

**January 2021**

Monday 4th  
Inset Day  
School Closed

**Tuesday 5th  
Spring Term Begins**

# Holtsmere End Junior School

## Newsletter

ISSUE 5

18TH DECEMBER 2020

### Message from Mrs McGuigan

What a strange year 2020 has been! Through times of uncertainty, the staff, you and the children have pulled together and have become more resilient than ever.

These last couple of weeks of the autumn term have been even more challenging but we have done our best to ensure that the children have continued to feel safe and happy while they are learning. Whole classes have been isolating as well as individual children and the provision for online learning has been much better than we were able to offer during the summer term. The majority of children have been accessing the online learning and we are proud of the continued progress that children have made while not in school. The FE have allocated us as a school 41 laptops that we can allocate to children who do not have access to the technology at home and although they have not all arrived yet the 8 that we have received have been allocated successfully to children needing them. 41 laptops appear to be a far greater number than most schools locally and therefore we are grateful that the needs of our children have been recognised by the DFE on this occasion.

It has been sad that our Year 3 and 4 Christmas play could not be performed in the usual way however the Year 4 children were able to perform and this has been recorded. We are hoping that the year 3 children will have an opportunity to perform something at the end of the spring term instead this year. Some classes did manage to enjoy the pantomime this year, although again some classes have only had access to the recorded version sadly.

The annual Holtsmere's got talent show took place on the last day of term and was enjoyed by children via zoom!

So Christmas needs to be a little different. This has involved some creative thinking from the staff to make sure it is the most memorable one yet! We would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for your amazing support this term and we wish you all a happy Christmas whatever that looks like. We all hope that we can return to some normality in the new year.

If your Holtsmere child/ren test positive during the first 48 hours of the Christmas holiday (lunchtime on 18th December to lunchtime on 21st December) you **MUST** contact the school to let us know. As the school will be closed and no-one will answer the telephone please email [admin@holtsmerejm.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@holtsmerejm.herts.sch.uk) to let us know and also attach the positive test result including the date of that result. We can then take any necessary steps to contact others who may then need to isolate over the Christmas period. If your child tests positive **AFTER** 21st December you must contact the NHS Track and Trace.





## Letters & Emails Home

Isolation letters  
3R2, 4G3, 5Y5

Isolation &  
Google class-  
rooms

DSPL Autumn

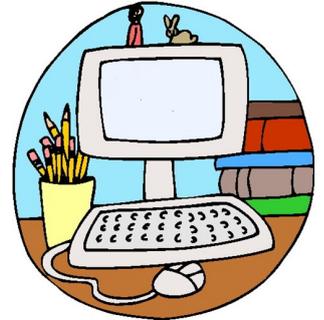
Game-On  
Football

FSM Lunch Box

FSM Vouchers

## Google Classroom

As a student on Google Classroom, I felt that it was a very nice experience but on some days, it felt strange because I was used to being at school. On the first and second day I found it slightly difficult to get used to but after the fourth and fifth day, I started to enjoy it and get used to it. I found out many new things on Google Classroom that helped me to learn things even quicker, like the chat ability (I sometimes needed some information about some work which made it easier to communicate with Mrs Tredwell) and the stream page was very useful because it showed me what I had finished or needed to do. Google Classroom is very helpful and is organised. In the last 2 weeks of doing Google Classroom, I felt that it was very interesting and similar to going to school. By: Kamyra Y6



## Prize Winners

### Special Reader Awards

3R1 Christopher

4G3 Lyla

5Y5 Iwinosa

6B7 Chloe



3R2 Henry

4G4 Keerthi

5Y6 Mia

6B8 Goodness

### HGT winner & runner up:

1st Place: Sebastian Yr 5 - Violin

2nd Place: Lilia & Maisie Y6 - Dancing



### Special well done:

Emily Y6 - Dancing

Oliver Y4 - Dancing

Aanya Y3 - Puppets & Poetry



**WELL DONE EVERYONE**



The staff would like to thank all the children & parent's for the lovely gifts they have received.

**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**