



# HOLLY PARK NEWSLETTER

'We support our children to be their best.'

ISSUE 34

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2026

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)

## Reception and KSI Sports Day

Infant Sports Day was a lovely event. The weather was perfect. There was a really good turn out from parents who cheered the children along! The children enjoyed events such as egg and spoon, skipping, under and over etc. The parent race was a highlight as always with some excellent skill on display! Thank you to the support staff for preparing the sports day and special thanks to Miss Yianakki for organising it.



## Y1 Phonics Check Results

These will be sent home next week via book bags. The results will be in a sealed envelope.

## Y4 Multiplication Check Results

These will be emailed home next week

## Instrumental Tuition at Holly Park Autumn Term 2026

If you wish your child to have instrumental tuition lessons at school next term please log into Barnet Education Arts Trust ([beatrust.org.uk](http://beatrust.org.uk)) where you will find all the details you need. Lessons are usually for children in next term's Year 3 and above. However, we do offer violin and 'cello lessons to next term's Year 2 children, as well. The school does not enrol any children or take fees. Please observe BEAT's deadlines for enrolment and fees.

## KS2 Sports Day

Junior sports day was today. A perfect day of weather. The children enjoyed activities such as skipping, dribbling, water carrying, egg and spoon etc Lots of parents and grandparents came out to watch. As ever the children enjoyed watching the parent race at the end. Thank you to the support staff and various volunteers for setting up the events and running them. A big thank you to Mr Bourne for organising it.



The results for Junior Sports day were:

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	<b>Griffin</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	<b>Hydra</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	<b>Phoenix</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> Place	<b>Dragon</b>
5 <sup>th</sup> Place	<b>Unicorn</b>

Well done to: **GRIFFIN**

## Copthall Athletics Competition

After weeks of training, all the children gave their very best at the Barnet Schools athletics event, showing brilliant effort, determination and team spirit. A special mention goes to Dino, who achieved 3rd place in the boys' long jump, and to Ollie, who finished 4th in the Year 3 boys' sprint. The biggest celebration of the day was for Jeneba, who won the Year 3 girls' sprint with an outstanding performance. No matter where they finished, every child was able to enjoy the event, feel proud of their achievements, and celebrate the success of their friends. We were also very proud of the behaviour shown by our children compared to that of several other schools. A big thank you to Mr Bourne, Miss Yiannaki and Mr Carini and Mr Reid.



## School Lunches

The school uses a catering company to provide school lunches. Not only do the company do their own regular checks on the food and food services by Area managers BUT the school also employs an independent agency to monitor the quality of food and food portions, hygiene etc. This company is not associated with Olive Dining so rates what they see completely independently. The checks are NOT pre-planned – the inspectors turn up unannounced.

Hygiene standards must be maintained – e.g all meat cooked is tested with a thermometer to ensure it has reached the correct temperatures. I also meet with Olive Dining and the independent company each term to discuss any issues.

**Co-incidentally, there was an independent survey last week – which rated the food, hygiene and service at Holly Park as 98%.**

There are several school employees inside the dining room every day who would of course raise any concerns if they saw anything to be alarmed about. Olive Dining are very well known and respected caterers in many Barnet schools. Bogumila our Senior MTS has already spoken to Mealtime Supervisors and told them that they need to be more vigilant and if a child comes to them with an issue, problem or concern that they should take the child to the kitchen and show the kitchen staff. Also, I want to know about it so I can monitor any issues and what they are. Today, I spoke to the children in KS2 in an assembly to say that if they have any problems/issues or concerns that they MUST show an adult - that nobody will be in trouble and that we want to know if there are any problems so that we can sort it out and make lunchtimes the best they can be for them. I will explain that we use a company and we want the company to do the best meals for them. I hope that with both of these things that we can monitor more closely the facts about any issues and if there are concerns, we can establish exactly what they are. Then we can deal with any issues head on. If there are concerns about the quality of food, then these need to be investigated properly and I will have concrete evidence to share with Olive Dining. Please use the QR below or this link to the survey - [Survey Link](#)



## Barnet Summer Reading Challenge

Barnet Libraries are taking part in this year's music-themed Summer Reading Challenge from the Reading Agency, delivered in partnership with Universal Music Group UK. The Read to the Beat! challenge is a great way to address children's reading 'dip' over summer and build up literacy skills, and keep up the momentum of recreational reading over the summer holiday.



## Chess Team

I must say a massive congratulations to our Under 11 chess team. They participated in the National Schools championships 2026 and got to the finals which were held at the Science Museum. They gained 10<sup>th</sup> Place out of over a thousand schools across the country both private and state. That is a massive achievement which I hope they are suitably proud of.



### Staff leavers and Joiners

It is that time of year again when we have to say goodbye to some staff who are moving on to pastures new and when we also welcome new staff to Holly Park.

**Mrs Bunn** is officially retiring at the end of term. Mrs Bunn has been both an MTS and a TA over many years at the school.

**Mrs Walton** has been at Holly Park for a very long time also - for more than 20 years. This year, Mrs Walton taught 2 days a week but at the end of term she is leaving Holly Park and she is fully retiring and moving out of London.

We say goodbye to **Mr Larkin** who was with us from a teaching agency to cover Mrs Smith's maternity just for two terms. Mrs Smith will be back for the next academic year.

A massive thank you to all of these staff whether their time has been long or short.

**Mrs Osbourne** who has been at Holly Park for the past year, will be staying at the school.

### Summer Music Concert

What a lovely afternoon we had and such a treat at the end of a day. The summer music concert was a delight. Lots of talented children singing and playing a variety of instruments. The choir sang beautifully. Miss Halil had done a wonderful job. Music is a fabulous enrichment activity. I hope that our Y6 leavers will continue with music at their next schools.



### Annual Report To Parents

The annual reports to parents will be emailed home next week. Different year groups will be emailed home on different days as we cannot send them all on the same day. They will be spread across the week. A text will be sent to confirm when each class has been sent.

It is essential that the school has your correct email address. We will be emailing the reports to the email address currently on our school system.

If you have a new email address please make sure that the office has it as soon as possible.

### Free School Meal (FSM) Checker – SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

It used to be that some of our families were entitled to Pupil Premium funding for their children. From September everything is changing.

From the start of the 2026 to 2027 academic year, the Department for Education (DfE) is delivering an expansion to FSM eligibility to include all pupils from households in receipt of Universal Credit. There will then be 2 categories of

## FSM:

- Targeted FSM, which continues to be based on the existing £7,400 income threshold
- Expanded FSM, which will apply to meals only, covering pupils who do not qualify for Targeted FSM, but who are in households in receipt of Universal Credit

Following the expansion of FSM, ONLY pupils eligible for Targeted FSM will be eligible for any support in school the same as the old Pupil Premium. Pupils who become eligible for FSM through the new Expanded FSM category will not attract pupil premium funding.

There is a website where parents can check their own eligibility and the results are sent to the school.

We would urge ALL parents who feel that their child could be eligible to use this link and to check.

**\*You need to do separate applications for each child**

<https://fsm.lgfl.net/>

## **PTA Wear Your Own Clothes Day – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July**

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July, children can wear their own clothes to school in return for a donation of either cakes for the cake stall or bags of sweets for the sweet tombola. Please support this event in order to help the PTA fair to be a big success and for families to come along and enjoy lots of fun.

## **PTA Summer Fair – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July**

Please put the date of Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July in your diary and come along and support the PTA Fair. Even better if you can volunteer to run a stall for some of the time. Many hands make light work.

The fair is a fabulous community event – children love to be at the fair.

The more people – the better the event.

## **Meet Holly Bear**



Meet Holly Bear – our new school mascot is Holly Bear. Holly Bear supports children with belonging to Holly Park.

### **A little bit about Holly Bear.....**

I love the colour red because it is the colour of our school uniform.

I love learning new things.

I enjoy stories, singing and having fun with my friends.

I am respectful, resilient, kind and inquisitive.

Holly Bear is a great memento to buy for children leaving Nursery and going to another school.

Holly Bear is a great memento to buy for Year 6 children leaving Holly Park.

Holly Bear is a great gift for any child at Holly Park. Over the summer children might like to:

Read a story together with Holly Bear

Go for a walk with Holly Bear

Draw a picture of Holly bear

Have a picnic together

Help with baking

Play a game with Holly Bear

Visit somewhere new and exciting with Holly Bear.

If you would like to purchase a Holly Bear for your child – you can pay £8 on School Money and you will be given a bear. The £8 covers the cost of the bear and adds a small contribution to help raise funds for the school.

## **Classes for 2026-27**

Children and parents will find out the new classes and class teachers for next year on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July. Children will be told at school and parents will find out via the newsletter and email.

## **Attendance**

Whole school attendance for the last week was 88 %

Well done to Year 6 Cedar Class with the best attendance at 97%.

## **Dates**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July

Reports emailed home across this week

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July

Debate Challenge

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July

Reception Palm Green to Barnet Environmental Centre

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July

Junior Duke Celebration event 9am

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July  
**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July**

Reception Palm Red to Barnet Environmental Centre  
New Classes announced for September 2026  
Y6 show week  
Children to visit new classes and teachers  
Y6 Careers Fair  
Reception Assembly Performance at 9.30am  
Y6 Leavers' Party 7pm – 9pm  
Y6 Leavers' ceremony at 9.30am  
End of term at 1.30pm  
**Inset Day**



**WE HAVE  
ACHIEVED**

