Another busy week at Hollymount. There have been a number of visits and visitors since last Friday which is great to see. Enriching the curriculum is something we continue to look to develop at the school.

I was lucky enough to go to a Shanghai Showcase Maths lesson on Thursday with Miss Frost. We observed a Year 6 lesson taught by a teacher from Shanghai. It was fascinating to see and Miss Frost and I came back full of ideas and enthusiasm. They started by explaining why they think children’s outcomes are so high in China. It is believed that these four traditional educational values have the biggest impact:

1. Education is seen as extremely important.
2. Teachers have a very high status in society.
3. The belief that hard work can change your future.
4. Importance of examinations.

It made me think what would the UK’s traditional educational values be? Something to ponder. I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Staffing News
I am delighted to say we have recruited for our two other maternity positions starting after half term. Mrs Daffue, our wonderful Reception teacher and Assistant Head, will be replaced by Mrs Dooley in Holly Class. Mrs Dooley is a very experienced teacher from South Africa but currently working in London. Mrs Singfield, our fantastic Year 3 teacher and Key Stage 2 Leader, will be replaced by Miss Poverello in Year 3. Miss Poverello blew me away with her maths lesson during the interview process and is currently a Year 5 teacher in a South London school. Both teachers will be in before half term to get to know the children and the Hollymount team. As much as we will miss Mrs Daffue and Mrs Singfield, we know they will be back and have found two excellent teachers in the meantime!

Theme Week
In the last week of this term (1st—5th April) we are holding a theme week with a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths) focus. We have held our first planning meeting and it promises to be a very exciting week for the children. If any parents work or have skills in any of the areas mentioned above and are willing to come and share these with the children/staff during the theme week please drop your name, area of expertise and email address to the office and we will be in contact.
Year 2 Vet Talk
On Tuesday, Year 2 found out about the basic needs of animals living in the United Kingdom. They thought about what they needed to survive and looked at how we can help keep them safe with not only water, food and air but also at what we do to our environment. The children looked at different x-rays, dressed up as a vet and learnt how to bandage the animals too. Ethan said, "My mummy is the vet and she came to teach us how we can look after animals too. I liked dressing up as the vet and seeing the different food that animals eat."

Single Use Plastic Assembly
On Monday morning we enjoyed learning all about how to reduce our plastic waste. Ann from Riverford Organic Farmers returned to Hollymount. Riverford sponsors our PTA and are supporting our Summer Bazaar – you could win a £30 Riverford voucher! In addition, Hollymount will receive £25 for anyone (parent, carer, grandparent) who receives at least 3 deliveries & enters our code, or if you are an existing customer. You will receive a copy of their ‘Spring & Summer Veg Box Companion’ with your first delivery, full of tips & simple seasonal recipes. Feel free to email Ann from Riverford at anneve@riverfordhomedelivery.co.uk if you have any questions. Visit www.riverford.co.uk to place your first order, using voucher code SCH1029 & select option “Veg Fund” in “How did you hear about Riverford?”.

Year 3 Trip to National History Museum
Year 3 went on a trip to the Natural History Museum on Friday 18th January. The children enjoyed sketching fossils and precious stones, as well as visiting the Dinosaur gallery, where they encountered a huge T-rex! They were all excited to see the fossil discovered by Mary Anning, who they are currently learning about in Literacy.

Year 5 Trip to Kidzania
Last Friday, Year 5 took a trip to Kidzania. Kidzania is a kids world based on business and micro-society (our Topic theme). You get to do jobs and earn money (called Kidzos). Kidzania is a fun and educational place for kids to go. You could do things like graduate at university, deliver parcels to different shops, make food and also be a window cleaner. This earned you the most amount of Kidzos. Luckily, everyone started off with 50 Kidzos and we could spend the money how we wanted to. Amazingly, they even had real fire engines that could move and you could learn how to be a police officer. It was a fantastic trip.

Year 5 pupils

School Vision
Please take a look at the next page to read the school’s three year vision. This was developed last term by the whole school community—staff, children, parents and governors.
Hollymount vision statements 2018

Teaching, learning, assessment and experience
In 2021, there is creative and inspiring teaching by all that is varied and enjoyable so children have an enriched experience whilst mastering fundamental skills. Opportunities are provided to enable staff to plan and create outstanding learning and curriculum opportunities, ensuring children are fully prepared for the next step in their education. Assessment is meaningful, manageable and motivating so that it caters for every child’s needs. Children receive a well-rounded education, including varied trips/visitors, interesting arts programme and a range of sporting opportunities that include competitions. There is a learning culture across the school that is fostered through inter-year learning, peer teaching and includes outdoor learning experiences.

Outcomes for pupils
In 2021, Hollymount continues to perform well above national and local average in all areas of learning. Our outcomes for pupils include diverse learning experiences and opportunities for children to develop creatively when applying their knowledge in real-life situations thus preparing them for the ever-changing world. All children achieve well based on their unique starting points. Children leave Hollymount sociable, respectful, happy and ready for their next stage of education.

Partnerships
In 2021, the school understands the importance and value of forming partnerships within the school, locally and across the globe. Parents are heavily involved as partners drawing on their cultures, professions and life experiences. There are strong community links and the school always looks to forge new links within the community. The cluster of local schools share good practice for all members of staff so that all can develop together. There are links globally that encourage children to be global citizens so that they understand and appreciate all they have.

Leadership and management
In 2021, the leadership and management team is positive, approachable and inspiring. Communication with all stakeholders is clear, strong and representative of the school’s values. Everyone has a voice and is an active leader and there is a strong team ethos and desire in achieving a shared vision.

Pupils’ personal development, behaviour and welfare
In 2021, children have an awareness of their own mental wellbeing and have strategies to cope with it. Children’s mental health and wellbeing is at the core of pupils’ personal development, behaviour and welfare. There is a consistent and clear whole school approach to behaviour with high expectation for the whole school community. The school values are embedded in all that children and staff do and are reflected in the way all conduct themselves in all aspects of their lives. Children will be supported in managing friendships and challenges and help them develop social and communication skills.

Staffing team
In 2021, the staffing team is passionate, empathetic, supportive and full of highly elective team players. They celebrate each other’s achievements and the achievements of the school. There is cohesion between key stages and all job roles, developing strengths and a sense of ownership and autonomy for every member of staff. Staff feel respected and valued and all staff have strong sense of wellbeing at work. All staff work towards a shared vision and drive improvement throughout the school.
**New Date:** Wednesday, March 2nd at 7-9pm

**Venue:** Cheadle Centre, Room 3, Cheadley Road, Moordens, S46 6PX

**About the Event:**

The event will explore strategies to increase your confidence so you can prepare your child for school. Parent/Carer Forum for Parents of Children with Additional Needs

**What to Expect:**

- **Morning Session:**
  - Learning about strategies to increase confidence
  - Sharing experiences of parents who have prepared their child for school
  - Q&A session

- **Afternoon Session:**
  - Workshop on confidence and assertiveness
  - Group discussions and feedback sessions

**Registration:**

- Please register your interest by contacting us at info@confidentparents.org.uk
- Spaces are limited, so book early to secure your place.

**Contact Information:**

- Email: info@confidentparents.org.uk
- Telephone: 01234 567890

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**Short Breaks:**

- Tuesday, 14th March at 10am
- Thursday, 23rd March at 10am

** SEN or Disabilities:**

- What to expect from your school if you have a child with SEN or disabilities
- Forum for Parents of Children with Special Educational Needs

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**Next Events:**

- **Free Kids First Spring Term Events for 2019**

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**Mencap Melton:**

- Mental Health & Wellbeing Support Service
- Advice & Support Service
- Educational & Employment Support
- Advocacy Services

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**Mencap Melton:**

- Providing support for people with learning disabilities
- Advocacy services and support for families

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Minutes of PTA Coffee Morning Meeting 25th January 2019  9.15am - 10.30 am

Present:
Committee Members: Bernice Choo, Taronish Billimoria, Kate Martin, Louise Cabecas, Jo Spreadbury, Jo Richards
School: Mr Birnage, Miss Davis, Ms Sadler, Miss Howland
Class Reps: 14 class reps
Parents/Guardians: 12 additional parents attended

THESE MINUTES SHOULD BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SLIDES PRESENTED AT THE MEETING. THESE ARE ATTACHED TO THIS NOTE. ALSO ATTACHED IS A LIST OF COMPANIES WE BELIEVE OFFER MATCHED FUNDING TO THEIR EMPLOYEES

1. Introductions
Bernice introduced herself and the PTA committee members. (Slide 4)
Bernice also encouraged those present to contribute their ideas on post it notes. Please refer to Appendix 1 for the ideas that were noted.

2. Funds raised
Bernice took us through slides 6-10 outlining how we have raised funds so far this year. Our main fundraiser this year has been the winter fair, which raised over £12k. As noted at the previous coffee morning, it is the aim of the PTA to increase the proportion of external fundraising (where the money raised does not come from parents/guardians) relative to internal fundraising and based on forecast figures we are on track to achieve this. (Slide 8)

Bernice drew attention to Easyfundraising as one of the sources of external fundraising. The PTA now has 180 supporters on Easyfundraising, who have raised £406 since September. Easyfundraising is a free service which allows charities to raise money when their supporters shop online with over 2,700 retailers, including Amazon, John Lewis, Argos and booking.com. Attendees were encouraged to ask extended families to sign up and nominate Hollymount PTA as their charity. If you sign up with the following link, an extra £5 will be given to the school once you have raised £5.
https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/1ZRC84

The Parent Fund campaign through Local Giving was successful and 110 parents (approximately half of the parent community) are now donating to the school via direct debit. We will be receiving £4,300 out of a maximum £5,000 of matched funding from Local Giving. There will be a further campaign to encourage one-off donations later in the term. (Slide 10)

3. Donations to school
So far this year funds have been spent on spent on a new projector for the main hall, ten picnic benches, class Christmas presents and non-fiction topic books. (Slide 12)
4. Have your say

Strategic long-term plan

Mr Birnage presented Hollymount’s vision statements outlining a vision of what the school would be like in three years’ time. This was developed following consultations with staff, the school council, parents and governors. He focused on the section relating to “Teaching, learning, assessment and experience”, for which involvement of the PTA is most relevant, particularly in ensuring pupils benefit from a well-rounded education.

Areas to invest

Three key areas requiring investment were presented and attendees were asked to vote whether they supported the proposed investment.

i) Core building blocks (£25,343)

This includes expenditure on IT infrastructure and experiences. Please refer to slide 16 for a breakdown. It was noted that significant time is wasted with outdated computer equipment, notably teachers’ computers, which are very slow to load.

All those present voted in favour of the proposed investment.

ii) Drama and music (£7,773)

Ms Sadler presented a proposed makeover for drama and music at Hollymount. This would involve transforming the Small Hall (currently an underutilised area) into a music, drama and arts space. Please refer to slides 17-19 for details.

All those present voted in favour of the proposed investment.

iii) Literacy (£2,616)

Miss Davis and Miss Howland presented a proposed investment in a Key Stage 1 reading scheme called Project X and how it would benefit the pupils’ learning. Please refer to slides 20-25.

Mr Birnage noted that he has used this scheme in a previous school and was very positive about it.

All those present voted in favour of the proposed investment.

5. Be Fit

Dorchie Cockerell presented a new Be Fit initiative. The first part of this initiative will be each class having the opportunity to run a mile (or as many laps as they can) each week around the playground following a trail of footsteps (funded by a £500 Magic Little Grant). Classes will compete to achieve the highest numbers of laps each week and the winning class will be awarded a trophy. There will then be a termly challenge run of one mile and the fastest runners will represent the school at the Merton Challenge Run.

Two free exercise classes for parents/guardians run by Anytime Fitness will be held at Hollymount on 12th March at 9am and 13th March at 7.30pm.

6. Spring and summer fixtures

Louise presented the following upcoming fixtures.

i) Quiz Night – Friday, 26th April, 7.30pm

The quiz night will be a battle of the classes. Each class will have table of ten and there will be a prize for the winning class. Please note that this will be an adult only event.

ii) Summer Fair – Saturday, 29th June, 12-4pm

This will have a beach party theme. Attendees were invited to put forward suggestions for a ticketed event.
iii) Fun Run – Summer/Autumn
Louise outlined a proposed sponsored fun run for parents/children/teachers. Louise has identified a sponsored run called Rough Runner, which takes place in Morden Park in October. If anyone has participated in either this or another run, which you think might be suitable, please contact the PTA committee.

Volunteers and sponsors
Attendees were asked to contact the PTA committee if they might be willing to help organise any of the 3 events or own/work for a business which may be willing to sponsor an event. Please email hollymountpta@gmail.com

7. Employee participation schemes
Attendees were reminded to check if their or their partner’s employer offers an employee participation scheme, whereby their employer makes a donation to a charity when they participate in voluntary work for that charity (e.g. volunteer on a stall at the fair). The PTA will gladly provide any supporting documentation required. A list of employers who have previously and may still offer employee matched funding is attached.

8. The meeting came to a close and Bernice thanked everyone for joining us.

Appendix 1

Ideas board suggestions:
1. Having a Zebra Crossing outside school
2. Put a roof on the outdoor football play area and make it an indoor sports arena. It will then become a more useful space for storage as well
3. Keep this a low emission zone – parents who are waiting to turn of their engine
4. Drop off zone in the morning chaperoned by adults so parents do not have to park.
5. What is the best day for PTA meetings as Fridays may clash with Assembly.
6. We want to do something for Eid because we feel our kids need to show their friends how they celebrate Eid, so they can share and celebrate with everyone in the school.
7. Recycling – How can we/the school do more?
   a. Recycling drop off bins for cardboard/plastics for junk modelling
   b. More signs around school about how we can recycle
8. I would like to taste the school lunch. Kids say sometimes it is really x 10 horrible
9. We would love to have a swimming pool in the school.
10. ASK Ian Edmondson for details: Night out for mums and Night OUT OUT for Dads.
A fantastic week back at school with treats such as the yummy bake sale and French Mufti day. We hope you put your French to good use.

French Mufti Day
Big Thank You! We raised £380
Year 6 would like to thank the whole school for your support on mufti day.

We will tell you all about our French trip in May

A Big Thank you
For your attending the PTA Coffee Morning.
All School Priorities have been voted in.
Minutes will be circulated next week.
Thank you, parents, for supporting our amazing Reception bake sale. Well done class reps for your hard work and parents for your contributions.

Fundraise Easy Money at No Cost from You.

Just do it whilst you shop for travel, grocery, clothes, furniture, Amazon, eBay or paying utility bills etc

Current member, please refer a friend and tell them how easy it is to help fundraise for Hollymount PTA. Refer a friend and earn £5 bonus donations.

New member, please register at this link

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/hollymountpta/

If you like watching videos, watch this: https://youtu.be/Sn2dsQGAe_w

Earn donations and help raise funds for Hollymount Primary School PTA, Wimbledon whenever you shop online! Use easyfundraising (enter the site and click the retailer name) to shop with over 3,300 big name retailers including Amazon, Argos, John Lewis and ASOS – when you shop, you'll raise a free donation that is automatically credited to us every time, yes, is that easy!