

# Holbeach

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 22nd November 2019

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### Saturday 23rd November

- The Holbeach Girls and Boys football teams competing in the Lewisham League (Blackheath 10am)

#### Thursday 28th November

- 3C Class Assembly (9:15am in the school hall - parents/carers welcome)
- Year 2 Memorable Experience - Toy Exhibition (9:15am parents are invited to visit)

#### Friday 29th November

- Year 4 Memorable Experience - Tudor Banquet (parents and carers welcome to join us from 2:30pm)
- Friends of Holbeach Jumper/Toy Sale (3:20pm in the playground)

#### Monday 2nd December

- Parent Open Afternoon 3:20pm - 4pm (a chance to look at your child's work and see the progress they are making)

#### Tuesday 3rd December

- Reception Classes Christmas Production (9:30am in the school hall)
- Year 3 Memorable Experience (Victorian Museum)

#### Wednesday 4th December

- Children's Christmas Dinner (speak to the school office for further details).

### Pupil Designed Christmas Cards

You will have noticed that the order forms for the Pupil Designed Christmas Cards were sent out in book bags this week. Please remember that only orders that are returned to the school office by **Wednesday 27th November** can be processed so please get your order placed as soon as possible.



### Developing Reading Comprehension

As we are sure you are aware, developing our children's ability to comprehend what they are reading is one of our main development priorities as a school this year. As well as holding regular workshops for parents, we have been changing the way we talk about books in class.

A leading reading expert, David Reedy is working with the staff to ensure that we are asking the right kind of questions to unlock children's ability to think and talk about a text. David visited us again this week and read with a number of our children and he will be visiting again in the Spring and Summer Terms.



### Year 6 Cinema Visit

Last Thursday, Year 6 visited Beckenham Odeon Cinema to watch *A Dog's Life*.

"We would recommend *A Dog's Life* to children aged 10 and over because it was really good but it has some serious themes. The film was about dogs and cats who had been living in an abandoned building but were in danger as the building was being got rid of.

The film followed the lives of some of the animals and their experiences which included situations that were very similar to human situations (like racism, homelessness, adoption and bereavement).

It was great fun to go to the cinema with all of our friends. Thank you to Mrs Lynch for organising it for us. **By Delano and Zak (6F)**



### Late Collection

We are concerned that there are an increasing number of children being collected after 3:20pm

These late collections cost the school a lot of money as we have to pay some staff additional time to be responsible for the children who are left.

Please note that the school has a very clear Charging and Remissions Policy that states:

**In cases where a child is not collected within 15 minutes of the end of the school day or after school activity a charge of £5.00 will be made to the parent/carer for the first 15 minutes of non-collection, and then £1.00 thereafter for each minute that the child is not collected.**

While we do not wish to issue these fines we are currently being left with little alternative.



### 4B Class Assembly

On Friday, 4B treated the whole of the school (and their parents and carers) to a rousing class assembly.

Every child had dressed up in Tudor outfits and really enjoyed demonstrating

what they had learned about Tudor times through a mixture of dance, song and acting.

They showed that History is both fun and serious, providing lots of examples of favourite Tudor pastimes and by comparing the lives of rich and poor people during the Tudors times.

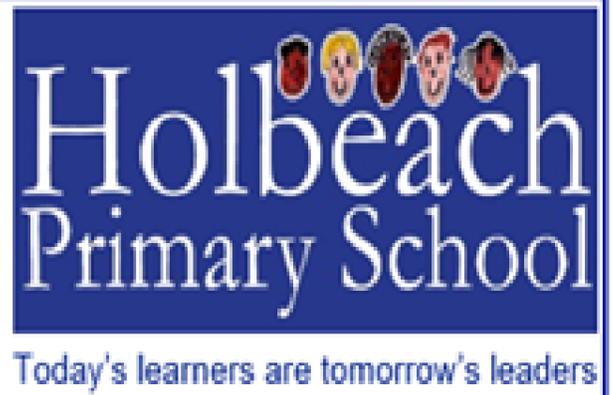


# Holbeach Primary School

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Friday 22nd November 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

## **RE: FEEDBACK FROM PARENTS/CARERS ON PARENTS EVENING**

At our recent Curriculum and Standards Committee meeting, governors discussed the feedback that you gave us at the October parents' evenings.

We were pleased that so many of you mentioned that teachers were approachable and easy to talk to about your children's educational and personal issues and that you found their targets appropriate and helpful.

The vast majority of your comments about the school were positive, saying that the children love coming to school and feel well cared for. Parents remarked on the quality of the classroom displays and the importance attributed to play in Early Years and KS1. Parents of older children now at secondary school feel the school continues to build on its longstanding strengths.

We also received views from individual parents on a wide range of issues, including:

- Diversity within the curriculum,
- Nursery places,
- Pre- and -after school club provision,
- Home learning,
- Environmental issues (e.g. traffic congestion around the school and air pollution)
- Home-school communication.

All of your comments have been passed to the Headteacher, who will look to address some of them via the Newsletter.

We too, as governors, will ensure that we keep in mind the issues that are important to you when we are making decisions about priorities for the school.

Please remember that you can always talk to the staff, either the class teacher or a senior member of staff, about any issues or concerns you have about your child's learning or welfare.

On behalf of the governing board Ben and I would like to thank you for your time and insights. We believe that parents and carers play an essential role in the school community, and your ideas and feedback contribute enormously to the quality of your children's education.

Val Edwards, Chair Of Governors

Ben Pitcher, Chair of Curriculum and Standards Committee



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