

October Newsletter 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

We are already halfway through the Autumn Term! Last week I did my first 'in person' school tour for September 2023 EYFS parents. I have not been able to do tours for a couple of years and it was lovely to be able to meet the parents and children again.

On 12th October we had the PTA AGM and it is very pleasing to announce that we have a PTA committee again this year. They already have some exciting events lined up for the children and parents this term.

Attendance is a huge government objective this year. Term time holidays in particular are making it impossible to reach the expected target of at least 95%. Please help us reach our goals by ensuring your child is in school every day.

I am certain that you are all feeling the cost of living crisis at home. At school we are also affected. Fortunately our school is in a position to weather the storm in the short term, but we do hope that in the long term the government will support schools, so that children's education is not impacted. Strong financial management over the years has meant that the increases in energy prices, unexpected salary increases and general resource price rises will not impact the children's education at Holland Haven this year. However, like everyone in this country, we are trying to find ways to make savings in as many ways as possible, such as being more careful with lighting, heating and reducing waste. We will need to be even more thoughtful about how we use our resources in the future.

Please can I also remind all EYFS and KS1 parents that your child is entitled to a free school meal at lunchtime. There is a new school lunch menu starting after half term, so please take a look on our school website.

I wish you a lovely half term break.

Regards
Mrs S Bardetti
Headteacher

Secondary School Applications for September 2023 – Reminder for Year 6 Parents

As you may be aware, the statutory closing date for applications from parents of Year 6 children (for a secondary school place in Year 7 from September 2023) is 31 October 2022.

Applications can be made via our website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions

This does not apply to pupils with an EHCP.

KS2 - Playtimes

As we head into winter, the field is often wet at play times. Children are able to continue using the field if they have a change of shoes (trainers/wellies). Please bring these in in a carrier bag with their name clearly marked on the front.

Governor Corner

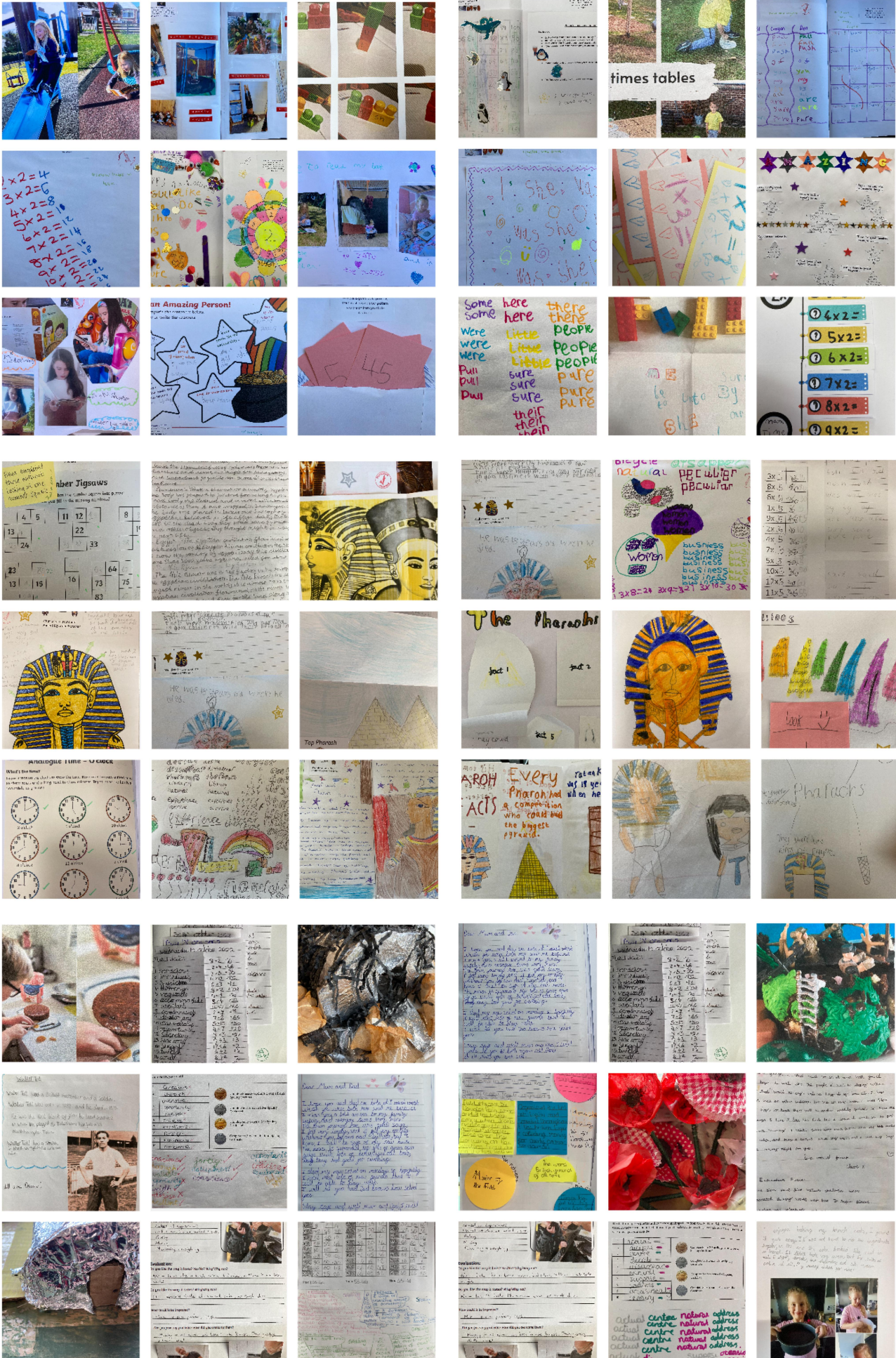
In the current climate we are all concerned about cost and waste. All the staff and governors at Holland Haven work hard to ensure we reduce our waste and usage. I am a parent like you and it's important now to teach our children to turn off lights, unplug chargers, turn the television off etc. It all helps and adds up. Food waste is another huge problem we are all guilty of. I am trying to think of ideas for my family and we are now turning our leftover fresh vegetables into healthy soups or casseroles. Any leftover portions of food will be frozen for an evening when I really don't feel like cooking. Maybe you have ideas you can share with all of us.

Katie Williams

Vice Chair of Governors

Home School Learning

Here is some of the fantastic homework from this first half-term...



If you are still to send in your Parent Pupil Project for this term, please do as soon as possible - we will show-case them in the November newsletter. We will also be launching a new homework competition (Year 2-6) next half-term based on class crystals earned from effort in homework and amount of reading.

Attendance

From September 5th 2022

Overall school attendance is **93.6%**. Ofsted expect at least 95% attendance so we are currently below this figure. Only 6 classes are above this figure. Please help us improve our attendance by making sure your child is in school every day. Pupils who have 100% attendance receive their new bronze badge at the end of the Autumn Term.

Class	Attendance
RBa	96.4% Well done !
RBe	90.2%
1F	93.4%
1BP	92.9%
2C	92.9%
2HP	96.2%
3D	91.4%
3G	92.9%
4V	95.1%
4C	95.7%
5KH	95.2%
5AH	92.6%
6H	90.3%
6D	95.2%

PTA Corner

We are very grateful to everyone that turned up to our AGM this year and we are happy to have a committee again. Also a big thank you to all who have volunteered to help us at the Halloween Disco this week, your help is greatly appreciated.

Unfortunately, we do not always have enough support offered when we organise events. I understand that some of us work full time, work part time, are full time parents and some are single parents. I personally work five days a week part time in Clacton as a Finance Manager. I am also a parent to two girls who are at this school and a mum to two fur babies. We all have different pressures in life, but we all share the same objective, the importance of the education of our children.

We can leave the educational bit to the teachers, but we do need much more parental support to run the PTA events. Without this fundraising, additional experiences and resources will not be able to be purchased for our children, and the fun activities such as summer fairs, discos, santa visits, new playground equipment, new technology will not be available.

In an effort to re-launch the FOHH we will be asking all of YOU to help us. We are going to:

- Re-design the FOHH logo.
- Create a strapline that reflects what we believe.
- Re-design the FOHH section of the School's website adding more content.

- Implement a suggestion box located in the School Office where parents can leave their ideas, suggestions and contact details.

We will provide you with dates, times and venue of our meetings 12 months in advance. These are informal meetings anyone can attend. Children are welcome to come along with you. You don't have to say anything - you can just listen. You don't have to be confident or outgoing, but maybe you can bring something to the table. You just need to have a desire to want MORE for your children.

The rest of this term we will update you in the next newsletter how much we have raised from the Halloween Disco. We are very excited about this disco as it is the first one since 2019! We have been lucky enough to gain a donation from Lit Fibre for the treat bags each child will receive at the end of the disco.

Going forward we have the following coming up:

Children In Need Pop Up Shop - Date to be confirmed

Please can we ask you to donate any no longer wanted or needed CIN items for us to sell.

Bag 2 School - Tuesday 8 November 2022 - Details out this week.

PTA Meeting - Wednesday 9 November 2022 at 3.30pm held at the School. Just turn up.

Christmas Jumper's Pop Up Shop - Thursday 24 November - Details to follow

Please can we ask you to donate any no longer needed or wanted Christmas jumpers for us to sell.

Festive Wreath Making - Wednesday 7 December 2022 - Tickets on sale now

PTA Meeting - Wednesday 14 December 2022 at 3.30pm held at the School. Just turn up.

Elfridges - 14-16 December 2022 - Details to follow in due course

We have a huge selection of 2nd hand-uniform available for sale. All proceeds go to the Friends of Holland Haven fundraising efforts. Please message the Facebook page or email Sam, PTA Vice-Chair at ptavicechair@hollandhavenschool.co.uk with details of what you need and we can arrange to meet you. Look out for our pop up shops once or twice a term. All donations of second hand-uniform can still be placed in the box near the School Office. Thank you for all the donations received so far.

I look forward to meeting you at some stage this year.

Heidi, Chair and the FOHH committee.

ptachair@hollandhavenschool.co.uk



2ND HAND UNIFORM *Price List*

Holland Haven Logo'd Items	£1.00
Plain Uniform Items & Drawstring PE Bags	50P
Bags, Shoes & Coats	£2.00

Other items may be available please just ask

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