



Hollydale Primary School

Working together to be the best that we can be.

Welcome to Autumn Two!

I am so happy with how well the children have settled into the school routines and am looking forward to the term ahead. We have a packed curriculum with lots of exciting things planned. Our topics for Autumn 2 are **Celebrations, Traditional Tales** and **Winter**. Within our topics we will be covering the 7 areas of the Early Years Curriculum as outlined below.

Learning and development	
Personal, social and emotional development	This includes: Making relationships, Self-confidence and self-awareness, managing feelings and behaviour. This term we will be continuing to develop friendships, negotiating and turn taking. Children will have opportunities to talk about special times for themselves and their families.
Communication and language	This includes: Listening and attention, understanding and speaking. Children will be listening to a variety of topic related stories and have opportunities to contribute to class discussions.
Physical development	This includes: Moving and handling, health and self-care. The focus of our P.E. sessions this term will be dance. Children will be learning to express themselves through movement, representing their own thoughts and feelings. Additionally, we will have a gross motor skills session every day in the playground. Children will learn to play some simple ball games; ride bikes and trikes; and play some common playground games during this time.
Literacy	This includes: Reading, and writing (phonics is included alongside both these areas). This term, we will be focusing on the story <i>I Am Henry Finch</i> by Alexis Deacon. We will be writing labels and lists. Children will also have a daily phonics session and 3 weekly reading sessions to practise decoding words. We now follow the Little Wandle scheme for phonics.
Maths	Includes: Number and shape, space and measure. We will be focussing on counting objects accurately, comparing amounts and combining groups of objects. The children will also be learning to name and describe shapes, create repeating patterns and compare objects by weight, size and length.
Understanding of the world	This includes: Understanding about people and communities, the world and technology. Through our 'Celebrations' topic we will be sharing special times and developing an understanding of similarities and differences between ourselves and our friends/families. During our 'Winter' topic, we will be exploring the natural world around us
Expressive art and design	This includes: Exploring and using media and materials, Music, singing and dance, drama and being imaginative. We will be creating firework paintings, Antarctica collages and Christmas decorations. Children will also have free access to the art area to express themselves as they wish throughout the day.
Key information	

P.E.	I have removed the extra PE session on Friday. This was because Friday is often a non-uniform or charity day. Instead, the children will have a mini PE session every day in the playground to develop their gross motor skills. These will be in their normal uniforms. Children now only need to wear their PE kits on Wednesday .	
Tapestry	At parents' evening, I will give everybody a login to access Tapestry. This is a learning journal which you can access from home. You can see what your child has been doing at school, as well as updating with anything relevant they have achieved at home. This will take the place of the WOW cards.	
Reading records	The children will take home a reading book linked to the Little Wandle phonics teaching each week on a Thursday . They will also take a sharing book from the book corner every Monday . There is no expectation that they will be able to decode the book sent home on a Monday. Instead, this is to be shared with an adult. Your child should be able to sound out most of the words in their book sent home on a Thursday. If this is not the case, please make a note in your child's reading record. Please note that children are required to have their book bag with their reading record and book every day.	
Community fund	Each week we ask families to contribute £1 for the cost of extra resources for the class, such as cooking ingredients and craft resources. This can be given to class staff in a named envelope. Last half term we used this to purchase play dough ingredients and magnetic strips which have been used to help children with their phonics. Your generosity is much appreciated!	
Birthdays	Children are permitted to come in their own clothes on their birthday. They may also bring small packets of sweets or lollipops to give out at the end of the day.	
Christmas	This year, there will be a nativity at the school for all pupils in Reception, Year One and Year Two. Reception children will mostly be joining in with the singing. If you do not wish for your child to participate in the Christmas performance, please let me know as soon as possible.	
Cold Weather	In Reception, children have access to the outdoor area even when it is extremely cold outside. It is really helpful if your child can put their coat on and <i>fasten it independently</i> , so they can go freely inside and outside. Please support us by practising this at home.	
Key dates	Wednesday 2 nd and Thursday 3 rd November	Parent-teacher consultation meetings
	Friday 4 th November	Reading Together Flu immunisation Black History Month assembly at 2:15 in the hall
	Friday 11 th November	Reading Together Remembrance Day
	Monday 14 th November	Beginning of anti-bullying week
	Friday 18 th November	Reading Together Odd socks day- children can wear odd socks for a £1 donation to the Anti-bullying Alliance
	Wednesday 23 rd November	Free drama workshop for Reception children (fairy tale theme)
	Friday 25 th November	Reading Together Poetry recital assembly
	Friday 2 nd December	Reading Together

	Wednesday 7 th December	EYFS and Key Stage 1 Christmas Production
	Friday 9 th December	Reading Together Christmas fete and cake sale
	Tuesday 13 th December	Christmas lunch and winter jumper day
	Thursday 15 th December	Class Christmas parties
	Friday 16 th December	Reading Together Last day of term. School finished at 2pm and there is no After School Club
How you can help	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please read daily with your child, even if it is only for five minutes, and comment in their reading record. - Please encourage your child to be as independent as possible with feeding and dressing themselves at home. - Please support your child with recognising and writing their name. - Please practise counting to and back from numbers within 20. - Please let me know if there is anything you are unsure of! 	
Uniform	Please ensure that your child attends school with a fresh water bottle every day and is wearing the correct uniform. Our uniform encourages a sense of belonging and is compulsory for all children from Reception Class to Year 6.	

If you have any further questions please contact me via email:

lpatt3.210@lgflmail.org

Thank you

Ms Clayton (class teacher) and Ms Whyte (teaching assistant)