

HOLLY GROVE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



3RD MARCH 2025



www.holly-grove.lancs.sch.uk



01282 953710



facebook.hollygroveschool

If you would like to share any news on the newsletter, you can send photos etc. to newsletter@holly-grove.lancs.sch.uk



We hope you had a great weekend!

If you would like to receive a copy of our weekly newsletters in an alternate language then please email your request to newsletter@holly-grove.lancs.sch.uk



We really welcome any positive comments or suggestions you may have about Holly Grove School. Please click the link to share your views with us. Please note this is for comments and suggestions only and although checked regularly will not be checked daily. Any queries, concerns or complaints should be submitted in the normal way by contacting your child's class teacher, a member of SLT or by following the Procedure for Handling Complaints Policy which can be found on our school website or by requesting a copy from the school office.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpGLSfTyPviLN3pzurXOkYakrxOY-1cIISF5rlyZBfDNltKBx3WfQ/viewform?usp=header>



We are beyond proud of our incredible headteacher, Karen Alty, who was presented with her OBE by Prince William at Windsor Castle recently! Karen received this prestigious honour for her outstanding services to education, and we couldn't be more thrilled to see her recognised for the dedication, passion, and leadership she brings to our school every day. Congratulations Karen, this achievement is so well deserved!



Reminder

WORLD BOOK DAY



This year's World Book Day will be held on Thursday 6th March 2025. Holly Grove School Council have decided to celebrate this by having the theme of 'Superheroes and Villains.'

We are inviting children to dress up as any superhero or villain. Please do not worry if you do not have a costume to this theme, any is fine or non-uniform is okay too. For this, we are asking parents to donate a book from home to our new school library please (only if this is possible).

Throughout the day, we will be taking part in many exciting activities; to really enthuse the children with a love for reading, books and stories. In the afternoon, we plan to watch a Superhero film in the auditorium for any children who might enjoy this. Each child will also receive a voucher to spend on a book.



WELL-BEING



Last week we had our first Parent Well-being workshop.

Courtney led this session, which was about Art Therapy. The group had lots of fun creating Van Gogh's 'Starry Night,' whilst relaxing, chatting, drinking lovely herbals teas and eating cakes.

Thank you to Courtney for a wonderful session.
Thank you to everyone that attended!



This week

This Wednesday, 5th March, will be Julie Barrow (Nutritionist) and exercise with Alex and Connor.

Phillip Smith's Ultra Marathon for Georgia Fourie Butterfly Fund



On July 19th, Phillip Smith will be taking on an incredible challenge: an ultra marathon, running 100 miles in under 24 hours, from Bamburgh Castle to Edinburgh Castle, to raise funds for the Georgia Fourie Butterfly Fund. This cause is close to Phillip's heart, as his partner Terri works at Holly Grove School, and together, they want to make a difference in the lives of the wonderful children of Holly Grove and their families.

Please click the link to sponsor Phillip and help him raise as much money as possible for our wonderful school charity.

[JustGiving.com](https://www.justgiving.com)



HOLIDAY CLUB

They kicked off the holidays with Valentine's Day activities! Children decorated heart cookies, created hearts with homemade playdoh, and enjoyed sensory exploration!

Day two, it was time for **Circus Day**! With cotton candy, popcorn, and spaghetti clowns, the excitement was non-stop!

It looks like everyone had a fab time!



Stay and Play



Here is a list of each class' stay and play sessions for the Spring Term. You are very welcome to attend the session of the class your child belongs to.



Aisling's Class	2.4.25 at 1.30pm
Katie's Class	11.2.25 at 9.30am
Samantha's Class	27.3.25 at 1.30pm
Josh's Class	1.4.25 at 1.30pm
Rebecca's Class	31.3.25 at 2pm
Laura's Class	31.3.25 at 2pm
Courtney's Class	2.4.25 at 1.30pm
Adam's Class	25.3.25 at 1pm
Julie's Class	25.3.25 at 1pm
Jenny's Class	3.4.25 at 10.30am
Alex's Class	27.3.25 at 11.15am
Michael's Class	1.4.25 at 1.30pm

SIGNS OF THE WEEK



We are putting 2 different Makaton signs every week onto the newsletter. These are our school signs of the week and your child will be practising them in class.

These will give you the opportunity to practise different signs with your child at home.

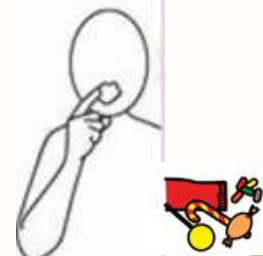
Chocolate

Half 'c' shape hand makes two small movements on chin towards dominant side



Sweets

Rotate finger slightly at corner of mouth



STAFF DEVELOPMENT



Wednesdays
3pm-4:30pm



WEDNESDAY 5TH MARCH

PECS Training

WEDNESDAY 12TH MARCH

Workshops

WEDNESDAY 19TH MARCH

Evidence Me Updates

WEDNESDAY 26TH MARCH

Class Team Meetings



WEDNESDAY 5TH MARCH Parent Well-being Workshop

THURSDAY 6TH MARCH - World Book Day

10TH-14TH MARCH - Science Week

FRIDAY 21ST MARCH - Comic Relief

FRIDAY 4TH APRIL - School closes for Easter holidays

You can access all our policies and privacy notices on the school website
www.holly-grove.lancs.sch.uk



HOLLY GROVE HEROES



Aisling's Class - Robyn

Katie's Class - Lexi

Samantha's Class - Martha

Rebecca's Class - Ariz

Josh's Class - Evie

Courtney's Class - Marcus

Laura's Class - Abdullah

Julie's Class - Manha

Adam's Class - Eesa

Alex's Class - Aayan

Jenny's Class - Theo.T

Michael's Class - Leighton



HAPPY

BIRTHDAY

Staff

Children

Kerryn

Debbie

Rosie.B

Isaac



= Happy = Pancake Day! TUESDAY 4TH MARCH




Traditional Pancakes

(makes 8-10 large pancakes)

Ingredients <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100g plain flour • 2 large eggs • 300ml milk • Pinch of salt • 1tbsp sunflower or vegetable oil, plus a little extra for frying • Lemon • Caster sugar 	Equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large bowl or jug • Whisk • Tablespoon • Frying pan • Kitchen paper • Ladle
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Method

1. Place the flour, eggs, milk, salt and 1 tbsp of sunflower or vegetable oil into a bowl or large jug.
2. Whisk the ingredients to a smooth batter.
3. Set the bowl aside for 30 minutes (if you have time) or, alternatively, you can start cooking straight away.
4. Set a frying pan over a medium heat and carefully wipe it with some oiled kitchen paper.
5. When hot, pour 1 ladle of mixture into the frying pan. Carefully tilt the pan to spread the mixture out evenly.
6. Cook your pancake for 1 minute on each side until golden.
7. Once the pancake is cooked, transfer it to a plate.
8. Repeat steps 5, 6 and 7, until you've used all the mixture.
9. Serve with lemon (either juice or wedges) and caster sugar, or your favourite filling.

Pancake Day: Recipe Ideas



Banana Pancakes

(makes 6-8 smaller-sized pancakes)

Ingredients <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 ripe banana • 2 large eggs, lightly beaten • Butter or oil for cooking • Topping of your choice 	Equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium bowl • Fork • Frying pan • Tablespoon • Spatula
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Method

1. Peel the banana and break it up into several big chunks in a medium bowl.
2. Use the fork to thoroughly mash the bananas until no large lumps remain.
3. Pour the beaten eggs over the banana and stir until they're completely combined. The batter will be very loose and 'liquid' - more like whisked eggs than a regular pancake batter.
4. Heat the frying pan over a medium heat. Melt a little butter or warm a little oil in the pan, if desired.
5. Drop about 2 tablespoons of batter into the pan.
6. Repeat by dropping more batter into the pan, leaving at least 2.5cm between pancakes.
7. Cook for about 1 minute until the bottom of the pancakes are browned and golden.
8. Once the pancakes are cooked, transfer them to a plate.
9. Repeat steps 5-8, until you've used all the mixture.
10. Serve with your favourite filling.

Pancake Day: Recipe Ideas



Vegan Pancakes

(makes 10-12 traditional pancakes)

Ingredients <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 300g self-raising flour • 1tsp baking powder • 1tbsp sugar (any kind) • 1tbsp vanilla extract • 400ml plant-based milk (such as oat, almond or soya) • 1tbsp vegetable oil for cooking • Optional topping - banana slices, blueberries, maple syrup, plant-based yoghurt, vegan chocolate chips. 	Equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium bowl • Whisk • Frying pan • Tablespoon • Spatula
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Method

1. Place the flour, baking powder, sugar, vanilla extract and a pinch of salt in a bowl.
2. Whisk the ingredients until completely combined.
3. Slowly pour in the milk until you get a smooth, thick batter.
4. Heat the frying pan over a medium heat. Warm a little oil in the pan, if desired.
5. Add 2tbsp of batter into the pan at a time to make small, round pancakes. You will need to do this in batches of two-three at a time.
6. Cook for 3-4 minutes until the edges are set, and bubbles are appearing on the surface.
7. Flip the pancakes over and cook for another 2-3 minutes until golden on both sides and cooked through.
8. Once the pancakes are cooked, transfer them to a plate.
9. Repeat steps 5-8, until you've used all the mixture.
10. Serve stacked with lots of toppings of your choice.

Pancake Day: Recipe Ideas

Pancake Day Fun Facts

The world's biggest pancake was made in Rochdale in 1994. It was over 15 metres wide and weighed three tonnes! This is as much as an adult rhinoceros!

In the UK, around 52 million eggs are eaten each Pancake Day!

In Olney in Buckinghamshire, a pancake race has been held every year since 1445. Runners carry a pancake in a frying pan!





Pancakes were invented as a way of using up all of the rich foods like eggs, flour and milk before the beginning of Lent.

In France, it is tradition to make a wish while you toss your pancake!

Can you toss a pancake? In 1995, a man called Dean Gould managed to toss a pancake 349 times in two minutes!

Mardi Gras celebrations are held all over the world on Shrove Tuesday. Mardi Gras means 'fat Tuesday' in French.

Joke Corner
It's Pam-damontum!
Did you hear about the angry pancake? He just flipped!
Why did the pancake batter run away? Because the recipe said crack two eggs then beat it!

Mindful March 2025

SATURDAY

1 Set an intention to live with awareness and kindness

8 Eat mindfully. Appreciate the taste, texture and smell of your food

15 Stop. Breathe. Notice. Repeat regularly

22 Notice something that is going well, even if today feels difficult

29 Choose a different route today and see what you notice

SUNDAY

2 Notice three things you find beautiful in the outside world

9 Take a full breath in and out before you reply to others

16 Get really absorbed with an interesting or creative activity

23 Tune into your feelings, without judging or trying to change them

30 Mentally scan your body and notice what it is feeling

MONDAY

3 Start today by appreciating your body and that you're alive

10 Get outside and notice how the weather feels on your face

17 Look around and spot three things you find unusual or pleasant

24 Appreciate your hands and all the things they enable you to do

31 Discover the joy in the simple things of life

TUESDAY

4 Notice how you speak to yourself and choose to use kind words

11 Stay fully present while drinking your cup of tea or coffee

18 Have a 'no plans' day and notice how that feels

25 Focus your attention on the good things you take for granted

WEDNESDAY

5 Bring to mind people you care about and send love to them

12 Listen deeply to someone and really hear what they are saying

19 Cultivate a feeling of loving-kindness towards others today

26 Choose to spend less time looking at screens today

THURSDAY

6 If you find yourself rushing, make an effort to slow down

13 Pause to watch the sky or clouds for a few minutes today

20 Focus on what makes you and others happy today

27 Appreciate nature around you, wherever you are

FRIDAY

7 Take three calm breaths at regular intervals during your day

14 Find ways to enjoy any chores or tasks that you do

21 Listen to a piece of music without doing anything else

28 Notice when you're tired and take a break as soon as possible



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together



Hello March

M ay the early spring
 A waken your soul and
 R emind you to
 C elebrate the season with the
 H ope and Joy it brings

OurMindfulLife.com





PUPIL HOLIDAY DATES – 2024 / 2025

Autumn Term 2024

Re-open		Wednesday 4 September 2024
Half Term	5 days	Monday 21 October Friday 25 October (inclusive)
Re-open		Monday 28 October

Christmas - Closure after school on Friday 20 December 2024

Spring Term 2025

Re-open		Monday 6 January 2025
Half Term	5 days	Monday 17 February to Monday 24 February (inclusive)
Re-open		Tuesday 26 February

Easter - Closure after school on Friday 4 April 2025

Summer Term 2025

Re-open		Tuesday 22 April 2025
May Day	1 day	Monday 5 May
Half Term	5 days	Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May (inclusive)
Re-open		Monday 2 June

Summer - Closure after school on Friday 18 July 2025



Pupil Holiday Dates – 2025/2026

Autumn Term 2025

Re-open		Wednesday 3 September 2025
Half Term	5 days	Monday 27 October Friday 31 October (inclusive)
Re-open		Monday 3 November

Christmas - Closure after school on Friday 19 December 2025

Spring Term 2026

Re-open		Monday 5th January 2026
Half Term	5 days	Monday 16 February to Friday 20 February (inclusive)
Re-open		Tuesday 24 February

Easter - Closure after school on Friday 27 March 2026

Summer Term 2026

Re-open		Monday 13 April 2026
May Day	1 day	Monday 4 May
Half Term	5 days	Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May (inclusive)
Re-open		Tuesday 2 June

Summer - Closure after school on Friday 17 July 2026