

## **Principal's Newsletter – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

Happy Friday!

What another brilliant term it has been this year with some amazing learning and progress taking place this half term. Well done to all the all who also were awarded the Principal's Treat this morning; I know the children who have remained on green this half term, really enjoyed their candyfloss.

### **Christmas at Holne Chase**



With the addition of the snow, it certainly has been a Christmassy and busy week in school. We have enjoyed Christmas lunches, reindeer, making snowmen, Christmas performances and our wonderful Christmas Fayre.

I want to firstly thank all the staff and children for their hard work in putting together the Christmas performances. I am sure you will agree, they were thoroughly enjoyable and the children's singing was of West End standard.

Also, a huge thank you to Emma Banfield and her Friends of Holne Chase team who have worked tirelessly to prepare the Christmas Fayre, which was a massive success. I was so impressed with the number of people who attended and supported our school to raise lots of funds for our Learning Garden. Thank you to all you parents for your continued support with our school and making the amazing place it is to learn.

### **Reading**

Thank you to all the children/parents who have returned their reading books this week. New reading books will be handed out after the Christmas holidays and Reading Buddy will be updated with their new levels. Over the Christmas period, continue to read to your child and encourage them to log in to Reading Buddy to continue with reading.

Our new library is nearly complete, with the finishes touches to take place in the new year. The children will start visiting the library once a week, where they will have the opportunity to read for pleasure and change their library book. Please ensure that your child returns their library book on their library day, which we will let you know in the new year.



### **Communication**

Thank you to all parents who have given positive feedback with the changes to communication from school since September. Please remember that we will only send emails for emergencies or important information that cannot wait until Friday. During the week, we will use the InApp Messenger service via Arbor. Therefore, it is important that you have downloaded the Arbor App so that you are kept up-to-date with all communication from the school.

### **Supporting Our Families**

This half term, we have been luckily enough to work with a range of charities to support families who are being impacted by the cost-of-living crisis. St Mark's Meals is a fantastic charity, based in Milton Keynes, who supply schools with food boxes to feed a family of 4, which we donate to any families who require the support. We have also been able to access Christmas hampers from the local church and with the help from our very own Santa (Hayley Randall), we have been donated toys to support families across our school community. I want to publicly thank all the charities for their kind donations and their hard work in supporting people across the city.

At Holne Chase, we want to ensure that we can support any family who are struggling so if you would like a food box or advice on how to find further support, please contact the school office and speak to either myself or Sarah McConnell.

Phone: 01908 373640 Email: [office@holnechase.org](mailto:office@holnechase.org)

Website: [www.holnechase.com](http://www.holnechase.com)

Principal: Mr. David Killick

## Attendance

Below are the attendance figures for each class for last half term, this half term and the year so far. We have had lots of sickness this half term, which has affected both staff and children at different points throughout November and December, which you can see has had a huge impact on our attendance figures in some classes. If your child's attendance is a cause of concern, you will receive a letter, with some requesting that an attendance meeting is booked. I hope that you are all well and we look forward to our attendance rising again in the new year

	RMT	1SSB	2EC	3LM	4CB	5AW	5/6EH	6FH	Whole School	Target
Autumn 1	97%	97%	96%	96%	96%	94%	90%	95%	95%	95%
Autumn 2	90%	92%	95%	91%	89%	93%	89%	92%	91%	95%
Year So Far	93%	94%	96%	93%	92%	93%	90%	93%	93%	95%

## Fundraising



I want to say a huge thank you to Eve who has been supporting the Friends of Holne Chase by raising money towards the renovation of the garden at Holne Chase. She has been selling craft items that she has made herself at three Christmas craft markets including the local one at Melrose Place, Frank Moran Centre and finishing this week at the school Christmas Market.

In total she has raised £45.00 to the Friends of Holne Chase to put towards the renovation of the garden.

Thank you Eve for your amazing fundraising!

## Dates for your Diary - 2023

Event	Date	Time
First Day of Spring 1	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	8:40am
Friends of Holne Chase Movie Night	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> January	Details to follow
Year 5 and Year 6 Bikeability	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> January – Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	Throughout the school day
Chinese New Year Celebration	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	Please see newsletter dated 9.12.22 for more information
Year 5 and 6 Netball Tournament	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	Details to follow for specific children
Y5 Shakespeare Performance @ Royal Derngate Theatre, Northampton	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Letter to go out to relevant parents in the new year
Books Over Breakfast	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	8am – 8:40am
Children's Mental Health Day	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Details to follow
Last Day of Spring 1	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	3pm / 3:10pm
HALF TERM Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February		
First Day of Spring 2	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	8:40am

**Have a Christmas holiday and I look forward to seeing you in the new year!**

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