



Holmleigh Primary School

Newsletter

Our Values

Respect, kindness,
Resilience, Integrity,
Honesty and Trust

February 2026

Our Rules

- Do our best
- Be respectful
- Be safe
- Be kind
- Be ready

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't quite believe how quickly this first half of the spring term has flown by!

Although it has been a short half term, it has certainly been a busy and productive one. From fantastic activities, exciting trips and successful fundraising events, it has been a wonderful few weeks for our school community. Thank you for your continued support and engagement; it truly makes a difference.

The class pages will be emailed to you shortly, and you can also find them on our website: <https://holmleigh.hackney.sch.uk/>.

We hope you all enjoy a well-deserved, restful half-term break and make wonderful memories. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 23rd February 2026.

With best wishes,

Miss Boateng





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY-SPRING TERM

23 RD & 27 TH FEBRUARY 2 ND & 6 TH MARCH 2026	MURAL PROJECT WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN IN YEAR 2- YEAR 6
WEDNESDAY 4 TH MARCH 2026	PHOTO DAY INDIVIDUAL AND SIBLING PHOTOGRAPHS
THURSDAY 5 TH MARCH 2026	WORLD BOOK DAY Children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character. Further details will follow in a separate letter.
MONDAY 9 TH MARCH- FRIDAY 13 TH MARCH 2026	BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK: CURIOSITY- WHAT'S YOUR QUESTION? Further details will follow in a separate letter.
THURSDAY 12 TH MARCH-THURSDAY 18 TH MARCH	BOOK FAIR
MONDAY 16 TH MARCH- FRIDAY 20 TH MARCH 2026	SPRING TERM ASSESSMENT WEEK
TUESDAY 17 TH MARCH-MONDAY 23 RD MARCH 2026	NEURODIVERSITY WEEK
FRIDAY 20 TH MARCH 2026	COMIC RELIEF- RED NOSE DAY EID CELEBRATION- PARENTS' EVENT Further details will follow in a separate letter.
WEDNESDAY 25 TH MARCH 2026	PARENTS' EVENING (NURSERY-YEAR 6)
FRIDAY 27 TH MARCH 2026	EASTER EGG HUNT BREAK UP FOR EASTER HOLIDAY SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 1.35PM
FRIDAY 27 TH MARCH, SATURDAY 28 TH MARCH & MONDAY 30 TH MARCH	PARENT/CHILDREN- MURAL PROJECT Further details will follow in a separate letter.

You will find these dates on our school website: <https://holmleigh.hackney.sch.uk/>



CLUBS

We are pleased to share that we have extended our wraparound provision to include additional clubs for KS1. We hope the children are enjoying the opportunity to take part in these new activities.

Breakfast Club runs from 8:00am to 8:50am.

After School Care Club runs from 3:30pm to 6:00pm.

After School Activity Clubs run from 3:30pm to 4:30pm, with the exception of Gymnastics and Science (KS2) which run until 5:30pm.

Please note that there will be no after-school activity clubs on the evenings of Parents' Evening. However, After School Care Club will run as usual.

Similarly, at the end of each term, when school finishes at 1:35pm, there will be no after-school activity clubs. On these days, After School Care Club will run until 3:30pm.





CLASS ASSEMBLIES

Both our Year 5 and Year 6 classes delivered exceptional class assemblies. Each assembly beautifully showcased the children's learning journeys and the fantastic work taking place in their classrooms. The children also demonstrated great confidence and pride in sharing their achievements -we are incredibly proud of them.

Parents, carers and family members are warmly invited to join us at 10:00am.
Assemblies usually last approximately 30 minutes.

Please see below the timetable for the remaining upcoming assemblies.

DATE	CLASS
Thursday 12 th March 2026	Year 4 Hazel
Thursday 19 th March 2026	Year 4 Holly
Thursday 23 rd April 2026	Year 3 Elder
Thursday 30 th April 2026	Year 3 Willow
Thursday 11 th June 2026	Year 2 Chestnut
Thursday 18 th June 2026	Year 2 Palm
Thursday 25 th June 2026	Year 1 Nutmeg
Thursday 2 nd July 2026	Year 1 Walnut
Thursday 9 th July 2026	Reception Beech
Friday 10 th July 2026	Reception Oak



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING THIS HALF TERM?

CHILDREN'S WELLBEING WEEK

Children's Mental Health Week provides a valuable opportunity to focus on the emotional wellbeing of children and young people. This year's theme, *This Is My Place*, encouraged children to think about belonging and the importance of feeling safe, valued and connected.

During assemblies and class sessions, we reflected on what belonging means to them and identified the safe spaces where they feel supported and included.

Affirmation: When I belong, I feel safe, happy and important. It's like knowing that I have a place where I truly fit in.

NUMBER DAY

On Friday, 6th February, we dressed up in digits and raised money for the NSPCC's vital services, including *Childline* and *Speak Out. Stay Safe*. The day was filled with fun maths activities in the hall and classrooms, and in the afternoon, parents, carers, and loved ones joined us to take part in the excitement. Together, we raised £79.63. Thank you for your generosity! A special thanks to Ms. Angie for organising such a fantastic day of maths, and to everyone who contributed to its success

SAFER INTERNET DAY

This year, Safer Internet Day took place on Tuesday 10th February.

Each year, Safer Internet Day focuses on a different theme that reflects the challenges and experiences children and young people face online. This year's theme was: Smart tech, safe choices - exploring the safe and responsible use of AI.

During the day, we discussed the growing impact of AI on our lives, exploring how it can be used positively and responsibly. The children also received advice and guidance to help them make informed, safe choices when using AI and other online technologies.

There was also an Online Safety workshop for parents and carers on Wednesday 11th February, led by Young Hackney. The session provided helpful guidance and practical advice to support families in keeping children safe online.

For support and resources:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/young-people/resources-for-3-11s>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety>



READING CHAMPIONS

Our Reading Champions departed for Tenerife on Wednesday 11th February, accompanied by Miss Angie, staff members from Hackney Education, and four other schools. The aim of the Reading Champions programme is to foster a love of reading for pleasure at Holmleigh.

So far this year, they have attended a meeting with fellow Reading Champions in Hackney, helped to organise books in our library, and made the exciting decision to purchase a new reading shed, which will open after half term.

While in Tenerife, they will share all they have been working on with pupils at the school they are visiting. They will also have the opportunity to put their Spanish language skills to good use. We are incredibly proud of our Reading Champions!

Huge thanks to our parents and Hackney Education for this wonderful opportunity.

CLASS SHARE SESSIONS

Thank you to everyone who attended our Class Share sessions. These sessions provided a wonderful opportunity for children to showcase their learning and celebrate their achievements with parents, carers and loved ones by sharing their books and examples of their work.

Due to a clash with swimming and an unexpected absence, we needed to reschedule the sessions for Years 5 and 6. These will now take place on Tuesday 3rd March at 2:30pm

AMPLIFIED SCHOOLS

We've been celebrating and showcasing the fantastic work of Holmleigh children on our new social media platforms, Instagram and Facebook. If you're not already following us, please do, we'll be sharing weekly updates of the children's learning.

You can also now translate our newsletters into different languages using Smore, making it even easier to stay connected with everything happening at Holmleigh.



SCHOOL LIBRARY

A huge thank you to Miss Amena, our parents and carers, and everyone who has helped with cataloguing the books in our library. We are excited to resume our library sessions after half term and to make full use of our newly organised collection.



BUY AN APPLE, GIVE AN APPLE INITIATIVE

We been enjoying some delicious apples, including the Redlove apple, as part of this wonderful initiative. The mission is to provide every primary school child in Hackney with a fresh apple during the school day. To find out more, visit: admin@bloom-market.co.uk www.bloom-market.co.uk/apples <http://www.bloom-market.co.uk/apple>



Redlove apples

They are bright red on the outside *and* the inside. They have berry-like flavours. They are packed with 30-40% more antioxidants than average apples, making them very healthy. They are perfect for snacking, juicing, or baking.

WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO...



**FRIENDS OF HOLMLEIGH
MEETING**

**JOIN THE PARENT, TEACHERS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION
OF HOLMLEIGH PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**MONDAY 2ND MARCH 2026
AT 6.00 PM**

IN THE SCHOOL HALL

AS A PARENT, CARER, RELATIVE OR FRIEND OF A
STUDENT AT HOLMLEIGH PRIMARY SCHOOL
YOU ARE AUTOMATICALLY A MEMBER OF
FRIENDS OF HOLMLEIGH (FOH)

WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU AT OUR MEETING TO
DISCUSS THE FUNDRAISING AND COMMUNITY
BUILDING EVENTS FOR THIS YEAR



FRIENDSOFHOLMLEIGH@GMAIL.COM



EASY FUNDRAISING

Easy fundraising is a free browser extension that automatically donates to Friends of Holmleigh every time you shop online — at no extra cost to you!

This simple way to support the school isn't yet widely used, so please take a moment to sign up and help raise funds for our community.

MURAL PROJECT

This project will bring pupils, families, and staff together to create a large-scale mural that reflects our shared identities, backgrounds, and aspirations.

The project will be led by Rose Hill, Summer's mum and the founder of Co-Creation Connection.

What We'll Do

- **Creative Workshops:** Workshops for pupils in Years 2-6 will take place on 23rd February, 27th February, 2nd March, and 6th March.
- Pupils will take part in activities such as creating mood boards, exploring colours and patterns, selecting colour palettes, and discussing what is important for the mural.
- **Co-Design:** Rose Hill, a professional artist, will guide the design process to ensure the mural is visually striking and meaningful.
- **Let's Paint!** Following the design stage, a selection of pupils, families, staff, and local artists will come together to paint the mural on 27th, 28th, and 30th March.
- **Big Reveal:** We will celebrate the completed mural with a special event for the school and local community, giving everyone involved the chance to feel proud of their contribution.
- **Continuing the Journey:** After the mural is completed, we will create a video documenting the project, ensuring the mural remains a lasting symbol of our community.

If you are interested in getting involved in painting the mural, please complete the form using the link below and indicate which day suits you best.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSetJCbZNqG-akgtdDaqoxqMUH4qaa_tXegmVjKCBMac5wdSbw/viewform



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

PUNCTUALITY

Every Day Counts and being on time means not missing out

A reminder that the school gates open at 8.50am and all children should be in the playground ready for the morning exercise at 8.55. We will close the gates at 9.05am.

Please make every effort to arrive at school on time. If your child arrives later than 9:00 am, please report to the Main Reception Office, where you will be asked to sign in and provide a reason for their late arrival.

Arriving at school on time every day helps your child be ready for learning and ensures they don't miss valuable learning opportunities. Thank you for your cooperation!

ATTENDANCE

The government has set a target of 95% attendance for all pupils. Our whole-school attendance for this half term was 91.6%.

Good attendance is vital in raising educational standards and ensuring that every pupil is able to fulfil their potential. Regular attendance supports children's learning, confidence and wellbeing.

Please remember that holidays during term time will not be authorised, and unauthorised absences may result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued in line with local authority guidance.

If your child is absent from school, you must contact the school on the first day of absence to inform us of the reason. If the absence continues for more than one day, please contact the school each day to keep us updated.

For further information, please refer to our Attendance Policy, which is available on the school website.

DISMISSAL AT THE END OF DAY

The school gates will open at 3:20 pm for health and safety reasons, to prevent parents from waiting on the pavement. Please note that children will be dismissed to their parents/carers at 3:30 pm.



ATTENDANCE BY CLASS FOR THIS HALF TERM

RECEPTION OAK	88.65%
RECEPTION BEECH	92.87%
YEAR 1 WALNUT	93.62%
YEAR 1 NUTMEG	92.98%
YEAR 2 CHESTNUT	93.75%
YEAR 2 PALM	91.38%
YEAR 3 ELDER	91.09%
YEAR 3 WILLOW	90.16%
YEAR 4 HAZEL	90.74%
YEAR 4 HOLLY	94.68%
YEAR 5 ACACIA	88.74%
YEAR 5 OLIVE	96.19
YEAR 6 EBONY	91.36%
YEAR 6 SYCAMORE	90.20%

Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....



CONTACT DETAILS

It is essential that we have the most up-to-date contact details for all parents and carers. If there have been any changes to the information we have on record, please email our admin team with the updates: admin@holmleigh.hackney.sch.uk

SCHOOL UNIFORM

It's wonderful to see so many children proudly wearing their school uniform, thank you for your continued support! Please note that uniform with our logo is not compulsory; you are welcome to purchase items from supermarkets, as long as they align with the school's colour scheme.

Pre-Loved Uniform

We have a selection of pre-loved uniforms available at school. If you're interested, please speak with Miss Elena or Miss Shanel at the office. We also gladly accept donations of pre-loved uniforms at the school office.

Lost Property

We were able to return all clearly labelled items from the lost property box. As colder weather approaches, please ensure that all uniform items, including hats, coats, and gloves, are clearly labelled to help us return any misplaced belongings quickly.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays are very important and exciting occasions to celebrate. For birthday celebrations at school, homemade cakes and selections of fruit to share with the class are welcome.

FOOTBALL CARDS

Children are no longer permitted to bring football cards and similar collectibles into school. This decision has been made because the cards have been leading to disagreements, trading disputes and challenging behaviour among pupils. Thank you for your support in reinforcing this expectation.