



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very long and exhausting term for our children (and staff) but we have made it! I can imagine that you are also excited not to have to do the school run for a week... It is incredible to see the progress the children have made over this half term. Our youngest children in Nursery and Reception have blown us away with the progress they are making not only academically but socially and emotionally. In Year 1, our children are making progress everyday as they negotiate the Year 1 curriculum, this is undoubtedly the most difficult transition children encounter in primary school as they move from the EYFS curriculum to the National Curriculum. In Year 2 the children are making us very proud as they take on the role of the oldest infants and they really are working very hard in their lessons as well as being excellent role models for our younger children. Our KS2 children have risen to the challenge of being our oldest children within the school and it was a real pleasure to see all their work this week when we looked at all the books within the school.

Miss White assessed all the children on the Read Write Inc phonic programme this week and I am thrilled to say she was very excited with the results so far, please keep up the amazing job you are doing with listening to your child read at home. Together we can ensure that every single child at Hollybush learns to read speedily!

A huge thank you to all the parents who came to our OPAL parents play afternoon, I hear it was a huge success and I hope you were able to see the benefits of the OPAL approach.

Today was YES day and all the children looked amazing with their colourful hair, clothing and accessories. Not to mention all the chocolate goodies for morning snack.

Yesterday Years 4 and 5 spent the day at Woodhall Estate, Mr Chandler has written a trip review further down the newsletter for you. A huge thank you to our parent helpers, we couldn't do our trips without you.

There are lots of things to look forward to next term, please take note of the dates in the newsletter.

Have a brilliant half term, and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 4th November.

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.

Kindness

Generosity

Excitement

Learning together

Enquiring minds

Courage



# FOHS Update

Thank you so much to everyone who joined in at today's Yes Day! It was fantastic to see the children in their colourful clothes and accessories and we've raised over £240 so far! If you didn't get the chance to donate, you can transfer directly to our Friends of Hollybush School bank account (account number: 01626468 and sort code: 30-94-17).

The FOHS team are feeling very Christmassy as we gear up for the Winter Fayre on Friday 24th November! Tickets for our raffle and Santa's Grotto go on sale at 1pm on Wednesday 30th November via our website [www.pta-events.co.uk/hollybushprimary](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/hollybushprimary) so make a note in your calendars!

Once again, the relatively small FOHS team need your help on making the Winter Fayre happen! We are therefore asking for volunteers to help on the day, be it setting up, running a stand or packing away at the end. Even if you can just spare 45 minutes of your time, we would be very happy to hear from you, so please email us at [HollybushPTA@Gmail.com](mailto:HollybushPTA@Gmail.com). Don't forget, all volunteers will get a free drink at the Fayre as well as being put into a draw to win a prize by way of thanks!

And finally, if you are having a declutter over half term (or simply need to make space for the incoming Christmas gifts!) please do bring any items suitable for our Winter Fayre tombola to school drop off on Friday 8th November. We will be collecting good quality toys, games, bottles, chocolates and gifts!

FOHS appreciate all your efforts in supporting us and our events and wish you all a happy half term!

Thank you,

Emma

Friends of Hollybush School

Charity number: 292371

# Sports News

Well it's been a great sporting start to the school year for Hollybush. The children have been enjoying a wide range of sports in their PE lessons with basketball, netball and football high on the agenda. Before and after school clubs go from strength to strength with Karate and dance proving extremely popular.

I look forward to another half term of sport after a well earned rest.  
Go Team Hollybush!

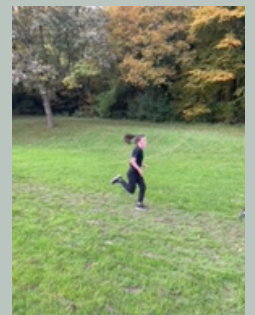
Year 6 had the opportunity to take part in a diverse set of outdoor and adventurous activities at PGL which really pushed them out of their comfort zone and brought many successes to children who don't always enjoy classroom PE.



We have also enjoyed some success in inter-school competitions; improving on last year's position at the Cross Country with some excellent individual performances from Archie (Year 6) and Harlee (Year 5).



Year 3 had the opportunity to enjoy a Development Day at Wodson Park where they were able to improve their skills through a range of fun and engaging sporting activities.



The school football team has been training hard and played their first match against Abel Smith, with a convincing 4 - 2 victory. Congratulations to the whole team with particular mention going to Shamus (Year 6) with a hat trick and Rocco (Year 6) with the other goal and a player of the match performance.



# Online Safety

These days keeping children safe online is as important as keeping them safe in the real world. Internet Matters a website dedicated to keeping children safe online is a great place for advice and resources. To support parents staying safe in a digital world they have created The ABC online safety checklist:

- A - Activate parental controls
- B - Balance screen time
- C - Check and chat

Please do have a look at this checklist in more detail. You can get age-specific advice for the ABC checklist with short videos and additional guides that can be downloaded.

Activate



Balance



Check



# BPAAL Parents Play



# EYFS



What an amazing first half term Nursery and Reception have had. It has been lovely to see so many children raring to go in the mornings and settling straight into their prepared activities. The children have explored 'Marvellous Me' and 'Autumn' topics through adult led sessions and exciting continuous provision inside and outside. We loved exploring signs of Autumn in Forest School every week. We are looking forward to the next half term which is filled with more exciting learning and we are looking forward to welcoming parents back into our classroom for the Nursery Rhyme week concert.



# Woodhall Estate

On the last Thursday of this half-term, Year 4 and Year 5 enjoyed a fantastic day of outdoor learning on the Woodhall Estate. We were spoilt by the beautiful autumn sunshine and the stunning landscape. Our two outdoor teachers Nick and Tania led us through a range of quizzes and games. In addition to being good fun they helped teach the children about the estate's biodiversity; key requirements for an acorn to grow and the classification of different plants and animals. The children finished the day by den building. A great day!



# Upcoming Events

2024  
2025

## November

Tuesday 4th	Year 1 phonics meeting
Wednesday 6th	Flu vaccinations Reception - Year 6
Friday 8th	Individual and sibling photos
Saturday 9th	Community morning
Tuesday 12th	Reception phonics meeting
Wednesday 13th	Cinema Trip 'If' for Year 3 and 6
Thursday 14th	Nursery (9am) and reception (2:30pm) Nursery rhyme performance
Wednesday 20th	Cinema trip 'Harold and the purple crayon' for Years 4 and 5
Thursday 21st	Cinema trip 'Migration' for Reception  Movie Morning for Nursery and The Nest in school
Friday 22nd	Inset day School closed
Wednesday 27th	Cinema trip 'Garfield' for Years 1 and 2
Thursday 28th	Explore term play and stay EYFS am Explore Afternoon years 1-6 pm
Friday 29th	FDHS Christmas Fayre

## December

Tuesday 3rd	Christingle PM (time tbc)
Wednesday 4th	Pantomime
Monday 9th	EYFS sing and sign - Nursery parents AM
Monday 9th	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

## January

Monday 6th





# 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	<p><u>Rock Steady (during School day)</u></p> <p>Reception - Story Club 12 - 12:30 pm - Sign up on Arbor KS2 - Drama club 12:30 - 1 pm - Sign up on Arbor</p>
TUESDAY	<p>Year 1 - 6 Karate - 7:45 - 8:30 am</p> <p>Year 1 - 3 Dodgeball with Matt Ogilvie Coaching 3.15pm - 4.15pm</p>
THURSDAY	<p>Musical theatre - 12:30 - 1 pm - sign up on Arbor - Year 2 - 6 (starts after half term)</p> <p><u>Year 1 - 6 Dance Club 3.15pm - 4.15pm</u></p>
FRIDAY	<p>Ballet - 12:15 - 12:45 pm - sign up on Arbor - Reception and Year 1 (starts after half term)</p> <p>Year 4 - 5 Football with Matt Ogilvie Coaching 3.15pm - 4.15pm</p> <p><u>Year 1 - 6 East Herts Gymnastics 3.15pm - 4.15pm</u></p>

# 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

*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*

## Swimming

Swimming hats **MUST** be worn for swimming lessons.

# 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
<b>MONDAY</b>	YEAR 1 YEAR 5		YEAR 1
<b>TUESDAY</b>	YEAR 1 YEAR 2 YEAR 3 YEAR 5 YEAR 6		
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>			YEAR 2
<b>THURSDAY</b>	YEAR 2 YEAR 4		NURSERY RECEPTION
<b>FRIDAY</b>	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><b>Step 1</b> Phase Leader EYFS-Ms Neville KS1- Miss Parry KS2-Mr Chandler</p> <p><b>Step 2</b> Deputy Headteacher- Mrs Cracknell</p> <p><b>Step 3</b> 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 <a href="#">website</a> .

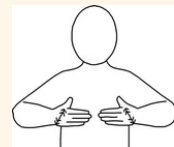
# AT OUR SCHOOL WE FOLLOW HOLLYBUSH RULES

## SAFE



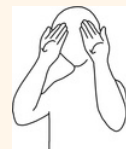
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## READY



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## RESPECT



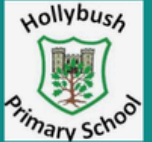
We listen when others speak and we respect the property of our friends and the school. We have an understanding of others cultures and beliefs. We respect that everyone have a right to learn.

# 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