

Holbrook News

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6th Sep 2018
Block 1, Week 1

From the Head Teacher

Welcome Back! I hope your summer was a good one and that you are all refreshed for the school year ahead. It was wonderful to welcome back the children on Monday for Term One especially as we were one of the only schools to start back on that day. This year promises to be an exciting one! There will be many opportunities for children to demonstrate their increased knowledge and skills and their mastery of the curriculum.

Welcome! We have new children joining us in Early Years. Starting school is an exciting time and we are pleased that our new Holbrook pupils are here.

Welcome! We have also been joined by pupils in other year groups and we are pleased to welcome Liliana, Joshua and Kadun. I hope this is the start of a happy relationship between the school and their families.

Welcome! We also have new members of staff. We are pleased to welcome Mr Chamen who will be teaching all KS2 classes at some point each week while class teachers are on PPA duties. Welcome, too, to Mrs Shute, Mrs Hacker and Mrs Wood who join us as Learning Support Assistants.

Class Meetings: We hold meetings at the start of the school year so that parents can listen to key pieces of information from the class teacher and answer any general questions. Teachers go through the expectations we have of the children so that you know what support to give. All meetings are in the relevant classrooms, start straight after school and should last no more than 30 minutes, many are shorter. Darwin and Nightingale classes held their meeting yesterday and the schedule for today and next week is shown below:

Thursday 6 th September	Somerville
Monday 10 th September	Zephaniah
Tuesday 11 th September	Kandinsky
Wednesday 12 th September	Brunel
Thursday 13 th September	Kingsley

Ten Weeks! Remember that Holbrook runs on four ten week blocks across the year. We do this because the school year is 40 weeks long but terms vary in length. By planning our work in ten week blocks we can report to you on your child's progress four times in the year. The first ten week block ends in November. This is when you will receive the first pupil passport of the year and have the opportunity to make appointments at parent-teacher consultations. Term dates are not affected by this arrangement so all half term breaks and holidays are the same as Wiltshire Council's calendar.

Curriculum: Teaching staff and governors held a review of our curriculum last year so that we can ensure that the learning of our children is broad and balanced. The Ofsted Chief Inspector spoke last year about the need for all primary schools to offer a rich and stimulating curriculum and, at Holbrook, we are keen to provide the very best. You can read about the Holbrook Curriculum on our website from next week. We have placed a statement about each subject and the curriculum map in the curriculum section so that you can see how a subject is developed across the whole school.

Ruck Sacks: Many of our older children like to bring ruck sacks to school, even if there is little to put in them. Please be aware that cloakroom space is limited and we cannot store ruck sacks in classrooms. For this reason, please keep any ruck sack to as small a size as possible.

Twitter: Don't forget to follow our work on Twitter. It is a good way of staying informed and seeing some of the behind the scenes picture of pupils at work. @HolbrookPriSch

Website: Our website is a good source of information and is updated each week in term time.

www.holbrooktrowbridge.co.uk Parents should receive a class letter at the start of each ten week block and copies can be found on the class pages of the website.

Roger Whitewick

[Wiltshire Times Photograph](#)

Our new Reception pupils will have their photograph taken on 18th September by the Wiltshire Times for their First Day of School feature.

[Important Safety Reminders](#)

Please remember that children should not be playing on the equipment in either playground before school or riding around on scooters or bikes in the playgrounds after school. Holbrook staff are not responsible for ensuring their safety at these times.

Please can we remind all parents that dogs are not permitted on the school grounds at all, apart from guide dogs.

Parents should not be parking or driving into the school car park unless they have a registered disability badge.

Parking in Runnymede Gardens

Last school year residents of the road closest to us experienced difficulties because of cars parked by Holbrook parents at the start and end of the day. In some cases this included blocked driveways and even blocking the whole road. We advised the residents to contact the council and the police for help.

If this school year all Holbrook parents who drive their children to school parked considerately, we would be able to deal with this frustrating issue for our neighbours. It is highly likely that there will be another visit from enforcement officers soon and I should like parents to be aware of this and the possibility of vehicles being clamped.



Ever thought about volunteering?

Wiltshire's Independent Visitor Scheme is looking for people who can spare a couple of hours of their time every 3-4 weeks.

Volunteers are needed across Wiltshire to befriend children in care. Young people living away from their families often really value having a consistent independent person who can take a special interest in their lives.

Wiltshire Independent Visitor Scheme is looking to take on more independent visitors to fulfil this valuable and rewarding role. Volunteers are needed who can communicate well with young people, share in their interests and who have regular time to spare.

If you are interested in knowing more please contact the scheme on **01225 713961** or **IVScheme@wiltshire.gov.uk**

Wiltshire Council
Where everybody matters

"My IV is awesome and lots of fun; he makes me happy."
Young Person

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BMX training sessions at Studley Green BMX track



- Sessions provided by a British Cycling affiliated club and qualified coach
- You don't have to have a BMX! Any safe bike with, at minimum, a working rear brake is suitable
- Full-face helmets available to hire in all youth sizes
- Sessions take place on Fridays from 6-7pm
- Session fees are just £3 per session with no commitment
- Discounts for Wiltshire Warriors members
- Please refer to the additional details provided with this flyer or find us on Facebook for more information and specific clothing requirements