6TH NOVEMBER 2026

HOLTSMERE END INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER AUTUMN TERM 2 2026

Dear Holtsmere families,

I hope that you had a lovely half term break. It's definitely Autumn as the weather has become a lot cooler. The children have settled back into what will be a very busy half term.

Children in Need



We will be supporting this wonderful charity, as we do every year, by holding a non-uniform day on **Friday 13th November.** It is an important lesson for the children that there are children less fortunate than them and that it is kind to help them. We ask that your child comes into school on the day in their own clothes and that you contribute at least £1. You can do this by bringing in cash or by donating on ARBOR (this will open next Thursday 12th). Please ensure that the children are dressed warmly and with sensible shoes for playing outside. The theme for this year is 'Challenge yourself in 2026.' We will be encouraging the children to team up with friends at lunchtime to walk/run the daily mile track collectively 26 times. There will also be a 26 minute dance-a-thon on the playground at lunchtime.

Poppies

We will be raising funds for the Royal British Legion by selling poppies and other merchandise on the playground and in the office after half term, to coincide with Remembrance Day on November 11th.

School Applications reminder

Reception and Year 3 applications open on 2nd November 2026 - Hertfordshire County Council school admissions

Clubs

Clubs will resume from next week.

Sparkly Thursday

The children enjoyed their sparklers yesterday as we remembered Guy Fawkes. They were very well behaved and remembered our safety rules. Please see Tapestry for your child's class page on the website for photos of your child's class taking part.

Allergies

Please remember to not include nuts in your child's lunch and snacks as we have a number of children who are allergic to them. We appreciate your support.

Have a wonderful weekend. **Nicola O'Connell Headteacher**





Sparkly Thursday





Well done to Oak class - this week's best attendance - 98%



Thank you to every parent who has made sure that their child is in school, on time, each day. We really appreciate it.

Attendance

Chestnut	Maple	Hazel	Oak	Beech	Pine
90%	89%	96%	98%	94%	97.5%

You MUST inform us if your child is absent from school, by calling or emailing the office, each day of absence.

Lateness - the number of children who were late in each class

Chestnut	Maple	Hazel	Oak	Beech	Pine
0	1	1	0	1	0

If your child is late - missing 15 minutes per day adds up to 2 weeks of school across the year!



Happy Birthday!



This half term's Winning house Green

Upcoming dates

Day	Date	Time	Event
Friday	13th Nov		Children in Need - Non-Uniform Day - donation
Tuesday	17th Nov	8.50-9.50 am	Nursery Stay and Play
Wednesday	18th Nov	2pm	Maple Stay and Play
Thursday	19th Nov	2pm	Chestnut Stay and Play

ATTENDANCE

Thank you for supporting good attendance. By working together, we can help every child be a HERO – Here Every day, Ready, On time!



HERO our attendance bear is awarded to the class with the best attendance each week



How can you help your child achieve the best attendance possible?

- Allow plenty of time to get ready in the morning and have breakfast before leaving for school.
- Allow plenty of time to get to school - if you are late please bring your child to the School Office.
- Have a bedtime routine so that they have a good night's sleep.
- Please do not keep your child off school if they have a minor ailment such as a cough, cold, runny nose, sneezing or sore throat.
- Children should be kept home for 48 hours from the last episode of vomiting and diarrhoea.
- If they are unable to attend school, please ring the school office by 9.15am to give details of the absence, otherwise your child's absence will be recorded as unauthorised.
- If making a routine appointment for the dentist/ doctor, please make it out of school hours, or during school holidays.
- If parents/carers have an appointment, please try to arrange for another suitable adult to collect your child(ren) so they stay at school till the end of the school day.
- Talk to us. We are here to help. If you are having any difficulties that are affecting your child's attendance at school, please come and talk to us as soon as possible so we can help you.
- Take your family holidays in school holiday time, missing valuable learning time can have a big impact on your child's education.

We cannot authorise term time holidays.
Our term dates are published a year in advance. They can be found here:
https://www.holtsmereinfants.herts.sch.uk/Term-Dates/

We appreciate that holidays are cheaper in term time, we can't go either!! We are committed to our roles as you should be to your child's education.

Funded by Hertfordshire County Council

Families in Focus
Looking forward together

Handling Anger in Children with Autism & ADHD

Join Francine & Lesley on our FREE 6-week online course for Hertfordshire parents.

Understand what's driving your child's anger and learn practical tools that bring calm, connection and smoother days at home.

We'll cover:

- Autism, ADHD & sensory needs
- What the brain does during anger
- Regulation tools that actually work
- Easier routines & transitions
- Reducing stress for the whole family
- Support from parents who truly "get it"

Mondays 6.30pm to 8.30pm
January 4, 11, 18, 25 & February 1, 8

Email: bookings@familiesinfocus.co.uk