March Newsletter 2021

Dear Parents and Carers.

It is hard to believe that one year down the line we are still struggling with COVID. However, we are so happy to have all of our pupils back in school. Our children have come back to school very positive and ready to learn. All staff are looking forward to the day when we can be back to 'normal' and be together again. Children being back in school, despite being in bubbles, is a good start.

The reduced number of COVID cases and deaths is indeed encouraging and some members of staff have been fortunate enough to receive their first vaccine. However, COVID is not just going to disappear in the near future and we must continue to be careful and follow as many safety procedures as possible.

This term, we have had to say goodbye to one of our longest serving members of staff, Mrs Baker. We never like to say goodbye to our staff, but Mrs Baker has worked at Holland Haven for 28 years and she has now decided to retire. I would like to thank Mrs Baker for her hard work, dedication and commitment to all of our pupils over the last 28 years. We will really miss you!

I do hope that you all have a good break and I know that the reduction of COVID rules will be welcomed by all of us.

Stay safe.

Mrs Bardetti

Headteacher

Reporting COVID cases

During the Easter break I will be, once again, supporting Track and Trace. If, in the <u>first 48 hours only</u>, your child shows COVID symptoms and s/he later tests positive for COVID 19, please can you email me between **9am and 11am** using the email <u>s.bardetti@hollandhavenschool.co.uk</u>. You will need to isolate your child and your whole household for 10 days.

If your child shows symptoms after the 48 hours you will need to book a COVID test and if this is positive you will need to isolate your child and household for 10 days. Please contact the school on **Monday 12th April** to report your child's absence.

Governor Corner

As I write this my social media has reminded me that, exactly one year ago I was undecided as to whether to send my child into school due to the worry and uncertainty of being able to keep them safe. Fast forward and in that time I have experienced both home schooling and school placement due to being a keyworker. I know which I prefer, I am definitely not a teacher neither am I a baker or gardener, but we have all had a go and found a new way of adapting. At school my children have been able to see their friends, enjoy learning in a bubble, and have been able to tell me what their latest sticker was for, even if it was for a bumped head. Whilst it is difficult to speak face to face with a teacher we can telephone or even better, email the teacher directly with any concerns or questions.

In my relatively new role as a parent governor, most of which has been during lockdown, I have attended the school initially wearing a visor that kept pinging off, to now joining video meetings and training sessions, this of course has its moments. But, this privilege has opened my eyes to the enormous amount of work that goes on behind the scenes, I lost count of how many policies that had to be adjusted, read and signed off due to Covid. Now, my worries and uncertainties are less, I can look back and be thankful my children have adjusted, they are

happy and they continue to reach for the stars in this new but different world we live in.

Susan Welsh

Governor

Red Nose Day

We never thought that we would be doing a second Comic Relief fundraising year in lockdown. However the parents, children and staff, as always, amaze us with their generosity. The theme this year was Superheroes and the brilliant range of creative costumes made us feel very proud of our school community. We had children dressing up as NHS staff, key workers, teachers and their parents. We even had a Captain Tom Moore and a few Marcus Rashfords. We are proud to say that we raised £315.27! Thank you all very much.

Easter Egg Hunt

Sadly, the children missed out on the Easter Egg Hunt last year, the PTA kindly donated the eggs to a local food bank. Luckily, the children were able to take part this year. The teachers created imaginative hunt quizzes for the children. Every child won an egg or sweet, with the winners of the competitions receiving a larger egg. Thank you to the PTA for providing us with the treats.

New School Menu

From the 12th April 2021 we have a new Dinner Menu this will be emailed to you before the end of term and is also available to view on our school website. On our return we will be starting on Week One.

March 2021

Thursday 25th Break up for half term (Friday 26th March is a non pupil day)

April 2021

Monday 12th Return for the summer term

(UPATE 14 December 2020 to reflect changes to Bank Holidays)

Holland Haven Primary School

Academic Year 2021-2022

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= School days = School holidays = Bank holidays = Bank holidays

In addition, schools allocate five non-pupil days out of the school days indicated, or the equivalent in disaggregated twilight sessions.

Autumn Term: Wednesday 1 September 2021 – Friday 17 December 2021 73 days

Half Term 25 October - 29 October

Spring Term: Tuesday 4 January 2022 – Friday 1 April 2022 59 days

Half Term 14 February - 18 February

Summer Term: Tuesday 19 April 2022 – Friday 22 July 2022 63 days

Half Term 31 May – 3 June, and May Bank Holiday, 2 May

195 days

Please note:

The above dates may vary for individual schools, especially Foundation, Voluntary Aided schools and Academies.

You are strongly advised to check with your child's school before making any holiday or other commitments.