

Hollydale Primary School

Working together to be the best that we can be.

Welcome to Spring One!

I am so happy with how well the children have settled into the school routines and am looking forward to the term ahead. We have a packed curriculum with lots of exciting things planned.

Please ensure you add the dates detailed in this newsletter to your calendar. If you have any questions about your child's learning or any other aspect of Cherry Class life, please contact me via email twilliams147.210@lgflmail.org or ClassDojo <https://teach.classdojo.com/>

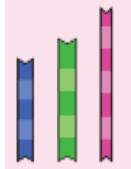
Thank you for your support and co-operation.

Regards, Miss Williams

Class Teacher: Miss.Williams

Support Staff: Miss.Thompson & Ms.Zachary

Learning and development	
Personal, social and emotional development	This term we will be continuing to develop friendships, negotiating and turn taking. We will be learning about new year and making some new year's resolutions. Children will have opportunities to talk about how they keep themselves safe, particularly on the road. We will also discuss how it is important to look after our teeth and how we can do this.
Communication and language	Children will be listening to lots of high-quality stories and exploring non-fiction books. We will continue to teach children new vocabulary and encourage them to use it throughout the day, as well as encouraging them to use talk to explore their learning.
Physical development	Our PE topic this half term is ' <i>Games; throwing towards a target</i> '. Children will develop their accuracy with throwing beanbags and balls at targets, as well as defending a target from an opponent. They will continue to have plenty of opportunities to enjoy walking, crawling and running. As well as developing their fine motor skills to support with gripping pencils. You can help at home by providing activities that strengthen fine motor muscles and skills.
Phonics	 This half term, we will focus on digraphs (<i>two letters making one sound</i>). The children will continue to practise the graphemes (<i>letters</i>) and phonemes (<i>sounds</i>) learnt in the Autumn term. They will be encouraged to sound out words when writing and apply their phonics knowledge when reading.
Literacy	Literacy will be closely linked to our daily phonics sessions. We will continue to explore lots of books with the children which they would be unable to sound out independently. Our main focus texts this term will be <i>The Magic Paintbrush</i> by Julia Donaldson and <i>Little Red</i> by Lynn Roberts and David Roberts. Through these texts, we will explore writing letters, labels and notes. 

Maths	<p>This term, children will be learning about the concept of zero and how it means 'nothing' or 'all gone'. They will also be learning about the composition of the numbers four and five, committing the number bonds to memory. We will be counting orally counting to 20 and beyond. Additionally, we will revisit 'Measure' and the children will build on previous learning about mass and capacity, while comparing and using correct vocabulary.</p>	
Understanding of the world	 <p>Our literacy text 'The Magic Paintbrush', will allow us to explore traditions in China. The children will begin to understand some differences between life in China and their own lives and customs. This includes learning about how the lunar new year is celebrated. We will introduce simple maps and explore how we can retrieve information from them so the children can begin to recognise that some environments are different to the ones in which they live.</p>	
Expressive art and design	<p>Children will continue to have free access to the art area where they can use various craft materials independently. This allows them to explore different materials freely to develop their ideas about texture, purpose and planning. We will make Chinese lanterns and St Valentine themes art. In Music lessons, the children will continue to explore and engage in music making and performing together in groups. We will also continue to sing a range of nursery rhymes and explore different dances throughout the term. Children are developing their confidence to sing or play wood instruments solo in front of each other.</p>	
Key information		
P.E.	<p>P.E. sessions continue on Tuesdays. Children must come to school in their P.E. kits (black tracksuit bottoms or shorts, a plain white t-shirt and black trainers or plimsolls all clearly marked with their name).</p>	
Reading records	<p>Books to be returned on Mondays to be changed for the week ahead. You will receive one phonics book (child led reading) and one library book (adult led reading) it is not expected that children will be able to access their library book independently. Parents are asked to please make a note in their reading records every time they read at home. <i>Please send reading records in your child's bag every day.</i></p>	
Community fund	<p>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.</p>	
Homework	<p>I will be sending some very simple homework this term. The phonics sheet is an overview of what we have been learning each day that week in phonics. There will be a list of sounds and words to practise with your child. You may wish to encourage hand writing practise of these graphemes.</p>	
<p><i>Homework is sent home on Fridays. Please return the children's wallets every Thursday.</i></p>		
Key dates	<p><u>January Key Dates:</u></p> <p>Tuesday 6th January 2026 – Children return to school at 8:55am. Breakfast and after school club resume.</p> <p>Wednesday 7th January 2026 – Home Learning Project on World Book Day will be sent home.</p> <p>Friday 9th January 2026 – Curriculum Newsletters to be sent home.</p> <p>Monday 12th January 2026 – Enrichment Clubs to resume</p> <p>Friday 16th January 2026 – Maths Workshop – EYFS parents/carers invited, 9:20 – 10:00am</p> <p>Wednesday 21st January 2026 – KS1 and EYFS Phonics meeting with parents 15:40pm</p> <p><u>February Key Dates:</u></p> <p>Monday 2nd February 2026 – Maths Week Begins</p> <p>Friday 6th February 2026 – NSPCC Number Day (Fundraising) All pupils and staff to wear an item with mathematical symbols. Pupils to bring £1 donation to school.</p> <p>Monday 9th February-Friday 13th February 2026 - Children's Mental Health Week 2026</p> <p>Thursday 12th February 2026 – Poetry Recital Assembly</p>	

Half term: Monday 16th February – Friday 20st February 2026

	Top tips to help your child at home					
How you can help	Reading daily. 	Writing their name. 	Encouraging independence with dressing. 	Counting to 20. 	Counting small groups of objects. 	Practising phonics graphemes. 
Uniform	Please ensure that your child attends school with a fresh water bottle every day and is wearing the correct uniform. Our uniform encourages a sense of belonging and is compulsory for all children from Reception Class to Year 6.					