

# Holywell Primary School

Tolpits Lane, Watford, Herts, WD18 6LL  
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**We are a learning community with the spirit to succeed**

3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

## COVID

This week has been a real challenge with the rising cases of COVID in the school, at both staff and pupil level. Although we still have daily cases reported to us, it seems that reported positive cases have slowed down.

We will remain in bubbles for the next few weeks to ensure we can all stay healthy and safe for the Christmas break. Parents are urged to ensure they get their children tested with a PCR test if they show any symptoms or illness which could be COVID related.

Cases remain high in Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6.

***Covid-19 Walk-through Testing Site - Watford  
(King George V Car Park, Chaffinch Lane)***

Staff have been amazing this week, ensuring all classes are covered and pupils' education continues. We still have a few members of staff due to return next week, at that point we will have much more capacity than we had on some days this week. I would like to thank parents for their ongoing support.

We will continue to monitor the situation and make decisions about events, trips etc. on a weekly basis.

The Year 2 visitors from St Mary's Church, who were due in next week, have been postponed and we will inform parents of the new date once it has been agreed.

## Crossing the road

A parent expressed their concern about children who are crossing the road after school on High View without looking. We will speak to pupils about this, but we ask that parents also remind their children, especially those walking on their own, to be safe on the road. It gets dark early at the moment and this reduces visibility.



### **Ventilation in rooms**

To comply with COVID guidance, we are monitoring temperatures and CO2 levels in classrooms, ensuring the rooms are well ventilated. We encourage pupils to tell us if they are cold, but windows and doors will not be kept open for prolonged periods when the rooms are occupied.

### **Reception – September 2022**

The on-line application system to apply for a place for Reception class in September 2022 is now open. We would like to remind parents who have children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018 that they must apply for a place in Reception class, they do not automatically transfer from Nursery to Reception.

**[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions)**

Alternatively, if you are unable to access the website, a paper copy of the application form from Hertfordshire can be obtained by calling the Customer Service Centre on 0300 123 4043.

### **Nursery – September 2022**

Application forms to apply for a place in Nursery, for children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019 are available from Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022. They will be available from the school website or school office. We plan to hold an Open Day On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 11:15am.

<b>CLASS ASSEMBLY</b>		
Friday 10th December 2021	Birch	Human Rights Day



### **Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

This is our last fundraiser for the year. Children are allowed to wear their Christmas jumper for a donation of £1. This is a national event supported by the Charity 'Save the Children', who raise money for essential food, healthcare, education and protection to millions of children around the world who are less fortunate.

### **Year 5 – Trip to Verulamium**

The children enjoyed looking at and guessing what the artefacts from Roman Britain were used for as well as learning a lot from their tour around the museum, which has supplemented their learning in school.



## International day of people with disabilities linking UNCRC Article 2 and 23.

### International Day of People with Disabilities

On **3 December** we're celebrating International Day of People with Disabilities. It is a global event which promotes equality for people with disability and celebrates their achievements. It has been celebrated every year since 1981.

It is also a day to promote awareness of the challenges faced by over 1 billion people living with disabilities, and the role communities and societies play in breaking down barriers to inclusion.

This year's theme is '**not all disabilities are visible**'.

The following are some work done by our children based on the UNCRC Articles 2 and 23.

### LINKED UNCRC ARTICLES



There are two articles that provide a particularly strong link this week:

#### Article 2 – No discrimination

The Convention applies to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, gender, religion, language, abilities or any other status, whatever they think or say, whatever their family background.

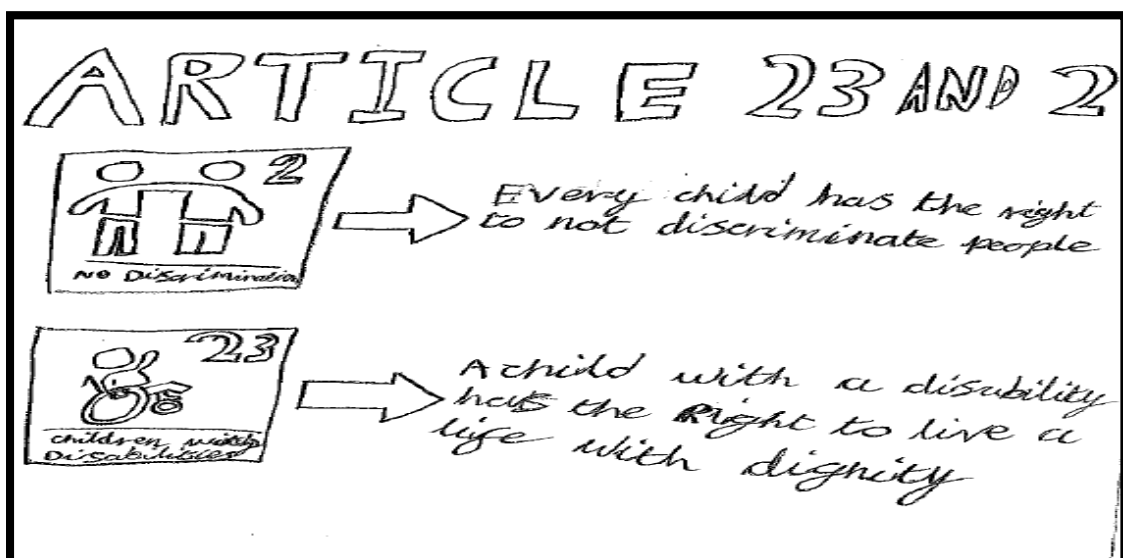
#### Article 23 – Children with disabilities

A child with a disability has the right to live a full and decent life with dignity and, as far as possible, independence and play an active part in the community. Governments must do all they can to support disabled children and their families.

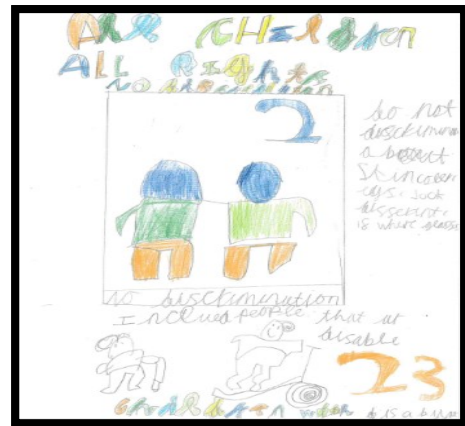
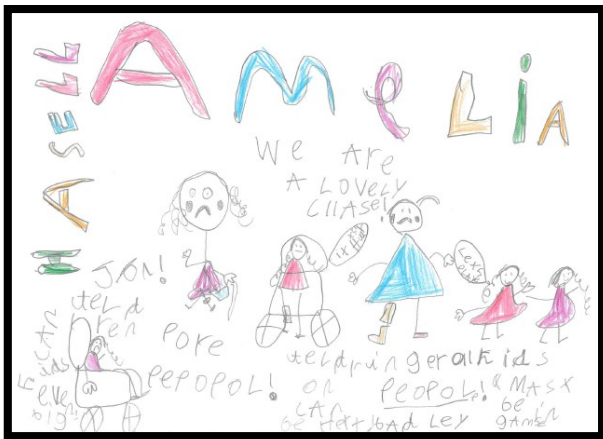
unicef  
UNITED KINGDOM



RIGHTS  
RESPECTING  
SCHOOLS







## STAR & CHARTER CERTIFICATES

		Star	Charter
<b>Reception</b>	Reception	Freddy B	Anaya
<b>Year 1</b>	Sycamore	Aarav	Emilia
<b>Year 2</b>	Hawthorn	Damilola	Oliver
	Hazel	Cornel	Hila
<b>Year 3</b>	Rowan	Skyla	Maisey
<b>Year 4</b>	Cedar	Zania	Mahira
	Mulberry	Ines	David
<b>Year 5</b>	Chestnut	Kevin	Amelia
	Elder	Timotei	Elif
<b>Year 6</b>	Birch	Simone	Sarah M
	Elm	Luigi	Haris

### Week Commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021

<b>Attendance by Class</b>			
Attendance by class:			
Nursery	68%	Mulberry	95%
Reception	79%	Cedar	89%
Sycamore	81%	Chestnut	93%
Hawthorn	91%	Elder	95%
Hazel	90%	Elm	90%
Rowan	84%	Birch	98%

<b>Whole School Attendance from September 2021</b>
<b>93%</b>

<b>Attendance</b>	
<i>Best classes in the whole school for attendance</i>	
Key Stage 1	Hawthorn
Key Stage 2	Birch



## AUTUMN TERM

### December 2021

- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Innovation and Enterprise week - DT focus
- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Whole school Assessment Week
- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Year 5 Football club (15:20 - 16:20)
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Year 2 St Mary's Church, Christingle Workshop
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Year 1 & Year 2 Football club (15:20 - 16:20)
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Flu vaccinations
- Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Cornet lessons Year 4
- Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Ukulele lessons Year 5
- Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Year 6 Football club (15:20 - 16:20)
- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Year 6 Elm Swimming (14:00 - 14:30)
- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Year 3 & Year 4 Football club (15:20 - 16:20)
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Human Rights Day - Year 6 Birch
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Save the Children "Christmas Jumper Day"
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Whole school assessment week
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Year 5 Football club (15:20 - 16:20)
- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Year 1 & Year 2 Football club
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Cornet lessons Year 4
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Ukulele lessons Year 5
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Year 6 Football club (15:20 - 16:20)
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Early Years Christmas performance (9:15)
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Rocksteady Concert
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Christmas Dinner Day
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Year 6 Elm Swimming (14:00 - 14:30)
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Presentation Assembly
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Year 3 & Year 4 Football club (15:20 - 16:20)
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Key Stage Concert to parents (6:00pm)
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Early Years Christmas performance (11:15)
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Whole school assembly (Christmas production) Key Stage 1 parents invited (9:05)
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Whole school assembly (Christmas production) Key Stage 2 parents invited (9:05)
- Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021 - Presentation Assembly
- Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021 - Last day of term - school closes at 1:30pm
- Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021 - No PM Nursery class. Nursery closes at midday



## ***HAPpy Holidays***

What will your kids be doing this Winter holiday?

Are they in need of action-packed days with the added benefit of a free meal? If so, HAPpy Holiday Camps are taking place across Hertfordshire this Winter and might be just the answer!

It's all thanks to Hertfordshire County Council who have joined forces with the Herts Sports Partnership to organise a huge programme of activity for the school holidays.

Activities will be running in different venues across the county for children and young people aged between 5-16 years, and all include a nutritious meal each day. As an eligible family you can book for free using your unique HAPpy Booking Code. When prompted, please make sure you enter the whole code, which includes the & symbol which is found in the middle of the code.

***Your unique code is: T3&CA9***

You will be able to search for activities using your postcode or child's age – places are limited and strictly on a first come basis so be quick and book online from Monday 6th December at <https://www.sportinherts.org.uk/happy/booking>

If you are having trouble booking, you'll find a step-by-step guide on the booking page explaining what to do. Still need help? Hertfordshire Libraries have computers you can use, and friendly staff who will be able to help.

Additionally, there are a range of fun online Enrichment Activities to look through, with ideas for learning more about arts and crafts, history, music, and theatre, plus ways to keep your family active for 60 minutes each day! View these at

<https://www.sportinherts.org.uk/hafhappy>

Lastly, our information page has links to a variety of organisations and advice you and your family may find useful. Visit this at <https://sportinherts.org.uk/happy/useful-local-services>



**It's Back!**

**The Watford Festival of Music,  
Speech & Drama 2022!**



**Festival Dates:**

**Sun 27th Feb -  
Sun 13th March**

**Finale Date:**

**Sun 20th March**

**Festival Location:**

**The Pump House  
5 Local Board Rd  
Watford  
WD17 2JP**

**Finale Location:**

**Watersmeet Theatre  
High St  
Rickmansworth  
WD3 1EH**

**Closing date for Entries**

**December 17th**

**New User deadline: December 10th**

**Information**

**There are categories for all music, speech and drama enthusiasts.  
Please go to the website for all the exciting details!**

**[www.watfordfestival.co.uk](http://www.watfordfestival.co.uk)**