

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our weekly newsletter.

Pupil achievements

This week we celebrate and congratulate the following children and their achievements;



Green Cards – Melissa Acimis, Dhara Patel, Lowden Gill, Emily Shaw, Imogen Affleck, Henry Atherton, Hiba Murtaza, Victoria Donker, Holly Plinston, Lillie Hardy (5N), Jacob Garner (6K), Tristan Varga, Phoebe Hartigan, Angela Lewry (3B)

Merits – Sophie Holmes, Ammara Nanji (6H)

Pen Licences – Safiya Uddin, Sofia Murariu, Lily McCann, Molly Holton (3R), Isla Wisniewski (3B)

Karate Spelling – Grandmaster: Aimee Merchant, Fatma Parlak, Jacob Garner (6K) Lucy Henley-Gower (6H), Samurai: Lily Collyer (6H)

Y3 Maths Challenge Bronze: Sofia Murariu, Thomas Pearce, Harrison Clements, Lily McCann, Jedidiah Sambo, Hattie Laws, Gwen Faulkes, Hugo McDonogh, Marcy Stroud, Cerys Gregory, Blake Cherubini, Harrison Wright (3R), Callum Levett, India Jilka, Ivy Chapman, Jamie Hemmingway, Tristan Page-Symeonidis (3B)

House Stars

This week's House Stars chosen by the House Captains are;

Centaurs	Dragons	Phoenix	Unicorns
Benjamin Collins 6H	Amelia Willis 1B	Jessica Rennie 4F	Freya Morris 6K



Swimming gala



On Wednesday 16th February, Holbrook took part in an inter-school Swimming Gala for Years 5 and 6 at The Pavillions. We entered three teams and the children were all amazing. They displayed such sportsmanship and really supported one another. Team A was for club swimmers and teams B1 and B2 were non-club swimmers. Team A finished 5th overall, Team B2 finished 4th and Team B1 were the winners which is a super achievement. We want to thank the amazing parents who also helped by timekeeping, organising the next swimmers at the start and those who kindly offered to transport children to the event. *Mrs Harman & Miss McLoughlin*

Cross Country

On Tuesday 1st March twelve KS2 athletes from Holbrook were chosen to compete in a local inter-school cross country competition at Christs Hospital School. There were over 120 competitors and our Holbrook children did us proud and performed fantastically. It was a hard 1.35km course and team spirit was high. The girls team finished 5th overall. The boys had tough competition but finished a strong 11th out of 19 teams. It was a wet and slippery course and they did so well to complete it. In the individual girls event, Cate Muller finished an incredible 4th place and was invited to represent Central Sussex area at the Sussex School Games 2022 Cross Country Finals in Brighton. Cate did really well at the finals, helping Central Sussex area team to finish in 2nd place. *Mrs Harman & Miss McLoughlin*



Curriculum news



In Year 5, we completed a week-long DT activity involving researching, designing, making and problem solving. Our challenge was to build a moon buggy controlled by our Crumble Microcontrollers, to be able to move, turn and light up. We used wooden batons, dowels, washers and wheels to create our moon buggies. For many of us, it was the first time that we had used saws, clamps and hot glue! Many skills were used and acquired. We are extremely proud of the year group's creations. *Miss Veal and Mrs Noake*

World Book Day

The children have had a fantastic time celebrating world book week, from story times, to author interviews and book activities. Obviously, the dressing up was a highlight for both children and staff! It was amazing how creative everybody was and lovely to hear about all of the different books that were being represented. The children also took part in an active book trail, using the iPads to scan QR codes hidden around the school, giving clues to different books. The book sale was hugely successful and the children were so pleased to be taking home a new book - thank you for all your support with this.



School Nursing Team Parentline text service

The School Nursing Team have recently launched Parentline, a confidential text service that parents can use to contact the service about problems with their children's health, such as: sleep issues, continence, poor school attendance, emotional health, low self-esteem, low mood, low level anxiety, and lifestyle concerns such as weight loss or gain. The number to text is 07312 277011.

Reaching Families

At the end of the newsletter is a full size flyer promoting a number of training workshops for parents/carers provided by Reaching Families including Autism, anxiety, ADHD and avoidance. [Reaching Families](http://www.reachingfamilies.org.uk) is a West Sussex-based organisation, which aims to empower, inform and support parents and families of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities in West Sussex.

www.reachingfamilies.org.uk Tel: 01903 366360 All of the workshops are free of charge, to book a place please visit: www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/reaching-families-8261724058



Governor profile



Hello, my name is Zoe Hickling and I was pleased to join the Holbrook team as a Parent Governor following my election in November 2020. I wanted to become a Governor as a way of offering my support and thanks to Holbrook for the great experiences the school have given my son and daughter.

In my spare time, I really enjoy walking my dog Otto with my family, going out for family meals and watching football. My favourite subjects at school were English and Geography and when I was a kid, I wanted to be a teacher when I grew up. I am a teaching assistant now, so I'm enjoying helping children to learn at school.

Safeguarding - Ukraine conflict

As conflict continues to escalate in Ukraine, the children in your life may want to talk to you about what is happening. They may be feeling worried and anxious about the stories they have seen and heard. The following websites provide advice and tips to help parents talk to children about what is happening in Ukraine and support them through these difficult times.

BBC Newsround: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/60536983>

Unicef: <https://www.unicef.org.uk/what-we-do/emergencies/how-to-talk-to-children-about-the-conflict-in-ukraine/>

Save the Children: <https://www.savethechildren.org/us/charity-stories/how-to-explain-conflict-ukraine-to-children>

Diary Dates

Spring 2022	
Thursday 10 th & Tuesday 15 th March	Parent Consultations
Monday 14 th – 18 th March	Science Week
Thursday 24 th March	Annual Governors' Day
Wednesday 30 th March	Netball Tournament at The Bridge
Wednesday 6 th April	Parent workshop (social/emotional development)
Friday 8 th April	Last day of the Spring term
Summer 2022	
Monday 25 th April	First day of the Summer term
Monday 2 nd May	BANK HOLIDAY
Friday 6 th May	Choir trip Young Voices concert at the O2
Monday 9 th May	Year 6 SATs week
Friday 27 th May	School closed for INSET day
30 th May – 3 rd June	HALF TERM
Monday 4 th – 6 th July	Year 4 Sayers Croft Residential trip
Wednesday 6 th July	Year 6 Transition day
Thursday 21 st July	Last day of the Summer term
Friday 22 nd July	Additional day off school to honour Queen's Platinum Jubilee during June half term

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Ian Holmes



**Reaching
Families**

Training Workshops

Spring 2022 (2nd half-term)

MARCH

Understanding Autism in Girls	Weds 2nd	7.30 pm	via Zoom
Making Sense of Masking	Thurs 3rd	10.30 am	via Zoom
Making Sense of Anxiety (primary aged children)	Mon 7th	7.30 pm	via Zoom
Making Sense of Challenging Behaviour in Adolescence	Thurs 10th	7.30 pm	via Zoom
Understanding Demand Avoidance	Fri 11th	10.30 am	via Zoom
Understanding Autism	Weds 16th	7.30 pm	via Zoom
Understanding Autism in Girls	Mon 21st	7.30 pm	via Zoom
Making Sense of EHC Needs Assessments and Plans	Thurs 24th	10.30 am	via Zoom
Understanding ADHD	Mon 28th	7.30 pm	via Zoom

APRIL

Understanding Sensory Processing Difficulties	Tues 5th	10.30 am	via Zoom
Making Sense of Sleep (children aged 2-11 yrs)	Thurs 7th	10.30 am	via Zoom

Find out more about our training at:

www.reachingfamilies.org.uk

All of our workshops are free of charge, to book a place please visit:
www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/reaching-families-8261724058

