

Welcome to Holly Class



Tuesday 6th September 2022

We hope you have had a lovely time over the summer holidays and we are sure you are now ready to start the new school year! We are excited to help everyone settle back into school and we look forward to getting to know all the children in Holly Class. We hope that you enjoy the new challenges and approaches to learning that Year 2 has to offer. Year 2 is an action-packed year from nativity to residential and everything in between! We are so excited to share these experiences with you and your children.

Below is some information about this academic year. If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to email me on t.garvey@ellel-st-johns.lancs.sch.uk alternatively, if there is something more urgent you wish to discuss please do make an appointment to come in and see me.

Homework

Reading: Children in Year 2 are encouraged to read as often as possible. Reading records will be checked daily in class so that children can access new reading books regularly. If you read at home, please record this in your child's reading record. Your child may also have tricky word flash cards to practice at home or Phonics activities to help develop their reading skills.

Spellings: Spellings will be set every Wednesday (starting from 14th September) and tested on the following Wednesday. Spellings will be available on Spelling Shed and your child will also bring home a paper copy.

Other homework: Each week (starting from 15th September) one piece of Maths or English homework will be set on a Thursday and collected the following Thursday. Occasionally, a creative homework piece, based on our topic, will be set. Children are also encouraged to access Purple Mash at home.

Times Tables Rock Stars and Num Bots: This year school is introducing Times Tables Rock Stars and Num Bots. These are online interactive games which help to develop children's times tables and maths knowledge. More information on this to follow.

Mathletics: Your child may have also used Mathletics previously. Mathletics will no longer be available after January but please feel free to access it till then.

Logins

All of the logins your child needs to access Spelling Shed, Purple Mash, Times Tables Rock Stars, Num Bots and Mathletics are in the front of their reading record. This will be done by the end of this week (Friday 9th September) as we are waiting on the children's classes to be transferred over from the last academic year.

Holly Class Staff

Our class teacher is Mr Garvey and our teaching assistant is Mrs Fisher. Miss Threlfall will also be with us on a Thursday afternoon.

Mr Garvey's time out of class for Planning, Preparation and Assessment (PPA) will be all day on a Wednesday. Mrs Poole will cover this time.

Continuous Provision in Year 2

This year to aid with our transition from Beech Class to Holly Class, we will be continuing with Continuous Provision for the first few weeks of the Autumn term.

As the children begin to settle in class, continuous provision will be phased out to allow for a more formal, whole class approach to teaching and learning.

Water Bottle

Your child should have a water bottle, labelled with your child's name, for use in class. This should be taken home daily to be cleaned.

Our class pet - Gary the Gorilla:

This year our class pet is Gary the Gorilla. Similar to last year, every Friday one child will bring home our class pet and a diary for the weekend as a reward for being the Star of The Week. They will be asked to take him on their adventures over the weekend and record what they do in the diary. Please return Gary the Gorilla to school by Thursday (the following week) so your child can show and share their weekend news with the class.

Rewards in Holly Class

We have lots of rewards in Year 2! We have class Team Points for good work and good behaviour as well as Dojo points. The child with the most Dojos on Friday becomes our Star of The Week for the following week. They get to choose a prize to keep from our prize box, take home Gary the Gorilla and keep the Star of The Week trophy on their desk for a whole week!

PE

The children will be doing PE every week in Holly Class. Please ensure your child has both indoor and outdoor PE kit in school at all times and that all items are clearly labelled.

Clubs

After school club letters will be sent out the week beginning the 12th September with a view to start the following week.

Forest School

This year Forest School will be split into two blocks at different points of the year.

The first block will on the following dates:

Tuesday 31st January

Tuesday 7th February

Tuesday 21st February

The second block will run on the following dates:

Tuesday 6th June

Tuesday 13th June

Tuesday 20th June

A reminder about Forest School will be sent out closer to the time.

