



• Respect • Responsibility • Relationships • Resilience

Working together to be the best that we can be

Hollydale News

Hollydale Newsletter 18th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back, and a very warm welcome to all of our new Reception children and families! It has been a fantastic first few weeks of the new school year. It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back, meet our new starters and see how quickly the children are settling into their classes and routines.

The children have really enjoyed sharing some of their exciting adventures and experiences with us. It has also been a pleasure visiting the children in their classrooms over the past few weeks, seeing their learning in action and hearing all about what they have been getting up to.

We have a busy and exciting term ahead, with lots of learning, events and opportunities for the children to enjoy. Please make sure you have read the class curriculum newsletters and school communications, and that you have saved the important dates from the parent calendar.

Meet the Teacher

Thank you to the parents and carers who attended our Meet the Teacher sessions this week. It was a lovely opportunity for you to get to know your child's teacher, find out more about the year ahead and hear about some of the key learning taking place this term. If you were unable to attend, the presentations will be available on Class Dojos. Please do take a look so that you are up to date with important information, expectations and upcoming dates for your child's class.

Walking Home Alone 2026–27

If your child is in Year 5 or Year 6 and you would like them to walk home from school independently, this can only be authorised once we have received written permission from a parent or carer. Children will not be allowed to leave school alone unless this permission has been provided in advance. Please ensure that any permission requests are submitted to the school office.

Online Safety Tip of the Week: TikTok

TikTok is designed for teenagers and adults, not primary-age children, and younger pupils may come across content or interactions they are not ready to understand or manage safely. Children can quickly be exposed to unsuitable videos, unsafe challenges, strong language, advertising, pressure to follow trends and comments from people they do not know. TikTok has a minimum age requirement of 13 and includes a number of safety and privacy settings. However, these should not replace regular parental supervision. We encourage parents and carers to:

- Set clear boundaries around screen time.
- Check privacy and safety settings on their devices and apps.
- Remind children never to share personal information online.
- Make sure children know not to communicate with people they do not know.
- Regularly check your child's devices and online activity to help keep them safe.

Open and regular conversations about online safety are one of the best ways to help children make safer choices online.

Best wishes,
Leadership Team

Thought of the Week

"Hope is the thing with feathers
that perches in the soul, sings the
tune without the words and never
stops at all." (Emily Dickenson)



Important dates for your diary

Monday 21 st	Enrichment clubs start
Friday 25 th	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Monday 28 th	Black History Month begins
Thursday 1 st October	Poetry Recital Assembly linked to Harvest Festival at 9.15am
Friday 2 nd	Home Learning Projects sent home

Donations Needed

If you have had a clear-out over the summer, or are planning one soon, we would be very grateful for any donations of items for our **Early Years small world and role-play areas**.

We are currently looking for:

- Clean pots and pans
 - Colanders
- Wooden spoons
 - Sieves
- Dressing-up clothes
- Small dinosaurs
 - Trains
 - Cars
- Small figures
- Toy animals
 - Lego

If you have any of these items that you no longer need and would be happy to donate, please hand them to a member of staff at the school gates in the morning. Thank you very much for your support. Your donations will help us provide engaging and imaginative play opportunities for our children.

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	Attendance	Punctuality - Number of Lates
Cherry	97%	2
Elm	99%	3
Cedar	98%	2
Oak	91%	3
Birch	97%	2
Hazel	93%	2
Willow	96%	2



Thank You, Ms Lewis



We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to **Ms Lewis**, who has stepped down from her role as our Extended Services Manager after 15 years of dedicated service to Hollydale Primary School.

Since September 2011, Ms Lewis has played an important part in our school community, leading our Breakfast Club and After-School Club and helping to provide a safe, caring and welcoming environment for so many of our children and families.

Her commitment, hard work and dedication to our wraparound care provision over the years have been greatly appreciated. We know that many families have benefited from the care and support she has provided, and we are extremely grateful for everything she has contributed to Hollydale.

On behalf of the children, families, staff and wider school community, we would like to thank Ms Lewis for her many years of service and wish her all the very best for the future.

We would also like to warmly welcome **Mr Cummings**, who has joined us and has taken on responsibility for our wraparound care provision.

Thank you once again, Ms Lewis, for 15 wonderful years of dedication to Hollydale Primary School.

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Email: admin@hollydaleprimary.co.uk

Web: www.hollydale.southwark.sch.uk



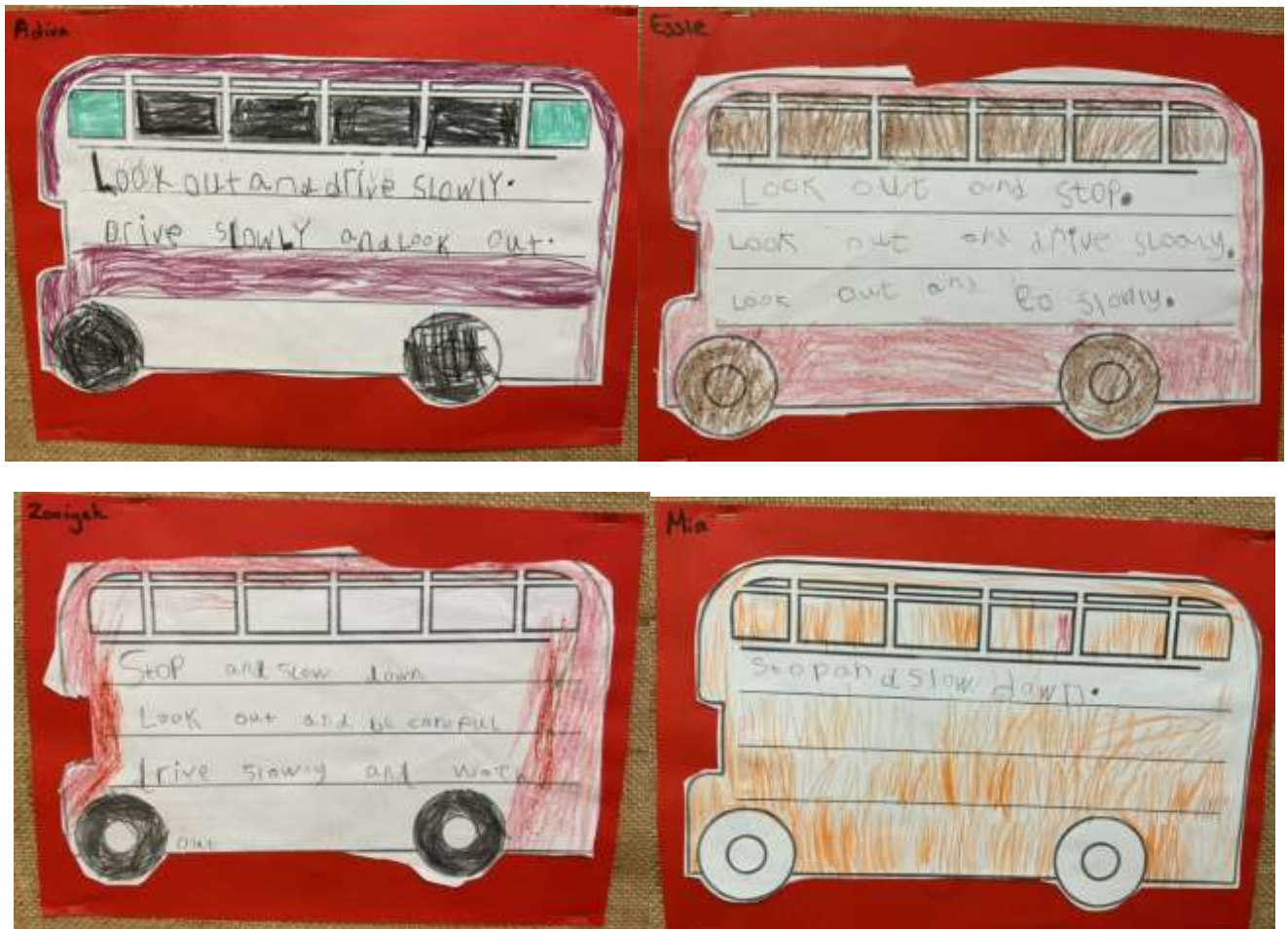
@HollydaleSchool

Class Catch Up!

Cherry Class (YR) have been working really hard on their first phonics lessons this week!



Elm Class (Year 1) explored *Naughty Bus* by Jan and Jerry Oke in Literacy, where they gave advice and practised joining their sentences using the conjunction 'and'. Adiva, Essie, Zaniyah and Mia



In Oak Class (Year 2/3) we have been thinking about some of the people and things that help us to feel bold. We decided to create posters to share our ideas. Theodora, Jah'Khai, Skyla, Ethan and Layla



Year 3 Cedar Class have been learning all about the colourful festival of Holi! A celebration of colour, joy and togetherness. We created these double page spreads. Asaiah

I.Q. What is Holi?		
Steps to Success	Mo	CT
I can explain what Holi is	✓	✓
I can explain how it is celebrated	✓	✓

Work completed: Independently, TA support, T support, Groups or Pairs

19.9.2026

What is Holi?

Holi is a Hindu festival widely known as the festival of colours. It is celebrated in most part of India Nepal and many other parts of the world. Holi is a wonderful opportunity for family, friends and the community to get together and celebrate.

History of Holi

Holi is an ancient celebration which originated in India many centuries ago. Traditionally, it is known as the triumph of good over evil and is known as a time for forgiveness and friendship. Holi is usually held in March but can be in February with the date changing each year depending on the Hindu calendar. Holi coincides with the end of winter in India and the commencement of spring.

Holi is believed to encourage a strong and vibrant harvest season. The traditions and

Celebrating Holi

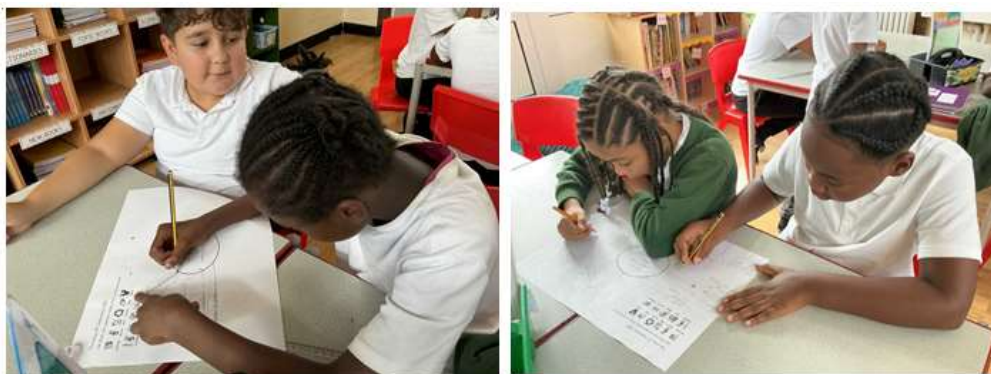
Holi is celebrated over two days. On the first day, known as Holika, Dahiyan or Choti Holi, people splash hogues and wet grains, cotton and kites.

On the festival day, known as Rangwali, Holi, people celebrate in a variety of ways, including, singing, making music, dancing, throwing, spraying powder and paints. People may also spray water or throw water balloons which helps the powder stick better.

Usually, people wear white clothes which highlight the colourful stains on their skin. They wear their traditional Indian clothes.

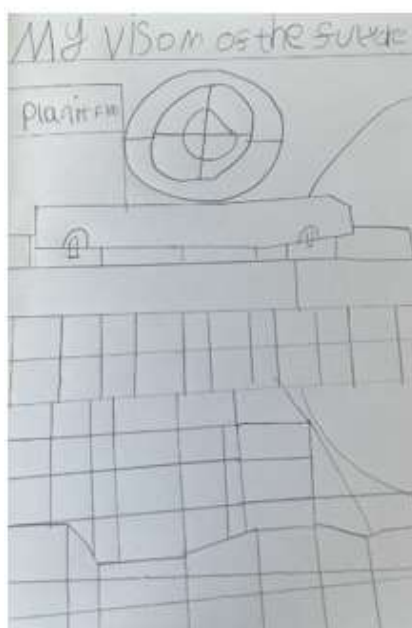
In the evening, families and groups come together to share a meal and sweets.

This week, before learning about influential Black social activists, Year 4 Birch Class have been thinking about ways to be activists in our local community. We worked in groups to find ways we can help.



In Hazel Class Y5/6, we have been learning about retrofuturism and exploring how the Space Race inspired artists. We then used these ideas to create our own visions of the future, incorporating futuristic designs and space imagery. Here are some of the fantastic sketches Hazel Class have been working on!

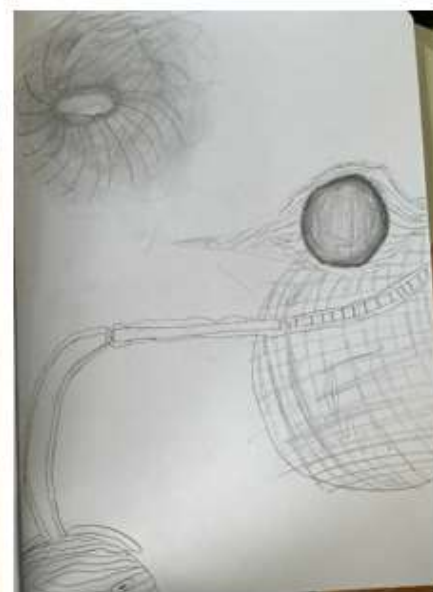
Kymani



Ashwin



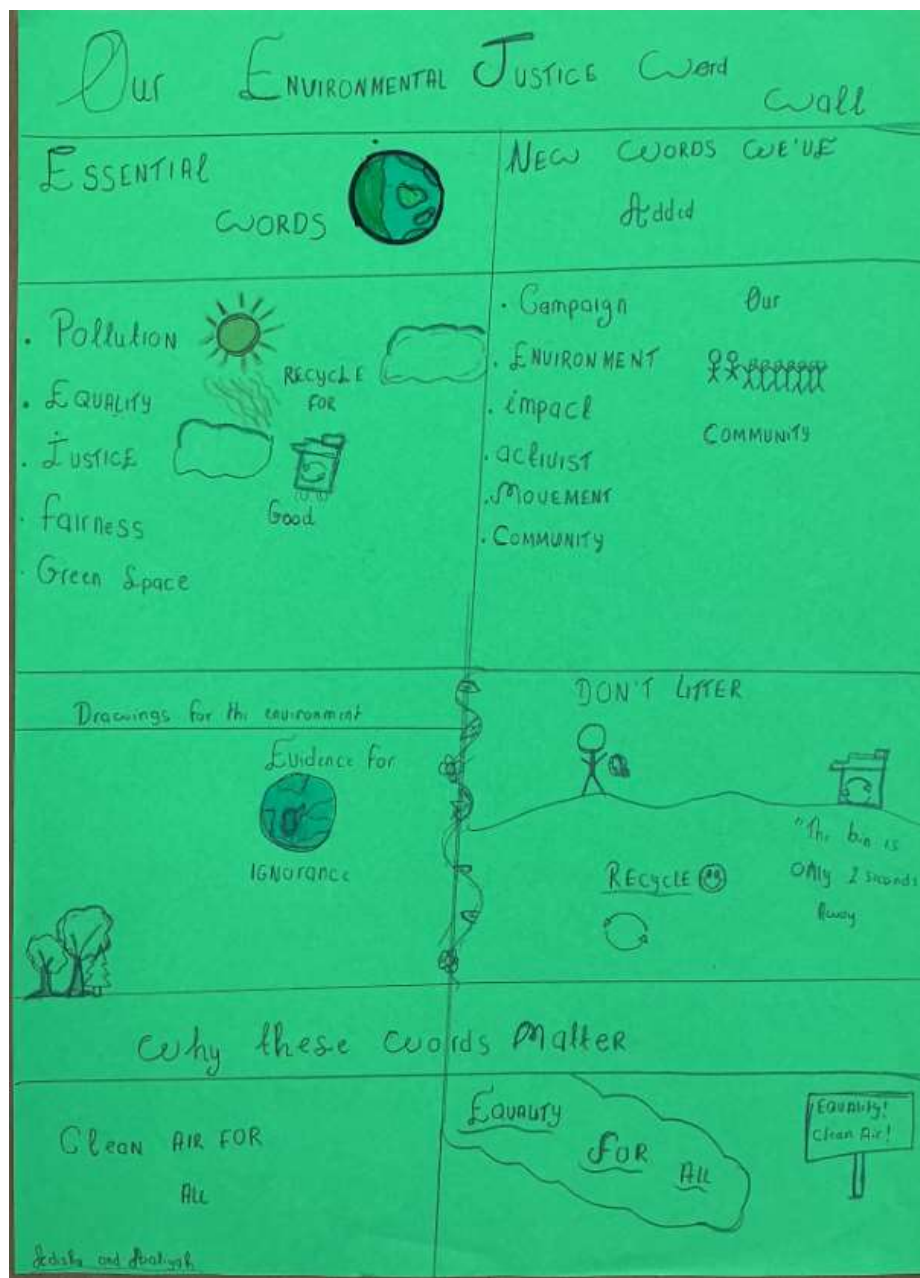
Noah



In Year 6 Willow Class, we worked together to create Environmental Justice word walls for our Topic: Environmental Activists for BHM.



Adisha and Aaliyah



Our Environmental Justice



World WALL

By: Aniyah and Ray



Essential Words	New Words We Added
• Justice • Hygiene • Pollution • Fairness • Green Space •	• Action • Campaign • environment • Community • Clear air • Rights



IF THERE'S NO
TREE'S WE'LL FLOAT!



FREE SCHOOL UNIFORM

We're working with **PECAN**, our local community partner, to give families **eligible for free school meals** access to brand new school uniform.

Simply come along to one of our drop-in sessions at the Ann Bernadt Centre, 9 Chandler Way, London SE15 6DT

No appointment or referral needed.
Drop-in from **10.00am** to **1.00pm** on:

Week 1

Tuesday 15 September
Wednesday 16 September
Thursday 17 September

Week 2

Tuesday 22 September
Wednesday 23 September
Thursday 24 September

Can't make these dates?
No problem, scan the QR code below.



You're invited to join an air quality project for children with asthma

Southwark families of primary or secondary school children with asthma (or asthma symptoms) are invited to take part in an exciting study about air quality and asthma.

Each family will get a tailored plan to help manage your child's asthma and improve air quality, insights into the air quality of your home and Southwark schools, a £20 shopping voucher, and a prize draw entry to win a £100 shopping voucher.

How to register or find out more:

- [sign up online](#)
- [Air quality project for children with asthma | Southwark Council](#)

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@HollydaleSchool

Thursday Reward Assembly Chart

W/C: 14.09.26

Excellence Reward week for: Science

Class	Name of Child	Reason for reward	Name of child	Reason for reward
Cherry YR	Ezra	For his enthusiasm for our class calendar and growing awareness of seasons and the weather	Zendaya	For her predictions in our story as well as pattern recognition when stringing beads.
Elm Y1	Omotolani	For being able to use her five senses to explore the outdoor environment.	Josephine	For being able to use her five senses to explore the outdoor environment.
Oak Y2/3	Skyla-Rose	For working hard to sequence the life cycle of a duck.	Zoey	For being able to discuss the importance of animal and plant life cycles.
Cedar Y3	Efe	For being able to name bones in the human body	Ivy	For being able to name bones in the human body
Birch Y4	Summer	Using books to research and group invertebrates vs vertebrates.	Nariah	Challenging herself to group invertebrates with and without an exoskeleton.
Hazel Y5/6	Hasnain	For amazing work when learning about 'air resistance' lessons during the 'forces' unit.	Vincent	For great contribution during our forces lesson and good work
Willow Y6	Hazel	Fantastic work! You have created your own clear and logical classifications key.	Neriah	Excellent work comparing observable characteristics clearly and accurately.

