



# Holmleigh Primary School

## Newsletter



### Our Values

Respect, kindness, Resilience,  
Integrity, Honesty and Trust

July 2023  
Issue 4

### Our Pledge

- Listen and Learn
- Do our best
- Look after each other
- Look after our school

Dear Parents and Carers,

May I take this opportunity to say thank you for your support this year. It has been a fantastic year for Holmleigh and it has been an honour and privilege to lead a warm welcoming school full of lifelong learners, dedicated staff, supportive governors and parents/carers.

We wish our Year 6 pupils all the best for the next exciting stage of their education. We know that they are leaving Holmleigh with the skills and tools they need to become lifelong learners who are responsible, respectful, competent, exemplary members of society.

I will wish you all a wonderful summer break. **Miss Boateng**

### Thank you Miss Rose, Miss Doreen and Mr Alex

At the end of this academic year, we are saying goodbye and good luck to Miss Rose, our Year 2 teacher who has worked at Holmleigh for 21 years, Miss Doreen, our Year 1 teacher who has worked at Holmleigh for 5 years and Mr Alex who has been our SENDCo since April. They have all contributed so much to the education of Holmleigh children. They will be greatly missed. We wish them every success and thank them for all that they have given to Holmleigh.



### Thank You David

We want to say a huge thank you and all the very best to David Stranger Jones our Chair of Governors who will be leaving us at the end of this term. Dave became a parent governor in 2016 and the Chair of Governors in 2019. He has supported, challenged and contributed so much in that time. He will be greatly missed.



### Welcome to Mrs Cheryl Barrett- Simmons

Mrs Barrett-Simmons will be joining the Holmleigh team from September teaching Year 2. She met our wonderful Year 1 class on Tuesday. She's passionate about science and we're excited to have her as part of the team.

## STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS

<b>Class</b>	<b>Teachers</b>	<b>Education Support Assistants</b>
<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Angela Manderson Kate Moorcock-Abley</b>	<b>Prudence Gomez-Morille (Nursery Officer) Lila Bensaid Zeggaoui</b>
<b>Reception</b>	<b>Farzana Gajia</b>	<b>Debbie Maynes (Nursery Officer) Fatima Balic</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Esma Dere</b>	<b>Iwona Heinrich</b>
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Cheryl Barrett-Simmons</b>	<b>Srur Omar</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Mariam Oriola/Innie Fryer</b>	<b>Lisa Southwell</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Nilgun Ercan/Rizwana Saddique</b>	<b>Kashka Murphy/Sally Bazell</b>
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Charlotte Gaylor</b>	<b>Karen St Clair</b>
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Richard Mathewson</b>	<b>Amena Rawat</b>
<b>SENDCo</b>	<b>Angela Manderson (4 days weekly) until January 2024 / Gillian Jetto ( from January 2024)</b>	
<b>Art/Spanish</b>	<b>Lorena Prado (1 day weekly)</b>	
<b>Spanish</b>	<b>Elena Lorenzo</b>	
<b>Music</b>	<b>Kate Shortt (1 day weekly)</b>	

## WHAT'S HAPPENING NEXT HALF TERM?

Date	Event
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023 and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023</b>  <b>INSET DAY (SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS)</b>	
<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023</b>	<b>SCHOOL OPEN FOR CHILDREN (YEARS 1-6)</b>  <b>EARLY YEARS: EAT, MEET AND GREET @ ALLEN'S GARDEN</b>
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023</b>	<b>MEET THE TEACHER (3.45pm-4.15pm)</b>
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023</b>	<b>FLU JAB 1- RECEPTION &amp; YEAR 1</b>
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023</b>	<b>PARENTS' EVENING (NURSERY- YEAR 6)</b>
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023</b>	<b>WORLD SMILE DAY</b>
<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023</b>	<b>BLACK HISTORY MONTH ASSEMBLY (2pm)</b>
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023</b>	<b>EARLY YEARS PARENT/CARER READING WORKSHOP (3.45pm-4.15pm)</b>
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023</b>	<b>FRIENDS OF HOLMLEIGH'S MOVIE NIGHT</b>
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023</b>	<b>INSET DAY (SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS)</b>
<b>HALF TERM: MONDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER – FRIDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023</b>	

### NURSERY AND RECEPTION

Nursery and Reception classes will have a staggered return in September 2023. Please refer to the Settling In Booklet.

Throughout the year, Nursery will open and close at different times to the rest of the school. Please check with the Nursery team for confirmation of the dates and times.

### **STATUTORY SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS**

Holmleigh children in Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6 did exceptionally well in the statutory summative assessments in May and June.

Our success as a school community is down to the wonderful, hard working teachers and pupils at Holmleigh and also all the parents and carers for their ongoing support and commitment to their children's education.



### **PUNCTUALITY**

**Every Day Counts  
and being on time means not missing out**

A reminder that the school gates open at 8.50am and all children should be in the playground ready for the morning exercise.

We will close the gates on Holmleigh Road at 9.00am.

Please make every effort to arrive at school on time. If your child arrives later than 9:00, please report to the Main Reception Office. You will be asked to sign in and give a reason. Coming to school on time every day helps your child to be ready for learning and not miss learning opportunities.

#### **If your child arrives late for class:**

They miss out on important learning, which could affect their achievement.

They don't have the social time to settle into class.

It can be embarrassing for them.

They may disrupt the learning of the rest of the class.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Regular attendance is an important factor in a child's academic success. When pupils are frequently absent, it is difficult for them to keep up with their school work and this could affect their life chances. For this reason, we take school attendance very seriously.

Parents and carers play an important role in supporting and encouraging good attendance and punctuality.

If your child is going to be absent from school, it is important that you contact the school on the first day of the absence to inform us of the reasons. If this continues for more than one day, you should make contact with the school on a daily basis to keep us updated.

Our overall attendance this week was **92.5%** which is significantly below our target of 95%.  
Our overall attendance for this year is 94.8% which is significantly below our target of 97%.

### **Here's the attendance by class for the year:**

YEAR 6- 95.21%

YEAR 2- 94.92%

YEAR 5-94.38

Let's work together to improve our attendance.

## **Leave in Term Time**

As a school, we do not authorise any requests for children to be taken out of school for a holiday during term time.

Requests for leave can only be granted in exceptional circumstances, and a holiday would not be considered exceptional. Requests for leave must also be made to the school in advance. To do this, please come in to the school office to complete the necessary application.

Parents may receive a penalty notice if their child is absent from school without permission. We appreciate the challenges that some parents face when booking holidays, particularly during the school holidays. However, regular attendance at school is vital in helping children and young people to achieve their full potential and get the best possible start in life.

## **100% ATTENDANCE SUPER STARS**

**Reception:** Zari

**Year 1:** Prince, Zylar and Kayleee

**Year 2:** Tise and Rowin

**Year 3:** Tomiwa

**Year 4:** Josie

**Year 5:** Serena and Caleb

## **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

From September 2023, we are asking all children to wear the school uniform.

Uniform with our logo is not compulsory. You may buy uniform at supermarkets as long as it is part of the uniform colour scheme as stated below.

### **Uniform**

Yellow polo shirt

Navy blue jumper or cardigan

Black, Navy trousers/skirt

Summer dress (blue or yellow checked)

Sensible footwear

Team t-shirt for P.E

Grey, Black, Navy shorts/tracksuit bottoms for P.E

Trainers /black P.E plimsolls / pumps for P.E

Sandals are discouraged as they do not offer enough protection when playing in the playground. For safety reasons we ask that the children do not wear jewellery in school. For health reasons, it is important that children are properly dressed for P.E.

### **School Uniform Policy**

We believe that a school uniform is important:

- It looks smart
- Wears well
- Contributes to a sense of belonging and community
- Makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- Fosters a feeling of pride
- Is designed with health and safety in mind
- The uniform is designed to be practical, maintainable and good value for money.

Parents are asked to ensure that all items are labelled clearly with their child's name.



## **WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING THIS HALF TERM?**

### **INTERNATIONAL SUMMER FAIR**

We would like to say a huge thank you to the whole school community for making our international Summer Fair such an enjoyable and successful event.

We were completely overwhelmed with everyone's commitment and support and it made us feel very lucky to be part of such a wonderful school community.

Thank you to those who volunteered, cooked, baked, donated and ran stalls, as well as those who came through the door to support us, despite the rain. At first count we made £1231.80 in profit for the school!



### **SPORTS DAY**

A huge well done to all our children who took part in our Sports Days for EYFS, KS1 and KS2! We had great weather, amazing support from parents and carers and beautiful behaviour from the children. It was brilliant to see so many future sporting stars and the spirit of good sportsmanship in them all.

Congratulations to all the teams and well done to the winning team-Abney.



### **ART PROJECT WITH GUSTAVO CABOCO**

#### **Strengthening the Threads**

We were incredibly lucky to work on special project with Gustavo Caboco. The project focused on stitching and embroidery as a way to recover and strengthen our roots.

Gustavo Caboco introduced his work and the project themes in a whole school assembly. The children learnt about displacement and colonisation. They learnt about the Wapichana people from the Amazon who have been displaced across Brazil, Guyana and other countries. A group of children from years 3-6 visited the British Museum and did a workshop there. We had workshops in the school house where the children used stitching and embroidery skills. Gustavo took the children's fantastic work back to Brazil to be used as part of a book of embroidery.

Gustavo was fantastic and skilfully managed to make these complex themes accessible to the children

A huge thank you to Francesca for bringing the project to Holmleigh and all the adults who helped to make this project a wonderful learning experience for the whole school community.

### **HACKNEY MUSIC FESTIVAL**

We were incredibly proud of our talented children who impressed us with their excellent range of performances. Year 4 kicked things off at the instrumental festival with a Latin American piece called: On a separate note.

Our infants and junior choirs sung their hearts out and made themselves and everyone else incredibly proud. The weeks of practise definitely paid off. What incredibly talented children we have at Holmleigh!

A huge thank you to Miss Kate for all of her hard work.

**HACKNEY MUSIC SERVICE ENSEMBLE** Do you play a musical instrument? Are you in year 4, 5 or 6? If you are interested in possibly joining the Hackney Music Service Ensemble, email [xanthe.sarr@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:xanthe.sarr@hackney.gov.uk)



## PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAY

### ASDA

Kids eat for £1 All Day, Every Day at Asda cafes, with no adult spend required.

### TESCO

Kids eat free with a purchase of 60p+ from Mon 24th July - Fri 1st September 2023

### SAINSBURYS CAFES

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:30am every day.

### BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

### THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult

### TABLE TABLE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

### TRAVELODGE

Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

### HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays & up to 2 Kids get free breakfast with 1 adult breakfast

### PREMIER INN

Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

### SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.

### IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

### MORRISONS

Spend £4.49 & get one free kids meal all day, every day.

### GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day at selected Gordon Ramsay restaurants

### PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

### BILLS

2 kids eat FREE all day, every day from Monday 24th July - Friday 1st Sept 2023

### BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Mon to Thurs.

### WHITBREAD INNS

Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased

### SA BRAINS PUBS

Children can eat for £1 with any adult main. Valid All Day Wednesdays

### FUTURE INNS

Under 12's eat for free with any adult meal. During the school holidays

### PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

### YO! SUSHI

From Mon 17th of July until Fri 11th of Aug kids eat free with every £10 adult spend

### TO BE CONFIRMED...

M&S and Farmhouse Inns



Visit: <https://www.younghackney.org/summer-activities-guide>

## BREAKOUT

**FREE** summer holiday project '[Breakout](#)' for young people aged 7 - 12. Breakout takes place from the 24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> July at Nisbet House Community Hall, Crozier Terrace, E9 6AJ.

Young people will:

- Create and perform in a play.
- Help to make sets, props and costumes.
- Take part in a range of creative activities and games.
- Gain AQA Accreditation.
- Make new friends & have fun!

Young people will also receive a free hot meal every day. For more information and to register your child, **please call the Participation Manager Charmain Humphrey on 07525 892953**



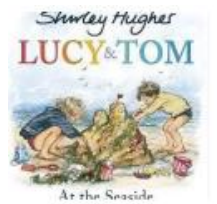
## NEWS FROM YEARS 1-6

Here is some news about this term from classes 1-6. Ms Angie has sent an Early Years newsletter separately with lots of information about Nursery and Reception.

### YEAR 1

As the summer holiday approaches, we hope that you and your families all have a restful and relaxing break. This half term, the children had new exciting learning opportunities, many of which are detailed in this newsletter.

In **Literacy** we explored narratives focusing on traditional tales. We continued to use a range of adjectives to describe the scene and characters as well as working on sequencing events. We also had the opportunity to write non-chronological reports using features of this form of writing including creating titles. Our focus text this term was 'Lucy and Tom at the Seaside'. This linked nicely with our geography topic and gave us opportunities to write postcards about activities that take place at the seaside and acrostic poems based on seaside holidays.



**Even and Odd Numbers**

**Even Numbers** end in

0	2	4
6	8	

Examples: 4, 56, 730

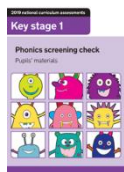
**Odd Numbers** end in

1	3
5	7 9

Examples: 9, 83, 641

In **Maths** we developed our understanding of the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) using a range of resources to help us. We also be looked at measure with a focus on money, as well as weight and volume. We even worked on identifying our odd and even numbers.

In **Geography**, we learnt about Seaside Holidays. We learnt to name and locate countries, cities and main geographical regions using maps and atlases, and we were able to identify the features of a Seaside area, use selected information to form a picture of what seaside places were like in history, compared to today.



This term we had our **Phonics Screening Test**. The teachers in year 1 sent home phonics words every day for us to practice. Thank you to all our adults at home who helped us. We did really well in the phonics test and our teachers are so proud of us. **GOOD JOB YEAR 1!!!**

In the last week of term, to celebrate a great year, Year 1 and Year 2 went to Clissold Park for a 'Picnic n Play' day. We have worked so hard and deserved a treat!

## YEAR 2

Year 2 have had a fantastic final half term in Key Stage 1. The class prepared to perform at the Hackney Music Festival. The children learned 10 new songs and alongside up to 500 other children in Year 2 from Hackney Primary schools. Year 2 class performed at The Round Chapel in Mare Street in front of an audience of parents and carers. As the music rang out around them, Year 2 sung beautifully and performed the accompanying actions for all the songs.

During Black History Month, last October, Year 2 researched information about the prominent black author, actor and presenter – Dame Floella Benjamin. This half term, Year 2 had the opportunity to meet Dame Floella and hear her life story. The class watched the story of Dame Floella Benjamin's life on an iMax screen at The Barbican Centre and had a photo with her at the end.



In Literacy, Year 2 wrote Quest stories based on the story 'The Way Home' by Oliver Jeffers. The children wrote imaginative ideas about the adventures that their main characters were on and the obstacles they faced. During the Maths lessons, Year 2 continued to build on their mental maths skills and their knowledge of the multiplication tables. They also learned about halves, quarters and equivalent fractions. The human skeleton was the Science topic in Year 2 this half term. The children had lots of fun learning the names of the bones in our body and assembling their own skeletons.

It is Year 2's last year as Key Stage 1 and the children have enjoyed every moment. The children are ready to become Year 3 in the next academic year and look forward to their learning and new experiences.

### YEAR 3

We have had a very busy last term! We have been busy writing reports about animals in **Literacy**. We used non-fiction books and the internet to do some research on our chosen animals. We have also been writing our very own haiku's. A haiku is a Japanese poem of seventeen syllables, in three lines of five, seven, five, traditionally evoking images of the natural world.

In **Maths**, we have enjoyed learning about how to tell the time. We have been looking at both analogue and digital times and have been practicing how to convert times into 24-hour format.

In Science we have been scientists and have been taking part in some experiments. We really enjoyed building bridges to test which material would be the strongest and most suitable.



In **Geography** we learnt about weather around the world, and looked at the different climate zones. We did some research on the climates of different countries and matched them to the correct climate zones.

We enjoyed learning about Anglo Saxon life in **History**. We had a chance to look at some pictures of artefacts that were found in an Anglo Saxon burial ship in Sutton Hoo in 625. We made predictions about what kind of person we thought had been buried, as it still remains a mystery and Historians are still unsure about who the ship belonged to or who had been buried inside!



## YEAR 4

Year 4 took their MTC tests this half term and showed how well they'd mastered all the times table facts. 58% of the class achieved 25/25 and the average score was just over 23.

Year 4 have been learning about Roman Britain this half term and we combined this topic for our news topic and performed a short play for our assembly. Gerald has become a star in his own right and might need an agent soon!

We have been really enjoying the fantastic book *The London Eye Mystery* and to help us solve the mystery alongside Ted, we went on the London Eye to test out some of Ted's eight theories. We published our class newspaper and sold many copies in the playground, which funded a special treat during our trip.

Year 4 have also visited The Wallace collection this half term. We enjoyed learning about the amazing armour. Inspired by the different designs, we printed our own creations.

Our trip to Pizza Express was also very enjoyable. We made our own pizzas and enjoyed eating them in Convent Garden, which had a lovely link to another book some of the children are reading in class *Kasper the Prince of Cats*.

In **Science**, we have completed our Sound topic and we learnt how to change the pitch of different objects including milk bottles. We also decorated our own instruments.





## YEAR 5

This term in **Maths** we are learning about measurements, and learning to measure and draw angles, calculating the area and the perimeter of rectangles. We also learned how to measure length and mass.

In **Science** we are learning about the properties of materials- reversible and irreversible changes. As part of our learning about irreversible changes, we made strawberry jam.

### JAM made with strawberries from the school garden

First, I washed all of the strawberries that Miss Ercan had collected and cut the tops off, and as I was doing that, Aleena picked any leftover berries from the school garden.

We then cut them all into small pieces and put them on the weighing scales, they were 1.75kg in total and then we weighed out 1.2kg of sugar.

We left the strawberries and the sugar in a big pot for two hours.

After that, we cooked them in the pot until they boiled, and, after waiting for them to cool down, we spooned them in jars and put them upside-down in the fridge and left them.

Why don't you have a go at making some jam yourself!

### **Kenji**



We have started a cross-curricular news literacy project called Newswise. We are helping children to become news literate by helping them to understand what news is, how and why it is produced, how to critically navigate news and find trustworthy information and how to be empowered to share their own voice responsibly.

In **P.E** we have been playing dodgeball which the children have really enjoyed, they have been working really well in teams and enjoying the competitiveness of the sport.

In **ICT** children are using sketchpad to create their own art galleries. They are looking at being architects and how to design their own art galleries.

In **Reading**, the children have been encouraged to reach their termly targets as quickly as possible, with some even achieving this on their first day back after the holidays. Well done to all those who have reached their targets!

**YEAR 6**

Wow, what a half-term, and indeed a year, it has been! By now, the children will have received their SATs results and I hope they are pleased with their achievements. Hard work breeds its own rewards and those who put in the extra effort saw some big improvements ahead of SATs week. Good results mean greater confidence in their own abilities and taking tests in general, for which there will be many to come in their time at secondary school and beyond. However, disappointing results are not the be-all-an-end-all they are often made out to be and there is still time to make improvements if they put the work in.

We were very fortunate that half the class were able to go to St Paul's Cathedral for an amazing poetry event (courtesy of the National Literacy Trust) that saw three members of the class perform their amazing poems at this stunning landmark. Those three, along with two others in the class, will also soon become published poets in the anthology book to be released soon. They should be very proud of their achievements. Also courtesy of the National Literacy Trust, the children got to experience an incredible comic book workshop that made a real, lasting impact on them and their creativity.

Whilst we're on the subject of lasting impacts, we also have the impending end-of-year-show that we've been busily preparing for and hope the final show will be something for them to be proud of and live long in their memories. Canoeing and biking represented other such memories as well as providing some life skills in the process. We also had free bikeability sessions for some of the children that will help improve their safety on the roads. Soon we will have our celebration leavers' barbecue as well as the reward of a fun trip to Rowan's Bowling Lanes before heading to Finsbury Park for more good times with their classmates before many go to different secondary schools.

It has been a great term and a fantastic year. Thank you to all the parents who have paid for amazing experiences like Kench Hill, bowling, canoeing and biking, and for all the effort put into ensuring they have been keeping up with their essential reading and doing extra work to prepare for their SATs tests. We appreciate the effort and it will no doubt help the children to have a brighter and happier future given the increased number of opportunities their hard work provides later in life.

