

# HQ View

November 2019

## A message from Miss Higgins

Thank you for taking the time to read our November newsletter. We have a number of achievements to share with you.

First of all, congratulations to the new School Council, we have already met with the School Councils' of other schools and have begun a project of campaigning with other schools for a cleaner environment and a safer Islington for young people.

Last term we worked together on a quilt-making project, we are now preparing to exhibit these in school. Please look out for these when you visit. Our thanks goes to Mary Spyrou for leading on this task.

Congratulations also go to this year's Year 6 with the best attendance and punctuality for their early Tuesday mornings Action Tutoring lessons. The tutors are very impressed with how hard working the children are and are looking forward to making the Year 6 learning journey with them. On behalf of the Year 6 children and families we thank the Action Tutoring volunteers for their hard work and dedication. Well done everyone.



**Scholastic Book Club**

Don't forget that our latest Scholastic Book Club is now online at

<http://schools.scholastic.co.uk/highbury-quadrant>

There are hundreds of fantastic children's books to choose from, and every £1 you spend on this month's Book Club will earn 25p for our school in scholastic rewards.



## Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day

Christmas Jumper Day will be on **Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> of December**. The school Christmas lunch will now be on the same day, so that the children can wear their Christmas jumper for the lunch. Please send your child to school in their festive jumper (or regular non-uniform, if you prefer). A £1 donation can be given to your child's class teacher. All proceeds from Christmas Jumper Day will go to Save the Children, who work to improve the lives of children in the UK and around the world.



## **Non-uniform day – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> of December**

To make Winterfest more festive, the 5<sup>th</sup> of December will be a non-uniform day, where your child can come to school dressed in festive clothing or in clothing from their culture. There is a voluntary donation of £1 which you can give to your child's teacher in the morning. All proceeds from Winterfest and non-uniform day will go to Highbury Quadrant School Association (the school's PTA) and will be used to improve the school environment.



## **Winterfest and Cultural Celebration – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> of December 3.40pm – 5.15 pm**

This year, we are combining Winterfest and the Cultural Celebration to create one big, exciting event! Please join us in the Large Hall and Play Centre area from 3.40pm, where you can buy a variety of international food and take part in fun PTA-organised activities.

There will be activities in the classrooms from 4pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

Here's how you can help:

- Please bring in a nut-free dish from your culture or a cake which we can sell. Please hand it in to your child's teacher in the morning on the 5<sup>th</sup> December. We would love it if you included a note to say which country your dish is from and whether it contains any allergens or is vegetarian.
- Help us man a stall for 20 minutes on the day – please let the school office know by the 2<sup>nd</sup> December if you are able to help.
- Support the school by buying raffle tickets. We have some great prizes, including a £40 meal in a local restaurant and hampers with vouchers for great local businesses. 50p per ticket or £2 for a strip of 5 tickets.

## **Reception 2020 Applications**

If your child was born between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016 you should now be applying for a place in Reception commencing September 2020.

The application process started on 1st September 2019 and closes on 15th January 2020. It is recommended that you submit your application by the 10th January 2020. Applications can be submitted through your Local Authority. If you need any assistance with this, please see Krystle in the school office.

### **Parent Tours of the School**

If you wish to view the school, the parent tours will take place on:  
Tuesday 10th December 2019  
Thursday 9th January 2020

All tours start at 9:15am.

If you would like to book a tour, please do so via the school office.



## **Colour Connections Textile Project**

The KS2 pupils took part in a textile project during the summer term. They worked with Mary Spyrou, a textile artist. This project was funded by Sadiq Khan's 'Culture Seeds' funding scheme. Each pupil made a panel that was dyed with natural dyes and embroidered with leaves and flowers, inspired by HQ garden. The completed quilt will be displayed outside our new office and will also be exhibited at the upcoming Winterfest.



## **Bake Sale Dates**

Each class will host two bake sales during the school academic year. Money raised from the bake sale will go towards something the children would like for their class, for example, towards a school trip, class camera etc. Please bring in a cake donation on the day of your child's class bake sale.

4th December 2019—Year 3  
15th January 2020—Year 2  
29th January 2020—Year 1  
12th February 2020—Reception  
4th March 2020—Nursery

# Food Policy Update

If you would like your child to celebrate their **birthday** in the class, please speak to your child's class teacher. As a Healthy School, we encourage parents to bring in only healthy snacks, fruit or vegetables instead of sweets, cupcakes, muffins or a cake. Food served at birthdays and other celebrations should be consistent with whole school food messages about healthy eating, hence this gentle reminder.

All comments from you and your children are important to us and we value your feedback. Both the school and **Caterlink** are open to any suggestions. We encourage you to share your opinions on **'mycaterlink' website**. There is a wide selection of foods and salads available every day for pupils to choose from. We are pleased to adapt the menu for food allergies and specific individual needs.

Thank you for your continuous support.

Mrs Buhorah



Our target for whole school attendance for this academic year is **96%**. Sadly, last year we did not reach our target, so we will be working extra hard this year! We are off to a fantastic start with 99 children receiving certificates for 100% attendance in the first half term. Can we do better in the second half term? Let's see!

## Prizes

At the end of the school year we will reward the following:

**100% Attendance in KS1 and KS2.** We will have a draw for those who qualify and the two winners will each receive a £50 voucher for Hamleys Toy Shop. The remaining 100% pupils will also receive a prize.

**Best Improved Attendance:** £25 Hamleys Voucher each for a pupil from KS1 and KS2.

**Class with Highest Attendance:** A class from KS1 and KS2 will each receive a £50 voucher to spend.

**Class with Best Punctuality:** A class from KS1 and KS2 will each receive a £50 voucher to spend.

Throughout the course of the year, we will continue to reward children with certificates in-class, in assembly celebrations for excellent attendance and punctuality, and for improved attendance and punctuality.

Thank you to all those parents who work with us on improving our whole school attendance.



Congratulations to the following children who have been elected as our School Councillors:

KS1-Sandy, Greta, Defne, Zayd, Wilf and Khadija

KS2-Zara, Yasin, Liam, Natasha, Munira, Faheem,

Deniz, Jishan, Nimao and Joshua.

They will continue the good work of previous School Councils and some have already been on their first outing. Last year, the School Council attended City Hall and met with the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, and other members of the London Assembly.

The children posed questions to the London Assembly about many issues including pollution and the environment, local activities for school children and anti-social behaviour. The School Council will continue to work on these issues, alongside other Islington primary schools, as part of the Maamulaha Network.



## Important updates on new School Entrance

We are pleased to inform you that our new office is now open.

As you are aware we have had a significant building project carried out at the main entrance of our school.

We thank you all for your cooperation during the project, whilst bringing your child to/from school and accessing the school admin team.

Nursery, Reception and KS1 pupils can now use the playground entrance, next to the main office, to access their classrooms, as before.

For KS2 pupils, you wait in the large playground for soft start at 8:45am and collect your child at 3:30pm.

The Breakfast Club and Playcentre entrance is only to be used by pupils accessing those two clubs.

### Late Collection from School

“Everybody is late now and again however it is not acceptable for children to be collected late from school repeatedly. This causes disruption at the end of the school day as often, staff are expected to attend meetings or plan for the next day. Teaching is also affected if messages have to be passed on to the teacher regarding alterations to end of day pick up arrangements.

If you are running late please ring the office as soon as possible (but no later than 3.15pm) to inform us of the reason and for us to pass a message in a timely manner to the class. If your child is not collected by 4pm, then your child will be sent to afterschool club and charged the maximum daily fee. Repeated lateness will be referred to the safeguarding team.”

### We would encourage parents to help us to reduce our paper waste by downloading the HQ School App:

1. Go to the relevant store for your provider  
(APP Store for iPhone users and Google play store for Android users)
1. Download **Piota Schools**
2. Once downloaded search for Highbury Quadrant Primary School.

Please note you have a choice at this point to accept all notifications **plus** the additional ones sent for your child's year group. Please update your settings as your child moves through the school. This way you will get messages from your child's teaching team.



# **Congratulations**

Congratulations to Geeta and her team for receiving a **Royal Horticultural Society Award for HQ**. We have become '**RHS School Gardening Champion**' of the year 2019. If you would like to get involved in gardening in our school, please get in touch with Mrs Geeta Ramdhian.

## School Dates



### Polling Day

**Thursday 12th December—  
School Closed**

### Christmas Break

**The last day of school is  
Thursday 19th December  
2019**

### Spring Term

**School re-opens after the  
Christmas Break on Monday  
6th  
January 2020**

### Spring Half Term

**Monday 17th February—  
Friday 21st February 2020**

### Easter Break

**The last day of school is  
Thursday 2nd April 2020**

### Inset days

**Friday 3rd April 2020**

### Summer Term

**School re-opens after the  
Easter Break on Monday  
20th April 2020**

### Polling Day

**Thursday 7th May 2020**

### May Bank Holiday

**Friday 8th May 2020**

### Summer Half Term

**Monday 25th May—Friday  
29th May 2020**

### Summer Break

**The last day of school is  
Friday 17th July 2020**

### Autumn Term 2020

**School re-opens after the  
Summer Break on Thursday  
3rd September 2020**