



Hollydale Primary School: Autumn 1 2018

Welcome back to the new academic year! We hope you have had a restful summer break and are ready enjoy all the exciting opportunities that this year will offer.

We begin this new term with lots of exciting topics for the children to become immersed in. Our Topic this half term is the Tudors. In addition to celebrate Black History month, the children will be taking part in a workshop at the Horniman Museum in which they will be given the opportunity to handle artefacts.

Please come and join us for two special assemblies this term: Harvest Festival and Black History Month celebrations.

If you have any questions about your child's learning or any other aspect of Birch Class life, please do not hesitate to come and see me before or after school. Thank you for your support and co-operation.

Regards, *Miss Macdonald*

Class Teacher – Miss Macdonald
Support Staff: Ms Rebbeck and Miss Gabriel

Autumn 1 2018- This half term Year 4 will be learning about the following topics:

English	We will begin the term by reading <i>Weslandia</i> by Paul Fleishman. We will use this to inspire our own writing about an imagined world which we have created. We will then read <i>Cautionary Tales</i> by Hilaire Belloc in which we will explore a range of scenarios and their consequences, eventually innovating upon a known cautionary tale. Using the <i>First Drawing</i> by Mordicai Gerstein we will write diary entries, explore the conventions of speech, create character descriptions and finish by writing our own historical narratives. Grammar will be focusing on adverbial clauses. 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 such as prefixes and suffixes.
Reading Records	The children will bring home a book from the class book corner or the school library every night. Please read and discuss the book with your child. Children 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.
Maths	In Numeracy pupils will continue to apply their learning about place value and recognising the value of each digit in 4 digit numbers. We will be ordering and comparing numbers, rounding them to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000 and knowing the number 1000 more/less than a given number, before introducing negative numbers. We will then move on to consolidating our knowledge of efficient written methods of addition and subtraction. 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 Forces and Magnets. We will undertake a range of investigations in which we will compare how things move on different surfaces; observe how magnets attract or repel each other and compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of whether they are attracted to a magnet.
Computing	Computing this half term will focus on creating an educational computer game.
History/ Geography	This term we will study the Tudors . This is a history topic in which we will be answering the questions: Who were the Tudors? When did they live? What was life like? How was it different to now? What were the key events? We will study Henry VIII, Elizabeth I and Shakespeare; and learn about the Spanish armada and life for ordinary people in Tudor times.
Art/Design & Technology	We will be creating portraits in the style of Tudor portraits using mixed media.
P.E.	Birch will have PE on a Wednesday morning. Please ensure that your child/children have the following kit for PE: Black tracksuit bottoms, a white t-shirt and black trainers or plimsolls. We are welcoming a new coach to the Sports team.
Music	LKS2 will have ukulele lessons from a specialist teacher.
R.E.	Throughout the year we will be investigating the question: What is special to me and the people in my community? This term our topic will be Religion in our Neighbourhood, focusing on what religions and world views are represented in our neighbourhood?
Modern Languages	Spanish will be taught by our specialist teacher.
P.S.H.E. & Citizenship	Our focus this half term will be “Being Me in My World” in which we will explore our role in our families, our school and the wider community.
Homework	Each Friday your child will be set literacy and numeracy tasks. These must be returned the following Tuesday. 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><i>Meet the Teacher Meeting – 17th September 2018 @ 3.55pm</i></p> <p><i>Jeans for Genes Day – 21st September 2018</i></p> <p><i>Harvest Festival Assembly - 27th September 2018 @ 9.20am</i></p> <p><i>Nunhead Library Trip – 28th September 2018</i></p> <p><i>Maccmillan cake sale and coffee morning – 28th September 2018</i></p> <p><i>Black History Month Workshop at Horniman Museum – 2nd October 2018</i></p> <p><i>National poetry day - 4th October 2018</i></p> <p><i>School Photographs – 9th October 2018</i></p> <p><i>Parent consultation meetings - 16th & 17th October 2018</i></p> <p><i>HALF TERM: Monday 22nd – Monday 29th October INSET (no children in school)</i></p> <p><i>Thursday 8th November- Black History Month Assembly</i></p> <p><i>Parent Lunch – 27th March and 15th May 2019</i></p>