

NEWSLETTER 1
4th September 2026

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back to a new academic year at Holly Hill! We hope that you have all had a wonderful summer – we've loved hearing from the children about all the exciting adventures and holidays they've been on during the break.

Everyone has settled into their new classes and new routines beautifully and already, the learning environment is feeling calm, focused and happy. We had our first assembly yesterday afternoon and it was honestly the best behaviour I have ever seen – so proud of each and every child and the way they have started the year.

I write a weekly newsletter every Friday, post it on the website in the 'Newsletters' section and also send the link to parents via text. It includes celebrations of the week as well as important reminders and dates so please ensure you keep up to date by having a scan through it each week.

Annual diary dates will be sent out to parents by the end of next week. This will give you all of the key dates (such as sports day and Christmas shows) so that you can get them into your diary and get organised for the year ahead.

We have welcomed lots of fabulous new additions to school this week including our gorgeous new Reception and Year 3 children, as well as many families who are new to the area. We hope that you all very quickly feel part of our lovely school community and that you have been made to feel very welcome. We consider it a privilege that you have chosen our school for your child's primary education and our aim is to ensure that your children feel happy and safe here every single day. We want your child's "Holly Hill" years to be the absolute best and we aim to make lots of special memories to be treasured for years to come along the way.

COMMUNICATING WITH STAFF

All of the staff at Holly Hill will make time to talk to you if you need them. You can catch them first thing in the morning (although this can sometimes be a bit busy) or ideally at the end of the day once the class have been dismissed. You can also get a message to them by speaking to the office or sending an email to the office for them to forward. Staff will also make time to call you if you need to chat. This will usually be at lunchtime or the end of the day when they are not teaching.

If you need to contact me, please also use the same routes. I'm usually around on the gate at the beginning and end of the day, you can call the office or leave a message for me to ring you back or send an email to the office and they will forward it on to me.

UNIFORM

All of the children without exception are looking super smart and ready to learn in their uniforms. Not everyone sees the importance of uniform but there is something very special about feeling part of a team and it is a very visual reminder that every single child belongs here. Thank you to parents for your hard work over the summer to get them all kitted out – they look fabulous!

Remember that all children need a PE kit in their locker ready for their PE days starting next week.

While the weather is still quite changeable, jumpers and cardigans get taken on and off all day. **Please make sure your child's name is written clearly on the label so that we can return them to their rightful owners.**

Please also make sure that they have a coat in school every day – I need to remember this myself, the rain at drop off on Thursday completely caught me out! Coats also need names in them so that we can get them back to their owners.

NEW POLICIES

Mobile phones

You may be aware from listening to the news, that all schools are now mobile phone free. This is obviously more of a consideration for secondary schools but has meant that we also now have a mobile phone policy.

The key points for our children are:

- Older children who bring a mobile phone into school must hand it in to the office on arrival and collect it at home time.
- Children are not allowed to use or be in possession of a mobile phone at all during the school day.
- Children must not use their mobile phone until they have left the school site.

The Upper Key Stage 2 have spoken to the children about these rules and they have responded maturely and responsibly.

Lollipops/hard boiled sweets

Please be aware that lollipops and hard-boiled sweets are not allowed in school due to the choking hazard they bring. Please do not pack these for snack or in lunchboxes. You are still more than welcome to send in birthday sweets to share with the class as long as they are in line with this H&S rule.

OUR WEBSITE

Each class has its own page on the school website where teachers will post what the children have been up to in class. You will also find the knowledge organiser for each half term on this page so you can see which subjects and topics your child is learning about. We will be developing the class pages over the next week or so and adding all of the important information you will need for the year ahead. Class pages can be found here:

[Holly Hill Primary and Nursery School - Class Pages](#)

Under the parents section you will also find useful information such as school lunch menus, uniform links, school holidays and INSET days.

[Holly Hill Primary and Nursery School - Parents](#)

Classroom Drop-ins – Thursday 17th September, 3.30pm

On Thursday 17th September, from 3.30pm to 4.00pm, parents are invited to an informal visit to your child's classroom. This is an opportunity to put a face to the name of your child's teacher and TAs, say 'hi' and have a look at their classroom environment. It's very informal (definitely not parents evening), just an opportunity to ensure that you all feel comfortable in school, confident in the day-to-day life at Holly Hill and have had a chance to meet your child's teacher ready for the year ahead. We look forward to seeing you if you are able to call in.

THE WEEK AHEAD...

... is looking fabulously calm and quiet! We all know that won't last long so enjoy it while you can!

Have a fabulous weekend everyone – we are very much looking forward to working with you this year!

Mrs. Leanne Steed, Headteacher

ATTENDANCE HEROES

96% is the expected standard for attendance set by the government.

Our class attendance heroes this week are Cygnets with an amazing 100% attendance!! Classes who win three times are celebrated in Heroes Assembly, earn extra playtime and £25 to buy books for their classrooms.

CYGNETS	100%	KINGFISHERS	97.1%
DUCKLINGS	96.7%	DOVES	94.8%
PUFFINS	95.7%	SWALLOWS	87.5%
WRENS	85.2%	OWLS	91.7%
WOODPECKERS	91.7%	FALCONS	99.1%
		SWANS	87.9%
WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE FOR THE YEAR SO FAR (excluding Nursery)		92.1%	

SAFEGUARDING

The safety and well-being of everyone in our school community is our highest priority.

Our designated safeguarding lead is Mrs. Jayne Leal. She can be contacted:

- in person,
- on the telephone (01773 783909)
- by email (office@hollyhill.notts.sch.uk FAO Mrs. J Leal), or
- the communication box on the safeguarding page of our school website: [Holly Hill Primary and Nursery School - Safeguarding and Pastoral Support](#)

IMPORTANT DAILY SAFEGUARDING REMINDERS:

*Children are not allowed to use their mobile phones on the school site.

*Children must walk with scooters and bikes through our school site.

*Cars are strictly prohibited from parking on School Road. We must work together to ensure the safety of the children who attend our school.