

## **December Newsletter**

Thanks for all of your support over the past term. We would like to wish all of our families and friends a wonderful Christmas and look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January when we return to school.

Mrs Lowe will be leaving Holgate to pursue new ventures in 2019. We would like to wish Mrs Lowe well and thank her for all of her hard work at Holgate.

### **Christmas Fair**

The Christmas Fair raised an impressive £1495. Thank you to everyone who came and contributed as well as to all those who ran stalls. We will be using this money to purchase books across school and to buy some tools and materials for our design and technology projects in the spring term. We are very lucky to have such a supportive and highly effective PSFA and generous school community. Thank you!

On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January, the PSFA will be collecting items for the tombola stall at the Summer Fair. If you receive any unwanted Christmas gifts, we would be very grateful of these. Everyone who makes a donation will be entered into a raffle to win a voucher.

### **Building Development and increase in cohort size**

We will be holding some informal meetings early in the spring term where we will be able to consult with you about building plans and ideas. Senior leaders in the school have also been in contact with some outstanding schools who have mixed age group classes further up the school to look at best practice should we need to move to this model in a couple of years.

### **Times Tables Rock stars**

Mr Lomax sent a letter home this week regarding 'Times Tables Rock Stars.' This is an online programme designed to help children learn times tables. There is a launch day on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2019 where children can come to school dressed as rock stars/non uniform. If you would like to know more about how the programme works or are finding it tricky to use, there will be an early start session for parents at 8.30 am on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and a later session at 5.00pm after school. Children will also be using the programme at school as well as all of the other usual times tables maths teaching they have. If you don't have access to the internet at home, we will also be starting a 'Times Table Rock Star' after school – details to follow.

### **Tuck Shop**

We will not be providing a tuck shop after Christmas for toast. This is because it runs at a financial loss and children can often be queuing for toast for the vast majority/all of break time. Reception snacks/tuck will continue as normal so there is no change.

Children can bring their own healthy snack to school. Please don't send children with chocolate or sweets.

### **Electronic communication**

We will be increasingly using email to communicate with our parents and carers during 2019. This is to reduce the cost of texting. Please provide school with an up-to-date email address for each parent/carers if you have not done so. Check with the office if you are not sure.