

## Hollydale Primary School

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

If you have any questions throughout this half term please do not hesitate to email me ([ghopkins5.210@lgflmail.org](mailto: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.

This half term, Year 6 will continue to prepare for the children's end of KS2 assessments (SATS). More information about these assessments will be sent in due course. To help prepare for this the children we will continue to have 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! Finally, as with last term, additional homework may be sent through the week.

*Miss Hopkins*, Year 5/6 Willow class teacher  
**Additional Support Staff:** Ms Mustafa (Thurs and Fri)

### **Autumn 2 2025 - This half term Year 5/6 will be learning about the following topics:**

<b>English</b>	This half term we will be basing our learning on the books <i>The Promise</i> by Nicola Davies and <i>The Last Bear</i> by Hannah Gold. As part of our learning on <i>The Promise</i> 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 <i>The Last Bear</i> , including character profiles, logbook entries and reports. Finally, we will produce a newspaper article based on the book. In our whole class reading sessions, we will begin by studying <i>On the Move: Poems about Migration</i> by Michael Rosen.
<b>Reading Records</b>	Reading every day is vitally important for 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.
<b>Spelling, punctuation and grammar</b>	We are working very hard in school to strengthen basic skills, but we need your help to boost spellings. Children will be given spellings to learn based on the spelling challenges and these will be tested every three weeks. Scores will be recorded and tracked using the tracking grid and the number of spellings that are tested will vary based on children's individual needs.
<b>Maths</b>	<p><b>Year 6</b></p> <p>In Maths the children will be focusing on <b>Fractions</b>. First, we will revise and consolidate how to find equivalent fractions and convert between mixed numbers and improper fractions. We will then build on this knowledge in order to compare and order fractions, before learning how to add, subtract, multiply and divide with fractions and use this to solve problems. 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. <a href="https://trockstars.com/">https://trockstars.com/</a> <a href="https://mathsframe.co.uk/">https://mathsframe.co.uk/</a></p> <p><b>Year 5</b></p> <p>In Maths the children will begin the term by looking at <b>Multiplication and Division</b>. The children will explore factors, common multiples, prime, square and cube numbers, multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000 and finally looking at multiples of 10, 100 and 1000. The children will then move on to the first part of Fractions. They will continue to develop their mental maths knowledge of all their times tables (12x12) through weekly time stable tests on TTRS, Sumdog and Maths frame. Please encourage the daily use of these at home. <a href="https://trockstars.com/">https://trockstars.com/</a> <a href="https://mathsframe.co.uk/">https://mathsframe.co.uk/</a></p>
<b>Science</b>	Our Science topic this half term is <b>Electricity</b> . The children will learn – through theoretical and practical activities – how to associate the brightness of lamps and volume of buzzers with the number and voltage of batteries used. They will be able to explain and give reasons for this. Finally, they will be able to use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram.
<b>Computing</b>	This half term our Computing unit is <b>'We are Computational Thinkers.'</b> In this unit we will learn to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>develop the ability to reason logically about algorithms</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>understand how some key algorithms can be expressed as programs</li> <li>understand that some algorithms are more efficient than others for the same problem</li> <li>understand common algorithms for searching and sorting a list.</li> </ul>
<b>Topic</b>	This term our Geography Topic is <b>'Rivers Around the World.'</b> We will begin by identifying and explaining the stages of the water cycle. We will then locate and describe major world rivers. Finally, we will explore and identify the features of a river in detail.
<b>Art</b>	Our Art and Design topic this term is <b>Photography</b> . 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.
<b>P.E.</b>	<p>PE days for Willow class are <b>Tuesday and Thursday</b>. 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 <b>they attend school wearing their PE kit (and their Hollydale jumper) every Tuesday and Thursday</b>.</p> <p><b>Swimming will resume this term for Year 5/6 on Fridays this term. Please ensure your child brings their swimming kit to school on this day.</b></p>
<b>Music</b>	Children will take part in weekly Brass lessons on <b>Thursday</b> . 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.
<b>R.E.</b>	This term in RE we will be focusing on <b>how art is important in Christianity</b> . We will be considering how people express their faith through art and how colour and sculpture can express religious ideas and feelings. Then, we will consider how music is used as worship and how drama can express faith. Finally, we will consider what is similar and different about Christian art to other religions.
<b>P.S.H.E. &amp; Citizenship</b>	This term our focus will be <b>Celebrating Difference</b> . We will consider what it means to 'be normal' and how normal can look lots of different ways. We will also think about why bullying behaviours arise and how we can prevent these.
<b>Spanish</b>	In Spanish our topic is 'At the Shops'. We will be learning lots of vocabulary linked to shopping and applying these to conversations.
<b>Homework</b>	<p>We view homework as an integral part of the school experience. Active and successful pupil participation in homework supports our belief in how children learn best. Homework benefits pupils not only by promoting academic success, but also by providing valuable opportunities for parents and carers to become involved in their child's learning. Through regular homework, children develop responsibility, perseverance, self-discipline and time management. Most importantly, pupils build independence by completing school-related tasks with minimal direct help.</p> <p>Homework will be set on a <b>Friday</b> and should be returned by <b>Tuesday</b> of the following week. Children will be set weekly Maths, English and Science (Yr6) homework in their CGP books. These will be sent home in a homework folder. 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.</p> <p><b><u>Homework Projects</u></b> Homework projects are set half-termly and will often link with whole-school curriculum focus events.</p>
<b>Christmas performance</b>	Our Christmas performance will take place on <b>Thursday 11th December 2025</b> . Arrangements will be confirmed in due course.
<b>Key dates</b>	<p><b>Monday 10th November:</b> Anti-bullying week begins</p> <p><b>Tuesday 11th November:</b> Remembrance Day: School council poppies fundraising projects - pupil's art work is available to purchase for £1 each.</p> <p><b>Friday 14th November:</b></p> <p>- Odd Socks Day – Children to wear blue clothes and odd socks to show their support for anti-bullying for a £1.00 donation.</p> <p><b>Monday 17th November:</b> Road Safety Week begins</p> <p><b>Thursday 20th November:</b></p> <p>- BHM assembly EYFS and KS1 – parents invited 9:20am</p> <p>- BHM themed lunch</p> <p>- Lunch tester day for parent/carers in Y1-2 Elm class.</p> <p><b>Friday 21st November:</b> BHM assembly KS2 – parents invited 9:20am</p> <p><b>Monday 24th November:</b> Assessment Week begins</p> <p><b>Wednesday 26th November:</b> Flu Vaccinations</p>

	<p><b>Thursday 27th November:</b> Braiswick Photographer in school (individual photos)</p> <p><b>Saturday 6th December:</b> Christmas fete and cake sale – Friends of Hollydale</p> <p><b>Thursday 11th December:</b> Christmas performance at St Mary church – Peckham</p> <p><b>Tuesday 16th December:</b> Times Tables challenge Years 1-6</p> <p><b>Wednesday 17th December:</b> Christmas Class Parties</p> <p><b>Thursday 18th December:</b> Christmas Lunch and Winter Jumper Day</p> <p><b>Friday 19th December:</b> Last day of term – School finishes at 1pm</p> <p><b>Monday 5th January 2026:</b> INSET DAY</p> <p><b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January:</b> Children return to school</p>
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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](mailto:ghopkins5.210@lgflmail.org))

Ms Mustafa (Additional Support)