

# Holmwood School and Nursery

## Newsletter - Spring 2, February 2018

### **Dear Parents and Carers,**

Welcome back to Spring 2 term.

Just when we were all starting to think about Spring, and the weather warming up, another cold snap is coming our way!

Sorting school lunches continues to take up a significant amount of staff time. We no longer send out reminders to parents to order lunches online, as it is an online system that you have access to. However about a dozen children came into school with no lunch when we returned from the half term break. Of course we would never allow a child to go hungry, but no spare lunches are stocked in school. Please do check your online order on a regular basis.

Kind regards,

Mrs Claire Sharples,

Executive Headteacher

### **Attendance**

Holmwood has an attendance target of at least 96%. Whilst we understand there have been the usual winter illnesses going around, our attendance has dropped. Being late also makes a huge difference as children start with a "check-in" (linked to Restorative Principles) and then go straight into Read, Write Inc. We have tracked dips in progress in RWI to individual children being late.

Please contact the school before 9.30am by ringing 01908 260596 (24hr answerphone), email [absence@holmwoodschool.co.uk](mailto:absence@holmwoodschool.co.uk), report via parentmail or fill in an absence form via the school website. Notification after 9.30am will be classed as unauthorised. We are legally obliged to collect information regarding reasons for absence, so details of the illness must be given.

### **Behaviour Update and Restorative Principles**

We have reminded all children in school of our behaviour expectations. The vast majority of children continue to have excellent behaviour, but we have noticed some are trying to slip into bad habits. We pride ourselves on the excellent behaviour children demonstrate at Holmwood, and visitors frequently comment on the calm, purposeful but friendly atmosphere around school.

Dealing with conflict is a natural part of life, and we use restorative principles to resolve issues. Essentially we make sure that we listen to all sides of the story, and try not to presume we know what has actually taken place. Children are encouraged to talk about how the actions of others have affected them, and listen to the opinion of others. In this way we show children that we care about them all, and use problems that arise as learning opportunities, so that in the future they understand how best to deal with situations as they arise.

If you would like more information on Restorative Principles please go to:

[http://www.restorativefoundation.org.uk/Partnership-with-Pupils-v1\\_w.pdf](http://www.restorativefoundation.org.uk/Partnership-with-Pupils-v1_w.pdf)

However, we have very clear boundaries and high expectations. Everyone is expected to follow the Golden Rules, and there are consequences for breaking them.

### **Volunteers**

We are still looking for more volunteers.

We need YOU to help with a whole range of activities-listening to readers, helping with outdoor learning and gardening, tidying, clerical tasks.....the list could go on! Some of our volunteers have gone on to use the experience they gain in school to get onto training courses or obtain new jobs. If you have some spare time available please, please, please speak to your child's class teacher or Mrs Waters.

We are very lucky to have some volunteers who have been with us for many years. **Thank you** for all the work you do- you really do make a huge difference. ☺

### **School Value – Patience**

This half term we are focusing on the value Patience. Children will be asked to put a jewel in the 'Patience' jar, each time an adult sees them being patient. All adults in school will be looking for opportunities to reward the children. Please can you talk to your child/ren at home about how they can be patient?

Our school value links with the British Values, which the children are learning about regularly in assemblies and in class.

*Up and coming events:*

*(Please see the events calendar on the school website for further info)*

<b>February 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Parent Consultations 2-5pm</b>
<b>March 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Parent Consultations 4.30-6.50pm</b>
<b>March 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>World Book Day</b>
<b>March 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Year 2 Safety Centre Trip</b>
<b>March 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Fit &amp; Fun Festival</b>
<b>Week commencing March 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Science Week &amp; Read Write Inc Assessment Week</b>
<b>March 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Out of Schools Assembly</b>
<b>Week commencing March 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sport Relief Week / Sponsored mile (Info to follow)</b>
<b>March 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Football Day</b>
<b>March 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>World Poetry Day</b>
<b>March 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Sport Relief Cake Sale (tbc)</b>
<b>March 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Sport relief mufti day Easter Hat Parade @ 2:45pm Friends of Holmwood Lucky dip &amp; Uniform sale @ 3pm Break up for Easter</b>
<b>April 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Return to school</b>
<b>April 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Year 1 Walk around Great Holm</b>
<b>April 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>RWInc Development Day</b>
<b>April 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Year 1 walk to park</b>
<b>May 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Reception Trip to Mead Open Farm</b>
<b>7<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Bank Holiday</b>
<b>25<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>FOH Film &amp; Popcorn Mufti Day / Last day of term</b>