

NEWSLETTER 17TH SEPTEMBER 2014



Dates for your diary

Thursday 18th September

Friday 19th September

Friday 26th September

Tuesday 30th September

Wednesday 1st October

Thursday 2nd October

Thursday 9th October

Monday 13th October

Tuesday 14th October

Monday 20th October

Tuesday 21st October

Tuesday 21st October

Wednesday 22nd October

Thursday 23rd October

Friday 24th October

Monday 3rd November

Tuesday 4th November

Wednesday 5th November

Thursday 6th November

Friday 14th November

Monday 17th November

Thursday 20th November

Friday 28th November

Monday 8th December

Monday 8th December

Tuesday 9th December

Tuesday 9th December

Wednesday 10th December

Wednesday 10th December

Thursday 11th December

Thursday 11th December

Friday 12th December

Wednesday 17th December

Thursday 18th December

Friday 19th December

Sports Challenge - Years 1 & 2 starts

French Club starts

2.15pm Parents of Foxes and Hedgehogs sharing time

9.00 - 10.00am PTA meeting

7.00 - 8.00pm Reading / Phonics evening

1.45 - 2.45pm Reading / Phonics afternoon

9.00am Parent Forum

3.15pm-4.30pm Photographs (Siblings/Juniors) Harvest Festival

8.45 - 9.15am Sharing time (all year groups)

Last Art Club (for first course)

Parent's Evening 3.00 to 5.30pm (Yr R only)

Parent's Evening 3.00 to 6.30pm (Yr R, 1, 2)

Parent's Evening 3.00 to 5.30pm (Yr1 and 2)

School finishes at 3.00pm for half term

School re-opens at 8.45am

First Art Club (for second course)

Maths open afternoon 2.00 - 3.00pm

School photographs

Children In Need Day

Inset Day

9.00am Parent Forum

Christmas Fayre

Last day for Art Club (Year 2 only)

1.30pm Xmas performance (dress rehearsal - grandparents and pre-school siblings invited)

1.30pm Xmas performance (parents invited)

Last Art Club (for second course)

9.15am Xmas performance (parents invited)

Last day for Belinda's Street Dance

6.00pm Evening Xmas performance

Last day for Sports Challenge - Years 1 & 2

Last French club

Xmas shopping day

Xmas lunch / Xmas party

School finishes at 3.00pm for Christmas

Important things to remember

- Everything your child wears or brings into school must be labelled
- All children require a water bottle in school everyday
- PE kits must be in school at all times and include a tracksuit and trainers for outdoors
- Children must be registered with Cool Milk (www.coolmilk.com) in order to receive milk in school, even if they are entitled to it free of charge. This includes children who are entitled to free milk until the term before they turn 5.

As usual, at the beginning of the year, we have a lot of information to give to parents and that is why we are sending out more newsletters than normal. We have had to make one change to parent's evening later in the term as the two Reception teachers are on a course on Thursday 23rd October; the parents of children in Foxes and Hedgehogs will therefore be offered a parent evening on Tuesday 21st October instead. We will let you know about signing up for these in a couple of weeks.

Hollybrook is awarded with Artsmark Gold



We are very pleased to announce that we have been awarded the Artsmark Gold Award. We are very proud to have achieved this. We strongly believe in a creative curriculum where children have opportunities to apply their skills and develop their creativity. We had to prove that our curriculum embraces the arts with particular reference to Music, Drama, Dance and Art. The Assessor, who came in at the very end of last term, was particularly impressed with the attention given to the Arts:

"There is a strong commitment to a high quality arts entitlement for all pupils delivered through a broad and balanced range of arts activities and a clear commitment to inclusion and access. There are also clear references to arts as a means of exploring other cultures and traditions and of exploring values, attitudes etc. Opportunities to reflect on their own and others art work and of developing individual interest (nurturing talent) are provided.

Answers elsewhere on the application provide evidence for the ways in which pupils can contribute their views and ideas relating to arts development and begin to develop leadership skills, and the importance to the school of working with artists and arts organisations.

The visit showed that there is a passion for the arts as part of a creative curriculum, being described as essential for learning and what's important to us. Reference was made to the school's responsibility to turn the pupils on to learning as happy learners."

To celebrate our school achieving the Artsmark Gold Award we will holding a dress up day later this term. There will more information to follow but to give you some advanced warning we would like children to dress up as an artist, actor or character. Children can start thinking about what they would like to be!

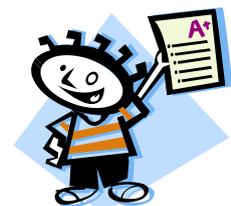


We will also be creating a wooden collage which will incorporate all the class animals at Hollybrook Infants and will be a permanent reminder of this fantastic achievement.

Best Ever School Results

As well as achieving the Artsmark, we have also had our best results for 5 years at the end of Year 2, Year 1 and Early Years. This proves that our children achieve to the best of their ability in reading, writing and maths without losing creativity:

- Good level of Development + was up from last year to 71.7 in Early Years
- 100% of children passed the phonic test in Year 1
- Year 2 SAT's results were the best for 5 years



S.A.T's Results			
Subject	Hollybrook 2014	Southampton 2014	National 2013
Reading			
Level 2+	96.0%	89.7%	90.0%
Level 2B+	85.5%	78.4%	80.7%
Level 3	58.2%	29.7%	30.5%
Writing			
Level 2+	87%	86.0%	86.0%
Level 2B+	76.4%	68.1%	69.7%
Level 3	36.4%	15.2%	16.1%
Mathematics			
Level 2+	96.0%	92.5%	92.0%
Level 2B+	87.3%	78.6%	79.9%
Level 3	60.0%	23.9%	24.2%

As well as thanking our very dedicated staff, I would also like to thank parents for their support with their children's learning.

Website Goes Live



I am pleased to announce that the updated website is live as from today. We will be uploading curriculum information in addition to many other things. You will see that there is a Sportsdesk which will keep you up to date with PE events at school. We also will be uploading photographs so that parents can see the type of learning that children have been doing. On the contact us page parents can e-mail us if they wish to; if parents feel that they would like to e-mail the Chair of Governors, Jenny Jones, there is a direct e-mail to her on the Governor's page; if you wish to e-mail me direct then please use my direct e-mail. We know that there are some pages that still need updating so please bear with us as we do this.

PTA

The PTA have asked me to invite parents to the first PTA meeting at school at 9.00am on Tuesday 30th September. Everyone is very welcome. We have also confirmed that the date of the Xmas Fayre will be Friday 28th November after school.

Absence Reporting

If your child is going to be absent on any given day, please ensure you notify the school office no later than 9.30am. If your child is off for more than one day, we expect you to call every day unless it is something with a determined recovery period (e.g. chicken pox, recovery following minor hospital procedure).



There is a voicemail facility for reporting absence, so you can ring anytime up until the deadline. In the message, please state your child's name, class, what is wrong with them. Please note 'unwell' is not a sufficient reason. Failure to inform us by the deadline could result in your child's absence being recorded as unauthorised.

Medicines



If your child has a medical condition such as asthma or an allergy, please ensure we have the correct medicine in school to administer when required. This could be required on a regular basis, or ad-hoc. Medicines should be brought into the office where we will give you a form to complete directing us what should be administered and when.

Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant Vacancy

We are currently advertising for a Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant to start from week commencing Monday 6th October. This could be a great opportunity for someone who is looking to get back into work now their children are at school, as it fits in perfectly with the school term times and still gives you some child free time. If you or someone you know is interested in applying for this position an application pack is available on the website or you can call the school office on 02380 771528.

