

Dear families,

"Happy New Year" We hope you had a good break over the Christmas and New Year period and the first week back has gone smoothly. We are looking forward to a successful and enjoyable term.

### Parent/ child workshops

We will be running family learning sessions again this term. These start next **Thursday** at an earlier time - **1.15pm**

This term, the sessions will be focused on maths - please see the information at the end of this newsletter.

It would be lovely to see some new faces (as well as our familiar friends.)

### Healthy Start

Being and staying healthy is such an important factor in everyone's life.

There is support for eligible parents to buy certain foods.



#### Who might be eligible?

If you're more than 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under 4, you may be entitled to get help to buy healthy food and milk. You can use your card to buy:

- plain liquid cow's milk
- fresh, frozen, and tinned fruit and vegetables
- fresh, dried, and tinned pulses
- infant formula milk based on cow's milk

You can also use your card to collect:

- Healthy Start vitamins – these support you during pregnancy and breastfeeding
- vitamin drops for babies and young children – these are suitable from birth to 4 years old

If you are interested in joining this scheme then please visit the website for more information and to apply and find out if you are eligible

[www.healthystart.nhs.uk](http://www.healthystart.nhs.uk)

### Week beginning 15<sup>th</sup> January

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January**

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January**

- **Swimming Year 5**

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January**

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January**

- **Swimming Year 3**
- **Family learning 1.15pm**

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January**

### Miss Butler

Parents of children in ROB received a letter this week informing them that Miss Butler will be leaving Hollymount at half-term.

Miss Butler was employed to cover maternity leave and Miss Spencer will return in February. Good news though, Miss Butler is staying within the Black Pear Trust group of schools and we will be seeing her regularly when she is in her new job.

We would like to thank her for everything she has done at Hollymount. We will miss her.



**SCHOOL  
VALUES**

**PROUD  
TO BE ME**

**ENJOY  
LEARNING**

**ACHIEVE  
SUCCESS**

**RESPECT FOR THE  
WORLD**



**Keeping Children Safe**  
**Safeguarding and Family Support**

**Designated Safeguarding**

**Lead:** Mrs S Ricketts

**Deputy Safeguarding Leads:**

Mrs A Donnelly

Mr D Davies

Mrs R Hussain

**Pastoral/ behaviour leads:**

Mr D Davies and Mr M Harrold

**Special Educational Needs:**

Mrs E Davis-Lloyd (SENDCO)

Mrs L Montgomery (Inclusion lead)

If you have a concern about a child or wish to speak about any worries, please see one of our team. They can signpost families to additional support, if it is required.

Anyone can make a referral to Children's services.

[Children's Social Care | Worcestershire County Council](#)

In an emergency, always ring 999.

**Keeping Children Safe Online**

It is everyone's responsibility to ensure children are safe in day to-day life and online. Please check your child's online activity,

- Check game age advisory notices
- Limit children's time spent online
- Set filters so that inappropriate material is blocked
- Keep phones, tablets etc out of bedrooms

**Llanrug**

The Year 5 residential to Llanrug is on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January.

If your child is attending, please make sure that you have all the information you need and that you have provided school with medical details and up-to-date contact details.

School will keep in touch with you via text whilst your child is away.

**We will send out a practice text on WEDNESDAY this week.** If you do not receive it, please contact your child's class teacher or the office. All messages go to contact 1 on our system, unless you have told us otherwise.

We are very grateful to those of you who have managed to stay on the payment schedule. If you know you have money owing for the trip, please pay this as soon as possible.

**Online Safety**

We have been made aware of a weekly newsletter that supports parents to keep their children safe online.

The newsletter is produced by another school but contains excellent information. Here is a link to back issues of the newsletter [One In A Million - 'Wake Up Wednesday' Online Safety Newsletter \(oiam.org\)](#) This week's issue has been emailed with our newsletter.

**School Attendance**

	Week beginning 8 <sup>th</sup> January	This half-term	This year
<b>Reception</b>	88.9	-	92.9
<b>Year 1</b>	92.1	-	91.4
<b>Year 2</b>	93.3	-	91.8
<b>Year 3</b>	90	-	93.3
<b>Year 4</b>	88.5	-	90.3
<b>Year 5</b>	87.8	-	94
<b>Year 6</b>	93.2	-	95.2 ★

As you can see attendance levels were not good last week – no year group reached the minimum 95% expected. This is impacting on our yearly total. There are still a lot of illnesses, including chickenpox around, which make it even more important that children don't stay off school for trivial reasons or because they just don't feel like it.

Like any respiratory illness, Covid is more likely to be around in the Winter months. If you choose to test your child if they are ill and they are positive, they should stay at home for 3 days. If they have no temperature, they can return after that.

Please remind your children to practice good hygiene – washing hands regularly can stop a lot of illness spreading.

## Governors

Our school Governing body are a group of volunteers whose responsibility it is to oversee the running of the school. They are our “critical friends.”

One of their responsibilities is to check that the users of the school – children and parents – are happy and to listen to any suggestions of how things might change.

Next Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, some of them will visit the school to talk to children but also would like to talk to YOU! They will be on the playground asking about communication between parents and school.

- What do you think works well?
- What doesn't work well?
- What ideas do you have to improve it?

Please don't be shy. Go and talk to them – they will be wearing green lanyards and are very friendly!



**Ties are a core part of our uniform – they are NOT optional.**

Please make sure your child wears a tie everyday. If you need to buy one they are £3.50 via sQuid.

## Around the World

The theme for your child's learning this half-term is “Around the World.” The focus of learning will be world geography. It build upon the work that children did earlier this academic year about more local geography.

You should have received an email detailing what your child will be learning about (Nursery parents- your information will come shortly- it isn't the same as the rest of the school.)

If you have not received an email or would like a paper copy of the parent planners, please ask your child's class teacher.

## Term Dates

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February: last day**

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February: Children return**

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March: last day**

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April: Children return**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May: No School (May day)**

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May: last day**

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June: Children return**

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July: last day**

## Important events this term

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January – Llanrug Year 5.**  
Year 5 children not attending, should still come to school as usual.

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January – Young Voices**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Year 4 Conover Residential**

Please make payments due

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March – Parents meeting 3.30 – 5.30pm**

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March – Parents meeting 4.30 – 6.30pm**



# MATHS IN SCHOOLS

## FOR PARENTS & CARERS



HOLLYMOUNT SCHOOL

are hosting a great course for parents & carers that explores how maths can relate to real life experiences for your family!

It's a gentle, fun way for parents & carers to develop skills in numeracy & find out what your child learns in school. We'll get crafty & make resources you can use with them at home & welcome them to some of the course to join in the fun with us!



**DATE/TIME:**

Thursdays 1.15 – 3.15pm

**LOCATION:**

STEM LAB, Hollymount School

Please arrive on **THURSDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY** for **1.15pm** where you will be taken to **STEM LAB**

This event is **FREE** for all parents & carers to attend.  
For more information please contact, or ask to speak to

Mrs Ricketts or Mrs Donnelly

at the school.