



Holmleigh Primary School Newsletter



Our Values

Respect, kindness, Resilience,
Integrity, Honesty and Trust

December 2023

Our Pledge

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been another busy half term. The children have accessed a range of trips and workshops across this term to enhance their learning experiences. We have been working hard to update our website and you will find important dates for your diaries, the class newsletters and all the exciting things going on in our school there. Here's the link for our website: <https://holmleigh.hackney.sch.uk/>.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Wishing you all a restful and wonderful Christmas break and a happy and healthy 2024.

We look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 9th January 2024.

Miss Boateng



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SCHOOL CLOSED ON MONDAY 8TH JANUARY- INSET DAY	
SCHOOL RE-OPENS ON TUESDAY 9TH JANUARY 2024	
DATE	EVENT
TUESDAY 23RD JANUARY 2024	FRIENDS OF HOLMLEIGH MEETING 6-7PM SCHOOL HALL
TUESDAY 30TH JANUARY-FRIDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2024	STORY TELLING WEEK
FRIDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2024	NUMBER DAY WE'LL DRESS UP IN DIGITS, CONTRIBUTE £1 AND TAKE PART IN MATHS ACTIVITIES TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE NSPCC.
MONDAY 5TH FEBRUARY- THURSDAY 8TH FEBRUARY 2024	MENTAL HEALTH WEEK THURSDAY 8 TH FEBRUARY-YOUNG HACKNEY SESSION
TUESDAY 6TH FEBRUARY 2024	SAFER INTERNET DAY
WEDNESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY 2024	FOH QUIZ NIGHT (TIME TO BE CONFIRMED)
FRIDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2024-BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM MONDAY 12TH FEBRUARY- FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY	
FRIDAY 1ST MARCH 2024	ST DAVID'S DAY
THURSDAY 7TH MARCH 2024	WORLD BOOK DAY WE'LL DRESS UP AS OUR FAVOURITE BOOK CHARACTERS AND GET STUCK INTO OUR FAVOURITE BOOKS.
FRIDAY 8TH MARCH 2024	INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
THURSDAY 7TH FEBRUARY 2024	FOH BOARD GAMES NIGHT (TIME TO BE CONFIRMED)
FRIDAY 15TH MARCH 2024	COMIC RELIEF
THURSDAY 21ST MARCH 2024	PARENTS' EVENING (NURSERY-YEAR 6) REVIEW TARGETS SET IN OCTOBER
MONDAY 25TH MARCH-THURSDAY 28TH MARCH 2024	WORLD AUTISM ACCEPTANCE WEEK
TUESDAY 26TH MARCH 2024	WORLD ORAL HEALTH DAY
THURSDAY 28TH MARCH 2024-BREAK UP FOR EASTER AT 1.35PM	
SCHOOL RE-OPENS ON MONDAY 15TH APRIL 2024	

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

In each school year, every class prepares an assembly to present to the rest of the school and to their parents. This may be on a topic they have been studying, or on something in the news. Parents are invited to watch at 11.00am.

DATE	CLASS
Thursday 25 th January 2024	Year 6
Thursday 1 st February 2024	Year 6
Thursday 14 th March 2024	Year 3

THANK YOU MISS KATE

We want to say a huge thank you and all the very best to Miss Kate who has been working in Nursery since September whilst Ms Angie has been our interim SENDCo. Mrs Gillian Jetto, our new SENDCo and DSL will be joining us in January.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING THIS HALF TERM?

MAKE A NOISE ABOUT BULLYING

We joined in with a number of key events to shine a spotlight on anti-bullying. The theme was 'Make A Noise About Bullying'. During the week, there was an 'Odd Socks Day' where adults and children wore odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique. Through assemblies, workshops from Young Hackney and class PSHE lessons, children learnt and reinforced their understanding of what bullying is, the difference between bullying and unkindness and what the role of a bystander means. Our school takes any allegations of bullying very seriously and we have a zero tolerance approach. Staff ensure that allegations are dealt with quickly.

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

We donned our most colourful Christmas jumpers adorned with lights and festive designs for Christmas Jumper Day. Beyond spreading holiday cheer, this special day serves a charitable purpose and we raised £70 for Save the Children UK.

PYJAMAS DAY

Thank you to everyone who turned up in their pyjamas and brought money to support Children in Need. Wearing our favourite and most comfy clothes to school really made a difference as we raised £175 for Children in Need.

ABCD CHARITY

ALONE Behind Closed Doors, ABCD is a charity that provides support for struggling families and individuals battling with mental health and other emotional well-being challenges.

At Christmas, they provide personalised hampers to individuals and families. We hit our target of £150! Thank you for your generous contributions. Five families from our school community will receive a tailor made hamper to enjoy during the Christmas break.

WINTER FAIR

We would like to say a huge thank you to the whole school community for making our Winter Fair such an enjoyable and successful event. We were completely overwhelmed with everyone's commitment and support. Thank you to those who volunteered, cooked, baked, donated and ran stalls, as well as those who came to support us, despite the rain. We raised an impressive £1,100 for the school.



CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Well done children, you were magnificent! A big thank you to all of the staff that spent hours rehearsing songs, teaching dance routines and making the props/scenery. Thanks to our parents for all your help with learning the song words and providing costumes, not to mention being a fantastic audience! FOH raised £93 from the sales of mince pies and mulled wine. Thank you.



CHRISTMAS PARTY AND DISCO

Tis the season to dance! Our annual Christmas party and disco was a great success. The children and adults danced and celebrated and Santa made an appearance in the flesh! Thank you parents for your contributions.



HACKNEY READING CHAMPIONS

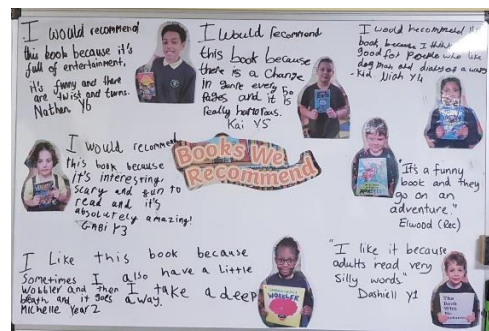
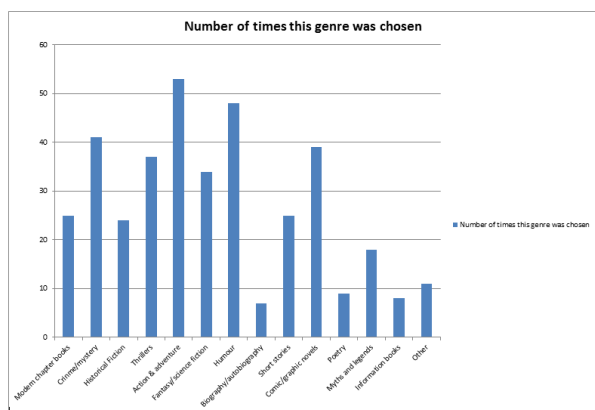
This term, we completed a survey to find out what genre of books the children enjoy the most. The genres are:

- Modern chapter books
- Crime/Mystery
- Historical fiction
- Thrillers
- Action & adventure
- Fantasy/Science fiction
- Humour
- Biography/Autobiography
- Short stories
- Comic/Graphic novels
- Poetry
- Myths & Legends
- Information books



We discovered that the most popular genre for Years 1-6 are action and adventure, followed closely by humour, crime & mystery, and comic/graphic novels. The most popular book series enjoyed by children is the Diary of a Wimpy Kid.

For the Early Years, they were given a choice between three different genres. The books were read to them and then they decided which one they liked the most. The most popular book is "Bear Moves" by Sav Akyuz, which is very funny. We checked in our school library to see what we have, and we noticed that we don't have many graphic novels which are really popular. Hopefully next term, we will be raising money for our library so that we can buy more books. Watch this space!



WELCOME TO OUR LIBRARY

My name is Amena Rawat and I am the Holmleigh Librarian.

We are very fortunate to have been given our fantastic library, in February 2022, by the National Literacy Trust in partnership with Marcus Rashford and Burberry.

The Holmleigh Library is a place where children can find peace in a book. It is a calm and relaxing environment where the pupil librarians are always ready and available to help anyone looking for their perfect story.

Studies show that reading helps our mental health, and is a chance to escape relax and engage our imagination. Reading can help us understand characters, which helps us empathise with others and think about ourselves. By learning new words and vocabulary, children can feel more confident in all lessons, and can access the whole curriculum.

Reading is about developing a lifelong love of learning.

With hundreds of books, there is a book for everyone.

From mystery books to books that will make you laugh out loud, science fiction to action and adventure, there is a wide variety of genres to choose from.

We also have a collection of child-friendly newspapers and magazines for children to explore. However, the best feature of our library is the incredibly diverse selection of books, where every child can feel represented.

Read it! Love it! Return it!

We have some exciting plans for World Book Day.

We'll send a letter home in the new year.





WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH

Sorcha our CAMHS worker is at Holmleigh every other Tuesday. She's back on **Tuesday 16th January 2024**. She'll hold a coffee morning from 9.15- 10.30. It's a space to meet and talk about how we can best support you.

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Our Curriculum Committee is made up of 8 members, 1 boy and 1 girl from each class from Year 3 to Year 6. They were selected to support with reviewing the quality of education, behaviour and attitudes and personal development at Holmleigh Primary School. They will meet once a month and help with parent tours.

Class	Members
3	Alessandro and Emily Rose
4	Khamoy and Anaaf
5	Mahir and Diamond
6	Ziyad and Lily

FRIENDS OF HOLMLEIGH

A huge thank you to Friends of Holmleigh for their wonderful support! Due to work commitments, Kira who has been Chair of Friends of Holmleigh since 2021 has had to step down. Thank you Kira for your hard work and dedication. You have made a real difference. Ebony (Kahlo and Yara's mum) has kindly offered to take over as Chair of Friends of Holmleigh in January. Thank you Ebony.

Upcoming events

Next meeting-23rd January 6-7pm

Quiz night- 7th February 2024

Board Games- 14th March 202

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Thank you everyone for your support with our school attendance target and getting the children to school on time each day. There has been an improvement from this time last year. Please keep up the good work and let's continue to beat the national target.

To help with punctuality, in addition to breakfast club which starts at 8.00am, the playground opens at 8.50am. We will be working with Hackney Education and holding regular meetings with families to help identify ways the school can help and support improved attendance and punctuality.

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 at 8.55. 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.

ATTENDANCE

The whole school attendance for this term was **96.3%**. Attending school every day makes a real difference. Please remember that we do not authorise holidays in term time and unauthorised absences may result in a fixed penalty notice being issued.

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.

ATTENDANCE BY CLASS FOR THIS TERM

	AUTUMN ONE (97.4%)	AUTUMN TWO (95.2%)
YEAR 1	95.84%	93.40%
YEAR 2	96.30%	93.76%
YEAR 3	98.33%	97.57%
YEAR 4	96.46%	96.28%
YEAR 5	92.79%	93.81%
YEAR 6	97.46%	96.11%

CONTACT DETAILS

It is important that we have the most up to date details for parents/carers. Please email admin of any changes to the information we have on record for you.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

There has been a huge improvement in the number of children wearing school uniform. Thank you everyone for your support with this.

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

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM

We have a supply of pre-loved uniform at school. Please speak with Miss Elena or Miss Jane at the office. We accept donations of pre-loved uniform at the school office too!

LOST PROPERTY

We were able to return all the items in the lost property box which were clearly labelled. Parents are asked to ensure that all items are clearly including hats, coats and glove

