

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to our weekly newsletter.

Curriculum news

It has been a busy week for sports and we celebrate these achievements below.

Last Friday, two keen table tennis players from Year 3, Albert Walters and Theodore Mikhalev, attended a table tennis festival at Kingslea. The focus was on participation and progress in the following areas:- basics and ball control, backhand stroke development, serving technique and a circuit of target challenges. Well done to the boys involved.

Mrs E Wright



On a foggy Wednesday morning, 10 children from Year 3&4 headed to Pennthorpe School for a 'Muddy Fun Run' event. They were required to complete two laps of a challenging obstacle course in some slippery conditions but very pleasingly, there were some medal finishes in the Y3 girls and Year 4 boys events, with the rest of the children all finishing in the top 10. They represented the school admirably and there was some great running talent on show.

Mrs E Wright



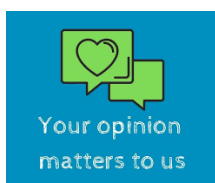
On Thursday 9th February, a team of enthusiastic and athletic Year 4 pupils represented Holbrook in the interschool Sports Hall Athletics Competition held at Millais School. Pupils worked as individuals to compete in a variety of events from throwing, running, hurdling, standing long jump, vertical jump, chest pass and relay races. Lots of fun was had by all and we finished 7th place once all the scores were added together. Well done to all who took part.

Mrs Harman

House Cup

The winner of the House Cup for the second week in a row is Dragons – well done!

Centaurs	Dragons	Phoenix	Unicorns
291	420	276	321



Website review

Just a reminder that our parent survey is still open. We are looking to update and improve the school website and would love to hear your views about what you would like to see. Please complete the short survey (only 4 questions!) using this link [here](#).

Safeguarding – Online Safety

Tuesday was Safer Internet Day - a chance to think about any worries we might have about using technology and celebrating all the fantastic things technology can help us with. Our Digital Leaders led two Safer Internet Day assemblies on the theme of 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'. There is plenty of advice on our school website that can be found [here](#).



Book Week

As you may know, Thursday 2nd March is World Book Day. This year, we are combining our book celebrations with our focus on Diversity and Inclusion. Children will all study a range of picture books across the week (27th Feb – 3rd March) which look at the idea of being different and encouraging self-respect, culminating in a dress up day on Friday 3rd March with the theme of 'Be Who You Are', celebrating our differences and individuality.

Ordering Hot Meals

With upcoming possible industrial action to minimise waste and cost to the school as a contingency, **please cancel any KS1 and KS2 hot meals ordered for Thursday 2nd March by this Thursday 16th February***. Should the school open/partially open, we kindly ask that you provide a packed lunch as there will be no hot food available on this day.

February Cut off Dates	March Cut off Dates
Thursday 16/2 for w/c Monday 27/2*	Thursday 2/3 for w/c Monday 13/3
Thursday 23/2 for w/c Monday 6/3	Thursday 9/3 for w/c Monday 20/3
	Thursday 16/3 for w/c Monday 27/3

World Thinking Day 22nd February 2023

World Thinking Day is a global event where children are encouraged to celebrate international friendship, and speak out and raise awareness for issues facing young people. Each year World Thinking Day has a theme, between 2022 and 2024, the theme is on the Environment and Climate Change.

One of the traditions of Thinking Day is that members of the Guiding and Scouting movements wear their uniforms to school to show others that they are part of the movement. Consequently, any child who is a member of Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Beavers and Scouts within the school may wear their uniforms to school on that day.

Junior Bake Off

The producers of Junior Bake Off are looking for young budding bakers between 9-12 years old for the 9th series of Junior Bake Off; a Channel 4 programme that celebrates the culinary talent and ambition of the younger generation in Britain. Filming would take place from July 2023, but their applications close on Sunday 12th March 2023. Interested bakers can apply online at - www.applyforjuniorbakeoff.co.uk



Mentoring

A reminder that mentoring sessions for children continue after half term, where they will have the opportunity to talk to their teacher about their progress and new targets.

To facilitate this the children will have sessions with the Brighton and Hove sports coaches, instead of the usual PE lessons (apart from swimming which will happen as usual). Please see the timetable below to find out when your child has coaching sessions and ensure that your child is wearing PE kit on that day.

Tues 21st Feb – Year 2

Wed 22nd Feb – Year 3 & Year 6

Thurs 23rd Feb – Year 2 & Year 1

Fri 24th Feb – Year 4 & Year 5

Picture News

This week's topic for discussion is 'Should men and women's sports teams be paid the same?' – see below.

TAKEHOME

In the news this week

The Welsh Football Association has announced that the national men and women's football teams will be paid equally moving forward. Wales joins a list of other countries including Australia, USA, Norway, and Brazil, who pay their men and women football players the same amount to play for their country's national team. In order to reach the deal, the Wales men's senior team agreed to a 25% pay cut, thus enabling a 25% rise for the women's team, which now brings them both equal on pay.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Share your thoughts with someone at home on the news that the Welsh women's football team are going to be paid the same as the men's. Do you both feel the same way?
- > Do you feel the men's team should have to take a pay cut? If not, how else do you think the extra money could be funded?

Should men and women's sports teams be paid the same?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

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Diary dates (new dates will appear in bold)

Monday 20 th February	INSET Day- School closed for pupils
Tuesday 28 th February	Parent Consultations
Wednesday 1 st March	Parent Consultations
Friday 3rd March	Book week - "Be who you are" dress-up day
Friday 3 rd March	Fire service to visit Y2
Wednesday 8 th March	Titanic Virtual Museum with Y4
Wednesday 22 nd March	Y6 trip to Amberley Museum

Have a lovely and enjoyable half-term holiday.

Kind regards,

Ian Holmes
Headteacher