



**Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Halley House School,**

A very warm welcome to the start of a new academic year at Halley House School! I hope all of our families enjoyed a rejuvenating summer break. We have had a hugely positive and productive first week back, and are collectively looking forward to the adventures ahead this term. Well done to all children for settling back into school so smoothly, and particularly to our new Nursery and Reception cohorts – we have been so impressed with the start you have made to your school journey!

*Claire Syms*

**State Funeral Bank Holiday, Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September**

The funeral for Queen Elizabeth II has been confirmed as Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2022. The national period of mourning is a time for reflection on a lifetime of service and an historic reign on the throne. Monday 19<sup>th</sup> will be a bank holiday and school will be closed to all pupils and staff on this date as a mark of respect.



**Curriculum Workshops**

Curriculum Workshops will be held for all year groups over the next fortnight. There will be an introductory session with phase leaders, followed by individual year group sessions with class teachers. Please do come along!

Phase 1 (YN, YR, Y1) – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September, 4-5pm

Phase 2 (Y2, Y3, Y4) – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September, 4-5pm

Phase 3 (Y5, Y6) – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September, 4-5pm

**E-Safety updates**

All parents and carers are able to sign up to National Online Safety, our online training provider for safeguarding. Simply visit the website, choose HHS, and complete a course or watch a webinar! We will be holding workshops this half term in school for parents to complete NOS e-safety training, discuss best practice and ask any questions – keep an eye out for updates from Mr Oxford!

**Uniform policy**

Our uniform policy has been updated and will shortly be available on our school website, or in hard copy form upon request from the school office.

We rightly take a great deal of pride in our uniform, and know our children and families do too – not least when pupils are off-site and representing the school in the wider community. In light of government guidance, and to align with other schools in our group, the branded school coat is no longer a compulsory item of uniform at Halley House School. It is strongly **recommended** that the school coat is chosen as we believe it offers good value for money and stands the test against the elements, however, we also understand families may need to take a range of factors into consideration as we approach the colder months.

Children must wear appropriate footwear to school. Trainers are only permitted for PE sessions. Smart, black school shoes should be worn at all other times, and wellies provided for Outdoor Adventure sessions.

We have many items of branded Halley uniform in stock in our second hand uniform shop. All items are checked for suitability (e.g. no rips, tears or stains) and are offered at a fraction of the cost of full-price uniform. Payments can be made via BACS to the FOHH bank account. Annette (Akira, Y4, Zelda, Y1) has kindly picked up the mantle from Tal in running the second hand shop for the school. We will be sharing a full update from Annette shortly – we are still in need of branded uniform items (jumpers, PE T-shirts, PE tracksuits, blazers, coats, ties) in **ANY SIZE**.

Lost property items are recycled into the second hand uniform shop every fortnight if they are **unnamed, unclaimed and in good condition**. PLEASE ensure children's uniform items are named so that we can expediently return any mislaid items to their rightful owners. If you are missing an item of uniform, please do check with the office - we would love to reduce our missing uniform stocks! All donations can be handed into the school office.

Children eligible for PPG are entitled to a 50% discount on new uniform from our supplier, Uniform4Kids. This is for the duration of your child's time at Halley. Please provide a copy of your receipt to the school office to enable the discount to be processed.

*If any families are facing **any** challenges in accessing school uniform, please speak to a member of staff so that we can assist.*

## Admissions

### Reception Admissions for September 2023

Admissions for Reception places have now opened for *children born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019*. Parents/carers can complete their applications via <https://www.eadmissions.org.uk>

The deadline for applications is **Sunday 15th January 2023**. For more information on the application process please visit [Hackney Primary School Admissions](#) or download their [Primary Admissions Guide](#). There is also a pre-recorded briefing video which gives more information [here](#).

For further information on the application process, you can contact Hackney Education's Admissions Team via email at [reception.class@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:reception.class@hackney.gov.uk) or by calling 0208 820 7000 (option 3).

**We will be holding tours at Halley House School every fortnight on Wednesdays, starting from 12<sup>th</sup> October. Places can be booked via our website.**



### Secondary School Admissions for September 2023

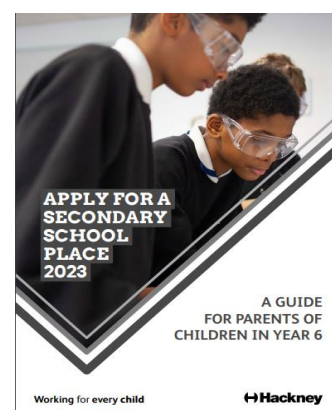
Admissions for transfers to secondary schools have now opened and parents/carers can complete their applications via <https://www.eadmissions.org.uk>

The deadline for applications is **Friday 21st October 2022**. For more information on the application process please visit [Hackney Education Secondary Admissions](#) or download their [Secondary Admissions Guide](#). There is also a briefing video which gives more information [here](#).

Many secondary schools are running open events across September and October. Please see the list of current events [here](#). We would strongly encourage you to visit your preferred schools before submitting your application.

For further information on the application process, you can contact Hackney Education's Admissions Team via email at [secondary.transfer@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:secondary.transfer@hackney.gov.uk) or by calling 0208 820 7000 (option 3).

**We will also be covering aspects of the admissions process at the *Phase 3 Curriculum Evening on Thursday 15th September at 4pm* and hope to see you there!**



If you would like to speak to a member of staff at Halley House School about any aspect of the admissions process, including for in-year transfers, please do not hesitate to contact our **Assistant Head and Inclusion Manager Soozii Lim**, or any other member of our Senior Leadership Team - we're always here to help!

## ClassDojo

### Welcome to ClassDojo

Halley House takes pride in promoting and supporting our children to develop skills and strategies to manage positive behaviours for learning. We aim to give every child, every opportunity to be the best learner they can!

In doing so, we will be using ClassDojo. ClassDojo is a rewards system which focuses on the positives and highlights all the wonderful things our children do in a day. It is a points system where we can create our own key skills, implement our Halley values and bring even more focus to our behaviours for learning. We will have set skills so we have consistency throughout the school, and there will also be opportunities for each class to add skills that are specific to our Halley values and what they may look like in your child's classroom.

I'm sure you have been hearing your child come home speaking about how many "points" they have as this is all we have been hearing around school! More importantly, our children are able to explain to adults and peers 'why' they have received their Dojo points and what value the skill is linked to; they are proud of achieving them!

For us to continue our positive parent/carer partnership, you will be receiving a code from your child's class teacher this week that will link you to their account. You will be able to see all the positives, and also any reminders they might receive daily. You will also see 'Class Story' and 'Messages to the teacher'. You may notice some pictures added to your child's class storyboard but for the first term, whilst we are all becoming accustomed to the new approach this will not be on a regular basis. We will not be using the messaging service, so if you do have any questions for staff, please follow our current procedures; informal conversations at the beginning/end of the day or booking an appointment via the Office.

In the meantime, download the ClassDojo app, have a look at the website to familiarise yourself, and if you do have any questions, please ask your child's class teacher or wait until your child's Phase Curriculum Meeting.

### [ClassDojo](#)

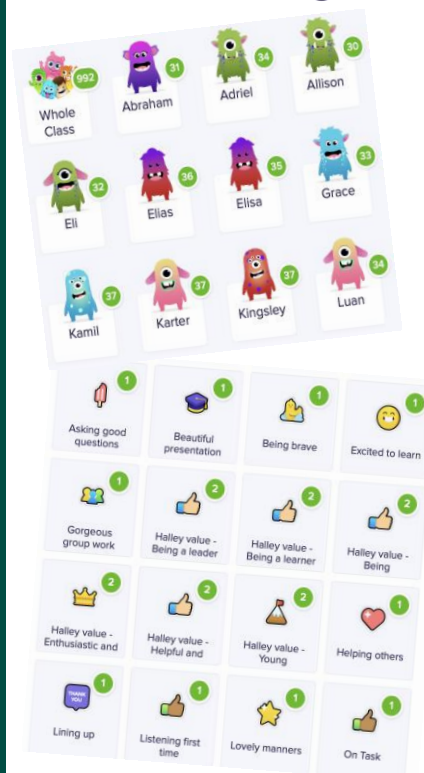
Please note: An update to our Behaviour policy is currently in process. There will be a clear structure highlighting rewards the children will receive and also sanctions and consequences. This will be uploaded to our website over the coming weeks.

Here's to another great week!

Miss Clarke



## ClassDojo



### Home learning debate and discussion



1. Download ClassDojo app before linking to your child's account
2. Ask the children to explain what behaviours they have exhibited in school that show our values

## NURSERY



Friday 9th September 2022

Zari

Remi

### Welcome

Apollo class have had a terrific start to their nursery life! They have been settling in during their first week and are starting to adjust to the nursery routine.

We have been learning how to sit on the carpet while singing nursery rhymes and listening to stories including 'Pip the Puppy' and 'You can't take an elephant on the bus.'

We have been learning how to eat our lunch in the lunch hall and make a decision about our choice of dessert.

Apollo class has been working on sharing and taking turns as well as waiting if we want a resource that another child may have.

Well done Apollo Class!



### Art

The children have already taken part in a specialist Art lesson with Miss Hodgson where they have been exploring colours with the Colour Monster and learning one of the Halley values of being helpful and kind.

We are starting specialist music lessons next week, too!



Home learning debate and discussion



Can you talk about who is in your family?

How can you show our Halley value of being Helpful and Kind at home?



## RECEPTION



Friday 9th September 2022

India

Daniel



Friday 9th September 2022

Attendance: 96.8 %

Punctuality: 100%

What a wonderful start we have had to Reception; Comet class have done an amazing job adjusting to their new class and routine. This week has been packed with a variety of fun activities to help support the children adjust to their new environment. We have had a paint party to welcome our new pupils, where children enjoyed colour mixing on the tables and printing with their art teacher, Ms Hodgson. During this week, the children have had opportunities to develop their new friendships through free flow, and they've experienced lots of excitement exploring their new outdoor space and playing with their new classroom toys.



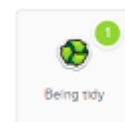
**What kind of activities have Comet class been doing inside their classroom?**

"We have taken pictures for our birthday wall."

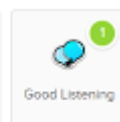
"We have spent time playing with our new PE teacher, Coach Abdou!"

"We practised our scissor skills - we gave trolls some haircuts and made Mr Potato Heads!"

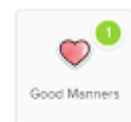
"We got dojo points for our beautiful lining up."



Being tidy



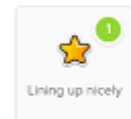
Good Listening



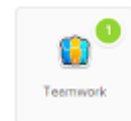
Good Manners



**ClassDojo**



Lining up nicely



Teamwork

Home learning debate and discussion



*Can you remember the name of a new friend from class?*

*Do you remember what animal is on your carpet spot?*

*Do you remember the colour of your team/table group?*

## YEAR 1



Friday 9th September 2022

Marley

Charlie



Friday 9th September 2022

Attendance: 86.9%

Punctuality: 98.7%

### Literacy

What an amazing start to Year One we've had!

As well as writing about our summer holidays, we have been learning about the importance and usefulness of instructions.

On Wednesday we followed a set of instructions written by Miss Ashley and made our own jam sandwiches.

Then on Thursday and Friday we used our experience to sequence and write up our own set of instructions. Amazing work from everyone!

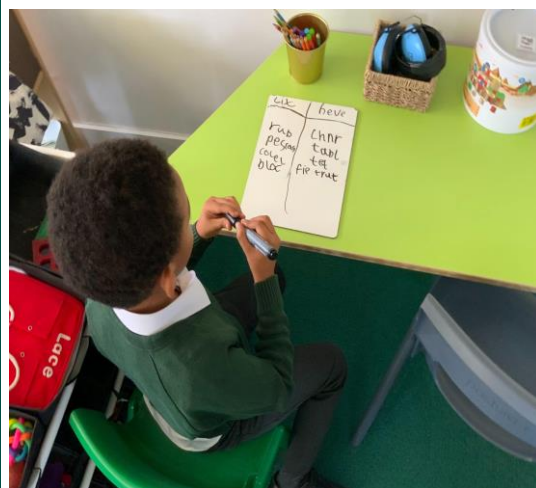


### Maths

Using our number knowledge from Comet Class we have been paying for our snack with real coins, recording amounts and numbers using ten frames and the squared paper in our new maths books and even written the date by ourselves!

We were thinking about sorting and categorising different objects and created our own tables. We then spent some time exploring the classroom and noting down different objects for each group or category.

What a busy first week we have had!



Home learning debate and discussion



What would the world be like if we didn't have instructions?

How would you know what to do or how to make things?

What do you think we might have instead of instructions?

## YEAR 2



Friday 9th September 2022

Raphael



Friday 9th September 2022

Attendance: 92.1%

Punctuality: 99.3%

### First week in Year 2

Year 2 has had a fantastic start to the year. We have carried out lots of different activities such as 'what is special to you', to learn more about our classmates and settle back into school life.

As a class we also collaborated to devise our own rules for the classroom. Statements such as keeping the classroom tidy and being a helpful friend were all discussed.

We have also started our maths unit of 'counting numbers to 100'. We have had great hands-on lessons discovering different ways of making a 2 digit number.

This week we also had our very first Outdoors Adventure session. If you can join us for any of these sessions, please do let the Year 2 team know.



### Music

In our music lesson this week the children got into groups and experimented with their voices. The challenge was to come up with a way of making an interesting sound using just their voices. Please do ask your child about their music lesson as they had such great fun! Next week we have a new music teacher from Stretto coming to teach us some more exciting skills!



### Home learning debate and discussion



1. Should homework be banned?
2. Should people be allowed to keep pets?

## YEAR 3



Friday 9th September 2022

Elisa

Archie



Friday 9th September 2022

A: 92.5%

P: 99.6%

It has been a FANTASTIC start for Y3 this week and we have hit the ground running!

We have started with our curriculum learning, discussing the experiences of Rosa Parks and her famous bus ride in literacy. The children have been exploring key words like; segregation, inequality and diversity, and are beginning to apply these in their writing.

In maths, we have been focussing on the place value of a 3-digit number and how we can represent these in a variety of different ways. Please help continue this great start by practising writing, ordering and exploring 3-digit numbers at home.

All the children have come back to school enthusiastic and eager to learn, and this is exciting to see!



### Class Dojo

This year we will be using Class Dojo to track the children's behaviour and successes throughout the school day. The children earn points by showing behaviours related to the Halley House values. These are things like being a respectful *leader*, and a *learner* that shares their wisdom.

So far, we are enjoying showcasing our Halley values and earning points as we go.

Watch out for more updates about ClassDojo and how you will be able to view your child's dojo points at home!



Home learning debate and discussion



1. See Homework Passport (on the website)
2. What if we didn't have any rivers? What would be the impact?



## YEAR 4



Friday 9th September 2022

Einstein

Seb

Hakeely

Newton

Jahzion

Amelie



Friday 9th September 2022

Einstein

A: 95.8%

P: 98.7%

Newton

A: 96.0%

P: 100%

### Starting Year 4

Year 4 has had an amazing start to the year! All the children have come back to school so motivated and ready to learn. They are already so engaged in their learning!

We have started our curriculum this week by beginning to explore the place value of 4 digit numbers. We are focusing on representing these numbers in different ways and learning how to round up and down to the nearest 10/100. In literacy we are reading *Charlotte's Web*; we enjoyed evaluating the front cover and making some of the animals from the story at our Outdoor Adventures session.



### **Class Dojo**

This year we will be using Class Dojo to track the children's behaviour and successes throughout the school day. The children earn points by showing behaviours related to the Halley House values. These are things like being *aspirational* for our own learning and those around us.

So far, the Year 4s are enjoying showcasing our Halley values and earning points as they go.

Watch out for more updates about Class Dojo and how you will be able to view your child's dojo points at home!



**ClassDojo**

Home learning debate and discussion



1. How can you use language to persuade someone to do what you want?
2. Wilbur is being raised on a farm for food. Is it ever okay to kill animals?

## YEAR 5



Friday 9th September

Yunus

Tsubame



Friday 9th September

A: 99.1%

P: 100%

### Starting Year 5

Year 5 have made a fantastic start to the year! All the children have come back so motivated and ready to learn. It has been fantastic to have them back in the classroom!

We have started our curriculum this week by beginning to explore the place value of 5 digit numbers. We are focusing on representing these numbers in different ways and solving place value riddles. In literacy we have been writing diary entries as a man who lives his life upside down. We particularly enjoyed this as it links to our science focus on forces. We discussed the challenges defying gravity would bring, particularly with everyday tasks like drinking liquids and driving. Can you think of any other challenges?



WELCOME TO  
YEAR 5

How do we write the  
number 51 944 in words?

Tens of thousands	Thousands	Hundreds	Tens	Units (Ones)
5	1	9	4	4

### Class Dojo

This year we will be using Class Dojo to track the children's successes throughout the school day. The children earn points by showing behaviours related to the Halley House values. These are things like trying something new, or finding a different way to solve a puzzle by being a *young adventurer*. Watch out for more updates about Class Dojo and how you will be able to view your child's dojo points at home!



ClassDojo

Home learning debate and discussion



How have the children found their first week in Year 5? What have they enjoyed the most? Do they have any concerns?

Ask the children to explain what behaviours they have exhibited in school that show our values of being helpful and kind, aspirational, learners, leaders, enthusiastic and enterprising and young adventurers.

## YEAR 6



Friday 9th September 2022

Kamden

Isla



Friday 9th September 2022

A: 93.0%

P: 98.2%

### Starting Year 6

Year 6 have made a fantastic start back to the year! They have all come back to school motivated and enthusiastic about their learning. I have been so impressed with the determination and resilience they are already showing.

We have started the curriculum this week by consolidating our place value knowledge and exploring numbers up to 6 digits and have begun to explore our new history topic all about 'The Kingdom of Benin'.

### Class Dojo

This year we will be using Class Dojo to track the children's successes throughout the school day. The children earn points by showing behaviours related to the Halley House values. These are things like being a respectful leader and a learner that shares their wisdom. Watch out for more updates about Class Dojo and how you will be able to view your child's dojo points at home!

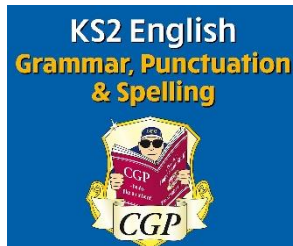


**ClassDojo**

### Homework

Year 6 is a really important year for our children, and every week they have compulsory homework to complete. Children should be accessing Maths Whizz at home for a minimum of two, 30 minute sessions every week. This is in addition to the timetabled slots in school. Number fluency is critical to children's success and additional practice at home will be hugely beneficial. There will also be weekly spelling and grammar work to complete at home, and children should be reading for at least 30 minutes every day.

Parents and carers are all warmly invited to our Curriculum Workshop on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September, which will further outline expectations for the year ahead! See you there!



### Home learning debate and discussion



1. How have the children found their first week in Year 6? What have they enjoyed the most? Do they have any concerns?
2. Ask the children to explain what behaviours they have exhibited in school that show our values of being helpful and kind, aspirational, learners, leaders, enthusiastic and enterprising and young adventurers.