

Hollydale Primary School

Welcome back to a new school year at Hollydale. We hope you have all had an enjoyable and restful holiday and are ready for all the exciting challenges this school year will offer!

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as Willow's new class teacher. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to email me (ghopkins5.210@lgflmail.org) or ring the office and we can arrange a time to discuss any questions or concerns you may have. Alternatively, I can be contacted directly via Class Dojo. Please also keep an eye on the Willow Class page of the Hollydale website as we will be posting updates there.


As your children are now in year 6, they will be preparing all year for their end of KS2 assessments (SATs). Information about these assessments will be sent in due course. To help prepare for this the children will be having weekly maths fluency, spelling, grammar and timetables practice to ensure they are fully prepared and confident! They will also continue to have weekly homework to ensure they are progressing so please support your child with this throughout the year! As we are preparing for SATs, additional homework may be sent through the week.

Miss Hopkins, Year 6 Willow class teacher

Additional Support Staff: Ms Mustafa

Autumn 1 2023 - This half term Year 6 will be learning about the following topics:

English	Our English theme this half term is ' Migration and Movement '. In English, we will be basing our learning on the books <i>The Arrival</i> by Shaun Tan and <i>Windrush Child</i> by Benjamin Zephaniah. The children will be writing in a range of different styles including news reports, diary entries, persuasive writing and stories, all based on these books. In our whole class reading sessions, we will begin by studying the novel <i>Fly Me Home</i> by Polly Ho-Yen before moving onto <i>On the Move: Poems about Migration</i> by Michael Rosen.
Reading Records	Reading every day is vitally important for year 6 children. We will continue with physical reading records. The expectation is to bring these into school daily and write at least 4 entries a week about what they are reading. Children will have the opportunity to choose books from the school library each week. All children will be required to take their library book or classroom book home each night to read, and log comments into their reading records. Please read and discuss your child's book with them and ensure that it is returned each day in a school bag. The library reading books will be changed weekly as and when appropriate for each child. Reading rewards will be given to children for fantastic, in-depth comments
Spelling, punctuation and grammar	This term the children will be having weekly grammar sessions in order to improve their understanding of the grammatical conventions of the English language. We will be looking specifically at grammatical conventions linked to our text types whilst keeping up our basic skills. The children will also have weekly spelling sessions where we will teach them explicit spelling rules, which will then be applied in the weekly spelling homework. Spellings will be sent home along with the children's homework on Fridays. A spelling test will then take place the following Friday.
Maths	In Maths the children will be focusing on Place value and Number . First, children will build on their existing knowledge of place value in order to ensure they can read, write, order and compare numbers up to 10,000,000 and round numbers to any required degree of accuracy. Next, we will consolidate our written and mental methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and ensure the children are confident in using these to solve problems. Throughout the term we will also focus on problem solving skills and strategies and being able to use mathematical language to reason and explain our answers. The children will also need to continue to practise their times tables. Their logins for Times Tables Rock Stars can be found in their reading records. Finally, the children will practise their arithmetic skills throughout the half term, during our maths fluency and arithmetic sessions. Please encourage the daily use of these at home. https://ttrockstars.com/ https://mathsframe.co.uk/ https://www.sumdog.com/us/
Science	Our Science topic for the Autumn Term is Living things and their habitats . We will be learning about the lives of significant scientist Carl Linnaeus and explaining his contribution to classification systems. We will explore how living things can be grouped according to similarities and differences and use classification schemes to sort living things according to observable characteristics.
Computing	Our Computing topic this half term is ' We are Toy Designers '. We will be using an online programme called micro: bit to understand how toys are designed and design and make our own. Session 1 – learn about micro: bit and Make Code Session 2 – research electronic toys Session 3 – design a toy Session 4 – programme the micro: bit Sessions 5 and 6 – add interactive components and connect the micro: bit to the toy
Topic	This term our History topic is Black Scientists and Inventors, where we will be learning about the lives and achievements of a number of influential figures. Key people we will be learning about: Elijah McCoy, Lonnie Johnson, Patricia Bath and Alexander Miles.

DT	This half term our DT topic is Structures: Playgrounds . We will be designing and building a playground featuring a variety of different structures. We will consider effective and ineffective designs, measure and cut materials and improve our design based on peer evaluation.
P.E.	PE days for Willow class are Wednesday and Thursday . On Thursday, the children will continue to be taught by one of our LPESSN coaches. Please ensure that your child/children have the following kit for PE: black tracksuit bottoms or shorts, a white t-shirt or top and black trainers or plimsolls and that they attend school wearing their PE kit (and their Hollydale jumper) every Wednesday and Thursday . Swimming will resume for Year 6 on Wednesdays this term. Please ensure your child brings their swimming kit to school on this day.
Music	Children will take part in weekly Brass lessons on Thursday. Please encourage your child to rehearse regularly and bring their instrument into school.
R.E.	This term in RE we will be focusing on the theme of Life After Death. We will begin by investigating the concept of life before moving onto studying what different major world religions teach about Life After Death and how these views differ.
P.S.H.E. & Citizenship	This term our focus will be on 'Step up September'. We will be focussing on ensuring the transition back to school is as smooth as possible and looking at ways we can focus on our physical and mental health. We will also continue to reinforce our school values of Respect, Responsibility, Relationships and Resilience.
Spanish	Our topic in Spanish will be All About Me! We will be revising how to introduce ourselves and describe key features.
Homework	Homework will be set on a Friday and should be returned by Tuesday of the following week. Children will be set weekly Maths, English and Science homework. This will be sent home in a homework folder in paper format. They should continue to learn their times tables, which will be tested on a regular basis, and they should continue to practice these using Times Table Rock Stars, for which they have their own logins. Additional maths homework will be assigned on the Sumdog website, for which each child also has their own username and password. Children also need to practice and learn the spellings that they are set.
Trips and visits	<u>Educational Trips this term</u> Monday 16 th October 2023 – Frameless Immersive Art Experience Please keep an eye out for letters and messages on Class Dojo regarding these. More information about our Year 6 residential will follow in due course.
Uniform expectations	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. Summer uniform can be worn in Autumn 1. Girls Uniform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer Dresses - Red & White or Green & White Gingham • Cardigan/ Sweatshirt/V neck sweater - Dark green • Footwear - Black Shoes • Hijabs – White/Dark Green/Black only Boys Uniform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polo shirt – Dark green, bright red or white • Cardigan/ Sweatshirt/V neck sweater - Dark green • Trousers/ shorts (knee length) – Grey • Footwear - Black shoes 
Key dates	Monday 11th September - Extended school provision (breakfast and after school clubs) to resume Tuesday 19th - Meet the teacher meetings – UKS2 at 4:10pm Friday 22nd - Jeans for Genes Day – children to wear own clothes and bring £1 to school (fundraising) Friday 22nd - Reading together and reading buddies begins for KS1 Friday 29th - Macmillan Coffee Morning at 09:00am. Cake sale after school (Fundraising) Monday 2nd October - Black History Month celebration begins Monday 2nd - Poetry week begins Thursday 11th - Multiplication tables challenge Y1 to Y6 Monday 16 th October - Educational Trip – Frameless exhibition Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th - Parent teacher consultation meetings to share pupil targets and progress 3:45pm-6:00pm Thursday 19 th - Harvest Whole school Assembly Monday 23rd – Friday 27th October 2023 - Half term

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact us. Thank you for your continued support and co-operation.

Willow Class Team:

Ms Hopkins (Class Teacher – ghopkins5.210@lgflmail.org)

Su Mustafa (Additional Support) – Thursday and Friday