

Headteacher: Miss Helen Tyler



Dear Parents and Carers,  
 Newsletter No. 12 – Spring Term

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019

**Happy New Year and Welcome back** to all our families as we begin 2019 together. We hope you all enjoyed a restful break over Christmas. The whole staff would like to express their thanks for the many cards, gifts and good wishes we received at the end of term. Your kindness is very much appreciated.

### Attendance & Punctuality

As we start the New Year our first week we continue our focus on attendance and punctuality, which has such a great impact on the children's learning and progress. Although this first week has been a four day week, it is still disappointing to note that only our youngest children in the Nursery have met and exceeded our target of 96%, with one class as low as 86.9%. Much of this is due to families returning late from trips abroad. Term dates are communicated well in advance and we urge parents and carers to book their travel **within school holidays only**. We know that this impacts on cost, but the importance of good attendance cannot be stressed more strongly.



Year Group	% Present
Nursery	99.2%
Reception	86.9%
Year 1	95.4%
Year 2	91.4%
Year 3	93.7%
Year 4	96.9%
Year 5	95.5%
Year 6	93.1%

This year **Easter** falls late and we remind you that the **holiday** dates are **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> to Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April inclusive**. We will be working closely with the Education Welfare Officer and must advise you that we will not authorise any absences unless the circumstances are genuinely exceptional. A reminder then that children must return to school immediately after the Easter Bank Holiday weekend on **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019**.

### Carolling at Holborn Tube Station

We are so proud of our amazing Choir and Hand Bell Team who raised a record total of **£3,243.36** sharing their music and Christmas cheer at Holborn tube station last term. There is a little more money to be counted so the total may yet increase. The money will be shared between our school building fund and the Four Walls Charity for the homeless. A huge well done and thank you to all the children, parents and staff who braved the cold on the last day of term!



### Four Walls – Care Packs for the Homeless

Thank you again to those who sent in items for the care packs. Children from KS2 did such a brilliant job of putting the packs together that by the time some parents arrived to help, the work was almost done! The Charity took away a total of 59 packs to be distributed among those sleeping rough in the local area. Four Walls would like to express their thanks and also wanted us to let you know how caring and enthusiastic the children were about the project, working with them speedily and cheerfully to get the job done. Look out for some pictures on the front lobby display screen.



**Christmas Jumper Day** – A little more money came in for this Christmas event, bringing the total to **£115** which we will be sending on to the 'Save the Children' charity.

### Pope Francis Tweet



The difficulties of life can be with us at any time of the year, but are especially hard for us to deal with over the Christmas period. Pope Francis has these words of encouragement for us. Let us take heart from them and also learn to be there for others in times of need:



Do not be afraid to weep when you encounter difficult situations: tears are drops that irrigate life. Tears of compassion purify hearts and feelings.

## Whole School RE Homework

The feast of the Epiphany is celebrated by the Church every year on the 6<sup>th</sup> January. This is a very special day which marks the end of the Christmas season when Three Kings followed a star from far-away lands to visit the baby Jesus. Please help your children to complete the task relevant to their year group from the list below, set by Ms Logue. The homework should be brought in **by 25<sup>th</sup> January 2019**. Thank you.



KS2 - Think about the gifts the baby Jesus was given by the Three Wise Men. Explain in detail why these gifts were given and the prophecy behind the gifts.

KS1 - During our assembly on Monday we talked about a gift that we would like to give baby Jesus. Think carefully about the meaning of your gift and explain why you would give this to the baby Jesus.

Nursery and Reception – Draw a picture of the nativity scene including the Three Wise Men with their special gifts for the baby Jesus.

### Reception and Nursery Admissions – **Deadline is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

#### IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL OUR NURSERY PARENTS

Parents of our current Nursery aged children can already apply for a Reception place for September 2019. This must be done online with the Local Authority and our own Supplementary Information Form is also required. Contact the office or visit the school website for details.

Children who will have their 4<sup>th</sup> birthday between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020 can apply directly to the school for a Nursery place starting in September 2019. Information is on our website.

Booklets about 'Starting School in Camden' have gone out to Nursery parents and contain important information about how to apply. Visit: <https://www.camden.gov.uk/ccm/navigation/education/camden-schools/primary-schools/> and be sure to meet the deadline.

## Clubs and Activities

Parents and carers were contacted via email earlier this week about the after school activities available for this half-term.

Mondays from 3.30 to 4.30 pm	Cooking Club – KS2 (Yrs 3 to 6) with Miss Plivda & Miss Iglesias	Some places available
Mondays from 3.30 to 4.30 pm	Lego Club – Rec, Y1, Y2 with Miss Duffield & Ms Defreitas	Some places available
Mondays from 3.30 to 4.30 pm	Benchball / Dodgeball – Y3, Y4 with Mrs Davis & staff TBC	Please register your interest for now - TBC
Tuesdays from 3.30 to 4.30 pm	Arts & Crafts – Rec, Y1, Y2 with Mrs Davis & Miss Duffield	Some places available
Wednesdays from 3.30 to 4.30 pm	Cooking Club – Rec, Y1, Y2 with Miss Plivda & Miss Iglesias	Full
Thursdays from 3.30 to 4.30 pm	Reading Club – Y1 & Y2 with Miss Smith & Mrs Davis	Some places available

Miss Plivda will be in touch to confirm places later today. As usual, we will be asking for a contribution of **£15 for the half-term**, with the exception of Reading Club, which will be just £5. Once places are confirmed, payment can be made via ParentPay.

Clubs will begin next week, except for the proposed Bench-ball / Dodgeball Club, where we are canvassing interest for the moment and we will let everyone know next week whether or not this will go ahead.

**Special Parents Forum** – A timetable is attached, aimed at parents and carers of children with special educational needs, giving details of Spring Term events in Camden.

**Coding with Purpose** – A flyer is attached with details of a coding club being offered locally for children in Years 5, 6 & 7, on the following Saturdays: 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 6<sup>th</sup> April and 4<sup>th</sup> May 2019. Please contact the organisation directly to find out more or to book a place. There is a cost but we are told that bursaries may be available in certain cases. Tomorrow's Achievers, who run the course, have a website at: [www.tomorrowsachievers.co.uk](http://www.tomorrowsachievers.co.uk) so do visit it for details.

**Art Communications** – Below is some information about a ‘Creative Communications Workshop’ running at Holborn Community Centre, which is aimed at children who might be experiencing social communication difficulties.

**Dates and Events**

As we begin the calendar year, term dates for the Spring and Summer are given below. Please do not book any holidays or time away during term time. Thank you.

Kind regards,

*H Tyler*

Miss Helen Tyler  
Headteacher



**Spring Term 2019 (29 + 29 = 58 days)**

Monday 7 January	Staff INSET Day
Tuesday 8 January	Children start school
Monday 18 February – Friday 22 February	Half Term
Monday 25 February	Staff INSET Day
Tuesday 26 February	Children start school
Friday 5 April	Last day of term

**Summer Term 2019 (23 + 36 = 59 days)**

Tuesday 23 April	Staff INSET Day
Wednesday 24 April	Children start school
Monday 6 May	May Day Bank Holiday (school closed)
Monday 27 May – Friday 31 May	Half Term
Monday 3 June	Children start school
Tuesday 23 July	Last day of term

**STAFF INSET DAYS (5)**

- Monday 3 September 2018
- Monday 29 October 2018
- Monday 7 January 2019
- Monday 25 February 2019
- Tuesday 23 April 2019

**Public Holidays Spring and Summer 2019**

- Good Friday                      Friday 19 April
- Easter Monday                Monday 22 April
- May Day                         Monday 6 May
- Spring Bank Holiday        Monday 27 May
- August Bank Holiday        Monday 26 August

CREATIVE COMMUNICATION GROUP

WEEKLY CREATIVE SESSIONS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH SOCIAL COMMUNICATION DIFFICULTIES

Thursday:  
6 - 11yrs 4.30pm - 5.30pm  
12 - 16yrs 5.45pm - 6.45pm

[www.holborncommunity.co.uk](http://www.holborncommunity.co.uk)  
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