

A Weekend Update from Holland Moor- Saturday October 10th



Uniform and PE Kit

I've never known so many pieces of uniform arrive from our suppliers during one week. I hope we have very few outstanding orders – just ten according to my calculations. The children looked very smart this week and the flexibility with PE kit seemed to work well too.

Google Classroom – Please join up!

Swimming

Thanks to the additional 14 families who have sent me their views about the resumption of swimming lessons. I'll be contacting all Year 4 parents / carers very soon.

KS2A Class of the Week

Class 3-4T for playing so well during their lunchtime break. They seem to choose an animal a day. This week I've seen packs of dogs, a chicken farm and a serious number of werewolves on Thursday.

KS2B Class of the Week

It's got to be Class 6T who responding to a challenge from Mr Gibbings, managed to remain totally silent during a wet lunchtime break for over six minutes. Believe me I'm talking totally silent.

Google Classroom – Please join up!

Remote Learning

Well done to Miss Carradice, Mr Barrett and Mr Sanders who have taught their classes remotely this week. This is in addition to Miss McFord who has been teaching live lessons to her class throughout the period of class isolation. It was fascinating to see Mr Barrett greet his children and teach them too. Mr Barrett reports-

The children were absolutely fantastic and they loved the experience. They engaged wonderfully in their phonics and mathematics and made good progress in the lessons. They responded superbly to all direct instructions and watched intently at the screen when modelling was being completed. The children responded well to the handwriting session and the demonstrations of the letter formations were clear. I was able to check formations through the visualiser and give on-the-spot feedback. Overall, it was a great experience and as a class and a team, we are fully prepared if it needs to be used again.

The children commented

It was magic and we still got to learn phonics

It was weird seeing the numbers appear on the board in maths

I was shocked to see Mr Barrett on the board when I walked in

9000 out of 9000 to Mr Barrett – it was really cool

100 out of 100 because we got to see your house and your cat

and when Mr Barrett got back to school

Mr Barrett can you get back into the smartboard now!

Walk to school

Thanks to the many, many families who took part in this initiative. Remember to colour the footprints and get the entry to Mr Edwards. Amazon tokens await our lucky winners.

National Space Week

We've been celebrating National Space Week in school since last Monday and will round the celebration off next week with a special Mr Barrett assembly. Look out for Mr Barrett's space, science and astronomy posts on our Facebook page.

Bubbles

Our bubbles continue to work well and I have seen very little infiltration and no bursting. I must praise our children who keep so well distanced on the playground, in corridors and dining queues etc.

Handover times – Early Years

It's always going to be difficult to maintain effective social distancing at handover times with our very young children. We want to be warm and welcoming but I want my staff to feel entirely safe as well. I've put some new systems in place and I hope we can all work together to achieve both these aims.

Toast

Thanks to everyone who has paid in advance for toast – it really helps us keep our Tesco order accurate and ensures we don't over order.

Google Classroom – Please join up!

Lost Property

We are down to half a bag now and will retain these items until the half-term break. It's been great this week to see so many uniform items correctly named and it's been very easy for me to return them to the owner if they've been left on the playground.

Free School Meals for ALL Reception Year, Year 1 and Year 2 children

Ten more children have started eating a free school meal this week.

Club of the Week

Netball Club. Although the first match was postponed this week attendance remains high and the skill level is certainly improving. It's lovely to see children from different year groups playing together and older children coaching younger club members. That's our ethos in action.

Google Classroom – Please join up!

Consultation Evenings

We will be holding consultation evenings on Tuesday November 10th and Wednesday November 11th. Booking will open on Monday November 2nd. We will be using the Group Call booking system and you'll be able to book a telephone conversation or a video conference.

Halloween Disco

Holland Moor staff will be leading a 30 minute – join in from home Halloween disco soon after the half-term break. We'll be using Facebook Live and Google Classrooms.

Google Classroom – Please join up!

Christmas Raffle – The 12 Days of Christmas Hamper Raffle

It's unlikely we'll be holding a Christmas Fair this year so we want to make the Christmas Raffle even bigger and better than usual. There's going to be two winners each day from Thursday December 3rd – a hamper winner and an alternative prize winner. We are looking for some prizes so any donation of a good quality item would be much appreciated. We'll be selling tickets from Monday November 2nd.

Google Classroom – Please join up!

Christmas Plays

Our Christmas plays/productions will continue this year but again it's unlikely we'll be able to have an audience in the hall. We'll be filming each production and live streaming each on Google Classroom – another good reason to sign up! Each performance will remain on Google Classroom for a week.

School App – 278 / 266

We are going to be communicating more and more with parents and carers via emails, texts and push notifications on the school app. Accordingly, it remains very important that we have correct and up-to-date telephone numbers and email addresses. We have sent out 544 invitations to download the app but so far only 278 individuals have accepted. I know that sometimes this is because both parents have been sent an invitation but I would like our reach to be as extensive as possible

Our Facebook and Twitter Page

I realise not all families follow us on social media and I know some parents and carers actively dislike Facebook but we do post some very interesting items to both Facebook and Twitter. Both are great ways to discover more about specific topics or themes we are following / delivering in school.

I wish everyone a great rest of the weekend. MIKE BEALE – 10/10/2020

Google Classroom – Please join up!