

Hollydale Primary School

Welcome back to Spring Term and the countdown to SATS! We hope you have had a restful Winter holiday and are ready for all the exciting and challenging opportunities this term will offer!



If you have any questions throughout this half term 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.

During the Spring Term your children will be preparing for their end of KS2 assessments (SATS). These will take place on the week of the 13th May 2024. They will be having weekly Maths Fluency, spelling, grammar and timetables practise to ensure they are fully prepared and confident! As well as this, they will be having weekly homework to ensure they are progressing so please support your child with this throughout the year.

This half term is crucial in terms of the children's preparation for their tests as we begin to consolidate the Key Stage 2 Curriculum. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like support with how best to support your child during this time. In addition, the children may receive extra homework throughout the term to prepare them for their exams. Finally, booster sessions will begin again on **Monday 22nd January** and **Thursday 25th January**.

We are also looking forwards to our Sayers' Croft Residential trip, taking place between **Wednesday 17th and Friday 19th January 2024**. A letter with additional information has been sent.

Miss Hopkins, Year 6 Willow class teacher

Additional Support Staff: Ms Mustafa

Spring 1 2024 - This half term Year 6 will be learning about the following topics:

English	This half term we will be basing our learning on the books The Promise by Nicola Davies and The Last Bear by Hannah Gold . As part of our learning on The Promise we will produce a range of descriptive and narrative writing, finishing with a sequel to the story. We will then produce a range of text types based on The Last Bear, including character profiles, logbook entries and reports. Finally, we will produce a newspaper article based on the book.
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 ratio, algebra and decimals . First, we will learn how to solve problems involving the relative sizes of two quantities where missing values can be found by using integer multiplication and division facts, solve problems involving the calculation of percentages [for example, of measures, and such as 15% of 360] and the use of percentages for comparison, solve problems involving similar shapes where the scale factor is known or can be found and solve problems involving unequal sharing and grouping using knowledge of fractions and multiples. Next, we will learn how to use simple formulae, generate and describe linear number sequences, express missing number problems algebraically, find pairs of numbers that satisfy an equation with two unknowns and enumerate possibilities of combinations of two variables. Throughout the term we will also develop our skills and discuss how we can 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 Rockstars can be found in their reading records. Finally, the children will continue to 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 this half term is Light . The children will investigate how lights helps us to see and how the idea that light travels in straight lines explains the shape of our shadows. We will work scientifically by

	observing shadows. We will write explanation texts for younger children based on the findings of our investigation.
Computing	<p>This half term our Computing unit is 'We are Computational Thinkers.' In this unit we will learn to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about appropriate rules or guidelines for a civil online discussion • how search results are selected and ranked • how to argue a point effectively • how to support their views with sources • how to counter someone else's argument while showing respect and tolerance • how to judge the reliability of an online source • some strategies for dealing with online bullying.
Topic	This term our History topic is 'The changing role of women' . Our big questions is: How has the role of women changed over time? We will begin by studying women's lives during the 18 th and 19 th centuries, before moving onto the women's suffrage movement (linked to our book: Suffragette). We will then finish by looking at women in the 1950s and how this changed in the 1960s.
Art	Our Art and Design topic this term is Photography . We will be looking at the characteristics of a good photo before taking our own digital photos and editing these. We will then complete a number of Christmas art projects. Our next art focus will be Make My Voice Heard! We will begin by exploring graffiti art, before studying the artists Kathe Kollwitz and Pablo Picasso and designing a final piece.
P.E.	PE days for Willow class are Tuesday 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 Tuesday and Thursday .
Music	Children will take part in weekly Brass lessons on Thursday . Please encourage your child to rehearse regularly and bring their instrument into school. If your child takes home their instrument, please ensure it is bought back in every Thursday morning.
R.E.	This term in RE we will be focusing on the importance of different leaders in religion . The children will be looking at what makes a good leader and how they can become one themselves.
P.S.H.E. & Citizenship	This term our focus will be Dreams and Goals . We will describe some ways in which we can work with other people to help make the world a better place and identify why we are motivated to do this.
Spanish	In Spanish our topic is 'At the Shops' . We will be learning lots of vocabulary linked to shopping and applying these to conversations. We will continue to build on our Spanish vocabulary and grammar by describing key facts about ourselves and our lives. We will then continue to use our vocabulary in real-life contexts.
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.
Key dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 9th January – School to resume • Wednesday 10th January – Height and weight checks YR -YR6 • Monday 15th January – Enrichment clubs begin • Wednesday 17th – Friday 19th Year 6 Residential visit to Sayers croft • Wednesday 24th January – Year 6 SATS meeting with parents at 15:40pm • Thursday 25th January - Willow Class assembly • Friday 26th January – YR5/YR6 visit to Bromley Reform Synagogue • Week commencing Monday 29th January – Maths Week • Thursday 1st February Times table challenge YR1 – YR6 • Friday 2nd NSPCC Number Day (Fundraising day) • Monday 5th Children Mental Health Awareness day • Thursday 8th Poetry Recital assembly YR4 – YR6 • Friday 9th INSET day • Half term Monday 12th February – 16th February

Term will finish on **Thursday 8th February 2024** and school will resume on **Monday 19th February 2024**.

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)

Ms Mustafa (Additional Support)