



NEWSLETTER 1ST OCTOBER 2014



Dates for your diary

Wednesday 1 st October	7.00 - 8.00pm Reading / Phonics evening
Thursday 2 nd October	1.45 - 2.45pm Reading / Phonics afternoon
Thursday 9 th October	9.00am Parent Forum
Monday 13 th October	3.15pm-4.30pm Photographs (Siblings/Juniors)
Tuesday 14 th October	Harvest Festival
Monday 20 th October	8.45 - 9.15am Sharing time (all year groups)
Tuesday 21 st October	Last Art Club (for first course)
Tuesday 21 st October	Parent's Evening 3.00 to 6.30pm (Yr R only)
Wednesday 22 nd October	Parent's Evening 3.00 to 6.30pm (Yr 1 & 2)
Thursday 23 rd October	Parent's Evening 3.00 to 5.30pm (Yr R, 1 & 2)
Friday 24 th October	Muffy Day - please bring a bottle
Friday 24 th October	School finishes at 3.00pm for half term
Monday 3 rd November	School re-opens at 8.45am
Tuesday 4 th November	First Art Club (for second course)
Wednesday 5 th November	Maths open afternoon 2.00 - 3.00pm
Thursday 6 th November	School photographs
Friday 14 th November	Children In Need Day
Monday 17 th November	Inset Day
Thursday 20 th November	9.00am Parent Forum
Friday 28 th November	Christmas Fayre
Monday 8 th December	Last day for Art Club (Year 2 only)
Monday 8 th December	1.30pm Xmas performance (dress rehearsal - grandparents and pre-school siblings invited)
Tuesday 9 th December	1.30pm Xmas performance (parents invited)
Tuesday 9 th December	Last Art Club (for second course)
Wednesday 10 th December	9.15am Xmas performance (parents invited)
Wednesday 10 th December	Last day for Belinda's Street Dance
Thursday 11 th December	6.00pm Evening Xmas performance
Thursday 11 th December	Last day for Sports Challenge - Years 1 & 2
Friday 12 th December	Last French club
Wednesday 17 th December	Xmas shopping day
Thursday 18 th December	Xmas lunch / Xmas party
Friday 19 th December	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.

All of our children are now in full time and it is great that the weather is continuing to be so good, as they are able to get outside and run off their energy! You will probably notice that some children are coming home very tired - this is because they are getting used to the routines and are having to be more independent with a lower adult / child ratio than they were used to at pre-schools. Having walked around school this week with Mrs Clifford, it was a pleasure to see so many children focussed on learning. Indeed, I was told by a little girl in Foxes that she was "learning to write independently".

We hope to see many of you tonight or tomorrow at our reading / phonic information sessions. Staff will be explaining how reading and phonics are taught in school. In addition, you will be invited to visit your child's class to have a look at the types of activity that they may be doing.

I understand that many Year 2 parents went to the information sessions at the Junior School to find out about the school in readiness for next year. I have been asked to point out that children do not automatically move to Hollybrook Junior from Hollybrook Infant; parents need to request a place. This should not be a problem and if they have a younger sibling at the Infant School then you are given sibling status when applying for a place.

We understand that we give out a lot of information through the newsletter and other letters. This can be overwhelming, particularly for those parents where English may be their second language. If you ever require any assistance in understanding any information that is sent out then please come and talk to us as we will be only too happy to assist.

Cake Sale



There will be a Cake Sale this Friday 3rd October after school at 3.00pm. Cakes are sold from the shelter by the garden in the Junior School playground near to the door that Owls class come out of. The money raised from the cakes goes to buy ingredients for the children's cookery sessions. Thank you to the PTA for organising this. Please can Year 2 children donate baked or bought cakes for this event. Thank you.

In addition, Anna Babington will be selling water bottle holders. These are very useful for children to carry their water bottles without putting them in their book bags where there is a risk of spillage and damage to work or books. They are made of felt and come in a range of colours - each one is unique. The cost is £2 each. All proceeds will be donated to Juvenile Diabetes.

Date Amendments and Additions

Please note the dates for the Year R parents evenings have been changed in the 'Dates for the Diary' section. They will be held on Tuesday 21st October 3.00pm-6.30pm and Thursday 23rd October 3.00pm-5.30pm.

A date has been added to the 'Dates for your Diary' section, which is Mufty Day on Friday 24th October. On this day children **can wear non-uniform** and bring in a donation of a filled bottle (e.g. bottle of drink). The donations will be used on the Bottle Tombola stall at the Christmas Fayre.

Pupil Premium

Our school receives additional funding for each child who is eligible for 'free school meals' or has been in the last 6 years. Since September all infant age children have been eligible for free school meals, however, if you are receiving any of the benefits listed below, your child will also be eligible for:

- 2 free school jumpers/cardigans a year
- All school trips funded by the school

- Offer of 1 after school club per term
- Free school milk



You are eligible if you claim one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (providing you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income that does not exceed £16190)
- Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Employment & Support Allowance Income Related
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Where you are entitled to Working Tax Credit during the four week period immediately after your employment ceases, or after you start to work less than 16 hours per week

You can apply online at the following address:

<http://www.southampton.gov.uk/learning/schools/schoolmeals/fschm.aspx>

If you are eligible the school office will be notified, and all information will be kept completely confidential. If you are unable to apply online, please speak to the school office.

Playground Safety



We'd like to remind all parents that children should not play on any equipment or apparatus in the playgrounds, including the juniors, before or after school. A member of staff must always be supervising for insurance purposes.

In addition, children must not climb on any railings, for example outside the office after clubs, as it is not a safe activity.

Talking to Teachers

Now that children are settled in their new classes we would like to encourage children to come straight into school to start the day. Mornings are not an ideal time for parents to talk to teachers as they are trying to welcome in 30 children at the same time. Urgent messages can be given to the school office in person or by phone, who will inform the teacher if necessary. If you do need to speak to your child's teacher in more depth you can book an appointment through the office.

Timekeeping

The school day begins promptly at 8.45am and ends at 3.00pm. The class room doors are closed in the mornings when the teacher cannot see any more children approaching the class, and no later than 8.50am. If you arrive at school after this time you must sign in through the office, and include the reason they were late. If you are to be late picking up your child at the end of the day for any reason, please telephone the school office at the soonest opportunity. This will ensure we know why you are not there and can reassure the child. We appreciate there may be the odd occasion when you get held up, but this cannot happen regularly.



Parents Evening Booking

Booking sheets will be going up on the class room doors this week for you to book an appointment for Parents Evening. If you are unable to book an appointment as you do not drop off or pick up your child, please call the school office who will make an appointment for you.



Uniform Standards

A reminder for all parents that if earrings are worn in school, they should only be 1 pair of studs. These will need to be removed for PE. If a child is wearing earrings on a PE day, they will need to cover them themselves with tape; staff are unable to do this for them.

Kidz Play Policy - After School Clubs

Kidz Play are now enforcing their policy of not collecting children from After School Clubs, they are only authorised to collect at the end of the school day at 3.00pm in order to maintain the correct ratio of adults to children. We don't want this to cause a problem for parents and prevent children from participating in After School Clubs, so please speak to the school office if this is going to cause you difficulty.