



Hollydale Primary School

Working together to be the best that we can be.

Welcome to Spring One!

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.

Learning and development	
Personal, social and emotional development	This term we will be continuing to develop friendships, negotiating and turn taking. We will be learning about new year and making some new year's resolutions. Children will have opportunities to talk about how they keep themselves safe, particularly on the road. We will also discuss how it is important to look after our teeth and how we can do this.
Communication and language	Children will be listening to lots of high-quality stories and exploring non-fiction books. We will continue to teach children new vocabulary and encourage them to use it throughout the day, as well as encouraging them to use talk to explore their learning.
Physical development	Children will continue to have plenty of opportunities to enjoy walking, crawling and running. They will also develop their fine motor skills to support with gripping pencils. Our P.E. topic is target-throwing. Children will develop their accuracy with throwing beanbags and balls at targets, as well as defending a target from an opponent. Additionally, children will have the opportunity to use the balance bikes and tricycles outside.
Literacy	Literacy will be closely linked to our daily phonics sessions. Children will continue to learn the different sounds made by letters and pairs of letters. Children will be encouraged to sound out words when writing and apply their phonics knowledge when reading. Additionally, we will continue to explore lots of books with the children which they would be unable to sound out independently. Our main focus texts this term will be <i>The Magic Paintbrush</i> by Julia Donaldson and <i>Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy</i> by Lynley Dodd.
Maths	This term, children will be learning about the concept of zero and how it means 'nothing' or 'all gone'. They will also be learning about the composition of the numbers four and five, committing the number bonds to memory. We will be counting orally counting to 20 and beyond. Additionally, children will be learning about mass and capacity, comparing and using correct vocabulary. During Maths Week (beginning 30 th January), we will be focussing on 2D and 3D shapes and building structures with these.
Understanding of the world	Our topics this term will be <i>China</i> and <i>Pets</i> . Children will be learning about how life is different in China and drawing information from simple maps. They will also be learning about the Chinese community in the UK and how the lunar new year is celebrated here. Towards the middle of the term, we will move onto learning about the different animals people keep as pets and how they can be looked after.

<p>Expressive art and design</p>	<p>This includes: Exploring and using media and materials, Music, singing and dance, drama and being imaginative.</p> <p>Our arts and crafts this term will be a mixture of adult-led and independent activities. Children will continue to have free access to the art area where they can use paints and other craft materials independently. We will also continue to sing a range of nursery rhymes and explore different dances throughout the term.</p>
<p>Key information</p>	
<p>P.E.</p>	<p>We will have our P.E. sessions on Wednesdays, starting from next week. On these days, we ask that children come to school in their P.E. kits (black tracksuit bottoms or shorts, a plain white t-shirt and black trainers or plimsolls all clearly marked with their name).</p>
<p>Reading records</p>	<p>The children will take home a reading book linked to the phonics teaching each week to provide valuable opportunities for you to read together at home. These will be changed on a Thursday. They will also receive a sharing book to read with an adult every Monday. It is not expected that children will be able to access their Monday book independently.</p> <p>Parents are asked to please make a note in their reading records every time they read at home. Please note that children are required to have their book bag with their reading record and book every day.</p>
<p>Community fund</p>	<p>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 term we used these contributions to purchase salt dough ingredients, slime ingredients and new table covers for snack time.</p>
<p>Homework</p>	<p>I will be sending some very simple homework this term. The phonics part will be a sheet with an overview of what we have been learning that week in phonics. There will be a list of sounds and words to practise with your child. They don't have to write anything, but you can add a comment if you wish. The maths will be linked to our maths activity for the week and should be something your child can access with very little help. Homework is set on a Thursday and needs to be returned by Tuesday.</p>
<p>Show and Tell</p>	<p>This term, I will set aside time on a Friday during which children can show a special item they have brought from home. This is a valuable opportunity to develop their speaking and listening skills. Please make sure the item your child brings is not too precious, breakable or expensive!</p>
<p>Music</p>	<p>This term, children will be having music lessons with a specialist teacher, Mr Hamilton.</p>
<p>Handwriting and Presentation</p>	<p>This term, we will be using the Letterjoin scheme to teach handwriting. This is a whole-school scheme which starts with basic letter formation and eventually prepares children for joined cursive writing.</p>
<p>Key dates</p>	<p>Reading Together will continue to take place every Friday morning from 9:00 to 9:20.</p> <p><u>Friday 20th January-</u> Phonics meeting for EYFS and KS1 parents at 9:00. This will give an overview of the strategies used to teach phonics at Hollydale and how you can support your child.</p> <p><u>Thursday 26th January-</u> EYFS Maths workshop for parents and carers. This will give an overview of the strategies and resources used to teach maths at Hollydale and give ideas for how you can support your child.</p> <p><u>Week beginning Monday 30th January-</u> Maths Week</p> <p><u>Friday 3rd February-</u> NSPCC number day. Children can come in a number or maths-themed outfit for a £1 donation.</p>

	<p>Maths exhibition at 3:30pm to show work completed by each class during Maths Week.</p> <p><u>Monday 6th February-</u> Speech and Language parents' meeting at 2:45pm with the speech and language team at Hollydale.</p> <p>Nunhead Library and additional trips and visits TBC.</p>
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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please practise counting to and back from numbers within 20. - Please let me know if there is anything you are unsure of!
Uniform	<p>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.</p>

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

lpatt3.210@lgflmail.org

Thank you

Ms Clayton (class teacher) and Ms Whyte (learning support assistant)