

## **Hollydale Primary School**

### **Working together to be the best that we can be.**

Welcome back to the second half of the autumn term! We hope you all had a restful half-term break. We are incredibly excited to begin this new term, filled with exciting learning opportunities and topics, and we look forward to seeing the fantastic work the children will continue to produce. Our topics for Autumn 2 are **Celebrations**, **Traditional Tales** and **Winter**. Within our topics, we will be covering the 7 areas of the Early Years Curriculum as outlined below.

If you have any questions about your child's learning or any other aspect of Cherry Class life, please contact me via ClassDojo <https://teach.classdojo.com/>

**Class Teacher:** Ms Williams

**Support Staff:** Ms Thompson

Autumn 2 2025 - This half term Year R will be learning about the following topics:

<b>Learning and development</b>	
<b>Personal, social and emotional development</b>	This includes: Making relationships, Self-confidence and self-awareness, managing feelings and behaviour. This term we will be continuing to develop friendships, negotiating and turn taking. Children will have opportunities to talk about special times for themselves and their families.
<b>Communication and language</b>	This includes: Listening and attention, understanding and speaking. Children will be listening to a variety of topic related stories and have opportunities to contribute to class discussions.
<b>Physical development</b>	This includes: Moving and handling, health and self-care. The focus of our P.E. sessions this term will be Personal Challenges. Children will try new activities, set small goals and work on improving their skills at their own pace. This can include activities where they challenge themselves to balance for a longer time, jump further or improve on their coordination. Personal challenges help build confidence, resilience and a sense of achievement as they see their own progress.
<b>Literacy</b>	This includes: Reading, and writing (phonics is included alongside both these areas). This term, we will be focusing on the story <i>I Am Henry Finch</i> by Alexis Deacon. We will be writing labels and lists. Children will also have a daily phonics session and 3 weekly reading sessions to practise decoding words. We follow the <b>Little Wandle</b> scheme for phonics.
<b>Maths</b>	Includes: Number and shape, space and measure. We will be focussing on counting objects accurately, comparing amounts and combining groups of objects. The children will also be learning to name and describe shapes, create repeating patterns and compare objects by weight, size and length.
<b>Understanding of the world</b>	This includes: Understanding about people and communities, the world and technology. Through our 'Celebrations' topic we will be sharing special times and developing an understanding of similarities and differences between ourselves and our friends/families. During our 'Winter' topic, we will be exploring the natural world around us
<b>Expressive art and design</b>	This includes: Exploring and using media and materials, Music, singing and dance, drama and being imaginative. We will be creating firework paintings, Antarctica collages and Christmas decorations. Children

	will also have free access to the art area to express themselves as they wish throughout the day.
<b>Key information</b>	
<b>P.E.</b>	We will have our physical education (PE) lesson Tuesday afternoon. Please send the children into school wearing their P.E. kits on Tuesdays. We ask that children wear; black tracksuit bottoms or shorts, a plain white t-shirt and black trainers or plimsolls that are clearly named.
<b>Music</b>	Music will be taught by a specialist music teacher (Mr Duncan) every Thursday morning.
<b>Community fund</b>	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 half term we used this to purchase play dough ingredients and magnetic strips which have been used to help children with their phonics. Your generosity is much appreciated!
<b>Birthdays</b>	On your child's birthday, they can wear their own clothes to school. Alternatively, they can wear their school uniform with a birthday badge. If your child's birthday falls on a PE day, please make sure that they wear something they are able to do sport in.
<b>Christmas</b>	Our whole school Christmas presentations will take place on <b>Thursday 11th December 2025 in the afternoon at St Mary's Church, Peckham</b> . Further details and arrangements will be confirmed in due course.
<b>Anti-Bullying Week</b>	<p>Anti-Bullying Week will take place across the school in November 2025. The children will take part in a variety of activities throughout the week, and we will be selling anti-bullying wristbands before and after school. There will also be a whole-school home learning project linked to anti-bullying.</p> <p>Finally, we will join in with Odd Socks Day—a national event celebrating what makes us all unique. Children are invited to wear odd socks on this day and bring a donation of £1.</p>
<b>Class Dojo</b>	Please ensure you have access to Class Dojo to receive important updates and information. We will use this platform to communicate with you whenever there is anything you need to know.
<b>Cold Weather</b>	In Reception, children have access to the outdoor area even when it is extremely cold outside. It is really helpful if your child can put their coat on and <i>fasten it independently</i> , so they can go freely inside and outside. Please support us by practising this at home.
<b>Key dates</b>	<p>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November - Anti-bullying week</p> <p>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> - Remembrance Day – School council poppies fundraising projects - pupil's art work is available to purchase for £1 each.</p> <p>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> - Odd Socks Day – Children to wear odd socks to show their support for anti-bullying for a £1.00 donation</p> <p>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> - Road safety week</p> <p>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> - BHM assembly EYFS and KS1 – parents invited 9:20am</p>

	<p>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> - BHM themed lunch</p> <p>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> - Assessment Week</p> <p>Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> - Flu vaccination – nurse in school</p> <p>Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> - Braiswick photographer in school - Individual photos and staff.</p> <p>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December - Lunch tester day for parents/carers in Y2 Cedar class</p> <p>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> - Christmas fete and cake sale – Friends of Hollydale</p> <p>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> - Christmas presentations at St Mary church – Peckham</p> <p>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> - Times Tables Challenge</p> <p>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> - Christmas class parties</p> <p>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Lunch and Winter Jumper Day</p> <p>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> - Last day of term – School finishes at 1:00pm</p> <p><b>Monday 22nd December 2025– Tuesday 6th January 2026</b></p> <p><b>INSET Day – Monday 5th January 2026</b></p>
How you can help	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Please read daily with your child, even if it is only for five minutes, and comment in their reading record.</li> <li>- Please encourage your child to be as independent as possible with feeding and dressing themselves at home.</li> <li>- Please support your child with recognising and writing their name.</li> <li>- Please practise counting to and back from numbers within 20.</li> <li>- Please let me know if there is anything you are unsure of!</li> </ul>
Uniform	<p>Please ensure that your child attends school with a fresh water bottle every day and is wearing the correct uniform. <b>Our uniform encourages a sense of belonging</b> and is compulsory for all children from Reception Class to Year 6.</p>