

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our weekly newsletter.

Sports news

The Year 3 & 4 children had a wonderful time at Collyer's on Tuesday, where they had the opportunity to take part in Badminton skills led by the Collyer's sports students.

The children took part in lots of skills-based games to introduce them to the sport. This then finished with Badminton rallies to see who could keep it going the longest.

The children had a fantastic time and their attitude and behaviour was exemplary. Well done to all those that came along.

Mrs Davies



Curriculum news

On Monday, Carrie from Sussex Green Living, delivered an assembly to KS2 pupils entitled 'The Journey of a Banana' containing interesting facts about bananas, as well as food composting. Did you know that many of our bananas come from India, which is the world's largest producer of bananas. Later, Year 3 had three composting activities to complete, which included finding and looking at worms. They also had the opportunity to learn more about composting and how we can all play our part in reducing food waste.



Year 2 testing the rigidity of materials in Science.

The first snow of the winter on Wednesday was very exciting! Please ensure your child has a coat every day.



Festive collection

On Monday December 1st and Tuesday December 2nd, we will be collecting festive food items on behalf of Horsham Matters. Donation trolleys will be available on those days near our KS1 and KS2 entrances.

Horsham Matters has provided the following list of items they would be grateful for:

Festive treats (selection boxes, Christmas chocolates, mince pies, Christmas puddings); tinned meat/vegetables; long-life milk; custard, jam and spreads; hot chocolate, long-life desserts, savoury snacks, condiments (Ketchup, mayo, pickle relish etc).



Below is a link to the Horsham Matters website, if you would like to find out more about their work throughout the local community. [Horsham Matters](#)

Thank you for your help,

Dawn Filson and the Eco-Council

Wish Lists

The Friends of Holbrook do an amazing job of fundraising for the entire school and have funded many projects that benefit all Holbrook children. This is vital for our school and we thank you for all your continuing support for their events and projects. In recent months we have had several enquiries from parents asking how they can support their child's specific year group with ad hoc contribution/donations.

To facilitate this, we have set up year group 'wish lists' for items, including books that teachers would love to have in their classrooms, but cannot necessarily be met via the school resources budget at this time.

The link below will enable you to view and chose from the list and purchase from your own Amazon account. There are also lists for books for our lovely library and SEN/inclusion resources.



If you have anything delivered straight to school, please remember to add a message so we know who to thank! Please be assured that you are under no obligation to participate in this scheme, we fully understand the financial constraints of families at this time.

Year R	https://amzn.eu/aYXrSY8	Year 4	https://amzn.eu/4NqAtof
Year 1	https://amzn.eu/8uCpeDW	Year 5	https://amzn.eu/9FBRd1W
Year 2	https://amzn.eu/aX4Vzk9	Year 6	https://amzn.eu/5v6780c
Year 3	https://amzn.eu/9uGyiS8	Library	https://amzn.eu/bo1PL4X
Sensory and Learning	https://amzn.eu/iFxfBOT		

Staff update

After a ten-year association with Holbrook as parent, Teaching Assistant, FoH Chair and many other roles, Mrs Chilvers is leaving this week. Children and staff said 'Farewell' in today's assembly and we all wish her well in her new job. We say 'Hello and Welcome' to Mrs O'Scanlon, Miss Nattriss and Miss Light who will be joining the staff team shortly.

Safeguarding - attendance

The careful monitoring of attendance is key to improving the overall performance of pupil outcomes, but it is equally important in **keeping children safe** at Holbrook. Knowing who is absent and why, is fundamental to effective safeguarding.

As a school, we have a duty of care to take action. At Holbrook, attendance is closely monitored by trained staff and we look to maintain positive communication links with parents and have effective systems in place to deal with any attendance issues quickly and sensitively. If you child's attendance slips below 90%,

then we will inform you via a letter, to make you aware and to support you to take steps to improve, if necessary. Please contact the school office if you require help in this matter.

Family Christmas events at St. Mark's Church

Please see the flyer for further details of Christmas events aimed at families.

Family Christmas Events
at St Mark's Church, Holbrook

Christingle
30th November
4pm
A family service in support of the Children's Society. You each get to make your own Christingle.

Carols Afloat
4th December
Come and sing carols with us at these locations:
5.40pm Cook Road
6.30pm Chennells Way
7.20pm Laughton Road
There will be hot chocolate!

Crib Service Christmas Eve
4.30pm
Come and hear the story of Christmas. You are welcome to dress up and take part.

Mini-Marks
Crib Service Christmas Eve
2.30pm
This service is aimed at under 5s and their families. Come dressed-up and enjoy hearing the story of Christmas.

SEND CAFE Christmas Fun
13th December
2-4pm
Come along for Crafts and fun. This event is designed for SEND children and their families, so we are limiting numbers. Please register with this QR code.

All events are at St Mark's Church.
For more information please contact
mandy@stmarksholbrook.org.uk

CUT OFF DATE Thursday 23:59	FOR WEEK COMMENCING
27 th November	8 th December
4 th December	15 th December *incl Christmas lunch
25 th December	5 th January
1 st January	12 th January
8 th January	19 th January

Diary Dates (new additions in bold)	
Thursday 27 th November	Y4 trip to Fishbourne Roman Palace
Friday 28 th November	Non-Uniform day in lieu of Bottle donations
Saturday 29 th November	Friends of Holbrook Christmas Fair 11-2pm
Tuesday 9 th December	KS1 Nativity to Y1 parents 9.15
Wednesday 10 th December	KS1 Nativity to Y2 Parents 9.15
Thursday 11 th December	EYFS Nativity to parents 2pm
Thursday 11 th December	KS2 Carol Service at St Marys 7pm
Friday 12 th December	Assemblies at St Marks
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas lunch

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Ian Holmes
Headteacher

