

Holywell Primary School

Tolpits Lane, Watford, Herts, WD18 6LL

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Headteacher: Mr Coert van Straaten MA, Ed, Dip Edu, NPQH

we are a learning community with the spirit to succeed

Friday 18th October 2019

Dear Parents /Carers,

Festival of Learning

Next week is Festival of Learning week. This is an opportunity for parents to come into class and see what their children have been learning about this half term. All parents/carers are invited to attend these sessions. The playground gates will be opened in time for parents to attend the afternoon sessions.

- Nursery – Thursday 24th October 2019 at 11:30 am
- Reception – Wednesday 23rd October 2019 at 9:00 am
- Year 1 - Monday 21st October 2019 at 9:00 am
- Year 2 - Thursday 24th October 2019 at 9:00 am
- Year 3 - Wednesday 23rd October 2019 at 3:00 pm
- Year 4 – Tuesday 22nd October 2019 at 3:00 pm
- Year 5 - Thursday 24th October 2019 at 3:00 pm
- Year 6 - Tuesday 22nd October 2019 at 9:00 am



Year 1 – The London Museum

Year 1 visited The London Museum on Wednesday. This trip was linked to learning about London and animals. The exhibition was called “Beasts of London” and explored the fascinating roles animals played in shaping the capital. They were guided through time from the Roman era through Medieval London and right up to the present day. They discovered how animals – from lions and elephants, to horses, rats and pigeons – have shaped the city and its beastly history.

Year 2 – The Natural History Museum, Tring

On Tuesday, Year 2 visited The Natural History Museum in Tring. During their visit children learned about animals and their habitats which links to their science work. They took part in a workshop and learnt about artic animals and polar bears. Not only did they learn about the animals they also learnt about their habitat. The children did a range of activities which included looking at and sorting animals, they also had the opportunity to identify animals from skeletons which included looking at a polar bear skull, a whale's rib and a penguin's wing.

Year 3 - Watford Central Mosque and Wellspring Church

Also on Tuesday, Year 3 visited Watford Central Mosque and Wellspring Church. At the mosque the children visited the men's and women's praying areas. They were also very fortunate to hear a call to pray. Whilst visiting the Wellspring Church pupils learnt about Jesus. They also observed and took part in some dance routines. At both places of worship, pupils learnt about the respective religious books of the two religions.



Sports Leader Training

This week 20 of our Year 5 pupils had Sports Leader training which was delivered by Queens' School. The training gives pupils the skills to organise and run games for younger children. They will also be able to organise a Sports Festival. Our Sports Leaders will be running games during the lunch breaks for pupils in Key stage 1.

Class Assemblies

Olympic Hall at 9:10am		
DATE	CLASS	TOPIC
Friday 25 th October	Year 4 Cedar	Diwali
Friday 8 th November	Year 3 Pine	Bon Fire Night
Friday 15 th November	Year 3 Aspen	Anti-Bullying Week
Friday 22 nd November	Year 2 Hawthorn	Road Safety
Friday 29 th November	Year 2 Hazel	St Andrew
Friday 6 th December	Year 1 Sycamore	Hanukah
Friday 13 th December	Year 1 Maple	Human Rights Day

Reception – King George V Playing Fields

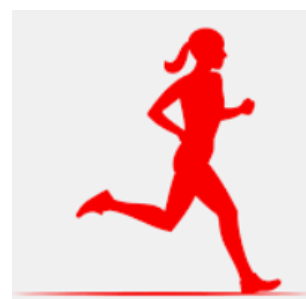
Our two Reception classes walked to the King George V Playing fields on Thursday and today where they learnt about the seasons. The children looked at the environmental changes brought on by Autumn and talked about the changing colours and falling leaves. Thank you to all the parent helpers who assisted the teachers on the trip because without your help this visit would not have been possible.

Parents' Evenings

We would like to remind you that our Parents Evenings are taking place on Tuesday 22nd October (15:30 - 18:00) and Thursday 24th October (17:00 - 19:30). If you have not booked an appointment yet please do so as soon as possible as appointments are being finalised.

Cross Country

Year 5 pupils took part in a cross county competition at Queens' School on Tuesday afternoon. Pupils had to run 1500m and faced tough competition from pupils from 10 other local schools. The children taking part represented Holywell Primary School very well, showing great resilience and determination. The stand out performance of the day was delivered by Diana who narrowly missed out on a place in the finals.



Half Term

A reminder that it is half term from Monday 28th October 2019 until Friday 1st November 2019 inclusive. School will close at normal time on Friday 25th October at 3:15 pm.

Holywell Charter and Star Certificates

Class	Charter certificate	Star Learner of the Week award	Class	Charter certificate	Star Learner of the Week award
Blue Base	Ammar	Isabelle	Mulberry	Richard	Ilaria
Red Base	Nasir	Storm	Cedar	Cristiana	Ayman
Sycamore	Patrick	Jay	Chestnut	Robina	Rajab
Maple	Antonia	Liam	Elder	Brooke	Aysha
Hawthorn	Sophie	Shailah	Elm	Jainam	Olivia
Hazel	Harvey J	Tyson	Rowan	Samuel	Maya
Pine	Zain	Tanmeet	Birch	Asim	Dani
Aspen	Fozia	Stefan			

Attendance by Class

Last week's attendance by class:

Nursery am	91%	Pine	92%
Blue Base	96%	Mulberry	91%
Red Base	95%	Cedar	98%
Maple	98%	Chestnut	98%
Sycamore	95%	Elder	99%
Hawthorn	94%	Birch	99%
Hazel	93%	Elm	96%
Aspen	98%	Rowan	97%

Whole School Attendance

Whole school attendance for the academic year till last Friday is:

94.5 %

Attendance and Punctuality

Best classes in the whole school for attendance and punctuality last week were:

Attendance	Punctuality
KS1: Maple	KS1: Hazel
KS2: Elder, Birch	KS2: Aspen

Year 6 – The Dreadful Menace

Year 6 have been focusing on the poem 'The Dreadful Menace'. We created extreme weather warnings for our choice of weather and simile and metaphor poems to describe. Here are some written by Birch class!

Unforgiving winter

Towering over the freezing landscape,
wind howling with deafening rage,
Covered by a ghostly blanket of dark clouds.
Like an arrogant wolf bursting with fury,
Like a caged lion ready to pounce,
Like lightning from an irate cloud.

Precious diamond earrings hung
The frosty snow made a crisp carpet,
As the bitter wind rubbed against trees,
Like a dagger piercing through a frozen heart.
By Zainab, Year 6 Birch

Lightning

Beware. I am the one and only lightning. I am deadly. I wipe out everything in my path and watch them burn to crisp as I grin at their scattered ashes. My scorching hot strike will make you quiver in fear. Don't try to hide from me, I am always near. I am the unwanted nightmare that the earth prays won't visit. My wrath is that of a hundred wars.

By Kavya, Year 6 Birch

REGRETISS WINTER!

Anxious, deafening sky waiting to erupt,
Deadly avalanches,
Ice cold trees towering over bitter ice.
Like a blood thirsty clown
Like a banshee waiting to kill her victim.
Like an icy arrow in your frozen heart.

The humungous mountain towering over frozen trees,
Ice shards gnash with blood thirsty teeth,
wind howling with its disgusting breath.
Like demons fighting in the misty sky,
Like a raging lion spitting ice shards,
Like a tooth of a shark killing prey.
By Leo, Year 6 Birch

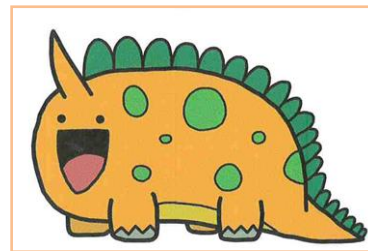
winter

The deadliest sting is winter's bite.
All people fear, its venomous strike.
Nothing can end it, no cure to fight.
Like a scorpion, penetrating flesh.
Like a rabbit ever so terrified,
Like a sickness, unstoppable and swift.

No-one can escape it, it's too rapid.
Its wrath is too powerful, it destroys everything.
Its horrible shriek, deafening all that hears.
Like a jail cell, with indestructible walls.
Like Godzilla, rampaging through a city.
Like an eagle, shrieking in the sky.
By Nathan, Year 6 Birch

Family Learning – Dangerous Dinosaurs

Parents of pupils in Reception and Year 1 are reminded to take up the offer of family learning at Holywell Primary School. The programme, called Dangerous Dinosaurs, is aimed at families with pupils in Reception and Year 1 and will have a phonics focus. The course will start with a parent session looking at phonics and how to support your child. Parents will then be joined by their children for the remainder of the session.



Parents with more than one child in Reception and/or Year 1 will be able to bring them into the session together. The sessions are on a Thursday afternoon and run from 7th November 2019 to 12th December 2019.

Secondary School – September 2020

Please be aware that the deadline for applications to secondary school is fast approaching. Parents will need to make an application online or on paper by the closing date of **Thursday 31st October 2019** but Hertfordshire County Council recommend parents complete it by Friday 25th October 2019, as there will be limited support available over the weekend for anyone having trouble applying.

Parents should apply online at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions or alternatively, if you cannot access the internet, you can request a printed version of the application form from Hertfordshire County Council - Customer Service Centre by calling 0300 123 4043.

Football Match

The football match against Kingsway Junior School which was scheduled for last week had to be **cancelled** because of the weather; it will now take place on **Monday 21st October 2019**.

This game is for Year 5 and 6 boys and not for boys and girls as mistakenly stated in last week's newsletter.





Dates for your Diary

AUTUMN TERM

OCTOBER 2019

Monday 21st October 2019 to Friday 25th October 2019 – Festival of Learning week
Monday 21st October 2019 – Year 1 Festival of Learning – 9:00am
Tuesday 22nd October 2019 – Year 6 Festival of Learning – 9:00am
Tuesday 22nd October 2019 – Year 4 Festival of Learning – 3:00pm
Tuesday 22nd October 2019 – Parents Evening – 3:30pm to 6:00pm
Tuesday 22nd October 2019 – Wizard Theatre
Wednesday 23rd October 2019 – Reception Festival of Learning – 9:00am
Wednesday 23rd October 2019 – Year 3 Festival of Learning – 3:00pm
Wednesday 23rd October 2019 – Year 5 Ukulele lessons
Thursday 24th October 2019 – Year 2 Festival of Learning – 9:00am
Thursday 24th October 2019 – Nursery Festival of Learning – 11:30am
Thursday 24th October 2019 – Year 5 Festival of Learning – 3:00pm
Thursday 24th October 2019 – Rocksteady
Thursday 24th October 2019 – Parents Evening 5:00pm to 7:30pm
Monday 28th October 2019 - Friday 1st November 2019 – Half term
Thursday 31st October 2019 – Secondary School Applications for September 2020 – Close

NOVEMBER 2019

Monday 4th November 2019 – Year 1 Assessments start
Monday 4th November 2019 – Reception Applications for September 2020 open
Monday 4th November 2019 – Poppy appeal starts
Tuesday 5th November 2019 – Wizard Theatre
Tuesday 5th November 2019 – Wizard Theatre Pantomime
Tuesday 5th November 2019 – Governors Meeting – 6:30pm
Wednesday 6th November 2019 – Big Foot Black History workshops – KS1 and KS2
Thursday 7th November 2019 – Big Foot Black History workshops – KS1 and KS2
Thursday 7th November 2019 – Year 4 Cedar Swimming
Thursday 7th November 2019 - Rocksteady
Monday 11th November 2019 – Whole School Assessment Week
Monday 11th November 2019 – Big Foot – Anti Bullying Workshops – KS1 and KS2
Tuesday 12th November 2019 – Big Foot – Anti Bullying Workshops – KS1 and KS2
Tuesday 12th November 2019 - Wizard Theatre
Tuesday 12th November 2019 – Year 6 Hockey at Queens School
Wednesday 13th November 2019 – Big Foot – Anti Bullying Workshops – KS1 and KS2
Thursday 14th November 2019 – School Photographer - Individual and family photographs
Thursday 14th November 2019 - Rocksteady
Thursday 14th November 2019 – Year 4 Cedar Swimming
Tuesday 19th November 2019 – School Nurse to meet Year 6 and complete online questionnaires
Tuesday 19th November 2019 – Year 4 Speed Stacking at Queens School
Wednesday 20th November 2019 – Reception 2020 Open Day – 9:15am – to be confirmed
Thursday 21st November 2019 – Year 4 Cedar Swimming
Thursday 21st November 2019 - Rocksteady
Wednesday 27th November 2019 – Flu Immunisations – Reception to Year 6
Thursday 28th November 2019 – Year 4 Cedar Swimming
Thursday 28th November 2019 – Non Uniform Day – Sweets
Friday 29th November 2019 – Christmas Decoration Day



Dates for your Diary

AUTUMN TERM -continued

DECEMBER 2019

- Monday 2nd December 2019 – Christmas Tree Decoration Day
Wednesday 4th December 2019 – Reception 2020 Open Day – 2:00pm – to be confirmed
Thursday 5th December 2019 – Year 4 Cedar Swimming
Thursday 5th December 2019 – Non Uniform Day – Chocolate and drinks bottles
Thursday 12th December 2019 – Non uniform Day – Cakes
Thursday 12th December 2019 – Year 4 Cedar Swimming
Thursday 12th December 2019 - Rocksteady
Friday 13th December 2019 – Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 17th December 2019 – Christmas Fete - 3:30pm to 5:00 pm
Tuesday 17th December 2019 – Governors meeting – 6:30pm
Tuesday 17th December 2019 - Early Year Christmas performance – 11:15am
Wednesday 18th December 2019 - Early Years Christmas performance – 9:30am
Wednesday 18th December 2019 – Key Stage 1 Concert to parents - 6:00 pm
Wednesday 18th December 2019 – Christmas Dinner Day
Thursday 19th December 2019 – Presentation Assembly
Thursday 19th December 2019 – Key Stage 1 Christmas concert to Key Stage 1 parents - 10:00am
Thursday 19th December 2019 – Key Stage 1 Christmas concert to Key Stage 2 parents - 2:00pm
Friday 20th December 2019 – Nursery AM only. Closes at 12:00 midday
Friday 20th December 2019 – Monday 6th January 2020 – Christmas break

ENRICHMENT DAYS

- Wednesday 16th October 2019 – World Food Day
Friday 18th October 2019 – Anti Slavery Day
Sunday 27th October 2019 – Diwali
Thursday 31st October 2019 – Halloween
Tuesday 5th November 2019 – Bonfire Night
Sunday 10th November 2019 – World Science Day
Monday 11th November 2019 – Remembrance Day
Monday 11th November 2019 – Anti Bullying Week
Monday 18th November 2019 – Road safety Week
Wednesday 20th November 2019 – Universal Children’s Days – UN
Saturday 30th November 2019 – St Andrews Day
Monday 2nd December 2019 – International Day for the Abolition of Slavery
Tuesday 10th December 2019 – Human Rights Day
Sunday 22nd December 2019 – Hanukah

Children and
Young People's
Therapies Advice
Line

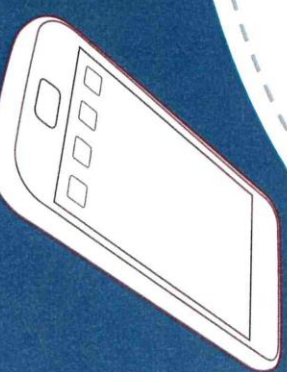
The Physiotherapy,
Occupational Therapy and
Speech & Language Therapy pages on
our website www.hct.nhs.uk has lots of useful
information and advice.

However, if you still have concerns why not call our
Advice Line and leave us a message.

You will be contacted by one of our Physiotherapists,
Occupational Therapists or Speech & Language Therapists.

The Advice Line is open to parents/carers or
professionals who have a query or who want to
discuss a potential referral.

*If your child is already known to our service please contact
01992 823193 for SLT
01923 470680 for OT/PT



01992 823093