



NEWSLETTER 4.9.26

EMPATHY RESILIENCE AMBITION INTEGRITY RESPECT CURIOSITY



(Acting) Head's Highlights!

I am delighted to welcome everyone back for the start of a new school year. As I begin my role as Acting Headteacher, I feel incredibly privileged to be leading Holme Slack Community Primary School alongside Miss Robinson as our Acting Deputy Headteacher and to be building on the fantastic work of Mrs Peck. Having spent the last ten years at this wonderful school, I know first-hand what a special community it is, and I am excited about the next chapter in our journey together.

The new term has begun exceptionally well. Our children have returned with enthusiasm, positivity and a real readiness to learn. I have been delighted to visit classrooms and see pupils fully engaged and demonstrating a genuine love of learning.

I have also been immensely proud of the exemplary behaviour shown by our children. They have settled quickly into routines, shown kindness and respect towards one another, and represented our school values brilliantly from day one.

Attendance has also got off to an excellent start, with only five children absent on our first day back. This is a fantastic achievement and reflects the value our families place on education and learning. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring children attend school every day and arrive ready to learn.

As we look ahead to the year, I am excited about the opportunities that lie before us and remain committed to ensuring that every child at Holme Slack flourishes academically, socially and emotionally. Together, we will continue to build on the many strengths of our school and make it the very best it can be.

Thank you for your ongoing support. I look forward to working alongside our children, families, staff and wider community throughout what promises to be a successful and exciting year.

Miss Stocks
Acting Headteacher



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT



**I've passed my
National Professional
Qualification!**

#AmbitionNPQs
August 2026



We are delighted to celebrate Mrs Cavies' successful completion of the National Professional Qualification (NPQ) for SENCOs.

This nationally recognised qualification develops specialist knowledge and leadership skills to support children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and to promote inclusive practice across schools.

As our SENCO, Teacher of the Deaf and Inclusion Manager, Mrs Cavies plays an important role in ensuring that pupils receive the support they need to thrive. This achievement further strengthens the expertise she brings to our school community and reflects her commitment to supporting children and families.

Well done, Mrs Cavies, on this fantastic achievement! 🌟

FIRST WEEK BACK

A Fantastic Start to the New School Year

It has been a delight to see our children settle so quickly into their new classes and routines. During my daily walks around school this week, I have been incredibly proud to see pupils fully engaged in their learning, showing enthusiasm, curiosity and a positive attitude in every classroom.

Across the school, children have been demonstrating our school values through their learning, behaviour and interactions with others. The photographs below capture just some of the wonderful experiences from our first week back. We look forward to seeing all our children continue to grow, achieve and flourish throughout the year ahead.



CAMPBELL'S CORNER CATCH UP

This is our photo of the week.

Year 2 have been busy collecting the fruits of our harvest as the school gardens continue to flourish. The children were excited to see how much the plants have grown and enjoyed harvesting the produce they have helped to nurture.





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OUR WEEKLY SUPERSTARS

	Core Value Award	Wonderful Writer Award	Marvellous Mathematician Award	Sports Award
Reception				
Year 1	Nyska	Iva	Noah	
Year 2	Annie	Rosie	Amelia	
Year 3	Oscar	Oliver	Joe	
Year 4	Alfie	Grace	Byron	Kai
Year 5	Gabriel	Chayma	Marissa	
Year 6	Lincoln	Elliott	Louie	



ATTENDANCE



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Every Day Counts!



**Welcome back!**

Let's work together to give every child the best start to the new school year.



Why attendance is important

-  Children learn something new every day.
-  Good attendance helps children make friends.
-  Children feel happy and confident at school.
-  Missing school makes learning harder.
-  Being in school every day helps children succeed.

Government guidance

The Government expects children to attend school regularly. 

Our Attendance Expectations

- ★ Aim for **97%+** attendance.
- ★ Attendance below **95%** is a concern.
- ★ Holidays during term time are not normally authorised.
- ★ Children should attend school unless they are too ill to do so.
- ★ Good attendance helps children achieve their best. 

Key reminders for parents



School gate closes at 8:50am.



Arrive on time every day.



Call the school before 8:30am if your child is absent.



Keep children at home only if they are genuinely unwell.



Book family holidays during school holidays.



Speak to us if you need support with attendance.

Attendance and Learning

Attendance	Days Missed	Learning Lost
100%	0 days	No learning missed ★
97%	6 days	Around 30 lessons ★
95%	9 days	Around 50 lessons ★
90%	19 days	Around 100 lessons ★

★ Good attendance = More learning, more friendships, more success! ☆

Together, Our Children Can Achieve!

We are here to help.
If you are worried about attendance, please speak to a member of staff.



Every day at school helps your child shine!

★ Thank you for supporting great attendance! ☆ Every day counts! ♥



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

W/C 7th Sept - Reception Starters' 'Bubble Days'
15th Sept - KS2 Mini Skills Competition at West View
29th Sept - Year 5/6 Football Tournament
30th Sept - KS2 Harvest Assembly - Parents Welcome
October - Black History Month
7th - 9th Oct - Year 6 Residential to Robin Wood
9th Oct - World Mental Health Day - Wear Yellow
20th Oct - Year 5/6 Hockey Tournament
21st Oct - Halloween Disco
23rd Oct - SCHOOL CLOSED - INSET DAY



IN OTHER NEWS

Autumn SEND Roadshows

It's the beginning of a new school term and our SEND Roadshows are a great way to find out more about the support and services available across Lancashire.

Come along and:

- find out about local services and organisations
- ask questions and get advice
- meet other families and professionals
- find the support that's right for you

Our next roadshows are on:

- Wednesday 23rd September

Burnley Family Hub and the Zone, 9:30 -1pm

- Friday 23rd October

Skelmersdale Family Hub and the Zone, 1.30 - 4.30pm

Keep an eye out for more dates and venues on this page or find out more here:

www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-and-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities-local-offer/lancashire-send-partnership/lancashire-send-roadshows/

