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Academies Trust

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Dear Parents and Carers

Summer Learning Loss

Summer learning loss or Summer Slide is the loss of academic skills and knowledge over the course of summer holidays. The loss in learning varies but Summer loss for all children is estimated to be equal to about 1 month (Cooper 1996), but this varies across subjects.

- [Mathematics](#) - 2.6 months
- [Reading](#)- children generally lose about 2 months of reading achievement.

At Holmbush we recognise the holidays are an important time for recharging and spending time with family and friends. However we want the children to maintain their current standard of reading, writing and number fluency. Therefore we are setting for ALL children the following easy activities:

Celebrations

We will be looking at Celebrations in a number of cultures and faiths next year. Each child needs to select a recent (in the last year) celebration event or festival they have been involved in to write a short piece about. A picture or photo should accompany this piece of writing. Please mark the child's name, the celebration and their new class clearly on the back.

Postcards

We would like each child to write a postcard from somewhere they have visited during the holidays. Postcards can either be traditionally bought postcards, posted to us at Holmbush Primary Academy, Hawkins Crescent, Shoreham-By-Sea, West Sussex, BN43 6TN or they can be made on a piece of paper with a picture of the place visited on one side with a message on the back. Please mark your child's name and new class clearly.

Summer Competition – Reading in Unusual Places

Over the Summer we are running a competition to encourage reading. Each child needs to submit a photo of them reading in an unusual place over the Summer. Photos will need to be received in school by Friday 8th September when the competition will be judged by the Learning Committee. There will be a category for each class and a staff category. Each Category will have a winner and a runner up who will receive prizes. To email entries see below or submit a photo to the office with the child's name, age, new class and the place written clearly on the back.

Number Fluency

Games are a great way to practice maths fluency. Please continue working on your children's fluency targets throughout the holidays. There are links on the school website to some great websites.

If you have no access to printing please email office@holmbushprimaryacademy.org.uk to hand in one or any of these activities. Please put the task in the subject box or the child's name if you are attaching all the activities. If you are sending a reading in unusual places competition entry please attach the photo letting us know the child's name, age, new class and the place in the email.

Spelling

Some children have had their unfinished Spelling Books sent home. These need to be completed over the holidays. Children will be tested on spelling the key words for their current year group on our return to school. We will place word lists on the school website alongside this letter.

Parents

Communication

Before the 7th September please ensure your child/ren's CareMonkey profiles are up to date particularly if you are moving house or changing email/phone number over the holidays. Please also update medical information if anything changes for your child/ren. If your contact details change you also need to let Mrs Stepney know in the office using the email above. CareMonkey is how you are informed about and give permission for trips and any offsite visits. www.caremonkey.com

Due to financial cuts we will not be running our texting2parents service from 1st September. Please ensure you are connected to Class Dojo as announcements and messages will be delivered using this. www.classdojo.com

Payments

Payments will continue to be made using Parentpay. We will be unable to take cash for trips and clubs. www.parentpay.com

From September there will need to be a £1 ticket charge for all shows as we have been unable to cover show and licence costs this year through the donation basket. This will be payable on Parentpay to save printing tickets.

Dates

A date list is attached to this letter for next year. These dates are all being added to the calendar on the website. This letter and the date list will also be added to the website. We aim to film parent workshops /meetings if you are unable to attend.

You will notice that there are no charity days listed and this is because in the current climate we feel uncomfortable about asking for more money. It is easy for us all to give to charities now ourselves should we wish to do so through our banks and phones. We will acknowledge and talk about significant days in school assemblies and we have nominated a local charity, St Barnabas, to support over the year.

Happy Holidays!



Have a go Flamingo is being joined by eight friends in September. Can you guess what their Learning Powers are? E.g. courage, imagination

Ariel

Belle

Chip and Dale

Woody

Dory

Simba

Genie