

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our weekly newsletter.

Sports news

On Thursday, Mr Hudspith took 7 girls to the Year 5/6 Tag Rugby festival at Millais with six other schools. The children spent the first hour learning a range of skills such as passing, tagging, movement, and teamwork before they took part in some practice games with the other children. They were ably taught and assisted by the brilliant Sports Leaders (who were the Year 9 students at Millais) and had a great time. All of the girls represented Holbrook brilliantly and demonstrated the traits of perseverance, resilience, teamwork and cooperation.



Christmas Library

The Reading Ambassadors have introduced a special advent calendar containing 24 mini-books for the children to enjoy reading and listening to. The photo shows Year 4 pupils listening to one of the stories. The library has also been decorated by the Reading Ambassadors and Mrs Reeves.

Friends of Holbrook

Thank you for your donations for the FoH Christmas Fair taking place tomorrow Saturday 7th December 11am – 2pm. We look forward to seeing you.



Festive activities

We have a busy final two weeks of Christmas activities planned, which kicks off with our Year 1 & 2 productions on Tuesday & Wednesday, our Carol Concert for Years 3-6 on Thursday evening and Reception production on Thursday afternoon. We finish off the week by visiting St. Mark's Church for Christmas assemblies with Reverend Stilwell on Friday. The children have been busy practising and are really looking forward to the events.

VOLUNTEERS FOR CHURCH VISIT

To enable each of the assemblies at St Marks Church on **Friday 13th December**, we will be looking for a number of parents helpers. If you are able to help at any please let the school office know. The assembly times are as follows:

9.30am EYFS/KS1	10.15am Y3/4	11.00am Y5/6
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New Mental Health and Well-being Website for parents, carers and families

West Sussex County Council have launched a new website to help children, families and schools with mental health and well-being. The link is [here](#) so please do have a look to see if there is anything that

you might find supportive.

Free online course + £20 free chocolate for everyone who completes it!

Do you or a colleague want to feel more confident in maths and learn about climate change at the same time? Complete this online course and get a £20 Cocoa Loco chocolate voucher in time for Christmas.



- Get up to date knowledge on climate change and the technologies that can tackle it.
- Build confidence in maths.

The course:

- Is exclusively for learners living in West Sussex aged 19 or over.
- Let's you learn at your own pace and in your own time.
- Takes about two hours (you can dip in and out).



If you finish it, you get a:

- Digital badge at the end to add to your LinkedIn profile, CV, etc
- Free Cocoa loco £20 chocolate voucher to spend online once the course is completed.

And don't worry - you won't be scored! Everyone who finishes gets the voucher!

Best regards

Dan Baverstock Digital Officer University of Brighton

Picture News

This week the topic for discussion is **'Should everyone have the opportunity to be a star?'** – see below.

TAKEHOME

9th - 15th December

Should everyone have the opportunity to be a star?

WICKED

In the news this week

Wicked, the hugely successful Broadway musical, has recently premiered worldwide as a film. Wicked shares a different perspective of the events in the magical land featured in 'The Wizard of Oz', prior to Dorothy's arrival. It is the story of Elphaba (a misunderstood witch), who later becomes the Wicked Witch of the West, and her friendship with Glinda, who becomes the Good Witch. Karis Musongole, aged 10 from Manchester, plays the young version of Elphaba.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > What have you heard about the film, Wicked? Is it something you have seen or would like to see? Ask someone at home. Are they familiar with the story of The Wizard of Oz?
- > Do you like performing on stage? Do you like other roles or responsibilities in plays or performances? Talk about the importance of each role and how our different strengths can all be celebrated.

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

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CHARTWELLS ORDER CUT OFF DATES	
CUT OFF DATE Thursday 23:59	FOR WEEK COMMENCING
26 th December	6 th January 2025
2 nd January	13 th January
9 th January	20 th January
16 th January	27 th January
23 rd January	3 rd February

Diary Dates (new additions in bold)	
Sat 7 th December	FOH Christmas Fayre
Tuesday 10 th December	KS1 Nativity to Y1 parents 9.15
Wed 11 th December	KS1 Nativity to Y2 parents 9.15
Wed 11th December	Bowles meeting for Y5 parents 3.15
Thursday 12 th December	EYFS Nativity to parents 2.15
Thursday 12 th December	KS2 Carols at St Mary's 7pm
Friday 13 th December	Christmas assemblies at St Marks
Wed 18 th December	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch
Friday 20 th December	Last day of term

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,



Ian Holmes- Headteacher