

Hollydale Primary School
Working together to be the best that we can be
Year 1/2 – Elm Class



Welcome back! We hope you have had a restful break from school. We begin the summer term with lots of exciting topics. Please ensure you add the dates detailed in this newsletter to your calendar. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me as I am more than happy to discuss your queries with you.




As Year 2 is the end of Key Stage 1, we were required to assess the children against the National Curriculum objectives to determine their attainment and also to record the progress they have made since the end of the Foundation Stage. **This is no longer a statutory requirement but optional test papers will be made available for schools to administer if they wish.**

We will be using these optional tests to assess the children in Mathematics, Reading and SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) by using standardised national tests from Tuesday 7th May 2024. The test results will be used to plan learning for the remainder of the summer term so that the children have a strong start in KS2.

Summer 1 2024 - This half term Year 1/2 will be learning about the following topics:

<p>English</p>	<p>We will start the term continuing with Tadpole’s Promise by Jeanne Willis and Tony Ross. The children will use their cross curricular knowledge from Science (Animals, Including Humans) in order to retell a known story and create their own version, as well as using information from the text to create an explanation piece about changes to a tadpole’s development. Grammar will be embedded within these literacy sessions.</p> <p>We will continue the term with We Are Water Protectors by Carole Lindstrom. The children will explore the true story of the narrative, and produce descriptive non-fiction writing in different forms, such as writing the life-cycle of water, identifying environmental issues, researching Native American tribes and creating a campaign to look after our world.</p>
<p>Spellings</p>	<p>We are working very hard in school to strengthen basic skills, but we need your help to boost spellings. We have created a spelling challenge to make this fun and engaging and we are offering a whole host of rewards to motivate and encourage the children to get on board!</p> <p>All that we ask, is that you help your children learn to spell the words on their challenge card. Every time they have secured a section (bronze, silver or gold), staff will check that they have indeed secured the bronze, silver or gold block and the children will receive a certificate and they can begin learning the next set of spellings.</p> <p>We are hopeful that this will be more meaningful than testing spellings weekly and by basing it on high frequency words and words commonly used in their writing, it will be more purposeful as it is being embedded not only in Literacy but across the whole curriculum.</p>
<p>Handwriting and Presentation</p>	<p>Children will have specific handwriting lessons to help them improve their presentation across all subjects. We will focus on letter formation and correctly joining our letters together. Children are reminded on the importance of presentation in all subjects across the curriculum. Please support this by using LetterJoin at home. https://www.letterjoin.co.uk/index.html</p>
<p>Reading Records</p>	<p>The children will bring home a sharing book (free-choice book from the book corner) on Tuesday as well as a banded book. Please read and discuss the books with your child. Parents must record in the reading records at least once a week. Please note that children are required to have their book bag with their reading record inside every day.</p> <p>If the phonics book that your child brings home ends up lost or damaged, parents will need to pay for a replacement.</p>
<p>Phonics</p>	<p>Phonics will be taught every day and this will be consolidated in Literacy and spellings. We will continue to practice for the National Phonics Screening Check, specifically focusing on reading and blending sounds in ‘real’ and ‘nonsense’ words.</p> <p>Phonics works best when children are given plenty of encouragement and parents play a very important part in helping with this. There are a range of ways that you can reinforce phonics learning at home, including asking them about the sounds they have been learning and practising these with them, reading regularly with your child and listening to your child read daily, encouraging your child to use their phonic knowledge to sound out unfamiliar words. If you require any further support or guidance on supporting your child with their phonics, please do not hesitate to contact me via Class Dojo.</p>
<p>Maths</p>	<p>We will begin by exploring fractions including learning about equal and unequal parts; finding half and quarters and thirds; recognising unit and non-unit fractions and equivalence of a half and two quarters as well as counting in fractions up to a whole. Children will recap telling time to O’clock and half past, then move on to quarter past, quarter to and telling time to 5 minutes. Children will know how many minutes in an hour and hours in a day. We will also find and compare durations of time. We will then move onto exploring efficient methods for problem solving.</p> <p>In addition to this, weekly ‘Maths Fluency’ sessions will ensure that the children’s arithmetic skills are being developed to aid rapid recall of number facts. Throughout Year 2 we will practice and test their times tables (2, 5 and 10) using Times Table Rock Stars. Please support your child with this at home as they have been given their individual login details.</p>

Science	This term, we will continue our topic of Plants. The children will investigate and describe what plants need to grow and stay healthy. We will be continuing to observe a range of plants we have grown from seeds and describe them as they grow into mature plants, recording in our Bean Diaries. The children will develop their scientific skills by asking their own questions about what they notice; observing closely over time, using simple equipment; and using their observations to suggest answers to questions.
Computing	This term, we are animators! We will be creating a stop-motion animation. We will work in small groups to plan, film and add audio to a short 'stop-motion' animation.
Topic	In Topic this term we will be learning about Town and Country. We will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use an atlas to locate the four countries of the UK, capital cities and other key places. • Plan a simple route around the local area using key vocabulary. • Ask geographical questions – Where is it? What is this place like? How near/far is it?
Art / Design & Technology	This term we will be focusing on Art and Design skills. In this collection of lessons children learn and develop their skills in: design, drawing, craft, painting and art appreciation; undertaking two different printing techniques, using 2D shapes to explore a variety of media, mixing different shades of one colour and discussing the work of artist Louis Wain.
P.E.	Elm class will have PE on a Monday and Wednesday afternoons. Please ensure that your child/children wear the following kit for PE: Black tracksuit bottoms or shorts, a white t-shirt or top and black trainers or plimsolls. Our focus this term will be ball skills (football). All children are expected to come to school dressed in their PE kit (and school jumper or cardigan) every Friday for this half term. We do not have a changing facility in operation in order to keep our school community as safe as possible.
Music	Elm Class will be taught by a specialist music teacher (Mr Duncan Hamilton) every Friday morning. This half term, children will continue to learn about rhythm and tempo using a range of hand percussion instruments, as well as explore melodies with recorders. We will continue to incorporate opportunities for singing across the school day.
R.E.	Our R.E. focus this term will be about special food and fasting and how this helps people in their faith. We will be learning about and answering the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is fasting and why do people do it? • Why do Muslim people fast in Ramadan? • What special food do Muslim people share during Eid? • Why do Christian people fast in Lent? • What do Christians do before Lent starts?
P.S.H.E. & Citizenship	This term our focus will be on Relationships. We will explore how to make friends and deal with problems when they occur. We will look at how to show respect to others and help others feel part of our friendship groups. We will identify our relationship with different family members.
Homework	Each Friday your child will be set weekly literacy and maths tasks for homework based on their learning throughout the week. Homework must be returned by the following Tuesday at the latest. Children in Year 2 should practice their times tables (2, 5 and 10) using TTRS . All pupils should practice their maths skills using Sumdog. Logins are kept in pupils' homework books.
SATS	As Year 2 is the end of Key Stage 1 we are required to assess the children against the National Curriculum objectives to determine their attainment and also to record the progress they have made since the end of the Foundation Stage. We will assess the children in Mathematics, Reading and SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) by using standardised national tests, making observations and gathering evidence from their work. A judgement is then decided and this judgement is reported in the end of year reports which you will receive in July. These assessments will commence in May 2023.
Reading Together Sessions	We are excited to share with you that our Reading Together Sessions will be starting on Friday 21st April, running every Friday from 9:00-9:20am. This is an opportunity for parents to see first-hand how we teach reading and reading related skills to children. Teachers and TAs will continue to deliver guided reading sessions with a group.
Class Dojo	Please make sure you have access to Class Dojo in order to receive updates on any important information you would need to know. If there is anything we need to share with you, we will use this platform to contact you.

<p>Other Notices</p>	<p>Summer School Uniform:</p>  <p>Girls Uniform</p> <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 <p>Boys Uniform</p> <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 <p>Water bottles – Every child needs their own water bottle with their name on. Please make sure your child attends school with a water bottle every day. These can be refilled at school.</p>
<p>Educational Visit/ Trips</p>	<p>The children will be going to the Horniman Museum for a workshop on Toys and Puppets Around the World. Children will explore the mechanisms, materials, and uses of toys: from a Zimbabwean push-along drummer, to a Russian pendulum toy, to Guatemalan worry dolls, and use a transforming doll to tell the story of Little Red Riding Hood together. Date to be confirmed soon.</p>
<p>Key dates</p>	<p>Monday 22nd – Friday 26th April 2024 - Science Week Friday 3rd May – Spanish Day Monday 6th May – BANK HOLIDAY Tuesday 7th May – Year 2 Optional SATs Tests for Grammar, Reading and Maths to be completed Monday 13th – Friday 17th May – Mental Health Awareness Week Thursday 23rd May – Poetry recital assembly Friday 24th May – Times tables Challenge Friday 24th May – Mufti Day Friday 24th May – Elm Class Assembly at 9.15am</p>

Year 1/2 Team

Elm Class Teacher – Ms Sultana

Teaching Assistants: Ms Bi and Ms Ayres