

### Our Values

Respect, kindness, Resilience,  
Integrity, Honesty and Trust

### Our Pledge

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

## March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

This term has flown by so quickly - and what a term it has been! The children have taken part in a wide range of school visits and learning activities.

You will find important dates for your diaries, the class newsletters and all the exciting things going on in our school on our website: <https://holmleigh.hackney.sch.uk/>

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Happy Easter and Eid Mubarak to all those celebrating in our community.

We look forward to seeing you all on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

**Miss Boateng**



### THANK YOU MS SIDDIQUE

We want to say a huge thank you and all the very best to Ms Siddique who will be leaving us at the end of this term.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DATE	EVENT
THURSDAY 25 <sup>TH</sup> APRIL	FOH BOARD GAMES NIGHT
MONDAY 6 <sup>TH</sup> MAY	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR MAY BANK HOLIDAY
MONDAY 13 <sup>TH</sup> MAY- THURSDAY 16 <sup>TH</sup> MAY	YEAR 6 SATs
FRIDAY 24 <sup>TH</sup> MAY	SUMMER FAIR
FRIDAY 24 <sup>TH</sup> MAY-BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM AT 3.30PM SCHOOL RE-OPENS ON MONDAY 3 <sup>RD</sup> JUNE	
MONDAY 3 <sup>RD</sup> JUNE-FRIDAY 14 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE	YEAR 4 MULTIPLICATION TABLES CHECK
MONDAY 3 <sup>RD</sup> JUNE-FRIDAY 7 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE	YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL TRIP TO KENCH HILL
WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY 10 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE	YEAR 1 PHONICS SCREENING CHECK
FRIDAY 21 <sup>ST</sup> JUNE	SPORTS DAY
MONDAY 24 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE- INSET DAY- SCHOOL CLOSED	
TUESDAY 26 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE & WEDNESDAY 27 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE	HACKNEY MUSIC FESTIVAL LETTER WITH MORE DETAIL TO FOLLOW
FRIDAY 28 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE	HOLMLEIGH'S GOT TALENT SHOW WILL START AT 2PM
MONDAY 1 <sup>ST</sup> JULY	EURO 2024 TOURNAMENT LETTER WITH MORE DETAIL TO FOLLOW
TUESDAY 16 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	YEAR 6 LEAVERS' SHOW AT 1.45PM
FRIDAY 19 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	BREAK UP FOR SUMMER HOLIDAY AT 1.35PM

## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING THIS HALF TERM?

### PARENTS' EVENING

The spring term parents' meetings were very well attended. If you didn't manage to attend this term, I would like to encourage you to book a meeting with your child's class teacher as it is a valuable opportunity for you to hear about (and see) the amazing work your child(ren) has completed.

### WORLD BOOK DAY

On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March, we immersed ourselves in the magic of queens, princesses, bears, witches, wizards, superheroes and countless wondrous characters. The school buzzed with a contagious passion for reading which radiated from the library to every room in our school building. We shared some of our favourite books and our favourite places to read during our whole school assembly with Miss Gaylor. It was great to see so many parents/carers at our open library event. A huge thank you to Miss Amena and the Reading Champions for organising the open library event.



Each child received a World Book Day token, which can be exchanged for a special edition World Book Day book <https://www.worldbookday.com/> or used for a £1 discount off any other book. Vouchers can be redeemed at the following retailers: Asda, Sainsbury's Tesco, Waterstones, WHSmith, until Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

Why not dive into the excitement? Ask your child about their favourite moment and the best costume.







### WORLD BOOK DAY-OPEN LIBRARY

We hosted an Open Library on World Book Day, Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. It was an incredible day, with many parents/carers present. Thank you to all that came and made the day an enjoyable experience. All the different classes had time in the library, to read and enjoy books with their families, teachers and the Hackney Reading Champions.

Check out the attached link for available activities in Hackney Libraries. From reading groups to chess groups, stories & rhymes to arts & crafts, Lego clubs to creative writing classes, Hackney Libraries have something for everyone.

<https://www.lovehackney.uk/regular-activities>



Ms Amena

### READING CHAMPIONS

#### Sav Akyuz visits Holmleigh

We were honoured to have a visit to Holmleigh from Sav Akyuz, an award-winning writer and illustrator of books such as *I Am Bear* and *Bear Moves*. He is also the Patron of reading for the Hackney Reading Champions.

He did a session in the hall with Years 1, 2 and 3, and showed us how to draw familiar animals using simple shapes. Together, with the children, we created an unusual-looking alien beast thing.

He also read his popular book, *Bear Moves*, and got the children involved with the dance moves, before finishing the session with a rap on Youtube based on his book. You can follow along with the moves at home by clicking on this

link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b9f\\_XIGESEc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b9f_XIGESEc)

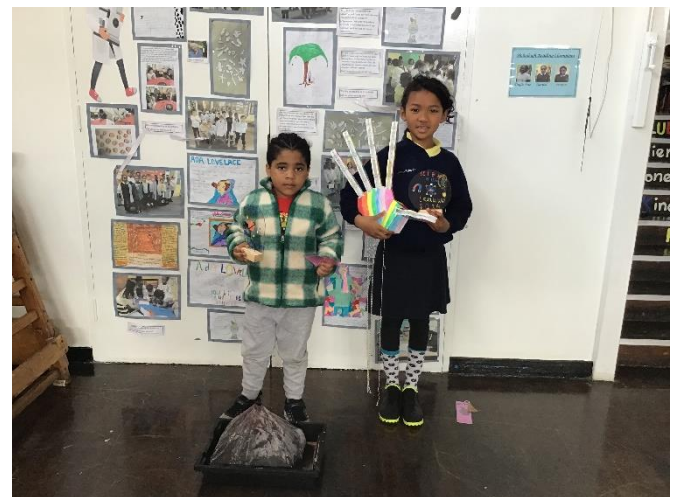
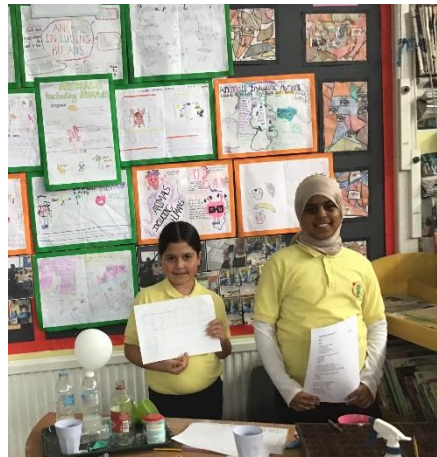
Have fun!

Daniel, Serena & Tayla-Rae



## SCIENCE WEEK

The purpose of British Science Week is to encourage people of all ages to get involved in various science disciplines. Science helps us to understand the world we live in. We kicked off the week with a sharing assembly from each class lead by Mrs Barrett-Simmons, our Science Lead. We had science challenges and activities in class and many children completed science projects at home. On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March, we had a Science Fair where the whole school exhibited all the exciting science work from the week. Lumi (Year2) and Elijah (Reception) were the Science Home Learning winners! We had great fun learning about the importance of science in our everyday lives. Thank you to everybody who helped to make the week a great success, particularly Mrs Barrett-Simmons, our Science Lead.





## HOLMLEIGH CHOIR VISIT ST ANNE'S RESIDENTIAL HOME

On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March, our amazing school choir visited the residents of St Anne's Home in Stamford Hill and gave them a real treat. They sang 7 songs including Feeling Good, Daydream Believer, and Beauty and the Beast. The captivated audience, including Mary who was 104 years old, sang along to their favourite: You've got a friend. It was a wonderful experience for everyone. Well done to the choir and a huge thank you to Miss Kate.



## COMIC RELIEF

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March, we joined thousands of schools up and down the country to have fun, spread joy and raise money for those who need it most. We dressed up in our most vibrant outfits and raised £125. Thank you for your contributions.



## SPRING DAY

We had a fun full day of creativity on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March. In mixed EYFS, KS1 and KS2 groups, children travelled to different classes to do arts and crafts activities.



## INTERNET SAFETY

Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote at Holmleigh Primary School. Young Hackney's health and wellbeing team ran a workshop on online safety during parents' evening. There will be another workshop in the autumn term. If you have any concerns or questions about keeping your child safe online, please do get in touch with your child's class teacher or myself.

## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How can I stay safe while using the Internet?
  - Use websites that are mainly for children.
  - Share your password with your friends.
  - Avoid using the Internet.
  - Share your personal information.
2. Your friends have been talking about a game they have been playing online. You find a website where you can download the game. A pop-up appears on your screen suggesting that you click on it to download the game for free.

What should you do?

- Ask your friends what to do; they have been playing the game so they should know the answer.
- Show the pop-up to a trusted adult and ask them if it is safe for you to click to download the game.
- 

## ZONES OF REGULATION

Zones of Regulations helps children and adults to identify and name how they are feeling, recognise how others might feel and have a set of tools to help them to regulate emotions.

We are introducing the Zones through discrete teaching lessons and through our PSHE curriculum. We will also be using the Zones language as part of daily school life so all staff will be referring to them, not just their class teacher.

We will be holding a meeting for parents/carers on 9<sup>th</sup> May at 3.45pm

The BLUE zone	The GREEN zone	The YELLOW zone	The RED zone
How might you feel?	How might you feel?	How might you feel?	How might you feel?
sad tired bored moving slowly	happy okay focussed ready to learn	nervous confused silly not ready to learn	angry frustrated scared out of control
What might help you?	What might help you?	What might help you?	What might help you?
Talk to someone Stretch Take a brain break Stand Take a walk Close my eyes	The goal of this exercise is to get to the GREEN zone. What can you do to be happy, calm and ready to learn?	Talk to someone Count to 20 Take deep breaths Squeeze something Draw a picture Take a brain break	Stop what I'm doing Make sensible choices Take deep breaths Ask for a break Find a safe space Ask for help

## SPANISH PARTNESHIP VISIT TO HOLMLEIGH MARCH 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> 2024

Following on from our recently completed **ROBOTICS ERASMUS + Project**, we recently enjoyed a week long visit to Holmleigh by our Spanish partners from **Susarte School** in Murcia, Spain.

This was the third visit to Holmleigh by this school over the past 4 years, and was made possible because of the close ties we have kept with former Erasmus + Partners. The group of 2 teachers and 5 Spanish students (who stayed with Holmleigh families) enjoyed a fantastic week of visits and activities. All the Holmleigh host children took part in every activity.

**Monday** - arrival and settling in

**Tuesday** - Welcome Assembly and tour of the school, followed by a Robotics workshop, then off to central London for a long walking tour of all the sights, culminating in a restaurant meal in a burger restaurant near London Bridge.

**Wednesday** - We drove to Cambridge in the school minibus and enjoyed a beautiful day visiting the colleges, the river and the shopping streets, including a short tour of Peterhouse.

**Thursday** - A Robotics challenge in school with a demonstration assembly for Year 6. Then off the central London again, followed by a few hours in Camden Market. Then, back at school courtesy of Chef Darwing, a wonderful Paella Meal and a Quiz Night!

**Friday** - We spent the morning playing tennis and football in Springfield Park, before saying a tearful farewell to our new dear friends! We said goodbye with the promise of an invite to return the visit to Murcia in the Autumn of this year.

Thanks to everyone who enabled the visit to happen, especially the host families who looked after our guests so well. We look forward to more opportunities in future to maintain and develop our international partner activities for the benefit of Holmleigh children



Mr Ward



## CLASS SHARE SESSIONS

Next term, we are going to start our Class Share Sessions.

Parents/carers will be invited to spend some time in their child's classroom and hear about their learning journey. This will be an opportunity for children to share their personal successes with the invited adult. Please look out for letters.

## OUR DAZZLING DANCERS

Every year, children in Turkey celebrate National Sovereignty and Children's Day on the 23rd April. For many years now, children from Holmleigh Primary school have represented the United Kingdom at the 23rd April Children's Day International Dance Festival in Turkey. Children from Year 4, 5 and 6 have been working exceptionally hard on their dance moves for many weeks in preparation for their big performance on 23<sup>rd</sup> April in front of millions of people through live T.V. They will travel to Ankara with Ms Ercan, Ms Elena and Mr Ward on 17<sup>th</sup> April. We wish them all the very best!



## NEURODIVERSITY CELEBRATION WEEK (Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March-22<sup>nd</sup> March)

Neurodiversity Celebration Week, is about celebrating the strengths and talents of people with learning differences. Have you noticed that everyone thinks, learns and processes information differently?

During the week, we worked together to **notice**:

- When someone needs support
- What we can do to help someone to feel more comfortable
- When someone needs up to listen
- Each other's talents
- When someone needs encouragement
- When we feel dysregulated
- When we need to ask for help
- Kindness

## IMPORTANT REMINDERS

### ATTENDANCE



### Attendance Matters



### Every Day Counts....



Thank you everyone for your support with our school attendance target and getting the children to school on time each day. Teddy and Harry have been busy visiting classes this term. The whole school attendance for the spring term was 96%.

### ATTENDANCE BY CLASS FOR THIS TERM

	SPRING ONE	SPRING TWO
Reception	96.9%	97.5%
YEAR 1	94%	95.9%
YEAR 2	95.6%	96.6%
YEAR 3	96.6%	96%
YEAR 4	96.4%	97.1%
YEAR 5	91.3%	94.8%
YEAR 6	95.9%	96.5%

### 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 8.55am. 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 9:00am, please report to the Main Reception Office.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

There has been a huge improvement in the number of children wearing school uniform. Thank you everyone for your support with this. We do still have some children coming in without the school colours. You will find our school uniform policy here:

<https://holmleigh.hackney.sch.uk/parents/parent-school/school-uniform/>

School uniform can be purchased from school office. Uniform with our logo is not compulsory. You may buy uniform at supermarkets as long as it is part of the uniform colour scheme. After the Easter break, children without school uniform/uniform colour scheme will be given uniform to wear at school.



## 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

Parents/carers are asked to ensure that all items are clearly labelled including hats, coats and gloves. Named items are normally returned to your child's classroom. Unnamed items are put into the yellow **Lost Property** box. Parents and carers are welcome to look for unnamed lost property. At the end of each half term, any lost property items that have still not been claimed, will be added to our pre-loved uniform sales or donated to charity.





### HEALTHY SNACKS

Healthy Snacks Polite reminder: children are not permitted to bring sweets into school. Unfortunately, we have had a few incidents relating to this recently, any sweets found will be confiscated. Thank you for supporting this matter.

### YOUNG HACKNEY

Young Hackney provides a service for all young people aged 6-19.

We are fortunate to have Young Hackney at Holmleigh providing workshops and support for parents and children.

Please visit: <https://www.younghackney.org> for more information about their youth hubs and clubs.

### WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH

Sorcha, our CAMHS worker is at Holmleigh every other Tuesday. She's back on **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 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.

### HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD PROGRAMME (HAF)

During the Easter, Hackney Council will be teaming up with a number of schools- Holmleigh included, sports activity providers and community services to offer a wide range of activities and a daily healthy free meal as part of the government funded [Holiday Activities and Food programme](#) (HAF).

There will be sports activities, arts, drama, mentoring and much more across the various locations.

Please visit the Hackney Education website for a list of the participating schools and more information about the programme.

#### **YOUNG HACKNEY STOKE NEWINGTON, N16 8TS**

**2-12 April, Mon-Fri, 1-5pm  
(closed Easter Monday)**

**Juniors (6-12 years),  
Seniors (13-18 years)**

Highlights include table tennis, arts and crafts, table football, cooking, hair, nails and beauty, dominoes, go-kart making, skipping and hop-scotch sessions, movie watching and a trip to be confirmed.

**Info: [younghackney.org](https://www.younghackney.org)**

**020 7923 1633**

**[kfontilio@hmp.org.uk](mailto:kfontilio@hmp.org.uk)**



*Holmleigh Primary School*