

# Hollydale Primary School: Summer 1 2026



Welcome back to the summer term. We hope you have had a restful half-term break. We begin this new term with lots of exciting topics for the children to become immersed in. Please ensure you add the dates detailed in this newsletter to your calendar. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me as I am more than happy to discuss your queries with you.

**Class Teacher:** Ms Harvey  
**Support Staff:** Ms Gutowska and Ms Yasmin

## **Summer 1 2026 - This half term Year 1/2 will be learning about the following topics:**

<p>English</p>	<p>This term will start with <i>'Lost and Found'</i> by Oliver Jeffers. The children will build their skills in writing character descriptions, sequencing instructions, and creating non-chronological reports. Later in the term, we will move on to <i>'Beegu'</i> by Alexis Deacon, where the children will explore character and setting descriptions, write letters of advice, design posters, and develop recipes.</p> <p>Specific grammar foci will be embedded in our English lessons throughout the term, with a focus on the use of basic punctuation, leaving spaces between words and applying phonetic knowledge to sound out words.</p>
<p>Reading Records</p>	<p>The children will bring home a sharing book (free-choice book from the book corner) on Tuesday as well as a banded book. Please read and discuss the books with your child. Parents must record in the reading records at least once a week. Please note that children are required to have their book bag with their reading record inside every day.</p> <p><b>If the phonics book that your child brings home ends up lost or damaged, parents will need to pay for a replacement. All phonics books need to be returned by Monday morning as we will be using them to deliver our reading lessons. If we do not have the books returned, we cannot teach our reading lessons. This will be monitored and tracked carefully.</b></p>
<p>Stay and Read Friday</p>	<p>We are excited to share with you that our Reading Together Sessions will be starting on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April. This will continue to run every Friday from 9:00-9:20am. This is an opportunity for parents to see first-hand how we teach reading and reading related skills to children. Teachers and TAs will continue to deliver guided reading sessions with a group.</p>
<p>Spellings</p>	<p>We are working very hard in school to strengthen basic skills, but we need your help to boost spellings. We have created a spelling challenge to make this fun and engaging and we are offering a whole host of rewards to motivate and encourage the children to get on board!</p> <p>All that we ask, is that you help your children learn 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.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Handwriting and Presentation</p>	<p>Children will have specific handwriting lessons to help them improve their presentation across all subjects. We will focus on letter formation and correctly joining our letters together. Children are reminded on the importance of presentation in all subjects across the curriculum. Please support this by using LetterJoin at home. <a href="https://www.letterjoin.co.uk/index.html">https://www.letterjoin.co.uk/index.html</a></p>
<p>Phonics</p>	<p>Phonics will be taught every day and this will be consolidated in Literacy and weekly spellings. We will focus on the KS1 spelling rules and patterns.</p> <p>The children will also have an additional phonics lesson to help prepare them for their Phonics Screening Check in Summer 1.</p>
<p>Maths</p>	<p>This half term, the children will begin developing their understanding of multiplication and division. They will continue to learn how to count and group objects in 2s, 5s, and 10s, identify and create arrays, make doubles, and recognise equal and unequal groups. Following this, they will be introduced to fractions, focusing on finding halves and quarters of shapes and objects. The term will finish with an exploration of position and direction.</p> <p>To further support their learning, weekly 'Maths Fluency' sessions will focus on improving arithmetic skills and rapid recall of number facts.</p>
<p>Science</p>	<p>This half term, our focus is on 'Plants'. During this topic, the children will plant their own flowers and observe how they change over time.</p>

	<p>Our Lesson Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planting our own Flowers</li> <li>• Parts of a Plant</li> <li>• How plants grow?</li> <li>• What plants need to live?</li> <li>• Exploring different types of plants</li> <li>• How plants help us?</li> </ul>
<b>Computing</b>	<p>Our Computing topic this half term is 'We are Rhythmic'. In this unit, the children will explore how to create and work with patterns of sound using <b>ScratchJr</b> and <b>GarageBand</b>. Each session will build their understanding of rhythm and sound in digital media:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Session 1:</b> The children will record and play back audio using ScratchJr.</li> <li>• <b>Session 2:</b> They will program sprites in ScratchJr to play back their recorded sounds.</li> <li>• <b>Session 3:</b> They will create a simple program that plays recorded audio in a rhythmic pattern using ScratchJr.</li> <li>• <b>Session 4:</b> Using GarageBand, the children will record their own audio and experiment with different audio effects.</li> <li>• <b>Session 5:</b> They will create a repeating percussion pattern in GarageBand.</li> <li>• <b>Session 6:</b> Finally, the children will explore and experiment with some of GarageBand's built-in instruments.</li> </ul>
<b>Topic (History/ Geography)</b>	<p>This term in History, we are learning about 'Seaside Holidays in the Past'. The children will explore how seaside holidays have changed over time and what they were like many years ago. Our Lesson Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What can we find at the seaside?</li> <li>• Seaside Holidays in the past</li> <li>• How did people travel to the seaside?</li> <li>• What did people wear to the seaside?</li> <li>• Seaside Holiday then and now</li> </ul>
<b>R.E.</b>	<p>This term, our Religious Education focus is on Sikhism. The children will be considering the following questions. Our Lesson Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do religious people show they belong?</li> <li>• What is Sikhism?</li> <li>• Why do Sikhs tell the story of Guru Nanak?</li> <li>• What did Guru Gobind Singh ask?</li> <li>• What is the Amrit Ceremony?</li> </ul>
<b>PSHE</b>	<p>Our focus this half term will be 'Relationships'.</p>
<b>Art / Design &amp; Technology</b>	<p>This half term, our Art and Design focus is on painting and colour. We will explore the question: What is the difference between the two printing techniques we are learning? By the end of the unit the children will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Session 1:</b> Warm and Cold Colours</li> <li>• <b>Session 2:</b> Studying the Art of Jasper Johns</li> <li>• <b>Session 3:</b> Printing with Paint and Overlapping</li> <li>• <b>Session 4:</b> Printing</li> <li>• <b>Session 5:</b> Studying the Art of Clarice Cliff and Her Plates</li> </ul>
<b>P.E.</b>	<p>Elm will have two PE sessions in the week – one session on <b>Tuesday</b> and another session on <b>Thursday</b>. All children are expected to come to school dressed in their PE kit (and school jumper or cardigan) on both days. There will not be a changing facility in operation. <b>If your child does not have the correct kit, they will not be able to participate.</b> Please ensure that your child/children wear the following kit for PE: <b>Black</b> tracksuit bottoms, a <b>white</b> t-shirt or top and <b>black</b> trainers or plimsolls.</p>
<b>Music</b>	<p>Music will be taught by a specialist music teacher (Mr Duncan) every Thursday morning.</p>
<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 for <b>KS1</b> will continue to be completed in homework books.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Reading Homework</u></b></p> <p>All children <b>KS1</b>. Parents and carers are expected to record and sign their child’s reading log each evening.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Spelling Homework</u></b></p> <p>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.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Homework Projects</u></b></p> <p>Homework projects are set half-termly and will often link with whole-school curriculum focus events.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Homework by Year Group</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year 1s</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phonics</li> <li>• Reading</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number bonds to 10 and 20 (initially, extending further as appropriate) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whole-school and class-based home learning projects</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Years 2s</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading</li> <li>• Spelling</li> <li>• Times table</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whole-school and class-based home learning projects</li> </ul>
<p><b>Educational Visit/ Trips</b></p>	<p>Letters will be sent out prior to any educational visits planned, on which there will be requested for parent volunteers when needed. Thank you for your support and cooperation.</p>
<p><b>Key dates</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>April Key Dates:</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April</b> – Inset Day</p> <p><b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April</b> – School Begins at 8:55pm sharp. Breakfast and Afterschool club resume</p> <p><b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April</b> – Curriculum Newsletters sent home, Reading Together with Parents begins</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April</b> – Enrichment clubs resume</p> <p><b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April</b> – Reading Together with Parents resumes</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April</b> - Art Week begins.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>May Key Dates:</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May</b> – Art Week ends</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May</b> – Elm Class Assembly</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May</b> –Mental Health Awareness Week</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May</b> – Times Table Challenge</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May</b> – Poetry Recital</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May</b> – Last Day of School</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Half Term: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b></p>
<p><b>Additional Information</b></p>	<p>Please ensure that your child attends school with a fresh water bottle every day and is wearing the correct summer uniform. Our uniform encourages a sense of belonging and is compulsory for all children from Reception Class to Year 6.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Summer School Uniform:</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Girls Uniform</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summer Dresses - Red &amp; White or Green &amp; White Gingham</li> <li>• Cardigan*/ Sweatshirt*/V neck sweater - Dark green <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Footwear - Black Shoes</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Hijabs – White/Dark Green/Black only</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Boys Uniform</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Polo shirt – Dark green, bright red or white</li> <li>• Cardigan*/ Sweatshirt*/V neck sweater - Dark green <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trousers/ shorts (knee length) – Grey</li> <li>• Footwear - Black shoes</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Water bottles</b> – Every child needs their own water bottle with their name on. Please make sure your child attends school with a water bottle every day. These can be refilled at school.</p>