

Welcome back to Spring Term 2025. We hope you and your family had an enjoyable Christmas holiday and we look forward to working with you and your children again this term. Every now and again we are made aware of families who don't access this newsletter. If you have a friend like this, please ask them to get in touch so that we can sort this out for them. Emailed letters will continue to be our main form of longer communication and we don't want anyone to miss out.

Should you require a paper copy of this newsletter for any reason, please ask at the school office.

**Week beginning 6<sup>th</sup> January**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January**

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January**

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January**

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January**

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January**

*There are no planned events this week.*

**Free School Meal holiday vouchers**

Hopefully everyone who is entitled has received their voucher. If you haven't had one and you think you should have this is probably because you haven't registered your child for free school meals. You will find a link to do so on the school website, here: [Free School Meals | Hollymount School](#)

If you have problems with this, please contact the school office so that you can be registered ready for the next school holiday which is only 6 weeks away!

**REMEMBER ALL MEALS NEED TO BE CHOSEN, VIA SQUID, WHETHER YOU PAY FOR THEM OR NOT.**



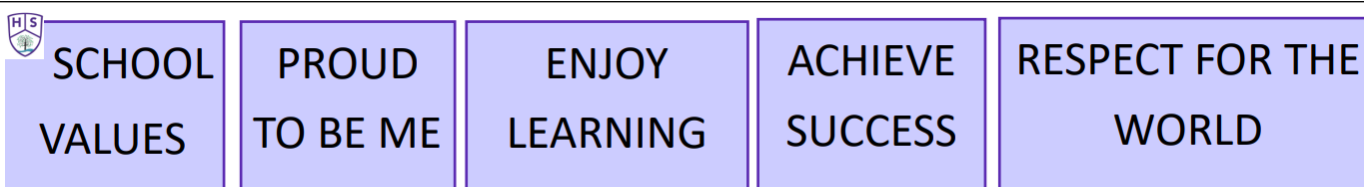
**Swimming**

**Swimming starts week beginning 13<sup>th</sup> January for Years 3 and 5.**

Year 5 will go on TUESDAYS; Year 3 on THURSDAY. Please check the letter you will have received carefully for a change of the usual pattern due to the Year 5 residential trip. Children will need a swimming costume and towel. Any child who needs to wear a more modest costume or swim leggings under their costume for cultural reasons can do so. Long hair will need to be tied back (swimming caps are optional)

Children should not wear jewellery on swimming days.

**Please can you ensure you have completed your permission form and paid your contribution via sSquid.** It is really important that every parent pays their bit. School already covers most of the cost so that parent contributions can be kept to the minimum. Thank-you.





### 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 Ryan

#### 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

### Attendance

Year group	Week beginning 16/12	This half-term	Autumn Term
Reception	90.9	93.5	94.75%
Year 1	96.1	93.9	93.9%
Year 2	90.6	93.3	92.2
Year 3	92.7	92.8	94.5
Year 4	93.9	94.5	95.3
Year 5	93.1	93.5	93.8
Year 6	92.3	94.6	95.7
<b>Whole School (Rec - Y6)</b>	<b>92.8</b>	<b>93.7</b>	<b>94.3</b>

### After School Clubs

As you will know, school staff regularly volunteer to provide free after-school clubs to children each week. Last term, 15 clubs were run across 3 days each week, providing opportunities for 220 children!

Clubs will start again this term but not until after February half-term. There is limited opportunity due to lack of space to run clubs in the worst winter months because of the weather and poor light outside. Staff will instead be taking part in extra professional development which will further improve provision for all children at our school.

We hope you are understanding of this decision. Little Pears, our wrap-around after school care will continue as usual.

### Start of the school day

All families received a paper letter before the Christmas holidays explaining changes to the beginning of the school day.

#### **This change will start tomorrow, Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January.**

All children from Year 1 – Year 6 will enter school through the Fire Exit door by the bottom of the car park and shelter (like a wet day.) The door will be opened at 8.35am. From there, children will go straight in to their classroom. Children in Reception, will go around the back of school as usual to enter their classroom.

Nursery times have not changed.

We have chosen to trial this "soft start" until February half-term and will seek your views towards the end of the trial. Thank-you

Website:[Hollymountschool.org](http://Hollymountschool.org)

Hollymountschool 



HAVE YOU ORDERED YOUR CHILD'S LUNCH FOR NEXT WEEK?  
IF NOT, PLEASE DO SO VIA SQUID.