



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful Easter break and enjoyed the lovely weather we were treated to. Yesterday, all dressed in red, white and blue we started the day with a VE Day assembly, the children listened beautifully as we discussed the importance of why we remember the 8th May 1945 and looked at images of how people celebrated at the end of WW2. There were some excellent contributions from the children demonstrating their knowledge.

At the end of our first week back, Hollybush Primary School made history when our incredible football team won 6-1 in the Hope Plate final against another local school. Please see the match report (written by some of our players) further down the newsletter. Our team were celebrated in assembly, where we saw their trophy and looked at their team photo.

It has been a very proud week for myself and Miss Borgeat as we walked around the school conducting learning walks to see the impact of some of the changes we have made to lesson design and teaching and learning. The behaviour for learning within the class was excellent, children were focused and engaged across the school. Looking at books in our Senior Leaders meeting last night, we can see the impact of the new feedback policy taking shape and it is clear that children are aware of what they need to do to move their learning forward. A huge well done to all our children and teachers who are working very hard.

The Create term focuses on the foundation subjects of Art and Music and it has become very clear to us is how much our children enjoy art and how many aspiring artists we have a Hollybush. I am also pleased to report that our school choir started this week, there are still a few spaces available, so if your child is interested please do let us know.

Next week, our Year 6 pupils will be taking their SATs, these are tests that all children are required to take by the government. Our year 6 pupils (and Mr Mallick) are more than ready and we are proud of them all for all the hard work they have been putting in. You can help by ensuring your child gets a good night sleep and reassuring them that all they need to do, is their best. All year 6 pupils are invited to a special year 6 breakfast Monday to Thursday next week. The children should arrive between 8:00am-8:15am so that they can have a good breakfast and a calm start to the day.

Have a great weekend,

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



Type of query	Member of staff to contact
Safeguarding/child protection	Mrs Cracknell, Miss Borgeat, Mrs Poole and Mrs Richardson
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-Miss White KS1- Mrs Christman KS2-Mr Chandler</p> <p>Step 2 Acting Deputy Headteacher Grace Borgeat</p> <p>Step 3 Acting Headteacher- Mrs Cracknell</p>
Inclusion/ Special Educational Needs	Mrs Smail
Looked After and Previously Looked After Children	Mrs Cracknell
Payments/Finance	Miss Byrne Mrs Tilbury
Admissions	Miss Byrne
Complaints	Please refer to school complaints policy on the <u>website</u> .

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 either black, white, green or your child's hair colour.

Formal uniform

White polo shirt - NOT a TShirt

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 - NOT a polo shirt
Black logo Tshirt - NOT a polo shirt
White plain Tshirt - NOT a polo shirt

Tshirts should be round necked not polo shirts

Black jersey tracksuit bottoms
Black jersey shorts
Black cycle shorts
Black skirt
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

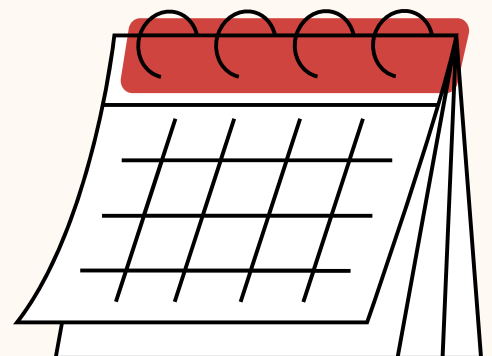
IF YOUR CHILD IS WEARING FORMAL WEAR IT MUST BE WITH A POLO TOP OR SHIRT AND A GREEN JUMPER

Upcoming Events

2024
2025

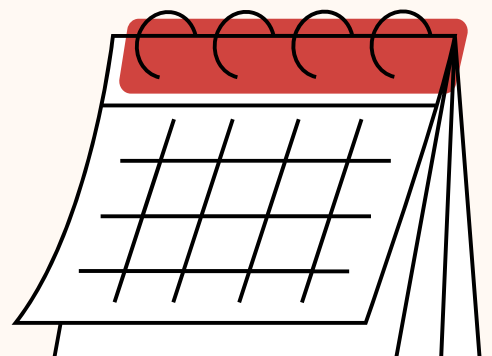
May	
Thursday 1 st	Y4 Sports festival
Monday 5th	May Day - School closed
Monday 12th	Cricket day
Monday 12 th - Thursday 15 th	Y6 SATs SAT's breakfast arrive 8:00am-8:15am
Tuesday 13 th	Y5 parents evening 3:30 - 5:30 pm
Wednesday 14th	Y1 agility festival at Sele
Thursday 15th	Y5 parents evening 1 - 4 pm
Friday 16 th	Y6 end of SATs treat
Monday 19th	Bucket time coffee morning
Wednesday 21 st	Y6 trip to Woodhall estate
Thursday 22nd	Class photo's and Y6 individual leavers photo's
Friday 23rd	Inset day
Monday 26th - Friday 30th	Half term

June	
Tuesday 10th	New Nursery parent information evening
Thursday 12th	New Reception parent information evening
Wednesday 18th	Supporting transitions coffee morning - All welcome



July

Thursday 3 rd	Nursery and Reception school trip - Shepreth Wildlife Park
Monday 7 th	Rock Steady Concert
Thursday 10 th	Transition day
Friday 11 th	Year 1 trip - Hertfordshire zoo
Friday 11 th	Year 4 and 6 trip - H2O Rampage
Wednesday 16 th	Year 2 trip - Hertfordshire zoo
Wednesday 16 th	Year 3 and 5 trip - Gulliver's theme park
Thursday 17 th	Y6 Leavers Party Time TBC
Friday 18 th	Y6 Leavers assembly Time TBC
Monday 21 st	End of term event - more details to follow Finish at 1:15 pm





Online Safety

Kiddle

'I'll need to google that' or 'Just google it' are phrases that are becoming increasingly familiar. In fact 'to google' is widely recognized as a verb, referring to the act of searching for information online, typically using the Google search engine. It's been added to major dictionaries and is commonly used in everyday language. Well this is what Google says!

Our children have a vast amount of information available at the click of a button. Search engines such as Google very effectively sift this information for us. But how safe are they and should we, as parents and carers, be concerned about our children using them?

Search engines use [algorithms](#) - a list of rules to follow in order to complete a task or solve a problem - to predict which results will be useful to us. These algorithms can expose children to inappropriate content, misinformation and even scams.

Google processes around 100,000 searches a second. With the development of AI, search engines are set to become more powerful and the algorithms more advanced. Here is some practical advice that we hope will safeguard children when they are searching online.

- [Activate parental controls](#) – this can help reduce the likelihood of inappropriate content appearing in search results.
- [Question AI-generated content](#) – just because an AI summary is well presented it doesn't mean it's accurate – check the sources
- [Identify and avoid adverts](#) – search engines use adverts to make money. Help your child to distinguish between paid ads and organic search results.
- [Promote digital literacy](#) – encourage children to question the motivation behind online content and develop critical thinking, as not all sites can be trusted.
- [Use child-friendly search engines](#) – tools like Kiddle and Swiggle provide safe search options for kids.
- [Use safe browsing tools](#) - there are plenty of free or low-cost tools designed to create a safer browsing environment for children including: Google SafeSearch, KidZui Browser, Adblock

One of the most important things to do as a parent is to **STAY INVOLVED**. Talk to your children about their interests; take time to review their browser history and discuss whether the sites they visit are appropriate and keep browsing visible by placing devices in shared family spaces.

NO OUT SIDERS

*There are No Outsiders at Hollybush.
We are all different, we are all welcome.*

In our No Outsiders assemblies we have covered:

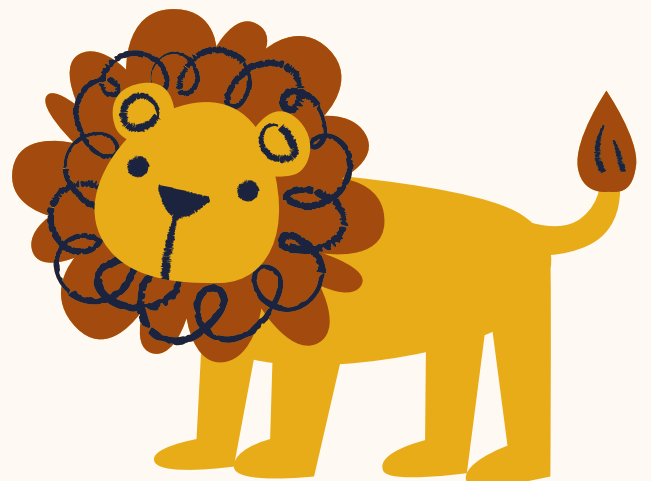


Lion

The children learnt about a lion who adopted a leopard cub in Africa. Conservation officers were astonished because they expected the lioness to kill the cub at first. One said, "We know there are cases where lionesses will adopt other lion cubs... but this is unprecedented."

Key questions:

- How are the two animals the same/different?
- Why do you think the lioness adopted the leopard?
- People thought the lioness would kill the cub, but she didn't what does this show us about ideas and expectations? (It shows things can always change)
- What do you think will happen as the leopard grows up?
- What can we learn from the lioness in this story?
- What is a family? Do all families have to look the same?



Nursery News



Nursery have been really busy exploring sounds and how they are made. We went on a sound walk and recorded the sounds that we heard both inside and out.

We read 'The very hungry caterpillar', a firm favourite in the nursery. We retold the story using props and puppets.

We then thought about all of the other minibeasts that live in our garden. We have enjoyed creating our own minibeasts using natural materials. We also drew and painted our own minibeasts.

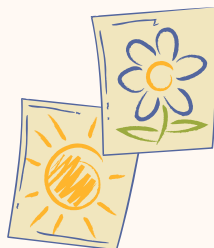
The children were so excited to visit and play in the large outdoor sandpit. I have never seen some of the children jump so high! We will be visiting it regularly.



News from Year 1



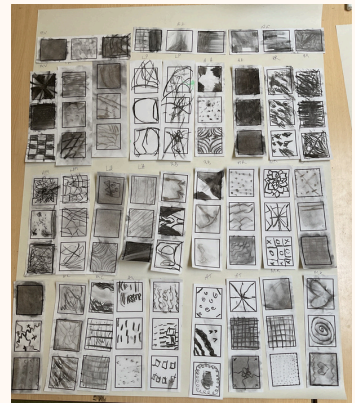
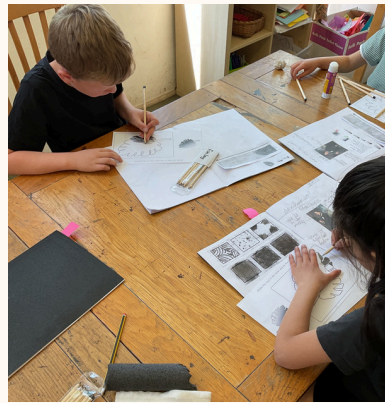
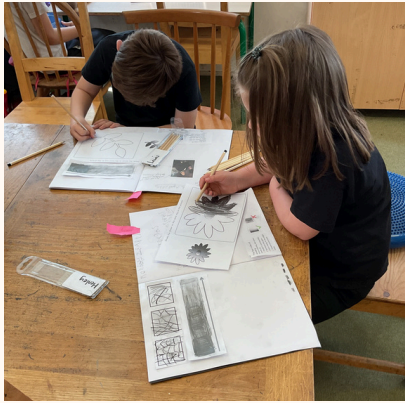
Year 1 has had a great start to the half term! We have really enjoyed getting into our art lessons, exploring different line types and seeing how long they can make one line. In music the children have been exploring moving to the pulse and clapping syllables.



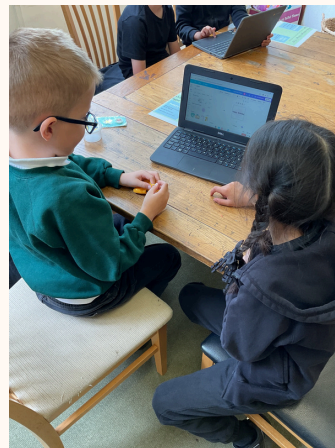
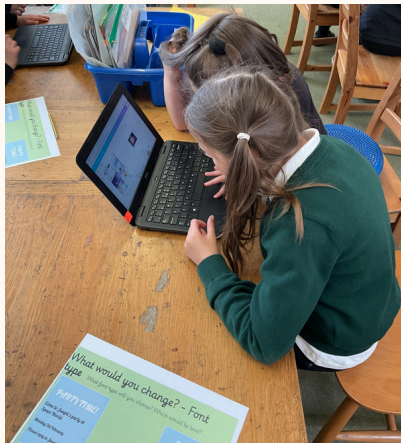
NEWS FROM YEAR 3

YEAR 3 HAVE BEEN GETTING CREATIVE THIS HALF TERM.

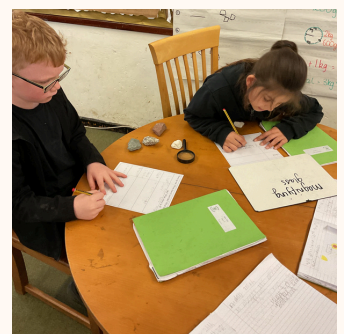
IN ART, WE HAVE BEEN LEARNING ABOUT TONE AND SHADE. WE HAVE BEEN EXPLORING DIFFERENT WAYS WE CAN SHOW SHADE AND TONE IN OUR DRAWINGS AND WE HAVE TRIED TO HAVE A GO. THE CHILDREN GOT VERY CREATIVE AND HAVE BEEN ENJOY ART LESSONS



IN COMPUTING, WE HAVE BEEN LOOKING AT DESKTOP PUBLISHING. THE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN CREATING A BIRTHDAY INVITATION ON CANVA. THEY HAVE BEEN LEARNING HOW TO ADD PICTURES, CHANGE THE FONT STYLE, ADD COLOURS TO THE BACKGROUND



IN SCIENCE, WE HAVE BEEN STUDYING ROCKS AND FOSSILS. OVER THE LAST FEW WEEKS, THE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN LOOKING CLOSELY AT ROCKS AND IDENTIFYING PHYSICAL PROPERTIES USING MAGNIFYING GLASSES. THE CHILDREN ALSO CONDUCTED A WATER TEST TO SEE WHICH ROCK ABSORBS WATER

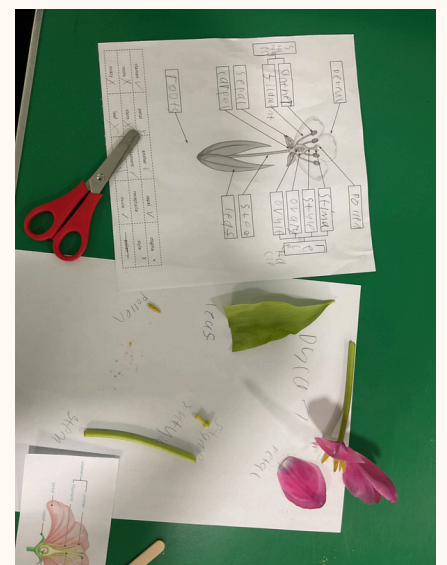
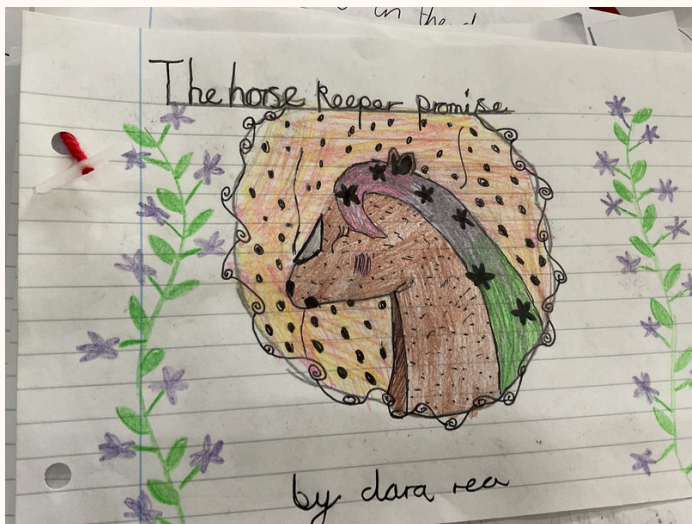
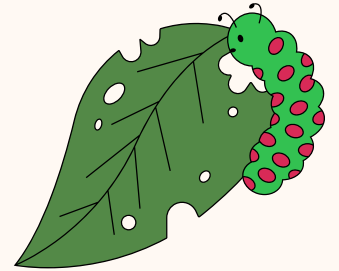


News from Year 5

YEAR 5 HAVE BEEN TAKING PART IN EXCITING SPORT SESSIONS TRYING OUT DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES SUCH AS ULTIMATE FRISBEE, LACROSSE AND ARCHERY. ITS BEEN VERY IMPRESSIVE TO SEE HOW THEY CAN SUPPORT AND HELP EACH OTHER WITH DIFFERENT CHALLENGES AND SKILLS.

IN ENGLISH PUPILS HAVE RECENTLY 'PUBLISHED' THEIR OWN ILLUSTRATED BOOKS. THEY HAD TO WRITE IN THE STYLE OF THE PROMISE AUTHOR, NICOLA DAVIES USING LOTS OF ALLITERATION AND SIMILES IN THEIR DESCRIPTION.

IN SCIENCE PUPILS ARE LEARNING ABOUT LIFE-CYCLES. THEY WATCHED A DEMONSTRATION AND THEN DISSECTED AND LABELLED ALL THE DIFFERENT PARTS OF A FLOWER.



Match Report

HOPE PLATE FINAL HOLLYBUSH V ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

WE ARRIVED AT THE RICHARD HALE PITCH AND WE COULDN'T WAIT TO START. HOWEVER, WHEN WE WERE TRAINING THE NERVES STARTED TO KICK IN BUT BEFORE WE KNEW IT, IT WAS TIME FOR KICKOFF!

ROCCO TOOK CENTRE AND PASSED IT TO SHAMUS WHO DROVE UP THE PITCH AND WON A CORNER. ROCCO WHIPPED IT IN AND SHAMUS LEAPED FOR IT; SCORING WITH A BULLET HEADER AND IN JUST TWO MINUTES WE WERE ONE NIL UP! THEN IT WAS ST JOHN THE BAPTIST'S KICKOFF. RIGHT AWAY ROCCO, SHAMUS AND MAX WERE PRESSING THE OPPOSITION. MAX WON THE PRESS AND RIGHT AWAY PLAYED IT BACKWARDS TO ELLIOTT. ELLIOTT KEPT CONTROL OF THE BALL AND SPREAD IT OUT WIDE TO FREDDIE H. HE TRAVELLED WITH THE BALL, PLAYED IT INTO ROCCO. ROCCO DROVE UP THE PITCH, NUTMEGGED A DEFENDER AND USED A TRIVELLA TO PLAY IT IN FRONT OF SHAMUS WHO SLAMMED IT INTO THE BACK OF THE NET WITH A TRIVELLA (DOUBLE TRIVELLA!). 2-0 GOAL SHAMUS; ASSIST ROCCO.

ONCE AGAIN IT WAS THEIR KICK OFF, THE SAME PLAYERS PRESSED THE PLAYERS ON THE BALL, THE OPPOSITION WAS RUSHING TAND MESSING UP. THE GAME WENT ON FOR A LITTLE BIT AND IT WAS JUST BACK AND FORTH. THEN WE WERE ON THE ATTACK, FREDDIE H HAD A SHOT BUT UNFORTUNATELY HE MISSED AND HIT THE POST THEN IT CAME TO THE EDGE OF THE BOX WHERE ROCCO WAS STANDING, CHIPPED IT IN AND SHAMUS VOLLEYED IT IN 3-0 GOAL SHAMUS ASSIST ROCCO. THE MATCH WAS STARTING AGAIN, THEY PLAYED A LOBBED BALL TO THE NUMBER 10 AND HE GOT THEM UP THE PITCH, BUT ELLIOTT PUT IN A CRUNCHING TACKLE. NOW WE HAD POSSESSION BACK, ELLIOTT PLAYED A GOOD BALL INTO ROCCO. ROCCO MISCONTROLLED IT AND LOST POSSESSION, BUT THEN HE MADE A BRILLIANT RECOVERY CHALLENGE WHICH ACTED AS A THROUGH BALL TO SHAMUS. SHAMUS RAN THROUGH THE DEFENSE AND SLOTTED IT INTO THE BOTTOM CORNER. 4-0 GOAL SHAMUS ASSIST ROCCO. THEY STARTED AGAIN 4 NIL DOWN. FROM KICKOFF THEY STARTED A GOOD SOLO RUN WITH THEIR NUMBER 11. HE TOOK GREAT SHOT BUT HARRY LS MADE A FANTASTIC SAVE. HE ROLLED IT DOWN TO ELLIOTT THEN HE MADE A PASS TO TOBY AND HE DROVE WITH THE BALL, AND PLAYED A BALL TO SHAMUS, AND THERE WAS A BIT OF TIKI TAKA PLAY WITH TOBY, ROCCO AND FREDDIE H. TOBY RECEIVED THE BALL ONCE AGAIN AND PLAYED A HIGH THROUGH BALL SHAMUS CONTROLLED IT WELL AND WAS THROUGH ON GOAL ONCE AGAIN. OBVIOUSLY HE FINISHED IT INTO THE BACK OF THE NET. 5-0 GOAL SHAMUS ASSIST TOBY.

THE HALF TIME WHISTLE WAS BLOWN. HALF TIME 5-0 TO HOLLYBUSH. AFTER THE MINI BREAK WE HAD, IT WAS THEIR KICKOFF. THEY STARTED OFF QUICK AND WANTED TO MAKE A COMEBACK. ABOUT 5 MINUTES LATER THEY PLAYED A GOOD BALL INTO THE BOX, ELLIOTT CLEARED IT, BUT IT GOT INTERCEPTED ON THE EDGE OF THE BOX. THEIR NUMBER 10 SLOTTED IT TO MAKE IT 5-1 GOAL NUMBER 10. THE GAME WENT ON WITH BOTH TEAMS TRYING TO FIND ANOTHER GOAL, BUT ROCCO AND SHAMUS DID SOME BRILLIANT TIKI TAKA AND SHAMUS WAS THROUGH ON GOAL. 1 ON 1 AGAINST THE KEEPER, SHAMUS DRIBBLED AROUND THE KEEPER WITH THE GOAL STARING HIM IN THE FACE. UNTIL THE DEFENDER FOULED HIM. SHAMUS GOT BACK UP, SCORED BUT GOT DISALLOWED BECAUSE THE REF GAVE THE PEN INSTEAD OF THE GOAL. SHAMUS STEPPED UP TO TAKE THE PEN FULL OF CONFIDENCE. HE DID HIS RUN UP AND SLAPPED IT TOP BINS. NOT LONG AFTER THE FINAL WHISTLE WAS BLOWN, HOLLYBUSH HAD MADE HISTORY. EVERYONE WAS BUZZING AND HAPPY.



A FEW PLAYERS (ROCCO, FREDDIE H, SHAMUS, FINLEY) SHED A TEAR OF JOY. SHAMUS AND ROCCO (THE CAPTAINS) LIFTED THE TROPHY TOGETHER. OVERALL IT WAS A GREAT EXPERIENCE. SO THANK YOU ALL.

Swimming dates

Year 3	
April 24th	
May 1st	
May 8th	
May 15th	
May 22nd	
June 5th	
June 12th	
June 19th	
June 26th	
July 3rd	
July 10th	No swimming - Transition day
July 17th	Fun Swim

Year 4	
April 24th	
May 1st	No swimming due to a sporting event
May 8th	
May 15th	
May 22nd	
June 5th	
June 12th	
June 19th	
June 26th	
July 3rd	
July 10th	No swimming - Transition day
July 17th	Fun Swim

All children are expected to participate in swimming lessons

Children will need a one piece swimming costume / swimming trunks
A towel
A swimming hat - boys and girls

Goggles may be worn if your child can take them on and off unaided.



AT OUR SCHOOL WE FOLLOW HOLLYBUSH RULES

SAFE



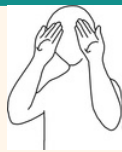
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RESPECT



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.

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

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](#)