

Welcome back we are very excited to start the academic year with you. I hope that you have all had a great summer and that you are all well!

This half term the children will be focusing their learning on our Whole school Black History month topic **‘Inspirational Leaders’**.

If you have any questions about your child’s learning or any other aspect of Hazel Class life, please do not hesitate to contact me via Class Dojos or by email – ehoward37.210@lgflmail.org. Thank you for your support and co-operation.

Regards, *Ms Howard*

Class Teacher – Ms Howard
Additional Support Staff: Mr Long

Autumn 1 2025 - This half term Year 5 will be learning about the following topics:

English	In English the children will be exploring a variety of texts, including ‘Hidden Figures’ written by Margot Lee Shetterly and ‘The Man Who Walked Between the Towers’ by Mordicai Gerstein . Through these texts they will extend their writing through biographies/autobiographies and memoirs. We will be exploring how language can be used to describe settings, characters, and atmosphere. We will also explore how we can build cohesion within paragraphs.
Reading Records	We will continue with physical reading records. They are expected 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	Children will continue this half term to be tested on their spellings every three weeks. Please support them in learning 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. 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.
Maths	In Maths the children will begin the term by looking at Place Value, comparing and rounding numbers to a million, and negative numbers. The children will then move on to add and subtract whole numbers with more than 4-digits using the column method. The children will also be learning how to estimate and make sensible approximations. Each child will revisit how to use the four operations and apply their knowledge to reasoning /problem-solving activities. They will continue to develop their mental maths skills and knowledge of all their times tables (12x12) through weekly time stable tests on TTRS and Maths frame . Please encourage the daily use of these at home. https://trockstars.com/ https://mathsframe.co.uk/
Science	In Science we will be looking at Forces . The children will be taught how to • Explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the falling object. • Identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction, that act between moving surfaces. • Recognise that some mechanisms including levers, pulleys and gears allow a smaller force to have a greater effect.
Computing	Our topic this half term is ‘We are game developers’ in this unit, pupils develop their own interactive game on Scratch. • Session 1 - create original artwork and sound for a game • Session 2 - design and create a computer program for a computer game, which uses sequence, selection, repetition, and variables. • Session 3 - detect and correct errors in their computer game • Session 4 - use iterative development techniques (making and testing a series of small changes) to improve their game.
Topic	This half term the children will be focusing their learning on the Black History month topic ‘Inspirational Leaders’ . We will learn all about: • Shirley Chisolm - an American politician who, in 1968, became the first black woman to be elected to the United States Congress. • Ida B. Wells - an American investigative journalist, sociologist, educator, and early leader in the civil

	rights movement.
Art	This half term will focus on Art and Design . This unit will focus on the technique of drawing . Children will be taught to develop their ideas more independently, considering the purpose of drawing as they investigate how imagery was used in the 'Space race' that began in 1950s.
P.E.	Hazel will have PE on a Wednesday and Thursday afternoon. Children must wear their PE kit with their school jumper to school on this day. Please ensure that your child/children have the following kit for PE: Black tracksuit bottoms, a white t-shirt and black trainers or plimsolls. This half term the focus will be football . This year Hazel class will have an additional PE session on a Wednesday afternoon. Please ensure your child wears their PE kit on Wednesdays and Thursdays.
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 learning how to answer the following questions: What do religions believe about God? Do all faiths have similar world views? They will also be learning about the different traditions and beliefs within a range of religions.
P.S.H.E. & Citizenship	This term our focus will be all about settling back into the school routine and well-being. The child will also be celebrating values and setting achievable goals for the year. The children will begin to explore what it means to find their place in the world.
E-Safety	At Hollydale we are committed to developing an understanding of E-safety for both children and parents and carers. This covers both Internet based technologies and electronic devices such as mobile phones and wireless technology. We are keen to make children aware of both the benefits and risks of new technology. Hollydale achieves this by ensuring that: • Pupils are supervised appropriately when they use the Internet. • Pupils are given clear objectives for Internet use. • Pupils are provided with lists of relevant and suitable web sites. • Pupils are aware of their responsibilities. • Curriculum planning identifies opportunities to enrich and extend learning activities via access to the Internet Internet access is purchased through London Grid for Learning (LGFL), which provides a firewall that filters out inappropriate sites. We work with the LGFL to ensure systems to protect pupils are regularly reviewed and improved. It is important that parents and carers speak to their children about how they can keep safe and behave appropriately online. It's essential to be realistic. Banning the internet or technology will not work and it often makes a child less likely to report a problem. Education around safe use is essential. <u>Websites for more information</u> https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/ http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/
MFL	Spanish will be taught every week by Ms Howard. We will be learning these units throughout the year: All About Me The Way We Look Eating Out
Homework	Children are sent home weekly Maths and English homework and bi-monthly Science homework in their folders. This is sent home along with spellings on a Friday, and should be brought in by the following Tuesday. 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. All homework will be set on a Friday and will be expected to be completed and submitted by the following Tuesday.
Key dates	• Wednesday 3rd September – Children Return to School Start time: 8:55am Please ensure your child arrives on time each morning. • Friday 5th September – Curriculum Newsletters Sent Home To help parents/carers understand what is being taught in school. • Monday 15th September – Enrichment Clubs Resume • Wednesday 17th September – Meet the Teacher – Hazel Class Time: 16:00 – 16:20 An opportunity for parents/carers to learn more about the new academic year and ask questions. • Friday 19th September – Jeans for Genes Day

	Children may wear their own clothes. <i>Donation: £1 per child</i> • Friday 26th September – Macmillan Coffee Morning Time: 9:00am Fundraising Cake Sale in support of Macmillan Cancer Support. Children may wear green clothes or accessories. • Monday 29th September – National Poetry Week & Black History Month Celebrations Begin October 2025 • Wednesday 3rd October – Black History Month Celebrations begin • Friday 3rd October – Poetry Recital Assembly at 9.20am. Parents and carers welcome to attend. • Thursday 9th October – Multiplication Table Challenge • Tuesday 14th & Wednesday 15th October – Parent-Teacher Consultation Meetings Appointment times to be confirmed. • Friday 24th October – Harvest Festival Assembly All donations will be delivered by our pupils to our local foodbank
<i>Additional Information Including Summer/a Uniform</i>	Please ensure that your child attends school with a fresh water bottle every day and is wearing the correct school 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 until half term. Girls Uniform • 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 • Polo shirt – Dark green, bright red or white • Cardigan/ Sweatshirt/V neck sweater - Dark green • Trousers/ shorts (knee length) – Grey • Footwear - Black shoes