



**Academic Year
2022/23**

September

Thursday 1st & Friday
2nd INSET DAYS
School Closed

Monday 5th
Start Autumn Term

October

Wednesday 5th
Individual School
Photos

24th - 28th
Half Term Break

November

December

Wednesday 14th
Christmas Dinner

Wednesday 21st
End of Term
1:30 Close

January 2023

Thurs 5th & Fri 6th
INSET DAYS
School Closed

Monday 9th
Start Spring Term

Holtsmere End Junior School Newsletter

ISSUE 10

22ND JULY 2022

Message from Mrs McGuigan

The end of this school year has come around very quickly as the weeks this term have flown by. The recent hot weather has certainly made the end of term tiring for all!

Thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support this year have a wonderful summer and we look forward to seeing you in September.

The children's first day back for autumn term is Monday 5th September 2022. Staff have two INSET days on Thursday 1st September and Friday 2nd September.

Uniform

Reminders have been sent home regarding the correct school uniform to be worn in September. It is essential that your child is dressed in the correct uniform from head to foot including black school shoes. We will be checking that children are dressed in the correct uniform on the first day in September.

Attendance

It is vitally important that children are on time for school and in school as often as possible. Children have missed a great deal of school due to the pandemic and we are keen to start afresh in September with the children's attendance one of our top priorities. Children being brought to school late can make a huge difference and an impact on their learning. The school day starts as soon as the children come through the door at 8.45 and learning begins. Even 15 minutes a day is over an hour of missed learning by the end of the week.

Meet the teacher meetings

On Tuesday 13th September for Year 3 and Year 4 and Wednesday 14th September for Year 5 and 6 we will be running our yearly 'Meet the Teacher Meetings.' these will be straight after school in the classrooms.

This will be an opportunity for you to meet your child's class teacher and learn about the expectations of the new year group.

These meetings will give you information about the timetables for the children, topics that will be taught as well as homework expectations.



Message from Mrs McGuigan Cont/d...

Year 6

The year 6 children were lucky enough this year to attend the annual residential trip and have experienced the usual BBQ and disco, a wonderful occasion that we have not managed in the same way for two years due to the pandemic. We wish the Year 6 children the very best of luck at secondary school and we look forward to hearing about their many future successes, you will be greatly missed!

Staff leaving

Miss Fuller, year 3 teacher, Miss Christie, our sports apprentice, and Miss Hudson a learning support assistant will be leaving us at the end of the term. We wish them lots of luck for the future and thank them for their hard work and commitment this year.

New staff

Miss McCarroll will be joining the Holtsmere team in September and will be teaching a year 5 class.

Parent contact information

Please don't forget to advise school of any changes to contact details – especially mobile phone numbers which you may change/upgrade over the summer break. We must be able to contact you during the day in case of emergency or to follow-up any absence queries and the school should have at least two contact numbers.

End Of Key Stage 2 SATs results

We are extremely proud of our children in year 6 this year for what they have achieved both individually and as a year group. The SATs results were extremely positive following a challenging couple of years!

| Subject | % Age related expectation |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Reading | 74% GDS 32% National 74% |
| Writing | 74% GDS 27% National 69% |
| Maths | 83% GDS 36% National 71% |
| SPAG Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar | 77% National 72% |
| Reading/writing and maths | 65% National 59% |

(GDS means above age related expectation)

We are delighted that our results are in line with the National average for reading but above for writing, maths and the combined percentage.

Message from the school's Governing Body

Hello. My name is Phil Murray and I am the Chair of the school's Governing Body. We are a team of 10 governors that act a bit like the Board of a public company, providing support and counselling to the Headteacher and senior leaders, and holding them to account for achieving the best for the children.

Some of our governors are parents of children at the school, some are staff, and some are members of the local community, co-opted to bring particular skills that the Governing Body needs. All of them give their time as governors as volunteers. You can find out more about who they are on the school website. It is important that our Governing Body team continues to evolve, and if you feel that you may have something to offer in the future, please get in touch with me.

Throughout the year, we pay attention to how well the school is delivering on its objectives as stated in the annual School Improvement Plan. We meet about six times a year, and visit the school regularly as individuals to monitor aspects of the school such as pupil progress meetings, health and safety compliance, staff wellbeing, and provision for children with special needs.

This year, we have supported the school leadership in planning and implementing projects to provide more accommodation for small group learning and to provide the Daily Mile running track. We are currently helping to specify requirements for a potential roof replacement in the next year or two, which will be a significant undertaking.

As always, one of the priorities for the school is high levels of progress and attainment in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. This year there has been a concerted focus from all staff on the methods used for Phonics, the way we learn to read. Our Hertfordshire Improvement Partner, an expert external adviser who works with us, told governors after a recent visit that "This initiative has been very well thought through, has been well resourced with appropriate training for staff and, as a result, at this time is showing great promise in having real impact on children's reading skills."

At the time of writing, we don't know the results of this year's SAT's, but our internal teacher assessments suggest that we have made very good progress across all years. Governors were particularly pleased to note that thanks to sound investment of the additional funds we receive in respect of children with disadvantages (Pupil Premium Funding) the gap in progress and achievement for such children appears to be significantly narrowing. And that is even though such investments inevitably benefit children not in the Pupil Premium group as well.

Alongside the focus on the core subjects, we have been working on developing a research-led programme for the wider curriculum, with teachers sharing responsibilities for the development of approaches to learning in different subjects. A group of governors visited classes in late June to observe how Religious Education and Design Technology are being taught throughout the school. They were impressed to see all the children being engaged in the lessons, how they were keen to answer questions and how well the teachers kept up their interest and enthusiasm through a range of resources. We are looking forward to continuing this push on the wider curriculum into next year with developments in art and languages.

A further objective this year has been the development of leadership. We certainly benefit from the work our Headteacher does as a Hertfordshire Improvement Partner advising other schools, and her broad experience enables her to implement effective structures for distributed leadership. This brings a deeper sense of ownership of our direction across the entire team and underpins the consistency of good practice we see more and more. We are very hopeful that our next Ofsted inspection, which cannot be far away, will recognise these strengths.

As a Governing Body, we continue to have great confidence in the ability of Mrs McGuigan and her team to deliver excellent education for the children in a particularly supportive environment and we hope you share our satisfaction.

Phil Murray

Chair of Governors

HEAD BOY & GIRL 22-23

The new head boy & girl have been voted for by the year 6 children:

Congratulations go to:

Katie N (5T) - Head Girl

Aram Z (5T) - Deputy Head Girl

Josh C (5T) - Head Boy

Emmanuel M - Deputy Head Boy

REFUGEE WEEK RESULT

We are so proud to announce that the children have raised an amazing £1491.17 for our 'Miles for Refugees' sponsored walk for the British Red Cross. Each class walked 13.5 miles totalling 108 miles as a school to mirror the distance that Ukrainian refugees would need to travel to safety in Poland. We are so proud of the children and thank all parents and carers for the support in aiding the raising of such an amazing amount of money!



DISTRICT SPORTS

Y5 & Y6 took part in a Dacorum sporting event. Some of the races we did were: relay, sprint, fun relay and more. Each race was split into 4 parts: Y5 girls, Y5 boys, Y6 girls and Y6 boys. Everyone who wasn't in the race stayed at the side and cheered the racers on. It was very much fun and at the end every school got a certificate and 3 schools (big, medium and small) got a trophy.



Parent Governor

Following a resignation, we have a vacancy for a parent governor. Interested parents should apply by 1 September to the Chair of Governors via admin@holtsmerejm.herts.sch.uk with a statement of no more than 80 words describing why they wish to stand, which may be used on a ballot form should more than one parent apply and an election be necessary.

Year 4 Swimming

We had our last swimming lesson on Friday and we wore pyjamas as we were learning about water safety. We learnt what to do if we fell into a river and how to help someone if they fell into the water

Alfie C



Year 4 Egyptians

On Ancient Egyptian day we did lots of different activities including: carving, using clay and ink, mummification, making canopic jars and much more. In the afternoon, we did some acting and a performance for the pharaoh. We learnt a lot of information about Ancient Egypt! Aanya C.



Sports Day 2022



House cup winners: EARTH



| Class | 8/7/22 | | | | | 15/7/22 | | | | |
|--------------|--------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------|----------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| | 6R's | Writer of the week | Reader of the week | Mathe-matician of the week | Hand-writing | 6 R's | Writer of the week | Reader of the week | Mathe-matician of the week | Hand-writing |
| Mrs Prendi | Reggie | Maiya | Lara | Caden | Tiffany | Joshua | John O | Amelie | Lyla | Gabriela |
| Miss Fuller | Sofia | Oliver | Maya | Vikter | Keval | Younes | Izaak | Jesse | Junaynah | Nikola |
| Miss Abrey | Zayd | Declan | Lily | Sean | Abi | Camer-on | Polly | Christo-pher | Danilo | Ben |
| Miss Carroll | | | | | | Thomas | Amelia | Vienna | Logan | T'iarah |
| Mrs Toms | James | Aram | Karina | Isabelle | Roberto | Millie | Alicja | Josh | Katie | Jean B |
| Miss Graham | Harry | Thomas | T'iarah | Abby | Josh | Ava | Melissa | Spencer | Ryan | Oliver |
| Mrs Deacon | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mrs Tredwell | | | | | | | | | | |

| Class | 22/7/22 | | | | | <p>The staff would like to thank all the parents and children for their lovely gifts & wish you all a wonderful Summer break</p>  |
|--------------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------|--|
| | 6R's | Writer of the week | Reader of the week | Mathema-tician of the week | Hand-writing | |
| Mrs Prendi | Grace | Gabriela | Joshua | Nathaniel | Freddie | |
| Miss Fuller | Ami | Oliver | Harrison | Oghosa | Darcy | |
| Miss Abrey | Paris | Tutu | Jaziah | Grace | Lily | |
| Miss Carroll | Josh | Amelia | Jack | Finley | Vienna | |
| Mrs Toms | Darius | Alicja | Aram | Oliver | Millie | |
| Miss Graham | Olivia | Oliver | Mira | Uthman | Nelly | |
| Mrs Deacon | All | All | All | All | All | |
| Mrs Tredwell | All | All | All | All | All | |