



NEWSLETTER – Friday 16th July 2021

Dear parent or carer,

We made it! Thank you all for your amazing support, especially across a very difficult last few weeks. We are looking forward to a change in regulations in August which we hope will bring a lot more stability for the start of the new school year.

To those families who are leaving us, in particular those who are seeing their youngest sibling leaving us after many years at Holystone, can I thank you for lending us your children, I hope that we have had a very positive impact on them - I wish you all the very best for the future. We love to hear how our former pupils are doing so please keep in touch.

For those due to return in September can I wish you a peaceful, sunny and safe summer. We look forward to see the children return in their sparkling new uniforms for what we hope will be the start of a journey back to normality.

Return in September – please look out for some additional correspondence that outlines our cautious approach to the lifting of restrictions in school from September.

Summer 10K challenge – through a brilliant link with one of our governors, we have acquired some amazing medals which we would like to use with our children. They were actually handed over to us by none other than Paula Radcliffe, World Champion and Marathon World Record holder! They were meant to be used in a 10k race “On the Tyne” last year organised by Steve Cram, but sadly that got cancelled. Our governor had a chat with me, and then approached Steve and he thought it would be brilliant if the medals could be recycled, so we thought we could set a 10k healthy summer challenge for our children. We are suggesting that children look to do 10km in any way they want, in stages or in one go, across the summer. They could run it, they could hop 100m, skip 100m and walk 100m a day...anything goes and the more unusual the better. As parents, you just to take a photo of your child doing an activity and either message us by Tapestry or SeeSaw or at enquiries@hpsps.org.uk to confirm a total of 10km has been completed by the end of the summer holiday. A walk on the beach counts as does a lap of the garden and whilst we would love for at least 10km to be covered, we will not be getting the tape measure out to check!



Maths Masters – well done to the children selected as this term's Maths Masters:

Reception: Ella Rae C (RSR); Charlotte P (RRW)

Year 1: Charlie K (1MW); Lucas W (1LS)

Year 2: Ellie C (2LJ); James P-E (2AH)

Year 3: Iris R (3JM); Charlotte S (3AB)

Year 4: Lucy S (4AS); Isla S (4EG)

Year 5: Emily B (5FH); Valentina D-P (5KF)

Year 6: Bonnie D (6PS); Isla S (6CD); Madeleine G (6JG)



Music Mark – teaching music in a pandemic has been a challenge, with initially no singing or wind instruments allowed. Despite this, the staff led by Mrs Parker and Mrs Cole have ensured we continue to offer a high quality offer and this was recently recognised as the Local Authority Music Hub nominated the school for the Music Mark Award. We were thrilled to find out on Tuesday that our nomination was successful and we are now a Music Mark school.

Thank You to the PTA – all pupils in school today were treated to an ice-cream or ice lolly courtesy of the PTA. I know they were very much enjoyed.



Maths Summer Resource – a resource that is usually chargeable is being offered free for 4-11yr olds across the summer. Carol Vorderman's Maths Factor Summer Adventure is available for anyone who wants to keep on top of their maths skills across the six weeks. The free sessions can be accessed via this link: <https://www.themathsfactor.com/summer-adventure/>

Y6 Leavers – it has been a difficult time for our Y6 pupils, some of whom have been self-isolating this last week, but today we had most back in and we have had a lovely final day. We had a huge inflatable obstacle course set up for them, they had a pub lunch from the Holystone Pub and we tried our best to live stream their leavers assembly so parents and one or two still isolating could join us.

They have had their last 18 months at Primary School impacted massively by the pandemic and they have missed out on a lot, however, they have taken all that has been thrown at them in their stride and I felt immensely proud of them when I handed their graduation certificates over this afternoon. Both classes have worked with local musician Phil Caffrey to write a class leavers song and they were wonderful.

Goodbye and Good Luck – we are very sorry to be losing Miss Jensen from our teaching team at the end of this term. Our loss is very much her new school's gain as she heads to a new teaching role back down south, close to her family. Miss Jensen has been a real asset to Holystone. She joined us as a trainee teacher three years ago and she was so good we kept hold of her! We wish her our very best wishes for the future.

Miss Ward who has been with us for much of the year working across several classes and Mrs Grey who has supported children in Year 5 will also leave us. We thank them both for their hard work and again wish them our very best wishes for the future.

