Another jam packed week at Hollymount. Clubs have started and what a range there are. We had ‘Dance4All’ workshops on Monday for Years 1-5 and it looked as if they were having a lot of fun and learning some interesting new moves! Nursery children have all joined us so I want to welcome them to the Hollymount community and hope they have a successful and happy time with us. Last weekend, a group of Year 6 children took part in a spectacular concert at King’s College School Wimbledon. They sang alongside children from KCS and did the school proud. I received this email from KCS this week:

‘Please pass on my thanks and appreciation to the pupils who sang on Saturday evening. It was a wonderful celebration of partnership work and I was absolutely delighted with the performance. The children brought so much enthusiasm with them and they had worked tremendously hard on the music with magnificent results. It was an absolute privilege to perform with them.’

Well done to the children involved and thank you to all the staff for making this a wonderful occasion.

Date List

September
Thursday 27th
6pm Parents Open Evening

October
Tuesday 2nd
Year 5 Thames Tales
Thursday 4th
Year 3 trip to Wisley
Friday 5th
9.05 am Harvest Festival Assembly
Monday 8th
Year 2 Brightsparks Concert
Wednesday 10th
World Mental Health Day
Year 5 Anglo Saxon Workshops
Thursday 11th
Individual and Family Photos
Year 2 Wimbledon Bookfest
Friday 12th
Year 3 Wimbledon Bookfest

Picking up at the end of the day

I have had some parents asking me about children walking home alone and whether or not children can pick up their siblings. The school policy is:

Only children in Year 5 or 6 may walk home alone and a completed form must be handed to the office. Children may collect younger siblings from class but the school recommends that the older sibling should be in Year 6 and the younger sibling being collected should be in KS2. Written permission must be given by parents stating they take full responsibility and handed to the office. All decisions are at the discretion of the school.
The best in Autumn fiction
The Book of Dust– Philip Pullman (KS2)
Head Kid– David Baddiel (KS1/2)
Fantastically Great Woman Who Changed The World– Kate Pankhurst (KS1)

Contacting teachers
Whilst we have an open door policy at Hollymount, I have become aware that some teachers are receiving a large number of emails from parents. This leads to teachers spending time reading and responding to emails rather than preparing and planning wonderful learning experiences for your children. If you need to contact a teacher, please see them at the start or end of the day, arrange a meeting or send a note in. Please only send emails if it is urgent.

New children
I would like to welcome Tharunja and A’bel (3HS) and Yana (Rowan) to Hollymount. We are very happy to have you join the team.

Open Evening
Reminder: Parents Open Evening on Thursday 27th September 6-7pm. This is adults only and the PTA will be running a bar. We regret there that there are NO child care facilities.

Start and end of the day
Reminder – children need to be in school for 8.55am for when the bell rings.
Children are not allowed on the apparatus before or after school as there are no staff to supervise.

Parking outside
Following on from my message in last week’s newsletter, I received the following email from the borough:
Merton’s Parking Enforcement Department will be enforcing a systematic surveillance of school zig zags with both portable and static CCTV camera’s at all schools in the Borough. Offending vehicles will be issued with Penalty Notices.
You have been warned!

Call for entries!
It’s the Christ Church CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION
Are you a whizz with watercolours or a secret David Bailey?

How to enter
You are invited to submit paintings, drawings, photographs or collages of any size and whatever medium you like that say ‘Christmas at Christ Church’. Bring your entries into Church, with your name on the back and give to Naomi Lowe or one of the wardens. Closing date is 7th October.

The judging
The judges will be looking for entries that epitomise the joy of the Christmas message and the vibrancy of life here at Christ Church. The winners will have the honour of seeing their creations printed as cards and sold to help raise funds for Christ Church. Good luck.
Dear Parents/Carers,

I have been asked on many occasions to provide parents with information about certain apps and games that their children are using or are interested in trying. So, every week, I will be featuring one game or an app that has been brought to my attention by parents and ones that children tell me that they play at home or at a friend’s houses. It is so important that you talk to your children about their online behaviour, how they interact with their friends and others online and how to keep themselves safe. Please see the advice at the end of this letter.

**FORTNITE**

popular with year 4, 5 & 6 although children as young as Year 2 have played it with their older siblings.

What is Fortnite?

Fortnite is a multiplayer action survival game, Fortnite: Battle Royale is free to download but requires in game purchasing to upgrade weapons and armour if you are to get anywhere in the game. Players can currently play Fortnite: Battle Royale on a PC, Mac, Xbox, and PlayStation or download it from the App Store. Use of the game has grown rapidly amongst children and young people since the launch of the mobile game in March 2018. As of 2nd May, the app version is only available on iOS but an Android release is expected shortly. The game involves 100 players parachuting onto an island where they then fight and kill each other in real time to be the final survivor. When a player kills another, all the coins and goods that the opponent has collected over many hours of play then goes to the victor. A unique feature of Fortnite is that players can bust out a few dance moves to celebrate a kill, taunt an opponent or simply because they feel like it. (It made the Flossing dance move more popular).

**Age Restriction** (recommended age ratings for the game)

- Epic Games: Fortnite: Battle Royale says it does not direct the game to children under the age of 13 in the UK.
- The PEGI rating for this game is 12 years old. However, PEGI does not consider chat features when rating games. You can find out more about age ratings here.
- The App Store says that users must be 12+ to play.

**Features to be aware of or that are not suitable for Primary children**

- Players can add friends in the mobile game if they have an account with Epic, the game’s developer. Friends can also be added by username in the game’s main menu.

Continued..
There is a chat feature in the game that allows users to contact each other using voice or text. You can disable voice chat in the game by selecting the 3 lines in the top right of the screen, select the settings icon, choose the ‘Audio’ tab at the top of the screen and go to the ‘Voice Chat’ option, where you can select ‘Off’. **The text function however cannot be turned off.**

There is extreme cartoon violence in the game. You can use a variety of weapons to kill other players, such as guns and axes. Children can become frustrated if they have played the game for hours and then killed by their friend (or stranger) who has bought better weapons and gear. There are in-app purchases, which can become expensive. You need to upgrade your weapons and gear to have a chance at winning.

Players can be reported to the Player Support team if you are concerned about activity or behaviour.

**As with all games and apps, we offer this advice to parents:**

- Talk to your child regularly about what they are doing online and how to stay safe. Let them know they can come to you or another trusted adult if they are feeling worried or upset by anything they have seen. You can use these [conversation starters](#) to help.
- Explore your child’s online activities together. Understand why they like using certain apps, games or websites and make sure they know what they can do to keep themselves safe.
- Agree your own rules as a family when using sites, apps and games. You can use this [Family Agreement](#) template to help you get started.
- Manage your technology and use the privacy and parental control settings available to keep your child safe.

Maria Halpin
IT Manager

Next week, ROBLOX
The Headteacher, Mr House, extends a warm invitation to prospective parents and pupils to our

**Open Evening**

Thursday 27th September 2018
5.30pm to 8.30pm

The Headteacher will speak at 5.45pm, 6.15pm, 6.45pm and 7.15pm.

If you are unable to attend the open evening, our school prospectus and information about admissions are available on our website.

We are also holding two open mornings (by appointment only) on Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd October at 9.00am.

Please email: admissions@greenshaw.co.uk

Greenshaw High School, Grennell Road, Sutton SM1 3DY
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