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Hollydale News

Hollydale Newsletter: 27th February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you had an enjoyable and restful half-term break.

It has been great to see the children return to school full of enthusiasm and excited to see their classmates.

This year, both **Lent** and **Ramadan** began on 18th February. The last time they started on the same day was in 1943, over 80 years ago. While the traditions are different, both seasons centre around shared values of fasting, reflection, discipline and strengthening faith. As a multi-faith school, we feel it is important to acknowledge and respect this special time for members of our community.

You can now sign up for our Parent Consultation Evenings. It is vital that parents/carers attend, as these meetings provide a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress and targets for the term. Appointments can be booked online via Teacher2 Parents. You should receive an email with instructions on how to book. Please let us know if you have not received this email.

We would also like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to one of our parents, Ruth, for her commitment and support in helping to run our Foodbanks every Monday and Friday.

Teachers continue to put a great effort into preparing the class Curriculum Newsletters, which are sent out to parents each half term. Please take the time to read these carefully, as they provide key information about your child's topics and learning for the term.

Finally, we are looking forward to celebrating Book Week from Monday 2nd to Friday 6th March. Throughout the week, children will take part in a range of fun and engaging activities. These will include special story-time sessions, where older pupils will share books with younger children. There will also be a variety of creative literacy activities.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best Wishes,

Leadership Team

Thought of the week

"Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can."

Arthur Ashe



Important dates for your diary

Monday 2 nd	Book Week
Thursday 5 th	World Book Day
Friday 6 th	PTA coffee morning
Tuesday 10 th and 11 th	Parent-teacher meetings YR, Y1, Y3 and Y4
Friday 13 th	Mother's Day sale/event - PTA
Monday 16 th	Assessment Week

Attendance and Punctuality



How quickly another week has flown by!
This year we are aiming for an attendance **target of 97%**.

Please note the following:

- 100% Attendance - 0 Days Missed - **Excellent**
- 95% Attendance - 9 Days of Absence, 1 Week and 4 Days of Learning Missed - **Satisfactory**
- 90% Attendance - 19 Days of Absence, 3 Weeks and 4 Days of Learning Missed - **Poor**
- 85% Attendance - 28 Days of Absence, 5 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed - **Very Poor**
- 80% Attendance - 38 Days of Absence, 7 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed - **Unacceptable**

Class Catch Up!

Class	Attendance %	Punctuality Number of Lates
Cherry YR	95.7%	1
Elm Y1-2	98.2%	0
Cedar Y2	92.4%	1
Oak Y3	99.4%	3
Birch Y4	93.2%	4
Hazel Y5	96.6%	1
Willow Y5-6	85.9%	5

Year R Cherry Class took part in a fruit and vegetable tasting session to introduce their new Literacy text. Afterwards, the children wrote a simple caption about what they could see and taste.



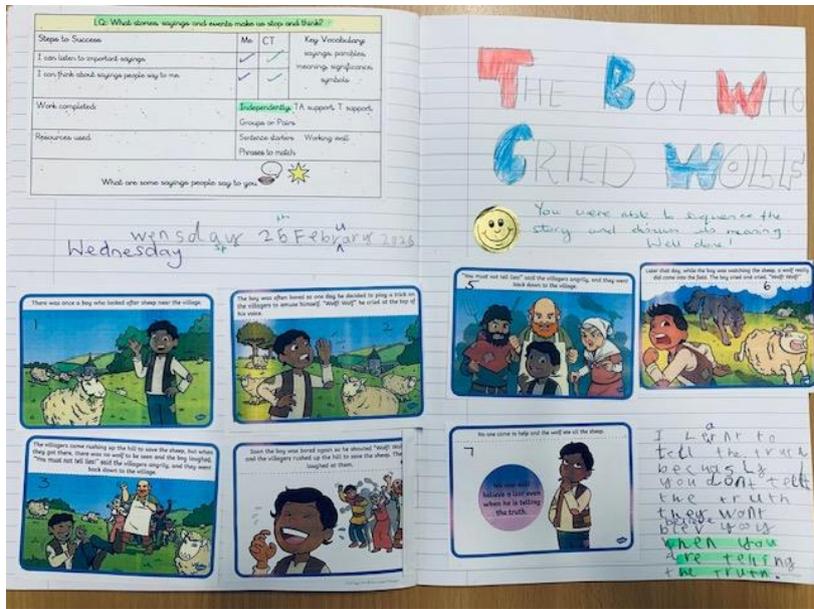
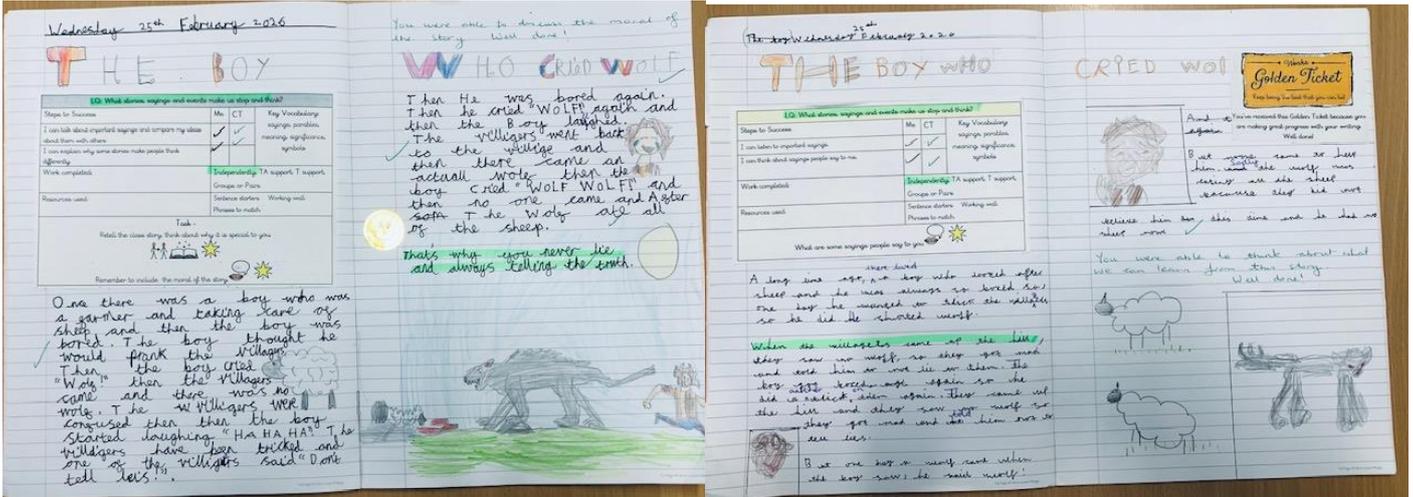
Year 1-2 Elm Class students used atlases and globes to locate countries in Africa and the UK, exploring the similarities and differences between them during their topic lesson.



As part of their homework, based on their history topic 'The Great Fire Of London', **Year 2 Cedar Class** created some amazing models of Tudors houses.



As part of their PSHE and RE curriculum, children in Year 3 Oak Class have been exploring how stories can be used to share messages. They particularly enjoyed reading a range of Aesop's Fables and retelling the story of 'The Boy Who Cried Wolf'.



Year 4 Birch Class enjoyed exploring Anglo-Saxon artefacts at the British Museum. They also explored the old Reading Room.



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On the last week of term, **Year 5 Hazel Class** enjoyed a visit to the National Poetry Library, where they explored the Royal Festival Hall and poetry library to find key words which inspired their own poems.



In topic **Y5-6 Willow Class** evaluated the changing role of women and whether or not we have gender equality today. They created timelines with key events in the history of women's rights.

