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THE HOLMEWOOD

SCHOOL



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Newsletter

Friday 10 September 2021

Dear Families,

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope you've all had an enjoyable and restful break and managed to have some fun with your children. It's been wonderful to be back and see all the smiling happy faces around school. I've enjoyed getting to know our new students as well as catching up with our existing ones.

Last academic year, my message to all students and staff was one of 'Togetherness'. This year as we all continue to recover from the impact of Covid and the restrictions we have been under, my message is to 'Enjoy the little things'. In assembly this week students and staff shared the 'little things' that they have learnt to appreciate and what brings them joy and happiness. If you'd like to read more about this year's message please look at <https://www.thsl.org.uk/post/enjoy-the-little-things>

This term we are delighted to welcome four new students (Sonny, Frank, Arthur and Ellis) and their families. We hope you enjoy being part of the Holmewood community and I look forward to getting to know you all more over the year. For your reference, this newsletter will come out weekly on Fridays and will include items such as:

- Dates for your diary
- Information about school procedures and events
- Celebrations of class and student achievements

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- Parent partnership and events news
- Sharing of useful out of school opportunities passed through to us

We strongly encourage families to share any news and achievements from the students outside of school so that we can celebrate these in our newsletter.

In addition to these new students I would also like to welcome some new staff. Gemma Walters joins us as part time Art Teacher. Claire Pitts is now our KS3/Transition years teacher (teaching a range of subjects). Jenny Mansfield, who previously worked in a variety of roles is now covering Jodie Gardner's maternity leave and teaching Piccadilly Class. And Kate Yauner joins us as another part time English Teacher as Claudine Lyons takes on leadership responsibilities as our new Assistant Head Teacher and joint SENCO. We also have new TAs who include Alex Brown, Lowri Griffiths, Erin Lannen and Mr Gad. In our therapy team we are delighted to be joined by Fiona Bruce (OT) and Leanne Vincent (Psychotherapy). We are currently still recruiting for a full time Speech and Language Therapist and will hopefully fill this role soon. In the meantime, please bear with us whilst we try to find temporary locum support.

Finally, you will soon be receiving dates for all the parent events this year and I hope to meet some of you in person at the first of my Parent Partnership meetings. In this session I will be talking about this year's school improvement plan; the exciting things we have planned; and sharing the annual feedback from students, parents and staff. Information will be sent out very soon.

Before I say goodbye, I'd like to remind you that if your child shows any symptoms of Covid-19 please keep them at home and arrange a PCR test asap, letting me know the outcome. Covid has not yet gone away but hopefully we are moving closer to normality.

I wish everyone a safe and happy term and hope to see you all soon.

Best wishes,

Ms Camilleri

Executive Head Teacher

Dates For Your Diary

- **Wed 29th Sept** - Summer Fayre (Woodside Park)
- **Fri 22nd Oct** - Halloween cross site event
- **Mon 25th - Fri 29th Oct** - Half term holiday
- **Mon 1st Nov** - Autumn term (2nd half) starts
- **Wed 8th Dec** - Winter performance
- **Wed 15th Dec** - End of term
- **Tues 4th & Wed 5th Jan** - Inset days

Rescheduled Summer Fayre



We know how disappointed students, families and staff all were when we had to postpone our Summer Fayre in July due to covid. However, we are pleased to announce that we have now rescheduled it for the afternoon of **Wednesday 29th September**.

The event will commence at 1.30pm at our Lower School site in Woodside Park. All Upper School students and staff at Muswell Hill will be attending.

We would also like to invite family members of our students to the Summer Fayre. To register your attendance please email Ms Row on arow@thsl.org.uk.

We look forward to welcoming you for an afternoon of fun and excitement.

Mr Gorasia

Admissions & Marketing Manager

Enjoy The Little Things

On the first Thursday back in September we present a 'welcome back' assembly.

Over at the Upper School it was the first time we have been able to have an assembly that the whole school attends. Around forty young people (who seemed to have grown over the summer) crammed into the hall. They sat respectfully and waited for me to start.

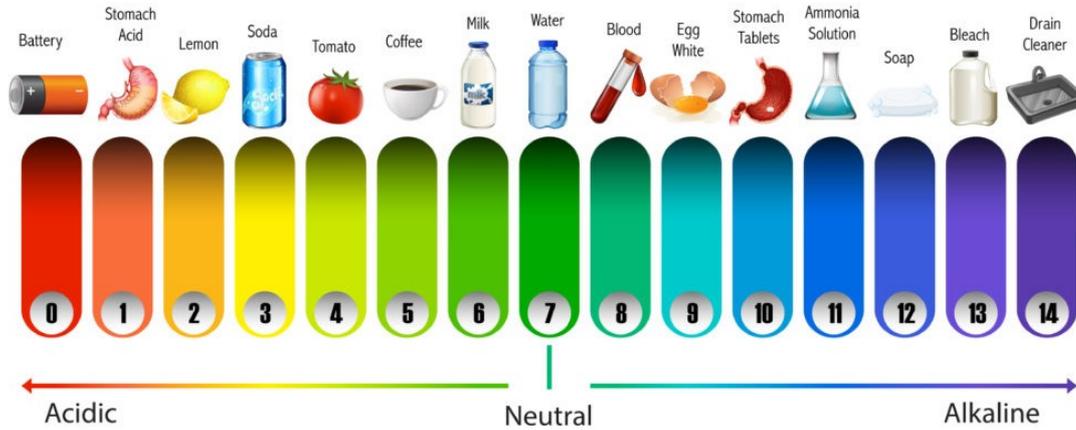
Lisa decided that the message this term should be 'enjoy the little things'. Coincidentally, this month as part of my goal to read for 21 minutes a day each day in 2021, I am reading Gretchen Rubin's 'The Happiness Project'. In this book, the author diligently studies and researches all manner of sources relating to happiness. To cut a long story short, happiness seems to be about connection with others, small positive daily habits and gratitude.

Lisa compiled the slides for both the Lower and Upper School and while this assembly

The Applicance of Science - ACIDS and ALKALIS

Our Bakerloo and Northern students have started this term by investigating acids, alkalis and indicators. They identified the pH value of a range of household items using blue litmus paper, red litmus paper and universal indicator.

Universal indicator colour changes are below:



Red and blue litmus paper colour changes can be seen below:

	Red Litmus	Blue Litmus
Acidic solution	Stays red	Turns red
Neutral solution	Stays red	Stays blue
Alkaline solution	Turns blue	Stays blue



Acids turn blue litmus paper red



Alkalis turn red litmus paper blue

The students were surprised at how some household chemicals are strong acids or strong alkalis and need to be handled more carefully than they thought.

Have a great weekend.

Mr Podichetty

Science Teacher



Welcome back, everyone!

Piccadilly have been making the most of the Summer sunshine this week, and we have settled back into school by spending time playing energetic games in the playground.



We've had a great week - our favourite parts were our Art session, where we copied drawing from the Roald Dahl stories, including Augustus Gloop and a scary Mr Twit. In Humanities we have started learning about the Anglo-Saxons.

Over the next couple of weeks we are looking forward to starting our Forest School sessions and also swimming sessions in PE.

We look forward to sharing more news with everyone soon.

Ms Mansfield

Piccadilly Class Teacher



Welcome back to all students across Holmewood School but in particular a BIG welcome to Hammersmith Class students who have now joined us at the Upper school.



The students in Hammersmith have had a great first week settling in to their new site and have started the year positively. They began their second GCSE year in Art where they drew the pond area at Muswell Hill as part of their environment drawing task. The students have produced the beginning of some fantastic pieces and we look forward to seeing the final results and sharing them with you soon..

We also celebrated our first Hammersmith birthday this year and enjoyed a lovely celebration for Jamie!

I Hope you all have a lovely weekend,

Ms Foreman

Hammersmith Form Tutor

Ms Bruce - Occupational Therapist

Hello everyone, my name is Fiona Bruce and I'm so happy to join the team at The Holmewood School as an Occupational Therapist.

I will be job sharing with Ms Mayuri Tokekar and will be based at both the Upper School and Lower School sites.



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pursue an area of passion and so I'm really excited to now be working in a school setting!

I enjoy cooking and I'm particularly looking forward to being involved in the OT Cafe project. I enjoy listening to music, going to gigs and watching films. I also have a labrador puppy who keeps me on my toes and I love taking her for long walks.

Needless to say, everyone has been so welcoming and I'm really excited to get to know all of the students and staff here!

Wishing you a wonderful weekend!

Ms Bruce

Occupational Therapist

Private Music Lessons



Just to advise that one to one private music lessons are available for your child with Mr Thierry Deneux at our Woodside Park site.

Mr Deneux is our experienced music teacher offering tuitions in guitar, ukulele, piano, singing and drums. He is also experienced in teaching and encouraging the children to sing with a backing track or an instrument and perform to a live audience. Sessions cost £20 for 30 minutes.

If you would like to book lessons please contact office@thsl.org.uk in the first instance.

The Holmewood Gallery







Designated Team For Child Protection And Safeguarding

If you are a student and have been harmed, or are at risk of harm, these are the people who can help. You can also talk to us if you are worried that another student is at risk of harm.

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Ms D'Silva (Assistant Head and Lead Designated Safeguarding Officer for Lower School, Level 3)	Ms Lemposzek (Head of Welfare & Behaviour, Deputy DSO for Lower School, Level 3)	Mr Gibbs (Humanities & PSHE Teacher, Deputy DSO for Lower School, Level 3)	Ms Camilleri (Executive Head, CEOP Ambassador and Deputy DSO, Level 3)	
Upper School				
				
Mr Lamb (Deputy Head and Lead Designated Safeguarding Officer for Upper School, Level 3)	Ms Young (Head of School and Deputy DSO, Level 3)	Ms Young (Assistant Head and Deputy DSO, Level 3)	Ms Camilleri (Executive Head, CEOP Ambassador and Deputy DSO, Level 3)	

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