



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Halley House School,

Welcome to the start of a new school year; one that brings many 'firsts' for us, not least our new nursery and first Y6 cohort. It has already been a busy start to the year, with children across the school settling into their new year groups. Reception had a very successful first full day in school today and they are already impressing us with their learning and behaviours! We are all very much hoping for an uninterrupted year for our children, and already getting back to some of the things we have dearly missed – mixed lunchtimes, assemblies and trips (including residential!). Thank you as always to our whole community for continuing to responsibly keep everyone safe through reporting, hygiene measures and vaccination. It is a packed newsletter edition this week as we have so much to share – enjoy!

Claire Syms

Monday Missions

Nursery Can you use objects in your house to spell your name? Don't forget to send in the photos!



Reception We have been counting and recognising amounts and numerals to five. What numbers can you spot around your home or on your route to school?

We have also been learning to recognise and write our names. Please practise at home when writing birthday cards or labelling pictures!

Year 1 Our topic this half term is 'What Makes Me Wonderful?'. Can you draw and label a picture of your family for a show and tell in class?



In Computing, we have started to learn about online safety. Can you investigate all of the different ways that you can stay safe online when using different ICT equipment?

Year 2 We are solving problems to do with place value. Can you find my mystery number?

I am thinking of a number that is greater than 60 but less than 80. My number has 6 tens. My ones digit is three greater than my tens digit. What is my number?

Can you write your own number problem for the class?

Attendance & Punctuality

Week Ending	03/09/21		10/09/21	
	Attendance	Punctuality	Attendance	Punctuality
Apollo	n/a	n/a	95.2%	96.8%
Comet	n/a	n/a	96.0%	96.2%
Eclipse	93.3 %	96.7%	92.1%	96.4%
Galaxy	92.9%	96.4%	99.3%	99.3%
Hawking	100%	100%	99.2%	100%
Herschel	89.8%	98.9%	95.2%	96.5%
Einstein	93.9%	95.9%	99.2%	100%
Jemison	93.6%	96.3%	97.1%	98.5%
Johnson	85.7%	92.9%	94.8%	95.5%

Well done to Hawking and Galaxy classes for excellent attendance over the last fortnight. **All classes need to have at least 95% attendance EVERY week to get the most out of school!**

SUPER STARS!

Our Super Stars of The Week are:

	03/09/21		10/09/21	
EYFS				
Apollo	Starting after half term			
Comet	-	-	-	-
Key Stage 1				
Eclipse	-	-	Eliz	Tianna
Galaxy	-	-	Ottoline	Jahmore
Key Stage 2				
Hawking	-	-	Tyler-James	Charles
Herschel	-	-	Kwame	Demi
Einstein	-	-	Xavier	Kayden
Jemison	-	-	Mya	Martha
Johnson	-	-	Jahzara	Helena

Well done to everyone for being such good role models by showing our school values and trying your best! It was lovely seeing parents and carers back in our celebration assemblies last week!

Nursery Class – Apollo



OUR NURSERY IS OPEN!

Not only that, it has been an absolutely brilliant first week in Apollo Class for our 3- and 4- year olds, who have very much taken to school life like ducks to water. They

have been busy exploring their new classroom and the roof terrace, eating lunch in our main hall and getting to know new friends and adults in Nursery and around the school. We still have a number of special offers for our first cohort, and there is still time to sign up before October to take full advantage!

Congratulations!

Ms Khatun had a wonderful – and busy – summer break and has returned to Halley House this year as a Mrs! We are sure you will echo our huge congratulations to Mahmuda on her marriage, and join us in wishing her and her husband a lifetime of happiness together.



A Space to Talk (S2T)

We are pleased to announce the introduction of a new wellbeing provision aimed at KS2 pupils (Years 3 to 6), run by our Play Therapist James Smith. James will run individual 15-minute sessions on Friday lunchtimes based on a pupil self-referral model. James introduced the provision to KS2 classes at assembly last week and further information has been sent to KS2 parents/carers. Children can decide at any point in the year if they would like to request a session, and can do so multiple times. Sessions will be based on children deciding on what they would like to talk to James about. We firmly believe this is an important provision and ask for your support in encouraging your child/ren to access this space if you feel they would benefit from some of James's time.

Virgin London Mini Marathon 2021



We have signed up for the Virgin London Mini Marathon and all classes will be

completing a 2.6 mile challenge in school between Monday 27th September and Friday 22nd October. There will also be a family breakfast run on Friday 1st October from 7.45am around Hackney Downs – all welcome so dust off your running shoes! We will be fundraising for our sports provision in school.

Our first Y6 cohort!

September 2021, and our long-awaited first Y6 cohort are now in the building! From families that have been with us since 2015 (and even saw the school as a building site a matter of weeks before we first opened our school doors!) to families that have joined us along the way, we are delighted to have you with us as we mark a year of many 'firsts', including our first leavers in July 2022. As much as we will be continuing to hang onto our oldest children for as long as possible, we are also in the admissions window for secondary school applications, and preparations for the next stage in their education will be well underway. All parents and carers should have received information about the application process and the borough listing for open events in Hackney (also attached here for reference). We strongly urge ALL families to visit secondary schools they are interested in, to find out more about the provision and make an informed decision for your preferences. We will be offering a workshop and Q&A session in school during w/c 20th September, so please do come along.

School video



Our new promotional video is now available to view on our school website – you can see it [here](#). We have already had

some lovely feedback from parents and carers, and we are very proud of the reflection of our community we think it showcases! A huge thank you to Squib photography, and Tracey from the BPET Central Team for coordinating the photography and filming, and bringing it all together for the final product!

Site development – Sports Hall!

We have a new Sports Hall (Orion's Belt) on the first floor! Building works were completed over the summer and we would like to express sincere thanks to FOHH and the whole school community for the fundraising that made this possible. Children in all year groups have already been settling in and making the most of their new space during their PE lessons and in assemblies. This new space really does bring a whole new dimension to our building – have a look at our photo page too!



FOHH BBQ – Saturday 18th September

Don't forget to come along to our FOHH BBQ this Saturday, 18th September, 2-5pm. Please see FOHH update below for more details.

Year 1



We have had a great start to the year and have spent a lot of time getting to know our new teachers. This week, we have spent time exploring our learning environment, spoke about familiar and new routines along with the expectations of our classroom. As an introduction to our topic, 'What makes me amazing?', we have read the book 'Funnybones', used adjectives to describe and write about the characters in the book along with exploring the different parts of our bodies.



Children's University



At the end of last year, the school had the opportunity to sign up to the Children's University project, a chance for children to get involved in additional activities in and after school. Year 5 parents will have had an email today with an **important link to sign up your child** to this exciting project. Please check you have had the email and complete the very quick form before **Friday 17th September** so your child can get involved. We would like every child in Year 5 to be able to work together on this. If you have any questions, please ask to speak to Mr Oxford.

School Lunches

All parents should have received their logins to access their child/ren's school lunches. Please ensure that you register your account if you have not done so already. If you have not received your activation codes please contact the office. Any Arbor credits will be transferred to your Tucasi account.



Term Dates 21-22

Remember to have a copy of this year's term dates to hand! You can view and access this document on our school [website](#), or ask for a hard copy (as with all our policies) from the school office.

Uniform



Please remember to check that ALL items of uniform (including ties!) are clearly labelled with your child's name. Please also ensure book bags and PE bags are clearly labelled so that if anything is misplaced it can be easily reunited with its owner!

Year 3

Year 3 have had a fantastic start to the year. We have carried out lots of different activities such as goal setting, growth mindset and friend bingo to learn more about our classmates. As a year group, we created our own class charter. We came up with looking after school property, give space to our friends when they need it, ensuring we listen to our peers and adults and our favourite one is never to give up! What a positive start to the year!



Extended Schools

Clubs have started today and we are very excited to have children from all different year groups signed up to different activities this term. The children have expressed how excited they are to start their new clubs, although they also had lots of fun in our free flow provision over the last week and a half! Children are really looking forward to the adventures ahead in our fun and enriched Autumn clubs! If you haven't signed up already, please do check which clubs have some availability left and grab a space before they are all filled!

Free Spanish Lessons

Hackney are offering **all members of the Halley House community six free hours of Spanish language tuition** online in the Autumn Term. These will be online classes, which will improve your language and help you support your children's Spanish learning. They will be aimed at beginners and those with some knowledge of Spanish. If you are interested please contact the teacher, Raquel, to register for the classes and inform her of your current level of Spanish.

rtolarego@parkwood.hackney.sch.uk
Bernadette.clinton@hackney.gov.uk

The sessions are as follows:

DATE	TIME
Thursday 14 October	4.00 – 5.30pm
Thursday 21 October	4.00 – 5.30pm
HALF TERM	n/a
Thursday 4 November	4.30 – 5.30pm
Thursday 11 November	4.30 – 5.30pm
Thursday 18 November	4.30 – 5.30pm

Parent Wellbeing Sessions

We are very excited to have teamed up with the Museum of Happiness (MoH) to deliver some parent wellbeing sessions after the October half term. The sessions are going to be led by Vicky (the co-founder and Director of MoH) at Halley House School, and run for 5 sessions over 5 weeks with a focus on what parents will most benefit from to help themselves and support children in these stressful times. The 5 sessions will follow a HAPPY theme and include:



1. Habits of Happiness
2. Appreciation and Gratitude
3. Play and Creativity
4. Purpose and Meaning
5. You and Your Mind

I will make available an introductory video so you can meet Vicky in the next few weeks, and give further information about signing up, too. It would be great to see as many of you there as possible. We all need a bit of time to relax in our busy lives and this could just be a moment of calm. If you have any questions, please feel free to talk to Mr Oxford.



Music Tuition



We have two new tutors joining us from Hackney Music Service, Anthony and Riccardo, who will be taking small groups for keyboard, guitar and drumming lessons. Keyboard and guitar lessons start next Monday (20th) and drumming starts this Wednesday (15th). There are a very limited number of spaces available for keyboard and guitar if you would like to sign up on SchoolsBuddy. Lessons can be booked in 10-week blocks, starting from this term.

Maths Whizz



Thank you to all of the parents who came online to find out about Maths Whizz for Year 2 upwards last week. I know that it was a useful session to let parents and carers know how the platform supports the learning and progress of children's maths knowledge and how it links into the maths homework that your children will be being set. We understood that due to other commitments, many parents may not have been able to attend so we asked that the session be recorded. This recording will be sent out to all parents in Year 2 upwards in the next week, so you all have the opportunity to download and watch it. If you have any questions about Maths Whizz, please talk to your child's class teacher.

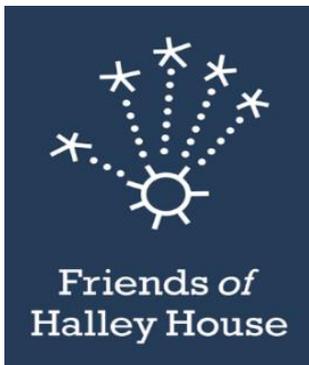
Reading at Home/Accelerated Reader

Children from Year 2 up have started bringing home weekly Accelerated Reader (AR) books. Reading is a 'homework' we insist



upon across **all** year groups, and AR is one of the great ways of ensuring children are reading quality books on a regular basis, expanding their vocabulary exponentially and exploring new and imagined worlds. Reading to, or reading with, younger children every day has a proven effect on developing key life skills and supporting the transition to adept, independent readers as they move through the school and beyond. We encourage reading to be a shared experience, and discussing ideas or questions about stories and texts greatly assists children's comprehension. Reading underpins everything we do in school, and we will be offering parent workshops on AR, early reading (including *Read, Write, Inc.* approaches) and developing complex comprehension skills during this term – we are sure you will share our passion for all things books by the time you've attended, if you don't have the reading bug yet!





FOHH Update Summer BBQ: Saturday 18th September

We are really excited to finally welcome you all to the school this Saturday 2-5pm for our celebration and fundraiser.

It really will be a fantastic chance for parents and carers to eat, drink and socialise - with attractions for the kids including a crafts table, face painting, tattoos, a chance to soak the teachers and more. Lots of delicious food, a bar and a cocktail stand!

Please bring cash (coins, not just notes) on the day to buy tokens. If you would like to transfer money for your tokens in advance of the event please do so before Thursday with your name as reference, letting Clare know (07879 491168)

If you still haven't bought your ticket there is time. Tickets are £5 and include 4 tokens to spend at the event. Children are free. Transfer money with your name in the reference to:

FOHH
204150
33148467

Thank you so much to everyone helping to organise and helping on the day.

It should be a great afternoon! Any questions or offers of help let Keely (07866 515568) know.

How else can you help?

We need home made bakes for the cake stall at the BBQ on Sat 18th Sept.

Please drop any cakes into the BBQ on the day, but if you're unable to attend but want to help you can drop goods into school the day before. Please stick a list of ingredients to the baked goods so we can answer any allergy questions.

We are a nut and strawberry free school so no nuts or strawberries please. Cookies, cupcakes, gingerbread men, chocolate brownies are usually best sellers with the children and grownups often choose a slice of cake!

Can you add single bags of popcorn to your weekly shop and drop them into school? We really need popcorn to be donated for our popcorn stand on the 18th.

Thank you so much!

HHS Lottery

This lottery is a fantastic way to regularly support the school. Over £400 has been raised so far.

Buy your tickets here:

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/halley-house-school>

The future...

There were no new committee members nominated or elected at the AGM in July. The current committee are running the summer BBQ to raise money for the new sports hall, but will then be stepping down.

It's such a lovely community so please think hard about coming to the BBQ and finding out more about committee roles!



DIARY DATES	
Autumn 1 2021	
Wednesday 1st September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INSET Day. Children not in school
Thursday 2nd September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First day of Autumn term and school year! • Home visits for Reception • Breakfast Club starts for Y1-Y6 • Free flow after care sessions for Y1-Y6
Monday 6th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursery opens and YN children start (9am-1pm) • Reception children in 8.40am-1pm • Booking for After School Clubs opens • Booking for music tuition opens • Outdoor Adventures resume this week • Curriculum Booklets sent home this week
Tuesday 7th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YN children in 9am-1pm
Wednesday 8th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YN children in full time, including extended hours as booked
Friday 10th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebration Assemblies in school resume • Samba starts for Year 5 and Year 6
Monday 13th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reception children in full time • All Extended Schools provision commences, including ASCs
Wednesday 15th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drumming tuition starts
Saturday 18th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Fete and BBQ, 2-5pm!
Monday 20th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keyboard and guitar tuition starts • Y6 Q&A Secondary Transfer session
Monday 27th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum workshops for all year groups this week
Friday 1st October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Breakfast Run for Virgin London Mini Marathon
w/c Monday 4th October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AR and RWI parent workshops
Wednesday 6th October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursery & Reception 2022 Admissions Open Morning, 9.15-10.15am
Wednesday 20th October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursery & Reception 2022 Admissions Open Morning, 9.15-10.15am
Friday 22nd October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last day of Autumn 1. ASC continues as normal.

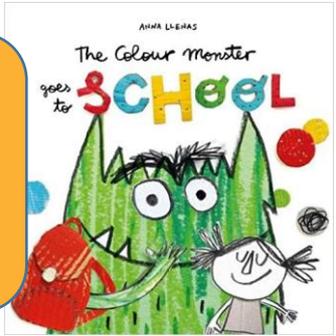
Welcome to Halley House Nursery!



We have had a great start with our first nursery cohort. The children have been learning the nursery daily routine as well as learning their keyworker's and friends' names.



We have been reading the story "The Colour Monster goes to school" by Anna Llenas, where we are learning how The Colour Monster uses different colours to express his emotions.



The children have been making monsters out of playdough, using googly eyes, pipe cleaners and multi coloured match sticks! We have also been making monster puppets where the children have been using scissors to cut out the monsters.

We've also had our first specialist PE and Art sessions, which we LOVED! What a busy week we've had!

Halley House School

Curriculum Information Autumn 1

Nursery

Me, Myself and I

<p>Literacy</p> <p>The children will be learning new vocabulary as well as engaging in conversations about stories.</p> <p>We will start learning to recognise and say our first Read, Write, Inc. sounds—m a s d t.</p>	<p>Mathematics</p> <p>We will be learning how to show finger numbers up to 5.</p> <p>The children will also be learning how to create a repeating pattern, for example red, yellow, red, yellow, and discovering what comes next.</p>	<p>Personal Development</p> <p>The children will be developing a sense of responsibility and belonging to the Halley House School nursery.</p> <p>The children will begin to show confidence in new social situations.</p>
<p>Physical Development</p> <p>The children will begin to show a preference for their dominant hand when mark-making and pointing. They will also become increasingly independent as they put on their coats and do up their shoes.</p>	<p>How can you help me at home?</p> <p>Please continue to read to your children daily.</p> <p>Support your children to become independent by putting on their coats and doing up their zip as well as feeding themselves and putting on their shoes.</p>	



NEW!

SPORTS

During the summer break, Wayne and his team from 1 Way Design converted two classroom spaces on our first floor into this fabulous sports hall!

HALL



Demolition!



Taking shape...



New lights and ceiling tiles



The Halley shield



KS1 & 2 Assemblies



PE Lessons

A huge thank you to FOHH for coordinating fundraising, and to our whole community for your support and generous contributions - £5000 of fundraising has been allocated to the project, and our new hall has already made a **BIG** difference to our children's experiences. **THANK YOU!**

First few days of term!



Place value



Outdoor Adventures



Year 3



Our Adventure Begins Here