



## NEWSLETTER 23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 2015

[www.hollybrookinfant.co.uk](http://www.hollybrookinfant.co.uk)

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### Dates for your diary

#### Autumn 1

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October

PTA new parents welcome coffee morning 9.00am

Healthy Schools Day

PTA meeting 9.00am

1.30pm Prospective parents visit for September 2016 admission

Parent Forum 9.00am

9.45am Prospective parents visit for September 2016

Harvest Festival (TBC)

8.45am-9.15am Sharing Time for all year groups

3.00pm-5.30pm Parents Evening

3.00pm-6.30pm Parents Evening

Diwali

3.00pm Break up for Half Term

#### Autumn 2

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December

8.45am Autumn 2 begins

Maths Day (parents welcome at 2.30pm)

9.45am and 1.30pm Prospective parents visit for September 2016 admission

Individual photographs

Photographs for Brothers and sisters - 3.15pm at Junior School

9.00am Parent Forum

Children in Need (TBC)

Christmas Fayre

INSET Day (children not to attend school)

PM - Christmas Performance Dress Rehearsal (Grandparents and younger siblings invited)

AM - Christmas Performance

PM - Christmas Performance

Evening - Christmas Performance

Christmas Shopping Day

Christmas Lunch/Party

3.00pm Break up for Christmas Holiday

#### INSET Days 2015-2016

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2015

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2016

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2016

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2016

### Important things to remember

- Everything your child wears or brings into school must be labelled
- Children require a waterproof jacket - with arms and hood
- All children require a water bottle in school every day - this must ONLY contain still water - no fizzy drinks or squash
- PE kits must be in school at all times and include a tracksuit and trainers for outdoors
- Lunch boxes to be labelled with your child's name and class and please do not include sweets, nuts or products containing nuts e.g. Nutella
- Children must be registered with Cool Milk ([www.coolmilk.com](http://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.
- Could you qualify for Pupil Premium? If you are in receipt of certain benefits your child could be entitled to 2 free jumpers/cardigans per year, free milk in school every day, all trips and 1 club per term funded by the school. Apply online at:  
<http://www.southampton.gov.uk/learning/schools/schoolmeals/fschm.aspx>

All of our children are now full time; the children have come in really well and are adjusting to the routines of school. We have had our first review from Nigel Ash, the Hamwic Director of Standards, and are pleased to say that all groups of children achieved really well last year. To take a quote from his report: "Hollybrook Infant School retains its' impressive performance and trend of improvement. Leaders and teachers demonstrate their effectiveness through pupil performance. From the very impressive outcomes at the end of Early Years (reception) through the consistency of high quality teaching and outcomes in key stage 1 leading to further improvement in 2015 over and above an already outstanding set of 2014 results." This is down to team effort from everyone in school and the support that we get from parents.

This year assessment in schools is changing as levels no longer exist. We continue to ensure that we teach the next steps to ensure that all children are able to make progress. We are working with other schools looking at a way in which we can measure progress and then share this information with parents. Year 2 children will still take tests in Literacy and Mathematics. The likely change is that these will take place in May. Although absence of leave is only granted in exceptional circumstances, some families are still taking children out of school for unauthorised holiday in May. No children should be taken out of school during this time as they may miss key assessments. I appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

A quick reminder that there is a drop in coffee morning at 9 O'clock tomorrow morning. This is a chance for any parents new to the school to come and meet some friendly faces so we hope to see you there.

### Health and Safety

- Please could we ask for parents and children to not walk across the car park - please use the pavement and paths surrounding this area.
- We have been advised that a parent has been seen allowing their child to urinate in the school grounds. Please be aware this is not acceptable, and only toilet facilities in the school should be used.



### Book bags

Please ensure book bags are bought in by your child each day as these are used for sending letters home to parents, as well as carrying library books. Could we also ask that only 1 keyring is attached to your child's book bag as any more than this means the bags cannot get into the boxes the children store them in during the day.



### Parent Parking

Another polite reminder to all parents/carers not to park in any of the spaces in Seagarth Close or to block the road when dropping off and collecting children. We would remind you that parking facilities are available at The Sports Centre and there is a school crossing patrol at the top of Lordswood Road for you to use.



### Summer Sports Challenge - Road to Rio

If you have a completed Road to Rio challenge booklet, this should be returned to teachers by the end of September please.

### Postbox

We now have a post box in the Reception area - to the left of the WOW! Board - where parents are asked to please put letters or monies for clubs in, instead of handing to the office. This will save you having to queue up at the desk during busy periods. This box is fully secure, and is emptied daily. Please remember to put any money in an envelope labelled with your child's name, class and what the money is in relation to.



### Cookery Classes

This term the children will be baking stain glass window biscuits and the recipes will be available in reception and on the School website. Cooking is run by the PTA and in order for the children to take part we need volunteers. New volunteers will need to be DBS checked before they can take part - these forms are available from the office.

The cookery sessions last about 1hr with a group of 4-5 children, each class has an allocated time to use the kitchen, details of which can be found at reception and displayed by class entrances. The kitchen will be stocked with ingredients by Monday 28th September.

If you are interested please speak to your class rep or contact us directly:

Fiona Burton (Squirrels) 07798 656278 or Kerensa Thorne (Rabbits) 07786 637309.

### Karate Club

Please be aware that the Karate Club, which is held on a Monday at 3.10pm, is run independently and therefore we would ask that all parents collect their children from school as normal and take them to the Junior School. Forms should also be submitted to the Junior School.