

St John's Upper Holloway CE Primary School Newsletter

October 2015

Welcome to our latest newsletter. It's been a busy month!

Proposed changes to Breakfast and Buzz Club

We are very pleased to announce that we are shortly due to make some changes to Breakfast and Buzz Club to make it even better for both children and parents. We are now able to offer both clubs to younger children meaning that **pupils in Nursery and Reception classes can join in**. We are also planning to **extend the time that Buzz Club is open from 5:45 to 6:15**. As it can be a very long day at school, we will also be providing **hot food and snacks at Buzz Club**. There will be a small increase in the cost of the club to reflect the better provision but it will still be one of the cheapest clubs in the borough! A letter will go out shortly with all the details.

Improving attendance and punctuality

The good news is that our attendance figures continue to improve every week. Well done to Years 1, 4, 5 and 6 for exceeding our target of 96%! The not so good news is that lates continue to be less good in many classes. Congratulations to Reception and Year 5 for only having 8 lates since we started in September.

	Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Attendance	94.8%	97.3%	95.0%	94.8%	97.2%	96.7%	96.3%
Lates	8	15	24	22	21	8	12

Harvest festival

The whole school celebrated Harvest Festival in Church last week. It is always a special time of year when we get together to give thanks for the food we have and to share food with others less fortunate than ourselves.

The contribution from parents was wonderful as always.



Christmas Shoebox Appeal.

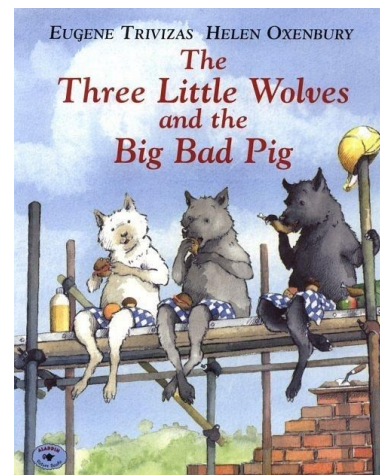
It's that time of year when we invite parents to provide small gifts to be sent to countries where children are less fortunate than ourselves. This year, parents can purchase a pre-made box to place their items in rather than providing their own. The boxing of the gifts will take place after half term and a letter with more details will go out shortly.

Teaching children about relationships, sex and how our bodies change

The school have recently received some excellent, age appropriate books to support the teaching of sex and relationship education. We have been given an additional set of books for parents to borrow and share with their children at home. If you would like to look through these and use them to support the work we do in school, please speak with Ms McLintock in Reception class.

Writing week

Next half term we will be holding our whole school writing week from 9th-13th November. The children will be studying the wonderful book, *The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig*, and using it as a stimulus for their own writing and creative arts.



Phonics workshop

We had a great turn out for the recent phonics workshop for parents in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. We understand many parents were not able to attend, so if you would like a copy of the guidance booklet, you can obtain one from your child's class teacher. We shall also be posting a copy on the school website. A big thank you to Miss Leeb, Miss Eden and Miss McIntock for organising the event.

Upcoming dates and events...

Weds 4th Nov– Reception have a Bugliest Bug visit

Friday 6th Nov– Year 1 are visiting the National Gallery for a “famous people” workshop

Friday 4th Dec– Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 visit London Zoo for the Living Nativity.

Friday 11th Dec– Christmas disco in school from 6:30-8:30pm.

Musical fundraiser

A big thank you to Tonia (Neo's mum) for organising a musical fundraiser at the end of September. As well as being a great night out, the event helped to raise around £190 for music provision in school. One of the musicians also donated a free keyboard!

The Friends coffee morning, Xmas disco and Panto!

The Friends are holding a coffee morning for new parents on Tuesday 20th October from 9am. It is a friendly, informal event and a chance to find out a little more about the Friends, meet other parents and eat cake! All parents and carers are very welcome to come along. The Friends have also funded and organised a Christmas Panto (Aladdin) for all classes on 2nd December. The Xmas disco this year is on Friday 11th December and will be a chance for your children (and you!) to visit Santa's grotto, have a dance and generally have a good time. A huge thank you for their fundraising efforts.



Sewing Club

A small group of talented children have recently joined a sewing club that takes place after school each week. They are developing their skills to create a Christmas stocking ready for filling in December!

Please don't hesitate to speak with myself or any member of staff if you have something you would like to discuss. You will find us in the playground before school starts, or you can make an appointment to see me by speaking with Sue in the office.