



HOLLY LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Friday 8th January 2021

Newsletter Number 16

TOGETHER WE CAN ACHIEVE MORE Respect Effort Achieve Care Honesty

Dear Parents and Carers

As the whole country has now moved back into a lockdown and opening of schools is once again limited, I would like to thank you for your support. We hope that the country will be in a better position when the situation is reviewed at February half term.

As always, the welfare of our families is paramount. All learning is being provided on Seesaw for Years 1-6 and on Tapestry for Reception. We have had an overwhelmingly positive response for Seesaw. It is expected that all children will engage with the learning. We recognise that every family situation is different and that many of you are working at home whilst juggling childcare and home-learning commitments which makes home learning more challenging. Please do contact us if you need any support. You will be receiving regular phone calls from a member of the Holly Lodge team. Please be aware this call may come through from a "caller withheld" number.

I am very thankful to the wonderful staff team we have at Holly Lodge. Some teachers are teaching in class as well as setting home learning, so please do bear with us if we do not get back to you straightaway. Your child's teacher can be contacted through email via the school office.

The children in school are following the same learning as the children at home, so critical workers do not need to do Seesaw set home learning with your children at home.

We recognise that this is, once again, a very challenging time for all families. Thank you so much to our critical workers, parents supporting at home and school staff. You are all doing an amazing job! Please stay safe. Thank you for continuing to keep Holly Lodge Covid-free through all your efforts.

Some great news to celebrate this week: Mrs Ramsden is now fit and well after an absence of 9 months. We welcome her back to school (even though she can't put on the sports program).



Also, you may remember, last term we applied for the Silver Anti-bullying charter mark. The assessors from Surrey spoke to children, parents and governors and we had a rigorous assessment of our evidence portfolio. I am delighted to announce that we have now been awarded the Silver Chartermark for the work we do in school. Congratulations to Mrs Watson, our Anti-Bullying champion and our Anti-Bullying committee for co-ordinating this - this is a great achievement.

Critical workers/vulnerable children in school FAQ

What education will my child receive? All children will receive broadly the same curriculum whether they are learning at home or school. Lessons are prepared and assessed by teachers but may be delivered by a learning support assistant.

What should my child wear? School uniform/trainers. Children may come into school in PE kit on the class PE day – please ensure they are dressed warmly in a plain dark or grey sweatshirt and jogging bottoms. Please also remember coats, hats and gloves for the cold weather.

What should my child bring? Equipment is provided – so no need to bring anything to school apart from water bottle, book bag, packed lunch if applicable and break time snack. Pupils should bring in a named fruit snack stored separately from lunch (The Government fruit scheme and milk schemes are not running during lockdown).

Does my child have to come to school every day even though I am part time? As a critical worker who has requested a space – this is a full time school place. We need to ensure consistent staffing levels and safeguarding.

I don't need a place at the moment. Can I book next month? Places are limited due to staffing levels. We cannot guarantee a space will be available for your child in the future.

How many children in a class? There are about 30 children in each year group with at least one teacher. Children are split into 2 classes with a LSA in each class.

Mrs Dancer
Academy Head

#safeguardingmatters

As most of our children's learning is now happening on-line, please can we suggest that you take a time to ensure that you have in place all the necessary parental controls on your devices?

The following is a link to step-by-step guides which will help you to set up the right controls and privacy settings on the networks, gadgets, apps and sites your children use to help give them a safer online experience.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

Calls from School Staff

Please be aware that some of our staff members are working remotely from home. This means that you may receive calls from a withheld telephone number instead of the school number. If you receive a missed call please do check your voicemails. Thank you.

Primary School Admissions

Applications for the Year R September 2021 intake closes on 15th January. Please visit the Surrey Admissions website for more details:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/primary-junior-and-infant/apply>

HLSA Crisp Packet Scheme

Please note that the crisp packet recycling scheme has been temporarily suspended, so we are unable to accept donations at the moment. If you wish to continue collecting them at home, please keep them safe and we will let you know when we can accept donations again. Thank you.