

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our weekly newsletter.

Curriculum news

Year 2 Polar expedition



Pupils in Year 2 had an exciting time exploring Polar regions on their polar expedition today. As you can see they dressed accordingly and used the binoculars they made to spot a variety of animals. At the end of the expedition they celebrated a great day with a welcome hot chocolate.



Farewell

Today we said a fond farewell to one of our lunchtime colleagues, Mrs Angela Wright, who has been at Holbrook since the school started in 1992. She has played an invaluable role in ensuring that the hall is set up in time for lunches, supervising lunches and then cleared away ready for the afternoon learning. She has barely missed a day in the past 33 years and her dedication and devotion to Holbrook is second to none. We held a small celebration with children and staff to wish her a well-deserved retirement. Thank you Angela.



Sports news

Dodgeball

Another fantastic primary schools dodgeball competition at The Bridge on Friday night. This time it was the year 3 & 4s taking the stage and it was Holbrook who came through as champions. 11 teams from 9 schools convened inside the indoor athletics centre with the weather bad outside. The nerves were high but the team played fantastically throughout, with a well-deserved win.

For a full report from Horsham Sports Services, click [here](#).



Swimming gala

A strong team of year 5 and 6 swimmers went to the Pavilions on Wednesday afternoon. The children took part in 8 races overall, consisting of a mixture of relays and individual events. We saw some top three finishes from Harrison C, Seb and Ellie Y in the individual 25 metres and overall Holbrook came 5th. Well done to all who took part and thank you to the encouragement from the spectators.

Safeguarding – online safety



This week our Digital Leads led assemblies and workshops to promote Safer Internet Day 2025. The theme was 'Too good to be true - Protecting yourself and others from online scams'. The children taught us that this is something that can affect us all these days, how to be aware of the issues and also how we can protect ourselves. You can find plenty of information and online resources on the school website [here](#).

NHS workshops for parents and carers

The NHS have a series of pre-recorded webinars for parent and carers covering a range of difficulties that young people may be experiencing. Topics include anxiety, sleep, eating disorders, self-esteem and resilience. Each workshop gives an overview of a specific difficulty and also some hints and tips on how young people can be supported. There are also links to some resources that you may find helpful, either while you are waiting for CAMHS treatment, or as an alternative to CAMHS. Click [here](#) for the link.



Year group wish lists

The Friends of Holbrook do an amazing job of fundraising for the entire school and funded many projects that benefit all Holbrook children. This is vital for our school and we thank you for all your continuing support for their events and projects.

In recent months, we have had several enquiries from parents asking how they can support their child's specific year group with adhoc contribution/donations. To facilitate this, we have set up year group 'wish lists' for items that teachers would love to have in their classrooms, but cannot necessarily be met via the school resources budget at this time.

The link below will enable you to view and chose from the list and purchase from your own Amazon account. **Please be assured that you are under no obligation to participate in this scheme, we fully understand the financial constraints of families at this time. Thank you.**

- Reception <https://amzn.eu/aYXrSY8>
- Year 1 <https://amzn.eu/&uCpeDW>
- Year 2 <https://amzn.eu/aX4Vzk9>
- Year 3 <https://amzn.eu/9uGyiS8>
- Year 4 <https://amzn.eu/4NqAtof>
- Year 5 <https://amzn.eu/9FBRd1W>
- Year 6 <https://amzn.eu/5y6780c>



Picture News

This week's topic for discussion is **'Are drones the future of delivery?'** – see below.



In the news this week

Global retail giant, Amazon, has announced its first UK drone deliveries will take place in Darlington as part of a trial. If successful, it could soon be rolled out across the rest of the UK. Amazon's drone delivery service, known as Prime Air, has been operating in the United States since 2022. Amazon said they are, "ready and excited to make drone delivery a reality for our UK customers".

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Share your response to this week's news with someone at home. Do you think drone deliveries are a good idea?
- > Would you like to see drone deliveries in your local area?
- > Can you make a list of the pros and cons of drones? What other ways could they be used?



Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

CHARTWELLS ORDER CUT OFF DATES	
CUT OFF DATE Thursday 23:59	FOR WEEK COMMENCING
20 th February	3 rd March
27 th February	10 th March
6 th March	17 th March
13 th March	24 th March

Diary Dates (new additions in bold)	
Monday 17 th - Fri 21 st February	Half Term
Monday 24 th February	INSET DAY- school closed to pupils
Wednesday 26 th February	Y5 trip to Herstmonceaux
Tuesday 4 th March	Parent Consultations
Thursday 6 th March	Parent Consultations
Friday 7 th March	<u>Holbrook</u> World Book Day

Have a relaxing and enjoyable half-term break.

Kind regards,



Ian Holmes
Headteacher