



# Hollybrook Junior School

Seagarth Lane, Southampton, SO16 6R  
Telephone: 023 8077 2781 Fax: 023 8052 8820  
Email: [info@hj.jetrust.org](mailto:info@hj.jetrust.org)  
[www.hollybrookjunior.co.uk](http://www.hollybrookjunior.co.uk)

**Headteacher: Mrs Jane Wood**  
**Deputy Head: Miss Clare Alderson**

Dear Parents and Carers

## Parent Update, 18 October 2017

Unbelievably we have nearly completed the first half term of the year. It has been a very busy one and I would like to thank all the staff for their hard work and also for your support and look forward to what I know will be a very busy half term leading up to Christmas!! (Sorry I have said the dreaded word!!)

The week after half term we have parent evenings. This is a chance for you to come in and talk about your children with the class teacher. We value the links that we have with parents and would urge everyone to try and attend.

At our full governing body meeting the question came up about Inset days and why we have them where we do as it can be tricky for working parents. Inset days were taken off all school staff holidays and are used for training. We try to put them on a Monday or Friday rather than have them mid week and where possible align with the other schools in JET. Sometimes this is not possible as we have outside speakers in to lead training. On 4<sup>th</sup> September we reflected on the past year and discussed what would be the focus for this year in each school. We also did Safeguarding training and Health and Safety training for both schools together. The inset day in November is going to be training for both schools on Growth Mindset lead by an outside speaker – something that fits in with our values across the schools.

I hope that everyone has a very happy and safe half term.

Jane Wood  
Headteacher

Congratulations to Miss Varcoe-Baylis! Her baby, Theodore David Larmouth, was born on Saturday 14th October, weighing a healthy 7lbs 15oz. Mother and baby are both doing well and we are looking forward to a visit from them both in the near future! We know Alfie is thrilled with his new brother!

### Non Uniform Day

We would like to remind you that Friday, 20 October, is a non uniform day. Children are invited to come to school in their own clothes in return for a donation of a full and unopened bottle of your choice. Bottles are being collected for the Bottle Stall at the PTA Christmas Fayre after school on Friday, 1 December.

### Parents' Evening and Work Sharing

We look forward to seeing you at our Parents' Evenings after half term. You will receive your appointment slips by Friday this week. In advance of Parents' Evenings, we are holding a work sharing morning across the school on Tuesday 31st October from 8.45am to 9.15am. You are invited to come into school with your child on that morning and look through their books and discuss their learning with them since the start of term. We hope to see many of you then.





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## New School Meals Menu and Price Change

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, there will be a new Autumn menu starting after half term and the price is increasing to £2.20 per day.

Please ensure that all outstanding dinner money is paid up to date before the holiday. Thank you.

## Year 5 Swimming

The Year 5 non-swimmers will be commencing a second six-week course at Red Lodge Pool after half term. We urgently need parent helpers to accompany the group on Tuesdays 31.10.17 – 5.12.17, leaving school at 1.00pm and back in school by about 2.30-2.40pm. If there are any parents available on any week(s) who would be willing to walk with the children, please let the school office know. Your child does not need to be in Year 5.

## PTA News

### PTA Meeting

Everyone is welcome to join us at the Infant School on Wednesday 1 November at 9am for a coffee and pastry. This is an opportunity for you to come along and meet other parents/carers and our committee and find out about events we will be holding at school in the future. Toys will be provided for babies and toddlers. We look forward to seeing you there.

## ABC Cash for Clothes

We raised an amazing £160! Many thanks to all who contributed clothes and bric a brac and to ABC Cash for Clothes for buying and collecting them!

## Attendance

9.10.17-13.10.17

Class	% Attend
3C	100.0
3B	97.6
4C	100.0
4K	96.6
5LH	98.2
5M	96.6
6OB	97.9
6N	98.1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>98.1</b>

## Data Collection Sheets

Your child will be bringing a data collection sheet home which contains the personal information we hold relating to your child. I would very much appreciate it if you would check whether the information is up to date. If there are any new/missing details, would you please put these details onto the form and return it to the school office. It is really important that we hold up to date details as we use these to contact you if your child is unwell.





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## Call parent/text messaging

As you are aware, we use a text messaging service to send out certain types of information such as the unexpected cancellation of an event due to bad weather. Please inform the school office if you change your home or mobile number as soon as possible.

Your child's well-being is our priority and this will ensure that we can contact you as efficiently and as quickly as possible. Thank you for your ongoing support.

## Attachments

Attached to this newsletter are:

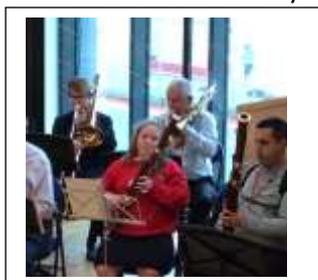
- an invitation from SCIIT to any parents who may be interested in joining the teaching profession
- Saints half-term holiday football courses

## Mrs Thompsett's Music Notes

It has been a busy half term with several musical events taking place.

### Wind and Brass day at KES with the London Mozart Players

Last week we took our 14 most experienced woodwind and brass players to King Edward's School for the day. The morning was spent in sectionals working with the instrument specialists from the London Mozart Players to develop our technique and stamina. We worked on three pieces and put these together in the afternoon, forming a giant wind band with over 130 players! A concert to parents and friends at the end of the day included performances from the professional musicians as well as our grand finale. We particularly enjoyed performing the theme from "The Sweeney". Well done to all of our young musicians who took part in the day.



## Orchestral performance at the Mayflower

When a free concert to schools was offered back in the summer term, we jumped at the chance to get some tickets. The whole of Year Six and Year Four were able to attend the concert this week, performed by the orchestra of the Welsh National Opera who are currently on tour in Southampton. We enjoyed some superb performances from operas by Mozart and Bizet, enthusiastically sang along with the Toreador's Song from "Carmen" and were mesmerised by film music from "Harry Potter" and "Jurassic Park". It was certainly a wonderful opportunity to see a concert with a full symphony orchestra in such a great performance space.

Here are some comments from some of our Year Six children:

"I was shocked how high the Queen of the Night could sing!" (Diana)

"It felt exciting when the Samba band came on because it made me feel pumped up ... when we all clapped at the same time, it was very catchy." (Max)





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“My favourite song was the Toreador’s song from Carmen because we could join in.” (Lewis)

“I really like how the WNO got everyone involved. They even got a boy from another school to conduct the orchestra!” (Rhys)

“I was amazed when the orchestra played the Nimbus 2000 music and Hedwig’s Theme from “Harry Potter” because it sounded just like the music in the film.” (Maya)

## Lucid

This week the whole school was treated to a concert by pop/folk group Lucid as part of their schools’ tour. The four piece band from the Isle of Wight entertained us with some of their own songs and a range of songs by other artists including Passenger, Coldplay and The Beatles. The children were encouraged to ask questions about the instruments and the band and were treated to some foot-tapping Irish folk melodies that we could all clap along to. It was great to have such talented musicians in our school sharing their love of playing and singing together.

We are looking forward to plenty of musical events in the second half of term including:

- Year 3’s Drumming performance on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November at 9.00 a.m.
- Our Afternoon Concert in school featuring the school orchestra and more experienced musicians on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 2.00 p.m.
- Our School Choir’s performance at the Guildhall on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00 p.m.
- Our whole school Christmas Celebrations on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> December at 1.45 p.m.

