



## NEWSLETTER 8<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2014



### Dates for your diary

Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	9.00am Parent Forum
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	3.15pm-4.30pm Photographs (Siblings/Juniors)
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Festival at St James' Church
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	8.45 - 9.15am Sharing time (all year groups)
<u>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October *Date added*</u>	<u>Dress up day - Artsmark Celebration</u>
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Last Art Club (for first course)
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Parent's Evening 3.00 to 6.30pm (Yr R only)
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Parent's Evening 3.00 to 6.30pm (Yr 1 & 2)
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Parent's Evening 3.00 to 5.30pm (Yr R, 1 & 2)
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Muffy Day - please bring a bottle
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	School finishes at 3.00pm for half term
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	School re-opens at 8.45am
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	First Art Club (for second course)
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	Maths open afternoon 2.00 - 3.00pm
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	School photographs
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Children In Need Day
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Inset Day
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	9.00am Parent Forum
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Christmas Fayre
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day for Art Club (Year 2 only)
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	1.30pm Xmas performance (dress rehearsal - grandparents and pre-school siblings invited)
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	1.30pm Xmas performance (parents invited)
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Last Art Club (for second course)
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	9.15am Xmas performance (parents invited)
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day for Belinda's Street Dance
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	6.00pm Evening Xmas performance
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day for Sports Challenge - Years 1 & 2
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Last French club
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Xmas shopping day
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Xmas lunch / Xmas party
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> 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](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? Apply online at <http://www.southampton.gov.uk/learning/schools/schoolmeals/fschm.aspx>

With just two and a half weeks to go until half term we still have much to pack in with several exciting events. We are looking forward to trialling Harvest Festival at St. James' Church next week. I understand that some parents are not happy about the fact that we cannot accommodate siblings. This was not a decision that was taken lightly; it was partly down to space but also the fact that some younger children find it very hard to sit still and quietly. This can make it very difficult for our children to be heard and they put in a lot of practice for any events. At Christmas we have had to make the same decision for the same reasons. We don't want any parent to miss out on the Christmas production and that is why we are saying that parents can bring younger siblings to the dress rehearsal on the Monday afternoon. We are also offering this to grandparents as we know that we will be more restricted with space this year as it is a whole school performance. May I also suggest that, if parents want to come to the other performances, then you and a friend look after each other's child if possible; this is something that I certainly did when I was in the same predicament.

Thank you to all of those parents who were able to attend the Reading and Phonic information sessions. We had some very positive comments as feedback. If you were unable to attend you should have received a booklet via your child's bookbag; please let us know if you didn't and we will send you another one.

As the Year 1 parents are already aware, we are pleased to welcome Ms Zoe Eaglan to our team. Ms Eaglan will be teaching Squirrels for the rest of the academic year covering Mrs Clifford when she goes on maternity leave.

#### Harvest Festival



We have had a very limited amount of tickets returned to us from families who are unable to attend. If you require 1 additional ticket, please contact the school office. They will be issued on a strictly first come, first served basis.

If you have not yet returned the consent slip for the Harvest Festival, please do so by **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October**. We are unable to take your child unless we have your permission. This is also the day for children to bring in their donations of non-perishables.

#### Artsmark Celebration - Dress up day

To celebrate the success of Hollybrook Infants achieving the Artsmark Gold award, we are holding a dress up day on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October**. Children are invited to dress up as an artist, actor / character, musician or dancer. This could be as simple or as elaborate as you wish. For example, many children have a princess or superhero dressing up outfit. We are hoping to invite the Daily Echo in to take some pictures.



Each class is currently making a board of the animals of their classes which we will be putting up at the entrance to the school on Lordshill Road.

#### Parents Evening Booking



Parents Evening booking sheets are now up for each class at the entrance your child comes in to school in the morning. 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, at the best available time.

#### Cake Sale

Thank you to everyone who contributed to last week's Cake Sale, from donating baked or bought cakes, the PTA members that ran the sale and of course the people who bought them. The PTA have informed us that **the sale raised £101!** Thank you again for your support.





### Sharing Time

On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October you are invited into school at 8.45am to have a look at the learning that your child has done so far this year. This is an opportunity for your child to show you what they have been doing. If any parents are unable to pop in, then I am sure that teachers will be able to show you your child's books at Parents Evening.

### Job Vacancy

We are currently advertising for a Teaching Assistant and Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant and are looking to recruit one candidate to fulfil both roles. The hours of work will be 11.45am-3.00pm daily, a total of 16.25 hours a week. Further details are available on the school website, or alternatively you can contact the school office.



### Easyfundraising



Some time ago we wrote to you about using 'easyfundraising' as a means of raising extra money for the PTA. As several parents have recently enquired about using the site, we have decided to include the information and link once again. Easyfundraising is a website that parents can use to buy things online, for example from Amazon, and at the same time make some money for the school. It does not add extra cost to the items that you are buying. If you would like to support us in raising money this way then please follow these instructions:

Log onto <http://www.pta.org.uk/pta-info-centre>

Click on the sign up today on the top banner on the right hand side

Click on support my PTA

Type in Hollybrook Infant using the search and then press next

Click the support button next to Hollybrook Infant

Complete the registration

### Matched Funding

Have you heard of matched funding? Matched funding is a scheme run by many companies to match funds raised by their employees for good causes. This could include Hollybrook Infant School Association. Each company operates their scheme differently. Some organisations will match funds raised on a £ for £ basis, others will say what they are prepared to give. Companies that are currently running matched funding include Marks & Spencer, Barclays, RBS, Halifax and Stagecoach. This is not a definitive list - your employer may offer this scheme too - (in the past Exon Mobil, Ordnance Survey, Asda and BT have all run schemes too.) Could you consider asking your employer if they support matched funding? If we could match the funds raised at one of our events (e.g. the Christmas Fayre) we could give the income raised by the PTA a real boost. If you work for a large company matched funding is often run by a 'Community Relations Manager', in smaller firms the HR department usually runs the scheme. Please consider this easy way to support the PTA. *Note: Some companies will only give to a registered charity. Hollybrook Infant School Association is not currently registered as a charity with the Charity Commission, but is recognised by the HMRC as a charity for tax purposes.*

