & Reception parents – the curriculum 9am & 1pm
Friday 19 th September	Full day for all Reception children
Wednesday 24 th September	Y5 to Cuffley Camp
Friday 26 th September	Reception phonics meeting for parents 9am
Monday 29 th September	Y6 to Norfolk Lakes
Thursday 2 nd October	Meeting for all parents: SEND in mainstream schools
Friday 3rd October	Y1 phonics meeting for parents at 9am
Monday 13 th October	Walk to school week
Wednesday 15 th October	Harvest Festival
Friday 17th October	Just One Tree Day
Monday 20th October	Y6 National Assessment meeting for parents at 9am
Friday 24 th October	Be Bright Be Seen Day

HALF TERM

Monday 3rd November	Parents in Class to Read Together 8.45-9.15am
Monday 3rd November	Notice for consultations Years 1-6
Tuesday 4 th November	Meeting for all parents: Maths
Friday 7 th November	Cultural Day
Monday 10 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Wednesday 12 th November	KS2 Book Look 3.30-5.30pm

Thursday 13th November
Thursday 13th November

Individual Photograph Day
KSI Book Look 3.30-5.30pm



WE HAVE
ACHIEVED



**HOLLY PARK
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

HOLLY PARK PLAYGROUP

Our playgroup, in our school hall, will
be open to the local community:
parents, grandparents, carers, child
minders, family, friends and anyone
living in the local community.

OPENING HOURS:

9:00AM
UNTIL
10:30AM
WEDNESDAYS

**STARTING
17TH
SEPTEMBER**

**PRICE:
£2 /PER WEEK**

- ✓ **RUN BY AN
EXPERIENCED TEACHER,
A LEARNING MENTOR
AND NURSERY STAFF**
- ✓ **0-5 YEAR OLDS WHO
ARE NOT YET IN
SCHOOL**
- ✓ **LOTS OF THINGS FOR
BABIES AND
TODDLERS TO DO
AND A CHANCE FOR
PARENTS OR CARERS
TO COME ALONG AND
CHAT TOGETHER**

FIND US

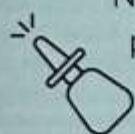
Phone Number: 020 8368 1434

Location: Bellevue Road, London N11 3HG

FLU IMMUNISATION FOR PUPILS IN SCHOOL YEARS RECEPTION - YEAR 11

Prevent your child from being seriously ill this winter!
Vaccinating is crucial in protecting them and
vulnerable friends and family from flu.

NASAL VACCINE



No needles - just quick,
painless, effective flu
protection
(contains gelatine)

OR

THE INJECTION

We offer a **PORK-FREE,
GELATINE-FREE** injection
considered a
faith-friendly alternative.





Complete this form, even if you do not want the vaccine.

<https://ncl.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2025/barnet>

Secondary School students only: Young people under the age of 16 can give or
refuse consent themselves if considered competent to do so by nursing staff.

CONTACT THE TEAM

 barnet@v-uk.co.uk
 0208 150 7505

Need more
information?
Please see our FAQs
sheet attached with
this letter.

Or visit our
website:



We endeavour to come to your child's school twice.
If your child is absent or unable to be vaccinated at
school, they can still receive this important vaccine by
attending one of our community clinics for the vaccine.

Details of these can be found on our website or you
can contact the team above.

Your consent will remain in place for the entire flu season.
If your child misses a first visit, you do not need to
complete a second form.

LEARN MORE 

<https://www.schoolvaccination.uk/flu>
www.youtube.com/@vaccinationuk

PRIVACY POLICY

Our 2024/25 policy can be viewed here: www.schoolvaccination.uk/privacy-policy
For data protection queries, please contact: dpo@vaccinationuk.co.uk



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q WHY ARE CHILDREN BEING OFFERED THE FLU VACCINE?

Flu can make children feel very unwell and can sometimes lead to serious complications like pneumonia or ear infections. Some may even need hospital treatment. It's especially important for children with long-term conditions like asthma or diabetes, as flu can be more dangerous for them.

Q HOW DOES THE FLU VACCINE FOR CHILDREN WORK?

The nasal spray contains weakened flu viruses that help your child build protection without causing illness. Because flu strains change each year, the vaccine needs to be given annually. Most children only need one dose.

Q IS THE FLU VACCINE SAFE FOR CHILDREN?

Yes, it has a very good safety record and has been used for over 10 years in countries like the US without any major concerns. All vaccines available in United Kingdom must pass strict safety testing before being approved for use. The Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) only approve vaccines that have gone through rigorous safety testing measures. The regulators continually monitor them all the time.

Q SHOULD ANYONE NOT HAVE THE VACCINE?

Let us know if your child:

- Has a severe allergy to eggs, gelatine, or certain antibiotics
- Has recently had severe asthma symptoms or is wheezy on the day
- Has a seriously weakened immune system

Also, after vaccination, children should avoid close contact with people who have very weak immune systems for about two weeks—everyone else is fine to be around.

Q ARE THERE ANY SIDE EFFECTS?

Side effects from the nasal spray are usually mild and short-lived. These may include a runny or blocked nose, headache, reduced appetite, or a slight temperature. Paracetamol or ibuprofen can help if needed.

Q WE DO NOT EAT PORK PRODUCTS. CAN MY CHILD HAVE A DIFFERENT FLU VACCINE?

Yes. There is an injectable flu vaccine available that contains no pork (porcine gelatine).

While the nasal spray is generally more effective and painless, we respect your preferences. Just complete the consent form for the injection—no need to fill out both.

CONSENT INFORMATION

The consent form needs to be signed by a person with parental responsibility which includes:

- Mother: automatic
- Father: if married to the mother either when baby is born or marries subsequently
- Unmarried father: if name appears on birth certificate (since 1/12/03) or legally acquired
- Others: if parental responsibility is legally acquired
- Parental Responsibility Agreement: signed, properly witnessed and sent for registration to Principle Registry or the Family Division (High Court)
- Residence Order: granted by the Court

Please note that young people under the age of 16 can give or refuse consent if considered competent to do so by nursing staff.

Q NATURAL IMMUNITY

While natural immunity from the flu can occur, it's not generally considered better than vaccine-induced immunity. Natural infection carries the risk of severe illness and complications, whereas the flu vaccine offers protection with significantly less risk. Natural immunity can be long-lasting against specific strains, but we know that the flu virus changes (mutates) overtime so natural immunity to one strain might not protect against a different strain that emerges later. Vaccines are a safer and more reliable way to protect against a wider range of flu viruses.

Flu vaccines are updated for each winter to give protection against the strains of flu that are most likely to be going around. For this reason, we strongly recommend that even if your child was vaccinated last year, they should be vaccinated again this year.

Q MY CHILD NEEDS A DIFFERENT VACCINE

If your child needs another vaccine you can speak to our team or attend one of our community clinics, all information can be found on our website:

www.schoolvaccination.uk/catch-up-clinics

Q I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS

We run Q&A webinars which address frequently asked questions and gives parents an opportunity to ask their questions. You can find information and how to join on our website.

