

NEWSLETTER 2

11th September 2026

After our first full week back in school, we are feeling extremely proud of how well the whole school has settled into the new year.

Our Foundation Stage children have adapted unbelievably well to full days, being away from Mums and Dads for the first time for some of them, staying for lunch and getting used to school life – we are incredibly proud of them all! We have also welcomed lots of new children into Year 3 from local Infant schools and they have also blown us away! They have found their feet straight away and they already feel like part of our Holly Hill family. I even heard one little girl saying to her Daddy on the way home, “Dad, Holly Hill is the best school ever!” – can’t get better feedback than that!!

Day to day attendance procedures

Our day-to-day attendance procedures are an important part of our attendance policy and our safeguarding policy. Here are a few reminders:

- If your child is going to be absent from school, please ring the school office to update us every day. Ideally, this call needs to be made as early as possible so we can record absences accurately in the registers. If we don’t hear from you, then we will contact you for the details of the absence.
- If your child is absent for a longer period, we may call to do a home visit. This is part of our safeguarding process to ensure that everyone is ok.
- Remember that 96% attendance is the target for attendance for every child in the country, set by the government.
- If attendance falls below 96%, we will contact you to let you know that your child is at risk of becoming classed as persistently absent.
- Children whose attendance falls below 90% are classed as persistently absent.
- If attendance falls below 90%, we will start attendance monitoring procedures.
- Remember that holidays during term time, or days off for anything other than illness or exceptional circumstances, are not allowed. Unauthorised absences totalling 5 days in a 10 week period will lead to a fixed penalty notice from Nottinghamshire County Council.

A couple of changes for this year...

Heroes assembly

We’ve decided to start doing Heroes assembly in person on a Friday afternoon this year (rather than the powerpoint posted on the website). Today was our first Heroes assembly and it was fabulous having the whole school together to celebrate, from our tiny Cygnets to our biggest Swans. Children who have been chosen for hero will bring home a certificate with the reason why they have been chosen written on so parents will be able to celebrate too.

Bagel breakfast

The charity we have used to source our bagels for the last few years no longer exists so we are unable to offer a bagel breakfast anymore. We strongly feel that no child should be too hungry to learn and over the years have seen the impact that providing the bagel breakfast has had. A

school breakfast means that every child has a full tummy and that every child has a calm, settled, predictable start to the day.

We have therefore decided that we will continue to provide breakfast (while ever funds allow us!) and will now provide a slice of toast for every child every morning.

Annual diary dates

Annual diary dates have been published on the school website today. These are the key dates for the academic year ahead and the bits you might need/want to book a bit of time off work for if you can.

The link in the text seems to be working for some people and not others for some unknown reason so here it is again if you couldn't get in:

<https://www.hollyhillsschool.co.uk/newsletters>

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

A reminder that 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...

- Thursday 17th September – Flu vaccinations (FS2 to Year 6)
- Thursday 17th September, 3.30 – 4.00pm – Classroom drop-ins (see information above)

Have a fabulous weekend everyone!

Mrs. Leanne Steed, Headteacher

ATTENDANCE HEROES

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

Our class attendance heroes this week are **Ducklings** with an amazing 99.4% attendance!! Classes who win three times are celebrated in Heroes Assembly, earn extra playtime and £25 to buy books for their classrooms.

CYGNETS	98.6%	KINGFISHERS	94.0%
DUCKLINGS	99.4%	DOVES	96.4%
PUFFINS	95.2%	SWALLOWS	96.5%
WRENS	93.4%	OWLS	98.9%
WOODPECKERS	94.9%	FALCONS	98.4%
		SWANS	90.4%

WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE FOR THE YEAR SO FAR (excluding Nursery)	95.3%
--	-------

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.