

Hollydale Primary School

Working together to be the best that we can be.

We would like to welcome you and your child to Cherry Class! It was lovely to meet all of you before the summer and I am really looking forward to getting to know you all better.

This term, our topics will be **All About Me, Autumn, and Black History Month.**

Within our topics we will be covering the 7 areas of the Early Years Curriculum as outlined below.

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 hhughes46.210@lgflmail.org or ClassDojo <https://teach.classdojo.com/>

Thank you for your support and co-operation.

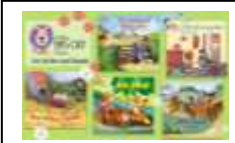
Regards, Miss Hughes

Class Teacher: Miss Hughes

Support Staff: Mrs He (formally Miss Thompson)

Autumn 1 2026 - This half term Year R will be learning about the following topics:

Learning and development	
Personal, social and emotional development	This term we will be learning the school rules and routines and making friends. There will be opportunities for children to share their key interests, likes and dislikes, to understand that everyone is unique and special. 
Communication and language	Children will be listening to a variety of topic related stories and have opportunities to contribute to class discussions.
Physical development	We will be learning to move confidently in a variety of different ways and taking part in a variety of games and activities involving negotiating space and following rules.
Literacy	Literacy: We will be exploring <i>Where the Wild Things Are</i> by Maurice Sendak and <i>Anansi The Spider</i> by Gerald McDermott Phonics: We will be introducing phase 2 phonics from week 3. The children will learn the letter sound S, A, T, P, I and N as well as the tricky words the, I, to, no and go. A summary sheet will be sent home weekly summarising what has been taught in class each week for parents to consolidate at home. 
Maths	We will be focussing on our number skills, including recognising and ordering numbers, counting accurately and matching number and quantity.
Understanding of the world	We will be looking at the seasonal changes of autumn, sharing our interests and experiences with our classmates and recalling special times and celebrations with our family.
Expressive art and design	Children will be painting self and family portraits and taking part in role play activities. We will be singing familiar nursery rhymes as well as learning some new songs and dances.
Key information	
P.E.	We will have our physical education (PE) lesson Monday afternoon. Please send the children into school wearing their P.E. kits on Tuesdays. We ask that children wear; black tracksuit bottoms or shorts, a plain white t-shirt and black trainers or plimsolls that are clearly named.

Music	Music will be taught by a specialist music teacher (Mr Duncan) every Thursday morning.
Homework	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. <u>Reading Homework:</u> All children EYFS and KS1. Parents and carers are expected to record and sign their child's reading log each evening. <u>Homework Projects</u> Homework projects are set half-termly and will often link with whole-school curriculum focus events. Phonics and reading, along with participation in the home learning project, will form sufficient homework activities for children in Reception.
Reading at home	The children will bring home one phonics reading book and one library book each week. The '<u>Big Cat</u>' phonics book is linked to our phonics lesson and is for the children to read to you as much as possible. Our phonics scheme is designed to allow children to apply what they learn (and know) so we hope that children can work to decode (sound out) the words as much as possible. Please write me a note if you have any questions – I will check these at the start of each week when changing books. The <u>library book</u> (usually a story book) is for adults to read and share story times with the children. Please return all books on Monday so new books can be sent home on Tuesday. <i>Please also note that children are required to have their book bag with their reading record and book every day.</i> 
Educational Visit	TBC
Key dates	<u>September 2025</u> <u>School Events – Autumn Term 2026</u> Thursday 3rd September – Children Return to School ○ Start time: 8:55am ○ <i>Please ensure your child arrives on time each morning.</i> Friday 4th September – Curriculum Newsletters Sent Home Friday 11th September – PTA coffee morning – new Reception parents invited Friday 18th September – Jeans for Genes Day ○ <i>Children may wear their own clothes.</i> ○ Donation: £1 per child Reading together and reading buddies begins Monday 21st September – Enrichment Clubs Resume Tuesday 22nd September – EYFS meet the teachers 3:40pm Friday 25th September – Macmillan Coffee Morning ○ Time: 9:00am ○ <i>Fundraising Cake Sale in support of Macmillan Cancer Support.</i> ○ <i>Children may wear green clothes or accessories.</i> Monday 28th September – National Poetry Week & Black History Month Celebrations Begin <u>October 2026</u> Thursday 1st October – National Poetry Day Whole School Assembly linked to Harvest festival

	Friday 2nd – BHM home learning project will be sent home Thursday 8th October – Multiplication Table Challenge Tuesday 13th & Wednesday 14th October – Parent-Teacher Consultation Meetings ○ Appointment times to be confirmed (between 3:45pm – 6:00pm) Friday 23rd October - Last day of half term 20th, 21st, and 22nd October– After school autumn activities organised by the PTA. Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October – Half term
Pupil birthdays	On your child's birthday, they can wear their own clothes to school. Alternatively, they can wear their school uniform with a birthday badge. If your child's birthday falls on a PE day, please make sure that they wear something they are able to do sport in.
Class dojo	We will send home a letter which describes how to set up Class Dojo, a platform that we use for communication with parents and carers. If you have any problems, please let me know!
How you can help	- Please read daily with your child, even if it is only for five minutes, and comment in their reading record to let us know you have done this. - Please encourage your child to be as independent as possible with feeding and dressing themselves at home. - Please support your child with recognising and writing their name. - Please practise counting to and back from numbers within 10. - Please let me know if there is anything you are unsure of!
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.     