

HOLLYMOUNT SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Week beginning 29th September

WEEKLY OVERVIEW

It was a short but busy week, last week. On Thursday, children put themselves forward and voted for key roles and responsibilities across the school. We will announce the vote winners tomorrow during assembly. Good luck everyone!

HARVEST

This Friday, 3rd October, is our annual harvest festival.

Harvest is a time of thanks and celebration. It comes at the end of a unit of work children have done on food, healthy choices and designing and making recipes. From pizzas, soup, jelly, smoothies, children have been learning how to prepare and make a dish, then review its success afterwards!

Not everyone is fortunate enough to live in a household with plenty of food. As part of our Harvest festival, we would be grateful for donations of tinned, packet or bottled food which we donate to Worcester food bank. Please send your donation on THURSDAY.

Harvest Times

Year 1 + 2: 9.30am

Years 3 + 4: 10.15am

Years 5 + 6: 11am

Reception: 2.45pm



What were staff doing on Friday?

As you know, school was closed to children on Friday for staff training (known as an INSET - in service training day)

We understand it is only 4 weeks since children returned to school, so why do we need more training now? What were we doing?

- 1) Some staff completed their paediatric first aid training. This is a legal requirement for staff in Early Years .We also think it is valuable to have some staff in other parts of the school trained.
- 2) Other staff focused on planning/ designing learning for pupils. In July, when September plans are first drawn up, despite lots of discussion with previous teachers, new classes are an 'unknown.' At Hollymount we always have lots of children join the school from other places in September too. By having an INSET day a few weeks after we have returned, staff can have time to discuss and adjust planning to meet the needs of the children in their class more effectively.

You will soon receive your next 'Parent Planner' - a document designed to inform you of the key areas of learning your child will be doing over the next few months. If you have any questions, please ask your child's class teacher.

Food Holiday Vouchers

The provision of school holiday vouchers for children eligible for Free School Meals, is under review.

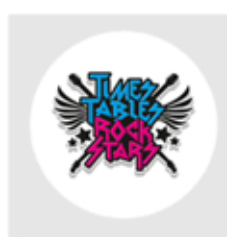
It has been confirmed that families will receive £15 vouchers in October and February (per eligible child) and £30 at Christmas. Beyond this nothing has been agreed.

If you think your child could be entitled, please follow this link <https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/entrust>.

If you know you have vouchers but have changed your email details, let the office know, as soon as possible.

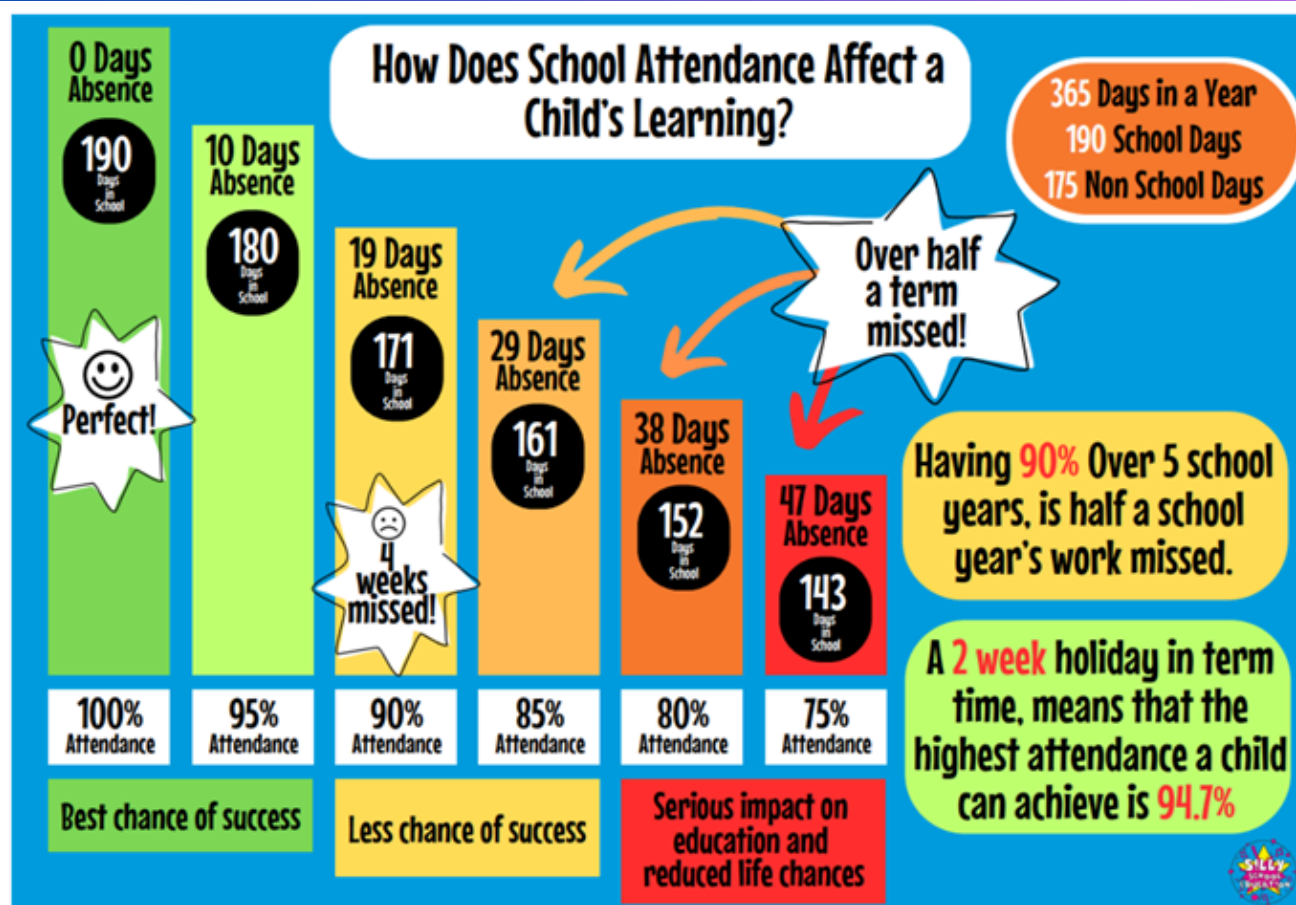
What is my child learning? How can I help?

All children have access to age-appropriate educational websites. You will find their usernames and passwords for these in their reading diaries. If you have any problems, please speak to your child's class teacher. Three key sites are:



Oxford Owl

You will find links to appropriate sites on the school website, year group page. PLEASE help your child to use these regularly. They will make such a difference to their reading and maths fluency and help a child feel confident in their own abilities.



School attendance is really important but we also recognise that for a number of reasons it can be a challenge for some families. Please ask if you need support with helping your child attend school regularly.

If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason, please call 01905 23159 to let us know. Thank-you