



# Holly Class — Autumn 2026

Welcome back to school!

Welcome  
Back!

We are so excited to welcome you and your children back for another wonderful year. We are especially looking forward to getting to know our Holly Class children as they begin their exciting Year 1 journey. There will be lots of learning, exploring, creating, playing and, of course, plenty of reading!

Holly Class will be taught by:

**Mrs Coleman** — Monday to Wednesday

**Miss Tams** — Wednesday to Friday

As you will be aware, Miss Tams is off school at the moment due to a broken ankle. Mrs Coleman will be working with Holly full time until Miss Tams is able to return.

**Phonics** We continue to follow the Twinkl phonics scheme. In year 1, we move to work on the level 5 sounds whilst still recapping those sounds learned in reception. We have a dedicated phonics session each day, focusing on new sounds each week. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are also integrated into these lessons.

**Reading, Reading and More Reading!** Reading will continue to be a **big focus in Year 1**. Throughout the week, the children will take part in a carousel of reading activities. Some activities will be completed independently, while others will be completed with an adult or with a group. To help your child make fantastic progress, **regular reading at home is incredibly important**. Please read with your child as often as possible and make a note in their reading diary/planner so that we can see how they are getting on and monitor their progress.

**Reading books will be changed once a week on the day the children read with us so please ensure their reading books and diaries are in their bag every day..**

We also love sharing stories together! Every day, we will enjoy our class book as a whole class. Each half term, we will choose **five special picture books** to share, including: A book by **Julia Donaldson**, A **cultural** book, A **festival** book, An **environmental** book, A **teacher's choice**. We can't wait to discover some wonderful stories together!

**Maths** We are continuing with the White Rose Maths scheme of work. This term we will be focusing on place value, addition and subtraction and shape. We will use lots of practical resources, games and activities to help the children develop their mathematical understanding and confidence.

**Science** Our topic this half term is Animals, Including Humans with a focus on the human aspect. We will name and sort animals (including humans), look at their body parts and diets. We will move onto looking at senses.

**RE** Our big question this half term is: '**Who do christians say made the world?**'. Children will learn about the Christian belief that God created the world, exploring the creation story from the Bible and thinking about how Christians understand and celebrate the beauty and wonder of creation. We will also have opportunities to share our own ideas, questions and thoughts about the world around us.





**Geography** We are going to become map explorers! The children will begin our *Magical Mapping* topic by developing a range of map skills. We will explore atlases, world maps and globes and begin to understand how maps help us to find our way around the world.

**Art and Design** We will start the half term with our topic called 'explore and draw'. The children will be introduced to the idea that artists are inspired by the world around them. They will become familiar with artists such as Rosie James and Alice Fox that are collectors and explorers. The children will then go into our school grounds to collect and create patterns with nature, they will then draw what they have collected in their sketchbooks.

**Design & Technology — Let's Make a Wrap!** This term we will be learning all about **eating a balanced diet**. We will learn about the main food groups and identify foods that belong to each group. We will also become food detectives by exploring the **taste, texture and smell** of different foods. Then comes the exciting part... **We will design, make and evaluate our own wraps!**



The children will think carefully about flavour combinations and design a wrap that meets a particular design brief before making and tasting their finished product.

**PE** PE will take place on: **Monday and Friday**. This year we are returning to the children coming to school in school uniform and getting changed for PE. Please make sure all their uniform and PE kits are labeled to help with this.

A few important reminders:

Earrings must be removed for PE. This needs to be done at home, as adults in school are not permitted to remove children's earrings. Long hair must be tied up for PE. It is also helpful for children to have their hair tied up every day to help with concentration — and to keep our little classroom friends away!



#### **Seesaw**

We will be using Seesaw to show you glimpses from school life and as a means of communication. If you have a message that is urgent, to report absences and changing collection details should always be sent through the office. For anything that is not urgent, Seesaw is perfect. Please be aware that we may not be able to respond immediately and any messages sent in the evening will not be responded to until the following day.

**Homework** This year, we are focussing homework across school on the importance of reading, spellings and number fluency (such as number bonds (Y1)

~ Read daily for 15-20 mins. This is important even for accomplished readers to help improve fluency, accuracy and comprehension. Remember to record in planners.

~ Phonics information sheets will let you know the sounds or grammar focus the children have been working on during the week and contain ideas to help reinforce this learning at home.

~ Hit The Button is a really good website to help the children practice a range of number fluency facts.



Please send your child to school each day with the following in a **small bag**:

Reading book and planner, water bottle (*please keep this separate from the reading book!*), coat, optional healthy snack. Daily fruit will continue to be offered to KS1 children.

Please make sure your child is prepared for **whatever the British weather decides to throw at us!** An appropriate coat, suitable footwear and, when needed, a named sunhat are all useful. It is also a good idea to keep a **spare pair of pants and socks** in school — just in case!

**Wellies:** We will be making the most of our school field throughout the year, whatever the weather, so please provide a pair of **named wellies to be kept in school**.

Forest school will continue to be on a Wednesday. Our first session will be Wednesday 23rd September. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. Our door is always open.

Mrs Coleman and Miss Tams