



Hollydale Primary School: Spring 1 2017

Welcome to Spring 1 and Happy New Year! This half term the children will be focusing their learning on their topic 'Vikings'. This will help to develop their historical skills.

The children will be continuing with their Maths fluency, spelling, handwriting and grammar lessons to help practice the skills they need to access this new and exciting curriculum.

If you have any questions about your child's learning or any other aspect of life in Lower Key Stage 2, please do not hesitate to come and see one of the team before or after school.

Thank you for your support and co-operation.

Regards, *Miss Bishop and Miss Macdonald*

Class Teachers – Miss Bishop and Miss Macdonald
Support Staff: Ms Lewis, Ms Rebbeck, Ms Brown and Ms Williams

Spring 1 2017- This half term Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 and 4) will be learning about the following topics:

English	We will start the term by reading The Iron Man by Ted Hughes . The children will explore the devices of mystery and suspense. They will write a range of different texts-types including letters, a news article and a poem with the extended written outcome being a published narrative. Grammar will be embedded within these literacy sessions. Spelling lists will be sent home on Mondays and tested the following week. We will continue to focus on the Year 3/4 spelling rules and patterns.
Reading Records	The children will bring home a book from the class book corner or the school library at least once a week. Please read and discuss the book with your child. Parents must record in the reading records every time they read at home. Please note that children are required to have their book bag with their reading record inside every day. Children have reading passports , which are kept in school. The children are challenged to read different texts and genres.
Maths	In Numeracy pupils will begin the term by consolidating their number and place value skills, before beginning to learn about Negative numbers and Roman Numerals. We will revisit the four operations – addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will solve problems and focus on reasoning using our skills and knowledge. We will also look at properties of shapes and coordinates, position and direction in geometry. Please ensure that your child knows number bonds to one hundred and all times tables and related division facts (1-12) –it is vital that children know these in order to progress in numeracy.
Science	Our topic this half term is Rocks. We will be grouping and classifying different types of rocks, finding out what soil is made of, learning how fossils are made and researching the life of famous scientist Mary Anning.
Computing	We will be using the internet safely and critically to research a variety of topics.
IPC	This term our IPC theme will be 'Vikings' This is a history topic in which we will learn who the Vikings were, where and how they lived and why they invaded and raided Britain. We will use a variety of different sources and artefacts to help us learn about the lives of the Vikings.
Design & Technology	We will be designing and building a model Viking longship.

P.E.	Birch will continue to have PE on a Wednesday. We will have 2 sessions of PE this term, with the second session on a Friday. Please ensure that your child/children have the following kit for PE: Black shorts, a white t-shirt and black trainers or plimsolls. We will be having P.E. indoors this term as our theme is gymnastics. P.E. will continue to be facilitated by Shakil Miah & Dan Ginnerty .
Music	LKS2 will have ukulele lessons from a specialist teacher.
R.E.	This term our focus will be Judaism. We will be learning about the Jewish Way of Life.
Modern Languages	Spanish will continue to be taught by our specialist teacher.
P.S.H.E. & Citizenship	Our focus this half term will be "Dreams and Goals"
Homework	A variety of cross curricular homework tasks will be assigned at the start of the half term. Each week your child will select one task to complete, to be returned by Thursday. Children should continue to learn their times tables , which will be tested on a regular basis. Children can practice using Timestable Rockstars, for which they have their own login. Additional maths homework will be assigned on the Mathletics website, for which each child also has their own username and password. Children should also learn spellings which will be sent home every week and tested the following week.
Key dates	<p style="text-align: center;"> Trip to Nunhead Library – Friday 19th January 2018 Safer Internet Day – Monday 5th February 2018 Valentine’s Disco – Thursday 8th February 2018 World Book Day – Friday 2nd March Trip to the British Museum – Dates TBC Parent Teacher Consultations 12th & 13th March 2018 KS2 Spring Music Concert – 1.45pm Thursday 22nd March Sport Relief – Friday 23rd March 2018 <i>More details will be given closer to the time.</i> </p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Trip to the British Museum – Dates TBC <i>More details will be given closer to the time.</i> </p>