



Year Two Newsletter



Our vision: 'Life in All its Fullness' (John 10.10) and our Christian Values are the foundations to affect change from within the heart of the community. Children are encouraged to develop strong aspirations *educationally, socially, morally and spiritually* with a desire to make a positive difference in the world.

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a Happy New Year! It is great to see all of the children back at school and as eager to learn as ever. This half-term promises to be full of fantastic learning opportunities as we embark on our new topic of 'Courageous Advocates' in which the children will be learning more about our world and how to look after it.

After-school Clubs

Monday	Multi-sports
Tuesday	Drama
	Lego
	Bible Craft
Wednesday	Dodgeball
Thursday	Football

Clubs finish at 4pm

After-school club invites have now been sent home to children in Key Stage 1.

All of the clubs are very popular. If you do not wish your child to attend the club that they have given a place for, please let us know so the place can be given to someone else.

If you would like your child to attend a club, please speak to a member of staff in the office and we will let you know when a space becomes available.

Phonics and Reading

Reading is at the heart of everything we do here at Holly Hill and we want to help create a world where everyone is reading their way to a better life.

Research shows that reading for pleasure can promote better health and wellbeing, helps build social connections and relationships with others and helps children access other areas in their learning, creating more possibilities for future lives and achievements.

Reading every day has a huge impact on your child's ability to read well.

We are hosting a **workshop** on Tuesday 28th January at 2:45 to explain how we teach phonics and reading at school and provide more ideas on how to help your child read at home. We hope to see you there!

Dates for the diary

- Wednesday 22nd January:** Trip to Frankley Library to see the storyteller
- Tuesday 28th January:** Year 2 Phonics and Reading workshop (2:45pm)
- Wednesday 29th January:** Trip to Northfield Methodist Church
- Monday 10th February:** Trip to BCSO (Symphony Orchestra), Birmingham Library and Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery
- Wednesday 12th February:** Safer Internet Day Open Afternoon
- Thursday 13th February:** Children break up for half term



Adult library

We now have a bookcase in our school entrance full of books for adults to share.

Please feel free to take a book to enjoy at home with a nice cup of tea!

When you have finished your book, please return it to the shelf.

More book donations are always welcome.

Thank you.

Community News

A HUGE well done to the children in Year Two who have brought lots of joy to our elderly friends through our Intergenerational Partnerships. All of the children entertained the residents of The Beeches Home with their beautiful Carol singing. We then enjoyed welcoming some of the residents in to school for Christmas lunch. We are looking forward to continuing our work with The Beeches and Redhill Court by visiting and exchanging pen pal letters this term.

A BIG thank you to everyone who donated food and household goods to support our local charity 'New Starts'. Working with the Friends of Frankley Community group, we were able to make 20 meal parcels which were gratefully received by New Starts and given out to families in Frankley during the Christmas holidays.



Courageous Advocates

Our Curriculum Focus this year is challenging the children to do 'All We Can' and, this half term, they will be learning about the wider world.

They will begin to investigate the some of the plants and animals that live in different habitats, thinking about what it would be like to live there and what is needed to survive. The children will learn about how some of this wildlife is becoming endangered and the reasons for this and how we can help.

Our focus person is Sir David Attenborough who has dedicated his life to nature. Through studying him, the children will learn more about some of the places he has travelled to and be inspired by his conservation work. They will be encouraged to think about what we can do both in school and at home to make our world a better place and contribute to environmental initiatives such as recycling.

In English this half term, the children will continue to write for different purposes, such as recounts of real-life events. They will be encouraged to re-read their work carefully to check that it makes sense and will make simple additions or corrections to improve their writing.

In Reading, the children will focus on their understanding of what they have read. They will be asking and answering questions as they read and will discuss what has happened in a text, so far. They will be learning about the suffixes -ment, -ful, -less and -ly and looking for examples of words with these suffixes as they read.

In Maths this half term, the children will be working on identifying, describing and comparing 2D and 3D shapes. They will learn methods that they can use to solve multiplication and division problems. The children will also be learning to tell the time (quarter to, quarter past and 5 minute intervals).

In RE, the children will be exploring the question 'Why did Jesus tell parables?' and will be using art, drama and New Testament stories to find out more about Jesus' life and work and consider how Christians use these today.

Holly Hill's Christian values will continue to be at the heart of everything we do. This half term the children will be learning about friendship, kindness, tolerance, joy and love.