



Newsletter week beginning 2nd March

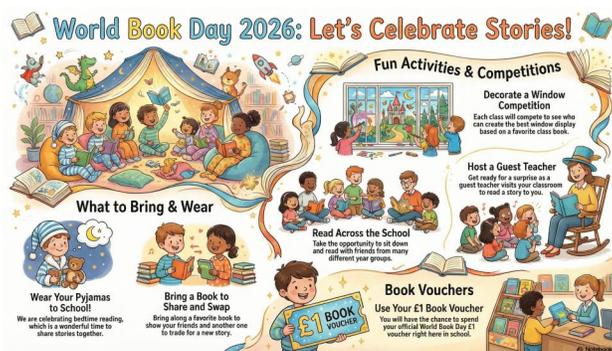


Weekly roundup

The first half-term has started well. Children started a new topic 'Those who came before,' a history based topic. Parent planners will be sent out to you shortly so you can see what they will be learning and how you can support. Well done to children and staff in 2JA for a very enjoyable assembly on Friday. Class assemblies will continue after the Easter holiday due to other events taking place for the rest of this half-term.

Similarly, we are going to begin to organise after school clubs but these will not start until after the school Easter holiday (except externally organised cricket club.)

World Book Day



Thursday 5th March is WORLD BOOK DAY - a time to celebrate all things reading. Our reading ambassadors have worked with Mrs Train (our reading lead) to put together a programme of activities for the day. ALL children are invited to come to school in pyjamas or onesies to remember the importance to all children (however old) of a bedtime story.

On the day, children will receive their £1 book voucher and we have a book shop representative coming to school so that children can spend their vouchers here. Obviously if they would prefer to take it home, then that is fine.

Children are also invited to bring in a book they no longer want to swap it as part of a whole school 'book swap' event.

You can see more information on the attached poster. It promises to be an excellent day for all.

Special Events



March is full of special events, nationally and in school. We would like to wish anyone celebrating a 'Happy St David's Day' today.

Ramadan

Muslim families are about to enter the second week of Ramadan; a time of reflection, prayer and, for many adults, fasting. If you have a child who would like to fast then it is really important that school are aware of this. We understand that although not obligatory for young children,

some of our pupils approaching the end of their primary years, want to try to be part of this special time. However to keep them safe, we have certain conditions we would need to ensure are understood. Please contact the school office if this is something which you need to discuss with your child's class teacher and he/ she will return your call as soon as they can.

When Eid arrives, all children celebrating have the right to one day authorised leave (as do other religious observances throughout the year.) Please ensure the school office are aware if your child will be absent for this , or any reason.

Red Nose/ Comic Relief Day

Friday 20th March - a day to have fun and raise lots of money for good causes. Children in school council met this week to discuss plans. More information will be released soon, however they have decided they would like to invite children to have a 'Crazy Hair' day and/ or paint their nose using face paint. Children are also welcome to wear any official merchandise which has been bought. Donations will be made through Arbor closer to the time.

Easter

We will celebrate the arrival of Easter in the usual way with an Easter Bonnet and Easter Egg competition. Links will be sent out towards the end of March for you to book your child's place in the competition. **All bonnets and eggs will need to be in school by 3.15pm on Thursday 26th March ready for judging.**

Parents' Meetings

Parents' meetings will take place on **Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th March**. As we try to save paper, money and ultimately to be environmentally friendly, please use this link to book your spot.

Parents' Meetings Spring 2026 – Fill out form¹

You can either attend in person (ideally) or have a phone call - either would last about 10 minutes.

Teachers will still send home paper slips to confirm your requested time period. Please complete this form by Sunday 8th March - thank-you.

¹<https://forms.office.com/e/ALVJ4JAMzz>

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



Keeping children safe is our top priority. If children don't feel safe, either at home or at school, then they can't learn and they certainly won't be happy.

A letter was sent home this week to all families with children in year 6. We are increasingly concerned about children's use of messaging apps to verbally abuse each other and to send inappropriate (and sometimes illegal) images. "Roasting" is also online trend we are hearing evidence of. People post 'jokes' or insults about each other. Although these can be harmless, they can also be very upsetting and even offensive.

Families are having to support extremely upset children. Some of these online chats are also coming in to school and causing disruption and taking staff time to try to resolve problems. Some children have even missed days of school as they are so worried about online behaviours.

Do you know who your children are 'talking' to online and what they are writing? We have seen evidence of children in groups with much older people - some of whom they know, others they don't.

We urge you to stay involved with your children's online activities - you are not invading their privacy - you are keeping them safe. In school, we have a saying "it could happen here." Even

the quietest, most well-behaved and responsible child can find themselves caught up in something so please don't think it couldn't happen to your child, however young.

If ever you think any child is in immediate danger, please don't wait for school, ring 999.

This Week



Monday 2nd March

Tuesday 3rd March: Swimming Year 5

Wednesday 4th March:

Thursday 5th March: **WORLD BOOK DAY!** Swimming Year 3

Friday 6th March

Future events:

Parents' meetings - Wednesday 11th March (3.30 - 5.30pm) and Thursday 12th March 4.30 - 6.30pm

Red Nose Day - Friday 20th Marc

RockSteady Music concert - Friday 27th March (afternoon -time to be confirmed)

Easter holidays - Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April



Your opinion matters

If there is anything else you would like to see being provided in our regular newsletter, let us know. Please email the school office - office@hollymountschool.org²

Similarly if you have any other suggestions about school in general, then please let us know.

Thank-you

²<mailto:office@hollymountschool.org>