



**Hollydale Primary School – Summer 1 2026**

**Year 3 – Oak Class Newsletter**

**Welcome back to the Summer term. We hope you have had a restful Easter 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 questions about your child’s learning or any other aspect of Oak Class life, please do not hesitate to see me after school or contact me via ClassDojo <https://teach.classdojo.com/>.**


**Thank you for your support and co-operation.**

**Regards, Mrs Opaleye**

**Summer 1 2026 - This half term Year 3 will be learning about the following topics:**

<p><b>English</b></p>	<p>We will start the term using the text <b>‘The Last Garden’</b> by Rachel Imp. In a war-torn city, a little girl tends to the last garden. But everyone is leaving and soon the girl has to leave too. The garden is all alone now but soon the seeds scatter throughout the city and the roots take hold. Inspired by true events in Syria and war gardens around the world and throughout history, <i>The Last Garden</i> is a thoughtful, tender story of hope, touching on issues of conflict and migration. In this sequence, children will find a range of seed packets left in class with an invitation from the main character to plant a garden in their classroom. In the packets, children will find abstract nouns which they can use to build abstract noun phrases e.g. “primroses of peace”. Children will go on to write in a range of genres, building toward writing their own version of this narrative about a community overcoming adversity.</p>
<p><b>Reading Records</b></p>	<p>The children will bring home a book from the class book corner or the school library every <b>Thursday</b>. Please read and discuss the book with your child and support them with recording three comments about their reading in their reading records each week.</p>
<p><b>Maths</b></p>	<p>In Maths, pupils will <b>continue</b> with their fractions unit, beginning by looking at whole shapes and quantities and see that when a fraction is equivalent to a whole, the numerator and denominator are the same. Building on using part-whole model with whole numbers, children use the models to partition the whole into fractional parts. Children explore what a tenth is. They recognise that tenths arise from dividing one whole into 10 equal parts. Children represent tenths in different ways and use words and fractions to describe them. As well as children are introduced to tenths as decimals for the first time. They compare fractions and decimals written as words, in fraction form and as decimals and link them to pictorial representations.</p> <p><b>Please ensure that your child knows number bonds to 100 and all times tables and related division facts (2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10 and 12)</b> —it is vital that children know these in order to progress in Maths. If you need to support to help your child with this please come and see me to discuss resources and methods.</p>
<p><b>Science</b></p>	<p>For our science topic this half term we will <b>continue</b> to explore <b>light</b>. We will undertake a range of investigations to explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How we need light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light</li> <li>• That light is reflected from surfaces</li> <li>• That light from the sun can be dangerous and that there are ways to protect their eyes</li> <li>• That shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by a solid object</li> <li>• The patterns in the way that the sizes of shadows change</li> </ul>
<p><b>Computing</b></p>	<p>Computing this half term will focus on creating online content using Wikipedia. The children will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• understand the conventions for collaborative online work, particularly in <b>wikis</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be aware of their responsibilities when editing other people’s work</li> </ul> </li> <li>• become familiar with <b>Wikipedia</b>, including potential problems associated with its use <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• practise their research skills</li> <li>• write for a target audience using a wiki tool</li> <li>• develop collaboration skills</li> <li>• develop proofreading skills.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<p><b>Topic (Geography)</b></p>	<p>This term we will be learning about <b>The UK</b> (Geography unit). In this unit the children will learn how to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Locate countries and cities of the UK</li> <li>• Use atlases to identify the main rivers and seas of the UK</li> <li>• Make a detailed fieldwork sketch of my town</li> <li>• locate areas of high ground in the UK</li> <li>• <b>Describe how the UK has changed over time</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Art/Design &amp; Technology</b></p>	<p>In Art we will be making <b>Ancient Egyptian Scrolls</b>. We will learn how to combine multiple shapes to form strong and stable structures.</p>
<p><b>PE and Swimming</b></p>	<p>In addition to a weekly PE lesson (<b>Mondays</b>), as part of the PE curriculum, children in Oak class will have weekly swimming lessons at St Thomas the Apostle School SE15. The lessons will resume on <b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b> and every <b>Tuesday</b> thereafter this term. All lessons will be taught by a professional swimming instructor and supported by a member of our school's staff.</p> <p><b>Your child will need to bring a one-piece swimming costume (for girls), a pair of swimming trunks (for boys), a towel and a swimming hat. The costume and trunks should be green, blue or black only.</b></p>
<p><b>Music</b></p>	<p>Oak class will continue to have ukulele lessons from our specialist teacher Mr Thorpe every Monday afternoon.</p>
<p><b>R.E.</b></p>	<p>This term our topic will be How are symbols and sayings important in religion. In this unit we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognise the symbols that represent the 7 major religions and worldviews <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain the symbolism found in Muslim artefacts</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Identify geometric designs, and their significance in Muslim worship</li> <li>• Explain what the symbol of the cross means to Christian people today <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a piece of Christian art</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Modern Languages</b></p>	<p>Spanish will be taught every week. This term, our unit is called <b>All About School</b>. The children will learn key vocabulary and phrases around the theme of school and classroom objects.</p>
<p><b>P.S.H.E. &amp; Citizenship</b></p>	<p>This term our focus will be on <b>Relationships</b>. We will explore how to make friends and deal with problems when they occur. We will look at how to show respect to others and help others feel part of our friendship groups. We will identify our relationship with different family members.</p>
<p><b>Homework</b></p>	<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. Homework for KS2 will continue to be completed in homework books.</p> <p><b><u>Reading Homework</u></b> Parents and carers are expected to record and sign their child's reading log each evening.</p> <p><b><u>Spelling Homework</u></b> 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><b><u>Homework Projects</u></b> Homework projects are set half-termly and will often link with whole-school curriculum focus events (Years 2–4).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading, spelling, times tables and whole-school and class-based home learning projects</li> </ul>

<p><b>Class Dojo</b></p>	<p>We will update the Class Story with any important information you need to know and contact you via message if there is anything we need to share with you.  <a href="https://teach.classdojo.com/">https://teach.classdojo.com/</a></p>
<p><b>Summer School Uniform</b></p>	<p>Please ensure that your child attends school with a <b>fresh water bottle every day</b> and is wearing the correct school uniform. Our uniform encourages a sense of belonging and is compulsory for all children from Reception Class to Year 6.</p> <p><b>Summer uniform can be worn from Summer 1. Please see below</b></p> <p><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</li> <li>• Footwear - Black Shoes</li> <li>• Hijabs – White/Dark Green/Black only</li> </ul> <p><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</li> <li>• Trousers/ shorts (knee length) – Grey</li> <li>• Footwear - Black shoes</li> </ul> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>
<p><b>Birthday Celebrations</b></p>	<p>If your child's birthday falls during a school day, then they can wear their own clothes to school on that day or their own PE kit if it falls on their PE day.</p>
<p><b>Key dates</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b> – School Resumes</li> <li>• <b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b> – Enrichment Clubs Resume</li> <li>• <b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2026</b>- Earth Day 2026</li> <li>• <b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b> – Art Week Begins</li> <li>• <b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b> – Times Tables Challenge</li> <li>• <b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b> – Pickleball Workshop (P.E. kit and swimming required)</li> <li>• <b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026</b> – Poetry Recital Assembly</li> <li>• <b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026</b> – Last Day</li> <li>• <b>Half Term – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May</b></li> <li>• <b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026</b> – Children Return To School</li> </ul>