



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Halley House School,
Thank you for your detailed responses to our first parent questionnaire; we have collated the comments and reviewed what you think is working well and what we need to do even better. We will continue to issue questionnaires and surveys each term – please do remember that we always welcome your views at any time of year, via the office or through members of the school staff. I was particularly encouraged to note that 100% of your responses indicate you would be ‘quite likely’ or ‘highly likely’ to recommend the school to someone else – you are our greatest advocates for our prospective families and your ongoing support means a lot!

Children have now returned from a successful, first ‘official’ school trip to the Rio Cinema – and the next one is just around the corner next week as pupils head outdoors at the Lea Valley Waterworks Centre! Many thanks to all our helpers and volunteers who make these enrichment opportunities possible.

Claire Syms

Children in Need

Thank you to all our Superheroes on Friday 13th who, through their kind donations, helped raise **£110.20** for Children in Need. As well as all the fantastic costumes, there was a special assembly and time to reflect on the importance of helping others and all the things we are grateful for in our own lives. If you would still like to make a donation, please go to <https://www.childreninneed-donations.co.uk/>

★ SUPER STARS! ★

Our Super Stars of The Week are:

Asteroid Class:
Jahzara
Sumayyah

Comet Class:
Oscar
Jhauniya

Well done for working so hard and being such good role models! ★



THANK YOU!



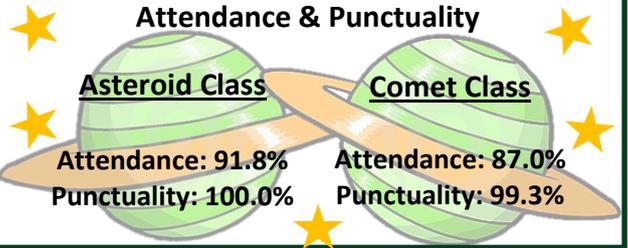
Attendance & Punctuality

Asteroid Class

Attendance: 91.8%
Punctuality: 100.0%

Comet Class

Attendance: 87.0%
Punctuality: 99.3%



Attendance & Punctuality

Attendance slipped last week with our lowest weekly percentages to date. Please ensure you are doing everything you can to help your child avoid the coughs, colds and bugs that are doing the rounds, including regular hand washing. We do understand that sometimes absence is unavoidable – please let the office know as soon as you can, so it is not recorded as unauthorised.

Diary Dates

Monday 16th November

- School Trip to the Rio Cinema for Anti-Bullying week to see *Khumba*

Friday 20th November

- Wear blue for Anti-Bullying Week and donate £1
- Open Morning for prospective parents

Monday 23rd November

- *Read Write Inc.* Parent Workshop, 9.30-10.30am

Wednesday 25th November

- School photographer in

Thursday 26th November

- Forest School lessons start, 1.30pm

Friday 27th November

- School Trip to Lea Valley Waterworks

Week Commencing 30th November

- Art Week in school

Monday 14th December

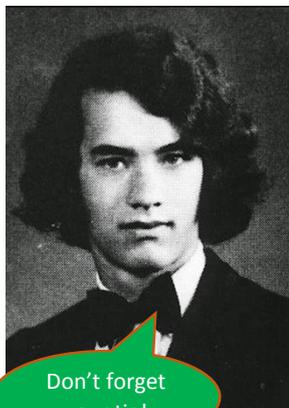
- Children’s Art Exhibition, 4-6pm

Thursday 17th December

- ‘*Away in a Manger*’ Reception production, 2pm

School Photographer

Our school photographer will be in next Wednesday, 25th November, to take individual photos of the children and some action shots during the day. **Please ensure your child is in their full, correct uniform.** Photos will be available to buy through the office – and we are assured this will be in time for Christmas! Class photos will be taken in the Summer term.



Don't forget your tie!

Forest Schools - Calling all parent volunteers!

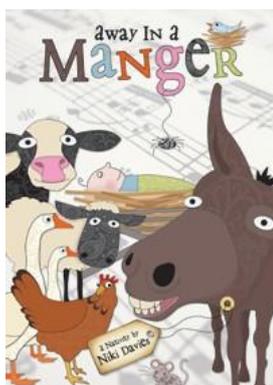


We are really looking forward to starting our Forest Schools outings, which we have had to move back a week, to the week beginning 23rd November. We will be planning regular trips

to Hackney Downs on alternate Thursdays starting from next week. **In order for the trips to run we will need the help of a minimum of 2 parent volunteers for each session.** If you are able to volunteer your time on a Thursday afternoon, ideally on a regular basis, please get in touch with your child's class teacher. Please provide your child pair with a pair of wellies in a plastic bag on Forest School days so that they can leave their school shoes at school during the excursions.

Christmas Production

HHS will be putting on a Christmas production in the last week of term! All the children will be involved in our first ever school production of 'Away in a Manger' and will be starting to rehearse the songs and script in the coming weeks. If there are any FOHH who would be interested in organising a fundraising event for a costume budget, or if someone is a whizz on the sewing machine and can make some costumes, please get in touch with Miss Duarte. Please also get in touch if you would like to help out in any capacity both before and during the production itself. Additionally, any profit made from the orders of children's Christmas card designs will also go towards the school production. **Children will be performing the show at 2pm on Thursday 17th December.**



Reading books

These are now changed on **Mondays**. Children must return their previous book to receive a new one each week.

Teaching Assistant Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a full time teaching assistant at Halley House, to support children's learning and progress. The role will also involve pastoral and administrative duties and will involve working with individuals and small groups. Please contact office@halleyhouseschool.org.uk for more details and to request an information pack.

Deadline for applications: Wednesday 2nd December 2015.

Interviews: w/c 7th December 2015

Khumba screening

Children behaved impeccably on their trip to see *Khumba* at the Rio Cinema and were a credit to the school. Children learnt that we should encourage and celebrate difference, and treat each other with kindness and respect. The trip is just one of the activities children will be undertaking as part of Anti-Bullying week this week. Remember to wear blue on Friday, too!



Parent Questionnaire

Thank you for all your responses to our first questionnaire – your feedback is really important to us. We received 24 responses.

Just some of the things you said you were pleased with:

- ✓ "The attentiveness and enthusiasm of teachers"
- ✓ "Our child's progress in reading and writing has been extraordinary"
- ✓ "My daughter has settled into school really well"
- ✓ "The range of after school clubs and care [on offer]"
- ✓ "I have no concerns whatsoever about my child's safety. The school is safe and looks after our children well."
- ✓ "All our hopes have been exceeded...Thank you, we love it!"
- ✓

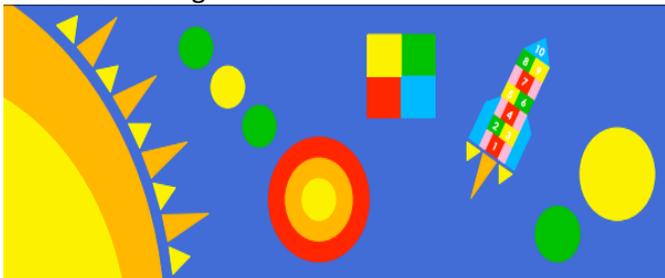
You also commented that you would like us:

- to give you more information about the curriculum
- to provide more homework opportunities
- to improve safety outside the building, particularly relating to the pavements, roads and appropriate safety signage

The full summary report, and updates about what we are already doing, or plan to do, to help address any concerns, is attached separately and available from the Parent Noticeboard by the office.

Site update

Internal works are now complete, aside from the final round of 'snagging' checks. Posts for the roof terrace screens have now been set and the laying of the rubber crumb surface will hopefully begin next week. You may have already noticed that the external ground floor area along the Shacklewell Lane side of the building has been tarmacked, and our external fencing will be erected shortly along our boundary line. The final stages of the works will see the resurfacing of the ground floor playground, also in rubber crumb. We will invite in parents and carers to view the completed terrace and works – keep an eye on the newsletter for dates as we edge ever closer to final sign off!



We cannot wait to see this on our roof terrace – and the faces of our children when they first venture out to use what we expect will be a truly inspiring and stimulating space!

Cashless School reminder

As we are now a 'cashless' school, we ask that ALL payments regarding Halley House including trips/ASC are made via BACS or cheque. Cheques should be made out to Bellevue Place Education Trust. If parents choose to make payments through BACS, please always include HHS along with your child's name as a reference. A screenshot of confirmation for payment must then be sent to the office email account. In contrast to this, ONLY cash will be accepted for charity events, donations and fundraising at Halley House.



As advised in our newsletters at the start of term, we have signed up to ParentPay and, following implementation and

training, hope to have this operational early in the Spring term. Many thanks for your continued cooperation while we finalise our payment systems. Please do ask at the office if you have any questions or concerns relating to payments.

Useful details to keep to hand when making payments!

office@halleyhouseschool.org.uk

Account details:

Sort code- 30-65-41

Account number- 33257968



Uniform reminder

A full list of uniform items is attached separately. Please ensure children attend school wearing the correct clothing every day. Please also remember that children are not allowed to bring toys or jewellery to school.

Text message service from school

We have the facility to text parents and carers brief reminders about key school dates and events. We are going to test this facility on 16/11/15 (this evening) at 6pm. You should receive a message stating 'Halley House School TEST'. If you **DO NOT** receive a text message from the school, please let the office know so that we can update your contact details on our management information system and ensure you are kept up-to-date with all our reminders.

Celebrations

Our Topic this half term is Celebrations and last week children were learning all about the Hindu celebration of Diwali. They learnt the story of Rama and Sita through re-enactment - see if they can tell you the names of all the characters in the photo below!



Children had the opportunity to construct one of the wonders of the world – can you guess the very famous landmark in India?



Asteroid and Comet classes also tried different herbs and spices and created their own, beautifully observed Rangoli patterns.



Children in Need @ Halley

