



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Wow what a busy couple of weeks we have had! I must start by saying a huge thank you to everyone who came to the Christmas Fayre. It was a huge success and it was lovely to see so many volunteers. So much hard work goes into the preparation for the fayre and as a school we are so grateful for all your hard work and dedication to the school. You can see a message from FOHS further down the newsletter.

We have now completed all our cinema trips! I was lucky enough to attend the Year 1 and 2 trip and I must say what a pleasure it was. As you can imagine taking that many Year 1 and 2 children on a train to the cinema was no mean feat, but with the support of our staff and our amazing volunteer's and our extremely well behaved children we did it! The children very much enjoyed the trip, for some children that was their first time on a train and their first time in a cinema and they did us all very proud.

Christmas play rehearsals are in full swing, I was fortunate to get a sneak peak this week and you are in for a real treat! I am concerned that we might lose Mrs Ahmed to a career in stage direction! As someone who has led a few plays myself, I must say it certainly takes patience and vision to lead three classes through the rehearsal progress and she is doing tremendously! When Years 1-3 are not in the hall, EYFS are in! Mrs Neville, Miss White and their team are also doing an excellent job, there wont be a dry eye in the house! We can't wait to see you there! Don't forget to get your tickets.

Helen Jones our SIP (school improvement partner) was also in last week, she was very impressed walking around the school. Myself and Mrs Noon spent time with her looking at our curriculum and doing some preparation for when Ofsted call. As some of you may know, we are in what they call the 'Ofsted window', which means they could call any week on a Monday and they will begin their inspection the next day on the Tuesday and Wednesday. When they do call us, we will let you know that same day and at that point a questionnaire will be sent to all parents and carers. They will also make themselves visible in the playground at drop off and or pick up if any of you would like to speak to them, you will have a chance then.

We hope you enjoyed coming into school for the Explore Afternoon last week, I heard it was well attended. Sadly, I was unable to be there this time due to a meeting but I look forward to the next one in the Spring term when we will be looking at our Discover Term.

It feels distant memory now, but on our inset day in November, our staff were all in school. Teachers working on their curriculum subjects and support staff continuing to organise our Read Write Inc resources. Everyone worked very hard, I hope you had a nice day whatever you were up to.

Thanks again for all our support, we know it is a busy time for parents with so many events to attend in these last few weeks of term. We are very grateful for all the life admin that goes into making all of that happen, we really love having you in school and I know your children do too.

Warm regards,
Mrs. Cracknell

SAFE

We move around school in a safe manner. We follow instructions to keep ourselves safe. We keep hands, feet and unkind words to ourselves. We use equipment safely. We stay safe online. We talk to an adult if we feel unsafe.



READY

We wear correct uniform. We arrive at school on time. We have our equipment ready. We show that we are listening and ready to learn.



RESPECT

We listen when others speak and we respect the property of our friends and the school. We have an understanding of others cultures and beliefs. We respect that everyone have a right to learn.



A MESSAGE FROM FOHS

We raised £1540!

Thank You

A massive thank you to everyone who supported the Winter Fayre on Friday! Volunteers, teachers, raffle prize donors, tombola donaters, grotto go-ers - we couldn't have done it without you!

We raised an incredible £1540 profit which will be spent on much needed iPads and Chromebooks. FOHS are also delighted to be paying 50% of the cost of this week's pantomime trip. We hope the children have a magical time!

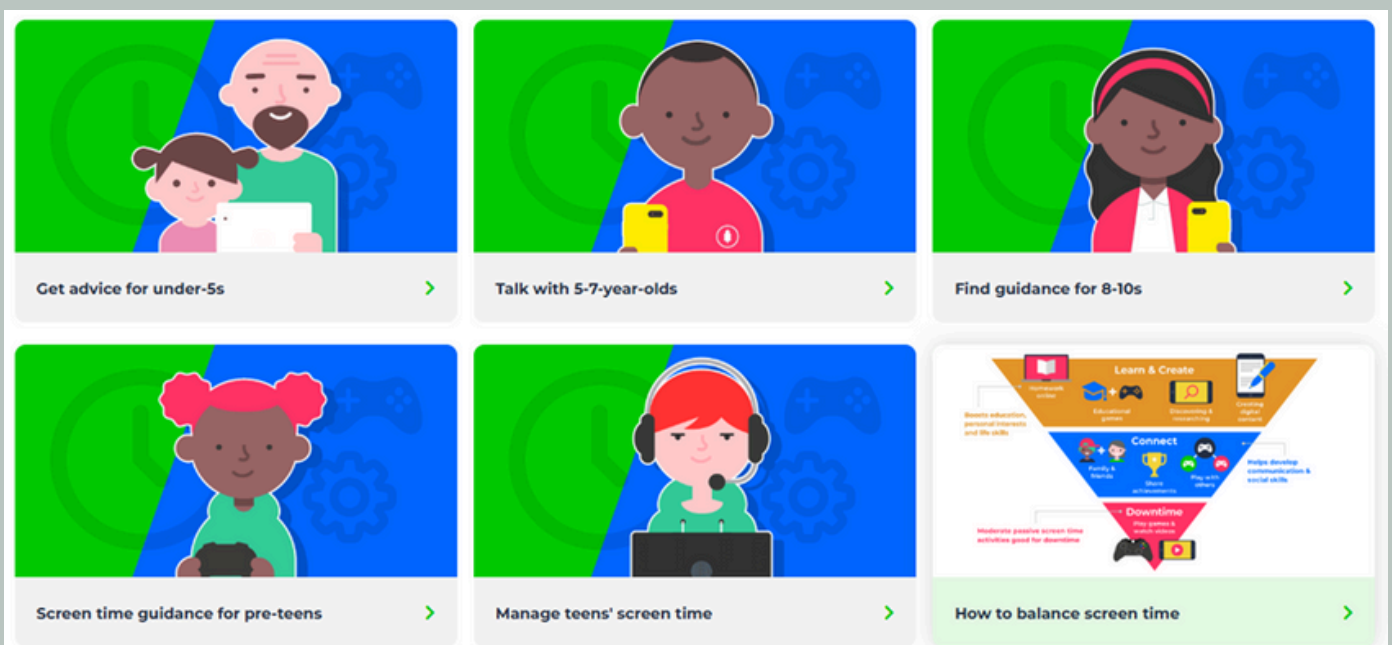


Online Safety

In recent weeks and months, there's been a lot of talk about what is the correct amount of screen time for children. The amount of time spent on screens is a difficult path to navigate as a parent. We all want the online experience for children to be positive. It has been shown time and time again that spending less time on screens is a great way to improve wellbeing both online and offline. It's important that you help your child develop a healthy relationship with technology and find balance with their screen time. The website Internet Matters suggest [four quick tips](#) to help you make the most of screen time:

1. Agree on boundaries together
2. Talk regularly about device use
3. Set up parental controls
4. Find activities to do during screen time breaks

There is lots of great advice and information on the Internet Matters screen time web-page. They make the point that screen time needs change by age. With this in mind they have set up age-specific advice which includes videos.



Upcoming Events

2024
2025

December	
Tuesday 3rd	Christingle PM 1:30pm
Wednesday 4th	Pantomime
Monday 4th	EYFS sing and sign - Nursery parents AM
Monday 4th	Years 4, 5 and 6 Carol concert PM
Tuesday 10th	EYFS sing and sign - Reception parents AM
Wednesday 11th	Years 1 -3 Christmas play PM
Thursday 12th	Year 1 - 3 Christmas play AM
Friday 13th	Year 4, 5 and 6 Carol concert AM
Friday 13th	Christmas dinner day
Monday 16th	Rock Steady Concert
Friday 20th	End of term 2pm finish



Clubs

Click on the club name for link to book

Matt's clubs can be booked via the office or by emailing
mattogilviecoaching@aol.com

MONDAY

Rock Steady (during School day)

Reception - Story Club 12 - 12:30 pm - Sign up on Arbor
KS2 - Drama club 12:30 - 1 pm - Sign up on Arbor

TUESDAY

Year 1 - 6 Karate - 7:45 - 8:30 am

Year 1 - 3 Dodgeball with Matt Ogilvie Coaching 3.15pm - 4.15pm

THURSDAY

Musical theatre - 12:30 - 1 pm - sign up on Arbor - Year 2 - 6
Year 1 - 6 Dance Club 3.15pm - 4.15pm

FRIDAY

Ballet - 12:15 - 12:45 pm - sign up on Arbor - Reception and Year 1
Year 4 - 5 Football with Matt Ogilvie Coaching 3.15pm - 4.15pm
Year 1 - 6 East Herts Gymnastics 3.15pm - 4.15pm

Uniform

- All items should be unbranded and without any logo's other than the Hollybush logo.
- Children should bring a suitable coat and a water bottle every day, whatever the weather. We are outside in all weathers!
- Hair longer than shoulder length must be tied up in a hair band in school colours.

Formal uniform

White polo shirt

Grey Trousers
Grey skirt
Grey pinafore
Grey shorts

Bottle green round necked jumper
Bottle green cardigan

Black shoes

White / black or grey socks

Active uniform

Black plain Tshirt
Black logo Tshirt
White plain Tshirt

Tshirts should be round necked not polo shirts

Black jersey tracksuit bottoms
Black jersey shorts
Black cycle shorts
Black skort
Black leggings

Black zip through hoodie
Black hooded jumper

Black plain trainers

Swimming

Swimming hats MUST be worn for swimming lessons.

UNIFORMS MUST NOT BE MIXED AND MATCHED!!

IF YOUR CHILD IS WEARING ACTIVE WEAR IT MUST BE WITH A ROUND NECKED T-SHIRT AND A BLACK HOODIE / ZIP UP

IF YOUR CHILD IS WEARING FORMAL WEAR IT MUST BE WITH A POLO TOP OR SHIRT AND A GREEN JUMPER

Reminders

School starts at 8:45am

Fordwich Rise Gate entrance

The drive gate opens at 8:40 for Nursery, Reception and Year 1. Siblings of children in these year's may also enter through this gate.

Welwyn Road Gate entrance

Children in Year 2 and above

If your child arrives after 8:45am they will need to enter via the Office and will be marked as Late.

HOLIDAYS & MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

The School will not grant any leave of absence for holidays during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Holidays will otherwise be classed as unauthorised absence from school.

Non urgent appointments such as dentist & doctors appointments MUST be made outside of school hours where possible.

Outstanding debts

Please can parents ensure owed balances on meals, wrap around care and nursery session are cleared promptly.

Lunches

Please ensure you select your child's lunch via the Arbor app prior to 8am.

Pre selecting lunches is now compulsory

[Link to lunch menu on website](#)

Please do not park across the driveways of the houses neighbouring the school.

	PE	Swimming	Forest School
MONDAY	YEAR 1 YEAR 5		YEAR 1
TUESDAY	YEAR 1 YEAR 2 YEAR 3 YEAR 5 YEAR 6		
WEDNESDAY			YEAR 2
THURSDAY	YEAR 2 YEAR 4		NURSERY RECEPTION
FRIDAY	NURSERY RECEPTION YEAR 3 YEAR 4 YEAR 6		YEAR 3 YEAR 4

Check out our class pages for information on what your child is learning this Term!
[Link to Class Pages](#)

Type of query	Member of staff to contact
Safeguarding/child protection	Mrs Noon and Mrs Cracknell
Any issues relating to your child or another child in the class	Email class teacher to arrange a meeting, sometimes a phase leader may join this meeting
If you do not feel the issue has been resolved or you may need more advice.	<p>Step 1 Phase Leader EYFS-Ms Neville KS1- Miss Parry KS2-Mr Chandler</p> <p>Step 2 Deputy Headteacher- Mrs Cracknell</p> <p>Step 3 Headteacher- Mrs Noon</p>
Inclusion/ Special Educational Needs	Mrs Smail
Payments/Finance	Miss Byrne Mrs Tilbury
Admissions	Miss Byrne
Complaints	Please refer to school complaints policy on the website .

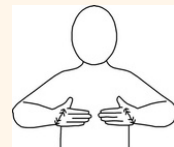
AT OUR SCHOOL WE FOLLOW HOLLYBUSH RULES

SAFE



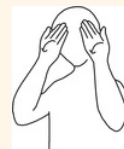
We move around school in a safe manner. We follow instructions to keep ourselves safe. We keep hands, feet and unkind words to ourselves. We use equipment safely. We stay safe online. We talk to an adult if we feel unsafe.

READY



We wear correct uniform. We arrive at school on time. We have our equipment ready. We show that we are listening and ready to learn.

RESPECT



We listen when others speak and we respect the property of our friends and the school. We have an understanding of others cultures and beliefs. We respect that everyone have a right to learn.

WE ARE LEARNING

THE HOLLYBUSH WAY



THE HOLLYBUSH WAY



Lovely Lining Up

We face forwards
We keep our hands to ourselves
We line up silently

Magical Manners

We say please and thank you
We say 'good morning'
We hold doors open for people
We knock before entering rooms
We say 'excuse me' before speaking to a grown up

Super Sitting

We sit calmly and sensibly
We keep our hands to ourselves
We face the adult
We use our magnet eyes (if we can)
We use our eager ears for listening to our adult

Wonderful Walking

We walk quietly
We walk sensibly
We face the direction we are walking in
We keep our hands to ourselves

Delightful Dinners

We use our Magical Manners
We use our Lovely lining up
We use our Wonderful walking
We use our Super sitting
We talk quietly with our friends

Peaceful Playtimes

We use our Wonderful walking to and from the classroom
We use our Magical Manners
We remember our school values