

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the first newsletter of the new academic year.

Welcome

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new children and their families, in addition to those of you who know Holbrook so well. We also welcome new members of staff to our experienced team, class teacher Mr Hudspith and Teaching Assistants Mrs Bell, Mrs Van der Ent and Miss Reed.

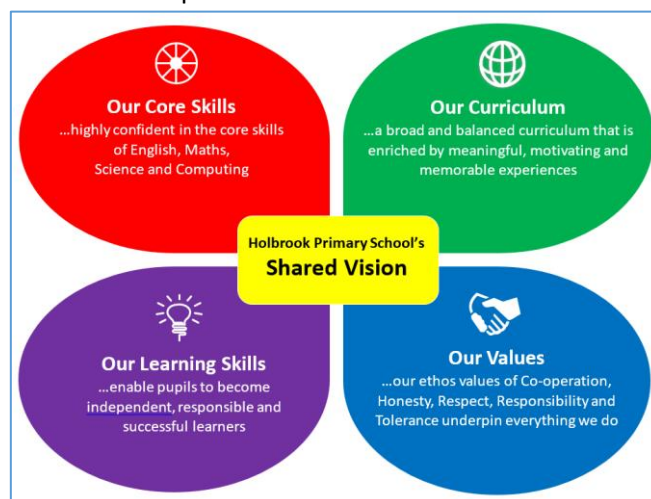
Start of term

It was lovely to see everyone back at school on Monday with keen and eager children looking very smart and grown up in their school uniforms. Thank you for using the whole window (08:35-08:45) at drop-off, for continuing to socially distance when on the school site and dispersing quickly afterwards. On a personal note, I have particularly enjoyed reconnecting with parents face-to-face at the gates after the period of masks and fences. A gentle reminder that we are encouraging KS2 children to continue the independence they gained last year by walking in by themselves. Thank you for helping to successfully prepare the children for the return to school, which makes a huge difference to all concerned.

The children have very quickly settled into new classrooms and routines enabling learning to start straight away. It was lovely to lead an outdoor assembly about the new school year and our Golden Rules on Monday – the first one in a very long time. On Thursday, our new Reception children started their first day at Holbrook school and we were very impressed with their maturity and independence.

Before the start of term, staff had two training days to refresh their First Aid knowledge and to reconnect with each other and our shared vision, which can be seen below.

Holbrook's Shared Vision remains a constant to help guide us through these challenging times. Our five values underpin everything we do and the children will continue to develop their learning skills whilst accessing a creative and wide-ranging curriculum, as well as the important core skills.



Holbrook's Shared Vision



Pupil achievements

We celebrate and congratulate the following children and their achievements gained at the end of last term;

Bronze Merit awards – Jack Beckham, Logan Ley, Riley Baker, Benjamin Collins (6H)

Congratulations to Saneesh Bala (Foxes) for finishing the Numbots game and achieving a very high score.

Summer Reading Challenge



Well done to all those children who took part in the Holbrook Summer Reading Challenge. The KS2 winners chosen at random from each class will receive a £5 book token.

Henry Haynes-Mureno (3B), Safiya Uddin (3R), Ella Shepherd (4F), Alex Walsh (4N), Louis Randle (5V), Lucy Stocker (5N), Mia Lawson (6H), Olivia Shepherd (6K)

New outdoor classroom

During the summer break, our new outdoor classroom was completed. The children have already used it this week for much needed shade at break times and we look forward to taking even more of our learning outside in the future as a result. A big Thank You to Friends of Holbrook for making this project a reality.

Here are a few photos of the construction and finished product.



Parents' information meetings

We will be holding year group meetings for parents over the next few weeks. This will be an opportunity to meet the year group team, hear more about the year ahead and how to support your child. Please see dates and times below and look out for a separate Parentmail with further details.

P.E

Each year group will have two P.E sessions each week. The children should wear P.E kit to school on these days.

Year 1 – Monday & Thursday

Year 2 - Wednesday & Thursday

Year 3 - Wednesday & Thursday

Year 4 - Monday & Thursday

Year 5 - Tuesday & Thursday

Year 6 - Tuesday & Friday

Safeguarding – Playground safety

Due to circumstances beyond our control, the new boiler project was not completed on schedule in the summer holidays. It is likely that works will continue for another couple of weeks, so please exercise care around the Key Stage 1 playground area.

Contacting the School

We value the positive relationships that exist between children, staff and parents at Holbrook and know that we can achieve great things together. Effective communication plays an important part in this and the main methods for parents are Seesaw, class emails (see below) and the office email or telephone.

hedgehogs@holbrookprimaryschool.com	3R@ holbrookprimaryschool.com
otters@ holbrookprimaryschool.com	3B@ holbrookprimaryschool.com
badgers@ holbrookprimaryschool.com	4N@ holbrookprimaryschool.com
rabbits@ holbrookprimaryschool.com	4F@ holbrookprimaryschool.com
squirrels@ holbrookprimaryschool.com	5N@ holbrookprimaryschool.com
foxes@ holbrookprimaryschool.com	5V@ holbrookprimaryschool.com
	6H@ holbrookprimaryschool.com
office@ holbrookprimaryschool.com	6K@ holbrookprimaryschool.com

For matters concerning your child, your first port-of-call is always your child's class teacher(s), followed by the relevant Phase Leader. The following information should also be useful if you need to contact the school.

If you have a question about...	Please contact...	Email address
Early Years/Year 1 matters	Mrs Wright EYFS/YR1 Phase Leader	PhaseleadR1@holbrookprimaryschool.com
Year 2 & 3 matters	Miss Swift Years 2 & 3 Phase Leader	Phaselead23@holbrookprimaryschool.com
Year 4, 5 & 6 matters	Mr Hudspith Years 4, 5 & 6 Phase Leader	Phaselead456@holbrookprimaryschool.com
Special Educational Needs and Inclusion	Mrs Brooks Assistant Headteacher	assistanthead@holbrookprimaryschool.com
Other pupil or school related matters	Mrs Davies Deputy Headteacher	deputy@holbrookprimaryschool.com

The overall responsibility for the school rests with me, although leadership is distributed. I am always happy to receive suggestions, comments and positive feedback. For these and other more confidential matters then please contact the office via phone or email.

Diary dates

Currently, our intention is to plan as many events as we can safely accommodate. Obviously, we may have to alter, postpone or cancel these events depending on national and local guidance.

Autumn 2021	
Monday 13 th September – 3.15pm	Y6 Bowles meeting for parents
Monday 20 th – Friday 24 th September	Y6 Bowles residential trip
Wednesday 22 nd September	Y2 visit to Wakehurst Place
Tuesday 21 st September - 8.45am	Year 1 meeting for parents
Thursday 23 rd September - 8.45am	Year 3 meeting for parents
Friday 24 th September - 8.45am	Year 2 meeting for parents
Monday 27 th September - 8.45am	Year 4 meeting for parents
Tuesday 28 th September - 8.45am	Year 5 meeting for parents
Monday 25 th – Friday 29 th October	HALF TERM break
Monday 1 st November	School closed for INSET day
Tuesday 9 th November	School photographs
Monday 29 th November	Flu vaccinations
Wednesday 1 st December 7pm	KS2 Carol Concert at St. Mary's church
Friday 10 th December	Christmas assemblies at St. Marks church
Friday 17 th December	Last day of the Autumn term
Date tbc	Harvest Festival
Date tbc	Parent Consultations
Date tbc	EYFS & KS1 Nativity productions

Have a lovely weekend

Kind regards,



Ian Holmes