



Cherry Tree Road, Holtspur, Beaconsfield, Bucks, HP9 1BH
Telephone/Fax (01494) 674325/730434
Email: office@holtspurschool.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs L McKellar

CARING, INSPIRING, ACHIEVING

7th September 2026

Important Dates:

Meet the Teacher – Wednesday 9th September 5pm 2026

Open Books Morning – Tuesday 3rd November 2026.

Victorian Day – Wednesday 25th November (in school all day, details to follow)

Diwali dance workshop - Friday 6th November

Parents' Evening – 30th November and 1st December 2026.

KS1 Nativity – Tuesday 8th December 2026 2pm.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 2! We are very excited for the year ahead and already have many fun learning experiences planned for our wonderful class. There will be no trips this Autumn Term, instead we will be taking part in a themed day during Autumn 2 held at school which will be facilitated by the Year 2 staff. Details will be sent out closer to October half-term.

Mrs Bass will be teaching Monday to Wednesday and Mrs Bowler will teach the remainder of the week. We are lucky to be joined by Mrs Khan as our Teaching Assistant for the year. Our specialist teacher will be Coach Charlotte for PE outdoors every Wednesday.

Below is an overview of our learning this Autumn:

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2
English	Grendel The Robot and the Bluebird	The Robot and the Bluebird Pattan's Pumpkin
Maths	Place value, Addition & Subtraction	Addition and Subtraction, Shape
Science	Materials	Living Things and their Habitats
Computing	E-Safety	Coding
History		How have children's lives changed?
Geography	Why is our world wonderful?	
D&T /Art	Art: Printing – Andy Warhol	DT: Mechanisms – Fairground Wheel
RE and worldviews	Unit: Why do we need to give thanks?	Unit: Why is light important to people?
PE	Games - hit, catch, run Gymnastics	Games – throwing and catching Dance
PSHE	Resilience, Zones of Regulation, Protected Characteristics	Protected Characteristics including Black History Month and Anti-bullying
Music	Pulse, Rhythm and Pitch!	Playing in an Orchestra



Cherry Tree Road, Holtspur, Beaconsfield, Bucks, HP9 1BH
Telephone/Fax (01494) 674325/730434
Email: office@holtspurschool.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs L McKellar

CARING, INSPIRING, ACHIEVING

English:

In Autumn term we will be using Grendel: A Cautionary Tale about Chocolate to explore familiar stories, character descriptions, retelling and innovating a story of our own. This story mirrors the tale of King Midas and follows a character who wishes for nothing but chocolate. It soon becomes a warning of 'be careful what you wish for' when he turns his Mum and dog into chocolate! Grendel realises his error and all is well in the end. We will also be focusing on The Robot and the Bluebird which is a wonderful, heartfelt story following the journey of migratory birds, their struggles along the way and a lonely, long-forgotten robot. The two form a beautiful friendship and are the missing jigsaw piece to each other's lives. During this story, the children will be researching the impact of habitat destruction alongside migration patterns. Both of these books will enable the children to develop their storytelling, descriptive writing, punctuation and grammar abilities and spellings.

Reading: Children are expected to read daily in order to further their language and reading skills. Please challenge your child to read a variety of different books and genres. Reading records will be monitored on a regular basis. Children will begin to be encouraged to visit the Library and change their own reading books when they have finished reading to further encourage independence.

Mathematics:

In Maths we will be following the Mastery approach with White Rose, to develop the children's knowledge of the four operations and wherever possible relate their understanding to real-life problem-solving situations. This will allow the children to fully grasp the concepts within the maths curriculum. We will be focusing on place value, addition and subtraction and shape this first term.

Science:

The first science topic for this term is Materials. Throughout the topic the children will identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper and cardboard for different uses. They will also compare how things move on different surfaces and find out how the shapes of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching. During the second part of the term, the children will study living things and their habitats. We will be grouping items based on 'alive, once alive, never alive' and discussing the reasoning behind this. We will be discovering the many different habitats our favourite animals live in and how food chains work.

RE and worldviews:

We will be using the Kapow scheme to deliver 'RE and worldviews'. The children will be covering a range of religions and worldviews within each unit of work. This subject delivers lessons that focus on deep questioning, engaging activities and a breadth of knowledge enabling children to compare the beliefs and views of others.



Cherry Tree Road, Holtspur, Beaconsfield, Bucks, HP9 1BH
Telephone/Fax (01494) 674325/730434
Email: office@holtspurschool.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs L McKellar

CARING, INSPIRING, ACHIEVING

PSHE:

We mainly follow the Jigsaw scheme in PSHE, however this term we will be focusing on our new school value of resilience alongside the Zones of Regulation to support children's ability to self-regulate when things get tricky or challenging. After half term we will be celebrating difference, talking about how to respect each individual at school, how we can stand up for ourselves and for others and make new friends in lessons about Protected Characteristics and Anti-bullying; this also ties in with Black History Month.

History and Geography:

For the first half of this term, our geography lessons will focus on discovering the world we live in and all of its amazing features such as: the UK's most beautiful places, the world's oceans, what is special about our local area and why natural habitats are special.

During History this term, we will be investigating events within our living memory, making comparisons and discussing differences between now and 100 years ago. As part of our learning in the second half of the term, the Year 2 staff will be delivering an immersive Victorian day for the children with many different learning opportunities. More details will be sent closer to the October half-term.

Art and DT:

In Art this term, we will be exploring the many different methods of drawing. Children will have the opportunity to develop their drawing skills and techniques in order to create characters. After the half-term, we will be tackling the brand-new topic of Fairground Wheels. We will be (fingers crossed) creating our own, functioning Ferris Wheel by using various skills taught within our lessons.

P.E.

PE will take place on a **Wednesday** outside and **Thursday** inside. Pupils will need their indoor and outdoor kit for both days.

Equipment needed:

- Art/DT overall (an old adult sized shirt is perfect for this)

Please make sure that ALL items your child brings into school are labelled with your child's name.



Cherry Tree Road, Holtspur, Beaconsfield, Bucks, HP9 1BH
 Telephone/Fax (01494) 674325/730434
 Email: office@holtspurschool.co.uk
 Headteacher: Mrs L McKellar

CARING, INSPIRING, ACHIEVING



	Expectations
School Uniform	Grey shorts or trousers; grey skirt or pinafore dress; white shirt or blouse; white polo shirt (with or without school logo); maroon jumper or cardigan (with or without school logo); maroon fleece (with or without school logo); maroon and grey school tie (optional in Reception and KS1); white or grey socks; grey or black tights; maroon and white striped or checked summer dress; black shoes (all black – please avoid visible labels). No branded socks.
Hair Accessories	Alice bands and hair clips should be black, white or maroon.
Indoor PE Kit	White polo shirt or T-shirt (plain or with school logo); maroon or black shorts; white socks; plimsolls. Religious headdresses may be worn; we suggest a sports hijab.
Outdoor PE Kit	Trainers; plain black jogging bottoms; maroon school fleece OR plain black sweatshirt/fleece.
PE – Health & Safety	Religious bracelets should be covered by a towelling sweatband. Watches must be removed for PE. Stud earrings must be removed or taped over; parents should supply the tape.
Hair	- Shoulder-length hair must be securely tied back for both girls and boys using a simple stretchy band in maroon, white or black. - Hair should be kept out of the eyes with a simple maroon or black hairband. - No flowers, jewels or other decorations in the hair. - Hair should not be dyed. - Fashion cuts, including shaved lines or symbols, Mohicans, stripes etc., are not allowed. - If hair has been beaded or plaited during the holidays, it must be securely tied back for health and safety.
Jewellery	Jewellery is not permitted at school. Small stud earrings and a simple watch are permitted, provided the watch does not have digital photo-taking capability.
Religious Jewellery / Clothing	Jewellery or clothing with religious significance may be allowed at the discretion of the Headteacher. Parents should make a written request to Mrs McKellar.
Make-up & Nails	Nail varnish, temporary tattoos and make-up are not allowed.
Labelling	All items of uniform must be clearly and permanently labelled with your child's name.

School-specific polo shirts, jumpers/fleeces and ties can be purchased from The School Shop in Beaconsfield or through the PTA uniform shop, which also sells good-quality second-hand uniform.



Cherry Tree Road, Holtspur, Beaconsfield, Bucks, HP9 1BH
Telephone/Fax (01494) 674325/730434
Email: office@holtspurschool.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs L McKellar

CARING, INSPIRING, ACHIEVING

Attendance - Every day counts

Attendance has a direct link to attainment. Absence can also affect a child socially, emotionally and impact on the way they see themselves as a learner. Our curriculum is sequenced in a way that builds upon prior knowledge, when a child is absent, they miss key concepts which are built upon. Low attendance causes gaps in understanding which impacts children's progress and self-confidence. The attendance ladder below shows the breakdown of how each day lost or time lost impacts their overall attainment and progress. At Holtspur we expect all children to attend school every day, **our attendance target is 96%** for all children. Children should only be absent if they are too ill to attend.



Home Learning:

Sent out: Thursday

Due in: the following Tuesday.

One piece of Home Learning will be set, consisting of either:

- Maths
- Reading comprehension
- Grammar or Punctuation
- Science
- Topic

Pupils are encouraged to read daily, so please ensure the reading journal is kept up to date.

Class Amazon Wishlist

In the current economic climate of school budgetary constraints, we are trying something new. Each class has set up a wish list of items that would benefit the children and are appealing to parents and carers to help with this. Please do visit this link and if you feel you could purchase one or more of the items for the class then please do so and it will be delivered directly to school. Alternatively, if you'd prefer to source the item(s) elsewhere, then you are welcome to do so. Our top priorities in the class are glue sticks. There is no obligation to purchase any items, however if you are able to do so we would be very grateful as this will help us to prioritise finances to other areas across the school.

The Year 2 Amazon wish list link is:



Cherry Tree Road, Holtspur, Beaconsfield, Bucks, HP9 1BH
 Telephone/Fax (01494) 674325/730434
 Email: office@holtspurschool.co.uk
 Headteacher: Mrs L McKellar

CARING, INSPIRING, ACHIEVING

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/37FNUL43EHJFC?ref=wl_lfu_nav_3

Yours sincerely,

Mr Bass and Mrs Bowler

Our Class Timetable:

Year 2 Timetable – Autumn 1

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday (PPA pm)	Friday
8:40 – 9:00	Registration Morning task & 1:1 reading	Registration Morning task & 1:1 reading	Registration Morning task & 1:1 reading	Registration Morning task & 1:1 reading	Registration Morning task & 1:1 reading
9:00 – 9:40	Phonics	Phonics	Phonics	Phonics	Assembly 9:00-9:20
9:40 – 10:30	Maths – White Rose	Maths – White Rose	Maths – White Rose	Maths – White Rose	Phonics 9:20-10:00
10:30 – 10:45	Assembly	Break	Break	Break	English 10 -10:30
10:45 – 11:00	Break	Daily Reading	Daily Reading	Daily Reading	English
11:00 – 12:00	English	English	PE (outdoor) Coach Charlotte	English	RE and worldviews
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	PPA
1:00 – 1:15	Mastering Number	Mastering Number	Mastering Number	Mastering Number	Mastering Number
1:15 – 2:15	History/ Geography	Science 1:15 – 2:45	English 1:15 – 2:15	1:15 – 2:15 Art / D&T	1:15 – 2 Maths – White Rose and Active Maths
2:15 – 3:00	Music		Computing and Library	PE (indoor)	PSHE 2:00– 3:00
3:00-3:10	Story time	Story time	Story time	Story time	Story time

(subject to change)

This may be amended if required