

NEWSLETTER 11TH FEBRUARY 2015

www.hollybrookinfant.co.uk

02380 771528



Dates for your diary

Thursday 12 th February	2.15pm Maths Open Session for parents/carers
Friday 13 th February	School finishes at 3.00pm for half term
Monday 23 rd February	Spring 2 begins at 8.45am
Monday 23 rd February	Healthy Schools Day
Thursday 26 th February	9.00am Parent Forum
Mon 2 nd - Fri 6 th March	Literacy Week
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day (children to dress up)
Friday 6 th March	9.00-9.30am Sharing Time
Wednesday 11 th March	Year 2 Trip to Winchester
Wednesday 11 th March	Year R Parent Lunch
Friday 13 th March *Date amended*	Comic Relief (more info to follow)
Friday 13 th March	Rabbit Class Parent Lunch
Friday 13 th March	3.00pm PTA Cake Sale
Tuesday 17 th March	9.00am Year 1 Assembly
Wednesday 18 th March	Squirrel Class Parent Lunch
Friday 20 th March	Inset Day
Tuesday 24 th March	9.00am Parent Forum
Wednesday 25 th March	Badger Class Parent Lunch
Friday 27 th March	Owl Class Parent Lunch
Thursday 2 nd April	School finishes at 3.00pm for Easter break
Monday 20 th April	Summer term begins at 8.45am

Important things to remember

- Everything your child wears or brings into school must be labelled
- All children require a water bottle in school every day
- 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.
- 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>

The last six weeks seem to have flown by and we find ourselves at half term. We have had a lot of illness in school since Christmas and I would like to thank you for your support in getting your children to school when possible. It is so important that they are in school and I have been really impressed by the quality of the learning that I have seen in all classes. The best parts of my day are when children come down to show me what they have achieved or come up to show me as I visit the classes. Hopefully the chickenpox epidemic will come to an end over half term!

I am sure you will appreciate that occasionally teachers and teaching assistants also succumb to illness. We are very lucky that this is quite rare and the adults are so dedicated that they make every effort to be in school. There are also occasions when teachers and teaching assistants may attend courses to enable them to extend their professional development, which in turn gives the best possible

experiences for your children. Whenever possible we cover these sessions with staff in school, including Mrs Gale who is our regular supply teacher and known to all of the children. Teachers will usually inform the children if there is to be a change to the day but this is not always possible if they wake up unwell. If any parent has an issue or problem over this then I would appreciate it if they could contact me directly either in person or via e-mail. The office will always make an appointment if I am unavailable.

It was lovely to see so many parents at sharing time on Monday and we hope to see many of you at the Maths sharing time. The children spent Monday doing all sorts of measuring activities based around the story of "The Smartest Giant in Town". I know that they are keen to share this with you and "teach" you all about measures.

On the Monday after half term four of our Governors will be visiting the school to do a learning walk. We invite the governors in as part of our accountability to ensure that we are providing the best possible provision for the children and we have asked them to focus on PE and children's attitudes towards PE. By conducting learning walks around school Governors can get an overview of the school and talking to children is always an interesting experience!!

We have many other events planned for March, including inviting parents / carers in for lunch with your child if they have a hot lunch, so please keep an eye out for information from school. All newsletters are put onto the website so if you mislay one then you can find it there. We will also put some hard copies in the office. We would also prefer to e-mail the newsletter to parents; this is partly to reduce costs in terms of the amount of paper used, but also the man hours that it takes to sort this out. After half term we will therefore be e-mailing to all parents for whom we have an e-mail address unless you have informed the office that there is a specific reason for not being able to receive the newsletter in this way. We will always send letters that require a reply slip as a hard copy as we appreciate that not all parents are able to print things out. If you have recently changed your e-mail address then please can you let the office know. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

I do hope that everyone has a good half-term break and look forward to seeing you all back on Monday 23rd February.

Dinner Menu

Our caterers Chartwells have confirmed we will be continuing with existing dinner menu up until Easter. When we return after half term on Monday 23rd February we will using the week 1 menu.



Traffic & Parking



Due to a restructure, we have now been assigned new PCSO's to our area. We are one of several schools they look after, and wherever possible they will be patrolling the school area at drop off and pick up times to monitor the traffic and parking issues.

Please remember to drive and park responsibly, particularly at these busy times of the day when there are a lot of small children around.

Sainsbury's Active Kids

It's that time of year again when Sainsbury's are issuing Active Kids vouchers with every shop (one voucher for every £10 spent/£5 at Local stores). We will once again be collecting vouchers, which last year we used to purchase various new PE equipment. The voucher collection box is in the school office.



New PTA Members

A warm welcome to our new Co-Chairs of the PTA Dalinda West and Wendy Chalk, and to our Vice-Chairs Sophie Ciaramella and Kate Proh. Once again, thank you to Kat Jeffery for all her hard work and we look forward to working with our new members.

The PTA would like to thank everyone who attended the recent disco, and to Crusty Bakery who kindly donated over half of the rolls.

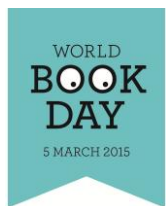
Cake Sale



Thank you to everyone from Year 1 who donated baked or bought cakes for the sale on Friday. And of course to everyone who bought cakes and helped us to sell out!

Literacy Week & World Book Day

This year World Book Day is on **Thursday 5th March** and as last year the children will be receiving a £1.00 book token to bring home and put towards a book of their choice. As part of our week long celebration of books and children's authors we would like the **children to dress up on this day as their favourite book character.**



Art Week

A letter was sent home in book bags yesterday regarding our Art Week w/c 30th March. Children will have the opportunity to make pieces of art using recycled materials so please can you help to collect the materials required. Please can you collect and donate either to the office or through your child's class the following items:

Plastic bottle tops (any colour, any size)

Unwanted CD's or DVD's

Empty plastic milk bottles (1, 2 or 3 pint size)

Clear plastic bottles (water, coke, lemonade bottles, ideally with labels removed)

Unwanted fabric (any colour, any texture, it doesn't matter how big or small as they will be cut into strips for weaving)

Cardboard tubes (kitchen paper, wrapping paper, foil, etc. - NO toilet rolls please!)

Buttons (any colour, any size)



Your help is much appreciated.

Chickenpox



Chickenpox is currently working its way around the school. Chickenpox is a mild and common childhood illness that most children catch at some point. It causes a rash of red, itchy spots that turn into fluid-filled blisters. They then crust over to form scabs, which eventually drop off. Some children have only a few spots, but other children can have spots that cover their entire body. These are most likely to appear on the face, ears and scalp, under the arms, on the chest and belly, and on the arms and legs. It's spread quickly and easily from someone who is infected. **To minimise spreading the infection, please keep children off school until all their spots have crusted over. Chickenpox is infectious from one to two days before the rash starts, until all the blisters have crusted over (usually five to six days after the start of the rash).**

Half Term Activities

Mums in the Know - Southampton and Eastleigh provide daily inspiration for families, from places to go and new classes to try out, to fun events around the region. They have asked us to share with parents/carers their February Half Term Guide, which can be found by following this link <http://mumsintheknow.co.uk/southampton/2015/02/03/mitk-guide-february-half-term-southampton/> - packed full of events and ideas for days out during the school holidays.

Shirley Dental Walk-in Centre Family Fun Day

During half-term, Shirley Dental Walk-in Centre will be holding a Family Fun Day on Thursday 19th February. This will be a perfect opportunity to take the children along to a fun yet educational day. There will be games, prizes, science experiments, goodie bags and much more. The aim is to allow the children to experience dentistry in a positive way in a fun atmosphere and encourage good dental habits. Places are limited so book early to avoid disappointment. For further details please contact the practice at:

Shirley Dental Walk-in Centre **Tel: 02380 784104**
10-12 Cannon Street
Shirley
Southampton
SO15 5PQ



We hope you all have a wonderful half term break.

Attendance

W/C	Foxes	Hedgehogs	Squirrels	Rabbits	Badgers	Owls	Overall
26/01/15	97.0%	97.6%	79.3%	92.7%	92.0%	94.7%	92.2%
02/02/15	97.0%	94.8%	89.7%	96.0%	94.3%	98.0%	95.0%