



HOLLYBROOK SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter – October 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our brand new information update. We hope this answers any questions you may have regarding the formation of Hollybrook Schools Association, formed after a merger of Hollybrook Infant School Association and Hollybrook Junior School Junior PTA, and will keep you informed of events we have planned for 2016.

Many thanks for your support

Ruth Hollyoake (Chair for juniors) & Lisa Richardson (Chair for infants)



What is Hollybrook Schools Association?

A school association is a group of parents/carers and teachers who volunteer to raise essential funds to provide the children with equipment that is not covered by the school's budget, including playground equipment and technology within the classroom. With budgets being cut dramatically, the association is needed today more than ever before within our schools to ensure our children receive the best possible educational experience during their time at Hollybrook.

The infant school has had an active association for many years but the junior school has found it harder to find volunteers, possibly because many parents are back in full time work. With both schools now working closely together since they became part of the JET trust and with the majority of children who attend the infant school moving onto the junior school, the idea was put forward to have a joint association so that the children could benefit from funds raised from reception through to Year 6.

As a parent/carer of a child at Hollybrook you are automatically a member of Hollybrook Schools Association and your help is always welcome and needed. As a charitable association, we do have to have a formal committee but there are only a few of us and we always need help from extra volunteers so events we would like to run can happen. *Please don't be shy, we are not a closed group and really do welcome everyone.* Your input can be as much or as little as you choose to commit to, so please do look out for information on how you can get involved throughout the year. We recently sent out a survey asking whether you would like to support a schools association and we had a huge response, suggesting that evening meetings would be a popular choice. We have listened and will be organising both evening and morning meetings in the future and look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to these.

As a joint association working with children of very different ages, we are well aware that we will still need to have separate events. All funds raised will be split fairly between the two schools, so all joint events will be divided equally and separate events organised will benefit the school involved.

We are pleased to announce that at the infant AGM in October we handed a cheque to the infant school for the fantastic amount of **£4500** raised from events during the year. A huge thank you to everyone who made this possible.

Our committee for 2016-2017

Junior Chair - Ruth Hollyoake

Infant Chair - Lisa Richardson

Junior Vice Chair - Anna Babington

Infant Vice Chair - Sarah Bomber

Treasurer for Juniors and Infants - Lisa Waghorne

Vice Treasurers for Juniors and Infants - Lucy Waghorne and Hannah Waghorne

Secretary for Juniors and Infants - Kat Jeffery



Class Representatives

Class reps are essential to the school. They act as a link between parents and head/deputy head teachers by attending termly Parent Forum meetings where they pass on positive and constructive feedback to the school. Class reps also take responsibility for organising rotas such as swimming, cookery, reading etc.

Infant School Class Reps

Hedgehogs: Jenny Devine & Siân Ahraoui

Foxes: Kat Jeffery & Mary Torrens

Rabbits: Susan/John Leaver & Maria Borisova

Squirrels: Jo Brown & Fran White

Owls: Sarah Bomber & Anna Babington

Badgers: Phoebe Holmes

Junior School Reps

3C: Katie Prieto & Naz Jones

3K: Andrea Hoy & Clare Cole

4LN: Aimee Ryles & Jo Brown

4S: Antonia Murphy & Jane Pate

5/6JM: Rachel Kennion & Vanessa Moore

5/6OB: Andrea Hoy & Clare Cole

5/6C: Dawn Young & Regina Kiss



Easy Fundraising

By logging onto www.easyfundraising.com and searching for Hollybrook Infant School you can help raise cash whilst completing your online shopping. You need to begin your online shopping with them and a percentage of your spend will go to both schools. We are currently in the process of changing the name to Hollybrook Schools Association but in the meantime, please be assured that this is a joint scheme and both schools will benefit.



Christmas Events 2016

Infant School Christmas Fayre, Friday 25 November

The infant school will be hosting its popular Christmas Fayre on Friday 25 November straight after school. The fayre is open to parents/carers and children of both schools. Help is needed to organize this event and if you can spare some time then please speak to Lisa Richardson.

Christmas Shopping Days, Infants - Wednesday 14 December, Juniors - Thursday 15 December

Both schools will benefit from a shopping day where children will have the opportunity to buy a present for mum/dad/step-parent or carer, wrap it at school and bring it home to place under the tree. The children in both schools love this event and take such pride in selecting their gifts. We are very aware that the system for running this has not always been perfect and so this year the format will be changing and we will send further details nearer the time.



Noticeboard

We now have a brand new noticeboard in the main junior playground. Please do check this as we will be using it to update you on future events.



Documents and meeting minutes

All minutes of our meetings and documents relating to the structure of the schools association are available to view in both the infant and junior school offices. Should you have any queries on any of these please e-mail our secretary Kat Jeffery, katrinajtrans@gmail.com



Dates for your Diary

- Friday 21 November – Sale of second hand junior school uniform (from pick up in junior playground)
- Friday 4 November 2pm – Meeting to plan Infant Christmas Fayre. Everyone welcome! (Infant school hall)
- Friday 4 November – Children to bring in a bottle donation for Christmas Fayre (infants only)
- Friday 25 November – Children to bring in a cake (homemade or shop bought) to be sold at Christmas Fayre (infants only)
- Friday 25 November – Infant Christmas Fayre – Open to both infant and junior school parents/carers
- Wednesday 14 December – Infant Christmas shopping day (details to follow)
- Thursday 15 December – Junior Christmas shopping day (details to follow)
- Tuesday 4 April – Whole school disco (details to follow)

If you have any questions or ideas and would like to speak to a member of our committee then please e-mail Kat Jeffery, katrinajtrans@gmail.com, Secretary to Hollybrook Schools Association, and she will forward your e-mail to the relevant person.