



Hollytree Pre-school Newsletter Summer 1 2026

Dear Parents/carers,

Welcome back, we hope you enjoyed your Easter break. This half term we are hoping for some warmer weather and maybe a little sunshine!

This half term our theme will be 'Minibeasts'. Over the next few weeks, we will be:

- Going on bug hunts
- Making homes for different kinds of insects.
- Looking at the life cycles of frogs and butterflies.
- Investigating the differences between different kinds of insects in our "Bug Lab", counting legs and wings, finding out where they live and how they move.
- Making bugs with salt dough.
- Going for walks to look for Signs of Spring

Our books of the week will be:

- Mad About Minibeasts
- The Hungry Caterpillar
- Snail Trail
- Superworm
- First Facts – Bugs and other information texts

Family Bag

We are introducing a 'family bag' to the children again this half term and they will each have a turn to take it home. We ask that you help them to select four items that are special to them and their family to go in the bag. It could be a special toy, a photo or something linked to interests outside of pre-school. The children will then bring the bag back to Pre-school and show the special items to the group. This is to develop speaking and listening skills and will also develop the children's confidence talking to others.

Toy library

The children will have the opportunity to use our toy library again this half term. We will focus on one group each week and the children will take a toy, game or puzzle home for a week and then return it to pre-school. These will be linked to your child's interests or next steps they are working on. Please encourage your child to take care of the item they bring home so it returns in good condition for another child to use.

Toileting

We will be expecting our older children who start school in September to manage all their own toileting needs. Please help them to practice doing this at home.

Appropriate clothing, footwear and suncream

Please ensure your child wears appropriate footwear to Preschool. We will be using the park, field and woods and the children will need to be able to run around easily. Wellies are not suitable as the children can't climb easily in the park when wearing them and they find it difficult to sit on the mats when playing inside.

If we do have a spell of hot weather, please ensure your child brings a sun hat and has sun cream applied. We are not able to put sun cream on the children but if it is particularly hot, they can bring a roll on suncream in their book bag, and we will supervise them using it.

Thursday 23rd April Halletts photography will be visiting at 9.15 for individual photos and a group photo.

If your child does not usually attend on a Thursday, you are welcome to bring them to Preschool at 9.15 and we will bring them out to you when they have had their photo taken.

Book bags

Please can you ensure your child brings their book bag to Preschool each day rather than a backpack. We have boxes for the book bags to go in, and they are easy for the children to access to put pictures in or a book they have chosen to take home.

Illness

We had a few viruses spreading through the children again last term and we are hoping for a much healthier few weeks this half term. We had several children coming into Preschool unwell and needing to be sent home. If your child requires calpol or equivalent they are not well enough to attend the setting. Please be considerate towards other children, their families and staff.

Late collection fee

Our sessions finish at either 12.00pm or 3.00pm and children need to be collected on time. We understand there may be odd occasions when you are unavoidably held up but we have a few children that are consistently being collected late. Please be aware that Hollytree management committee will be ensuring that the late collection fee of £10 will be charged for each late pick up, as outlined in our fees policy.

Thursday 7th May – Pre-school will be closed on this day as the hall is being used for a polling station

As always if you have any questions or concerns, please speak to a member of staff.

Many Thanks
The Hollytree Team