



## NEWSLETTER 21st SEPTEMBER 2016

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

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### Dates for your diary

#### Autumn 1

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October

7.00pm - Reading and Phonics information meeting

2.30pm - Year R "come and see what we are learning"

PTA - AGM 9.00am

9.45am and 11.00am Prospective parents visit for September 2017 admission

1.30pm Prospective parents visit for September 2017

3.15pm Sibling photographs at Junior School

Harvest Festival St James Church

8.45am-9.15am Sharing Time for all year groups

3.00pm-6.30pm Parents Evening

Parent Forum 9.00am

3.00pm-5.30pm Parents Evening

Diwali

3.00pm Break up for Half Term

#### Autumn 2

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December

8.45am Autumn 2 begins

8.45am Individual Photographs

Maths Day - parents welcome at 2.15pm

1.45pm Prospective parents visit for September 2017 admission

9.45am and 11.00am Prospective parents visit for September 2017 admission

Travelling Book Fair arrives

Travelling Book Fair is collected

Christmas Fayre

Parent Forum 9.00am

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

AM - Christmas Performance

PM - Christmas Performance

Evening - Christmas Performance

Christmas Shopping Day

Christmas Party

Christmas Lunch

3.00pm Break up for Christmas Holidays

**INSET days 2016-2017**  
**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2016**  
**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017**  
**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017**  
**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2017**  
**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

**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](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>

**Reading and Phonics Information Evening**

As mentioned in our recent letter, we are holding an information meeting tonight, to let you know more about how we teach reading and phonics and to give you some suggestions as to how you can support your child at home. Over the past few years there have been some changes in the teaching of and expectations for reading through the introduction of the new curriculum and assessment and so this workshop is open to all parents/carers with a child in Year R, 1 and 2.

**Labels**

Please can all parents ensure everything coming into school with your child, including clothing, is labelled clearly with their names.

**After School Clubs**

Please remember that collection from any clubs that are run at school is from the OWLS classroom door, which you access through the Junior School playground. Please ensure everybody who collects your child is aware of this.

**Flu Vaccinations**

The School Nurse will be visiting school on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November to give all Year 1 and 2 children their flu vaccination. A separate letter and form will be sent nearer the time regarding this.

**Parent Parking**

A 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 pedestrian crossing, with traffic lights, for you to use on Hill Lane.



**Second Hand Uniform**

We have a large selection of good quality second uniform which is for sale at £1 an item. These items will be for sale every Thursday at 3pm.

### Reading Scheme books

Please check your homes to ensure you do not have any of our colour banded reading books which have made their way onto your bookshelves by mistake. Currently we only have 5 silver banded books and we would ask that you return any books to school urgently.

### Postbox

A reminder that we 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. In busy periods, there can be a lot of people standing in reception waiting to see Miss Atton or Mrs Smith when there is no need for them to do so and with the phone ringing and children requiring first aid, this will save you time.

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.



### Leave of Absence Requests

During the last school year, we received Leave of Absence Requests for holidays taken in May. We understand that there will again be tests for Key Stage 1 children during May 2017, and whilst there is no legal entitlement to leave of absence at any time during the year, it is imperative that children **are not** taken out of school during this time, and the time leading up to the tests. Once we have confirmation of the dates, these will be passed onto parents/carers accordingly.

### Morning Arrivals

We would like to remind all parents that classroom doors are open in the morning between 8.45am and 8.50am. If you arrive at the classroom with your child after the doors have closed you will need to bring them to the school office to be signed in.

Whilst we appreciate that this is occasionally unavoidable, it is unsettling for a child to arrive after all of their friends have entered the classroom and when the other children are already working, and therefore it should not be a regular occurrence.



### Attendance

The Autumn term is always a difficult one for attendance, with the sharp change in temperature often making us all more prone to illness. 2015-2016 was a good year for us for attendance, achieving 96.5% for the year, however, in order to help us achieve, and hopefully exceed our target of 97% for 2016-2017, we need the support of all our children (and their parents!).



As a reminder, children should be kept off school if they have a high temperature, over 38 degrees, and in the case of vomiting or diarrhoea they must be kept off until 48 hours after their last symptom. Children should be attending school if they have a cold or a cough, and remember we can administer antibiotics or other medicines in school providing you bring the medication to the office and complete the required paperwork.

Wherever possible, medical or dental appointments should be arranged outside of school hours and certainly avoid registration times (9.00am and 1.00pm). For example, for an appointment at 10.00am we would expect you to bring your child to school as normal, then collect them in time for the appointment and return them straight after. We realise there is no choice on times and dates for hospital appointments, but following our guidelines will help to minimise your child's absence.



If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason, you must inform the school office by 9.30am that day. We have a voicemail facility, but please make sure you leave a detailed message including child's name, class and why they are off. Saying 'unwell' does not provide us with enough information. We attempt to make contact with parents when we are not notified of a reason for absence, but if we do not hear back from you the absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

Thank you for your co-operation with all of this.