



High Halden Church of England Primary School

Newsletter 5



Friday 31st October 2025

Autumn Term

'Rooted in God, we grow together'

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We hope you all had a lovely half term break, despite the rather wet and miserable weather!

Term 2 has started off brilliantly with our Big Draw celebration, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The children worked collaboratively to create a magnificent hall display – do pop in and have a look if you can! A big thank you to Mrs Morris for planning and leading such a creative and inspiring day for everyone.

Our curriculum themes for this term are now underway. Here are the curriculum titles and overarching learning questions for this term:

Bumblebees	Butterflies	Grasshoppers	Dragonflies
Once Upon a journey... What are the important places in my world?	There's no place like home How does city and village life compare?	From Paris...with Love What is the impact of tourism on France?	Europe What is the geography of Europe?

Knowledge organisers and learning overviews will be shared on Class Dojo and sent home for your reference. Please do take some time to use these with your child to help reinforce key learning, events, dates and vocabulary – it really does make a difference!

We know that this term is always a busy one, with lots of events taking place for charity fundraising, the PTFA, and of course, Christmas! We'll keep you up to date with all the details through our newsletters and Class Dojo posts, so please do keep an eye out for updates. We hope you all have lots of fun and stay safe this weekend – particularly if you're attending any firework displays.



Attendance

Reception	98.9%
Year 1	95.0%
Year 2	97.0%
Year 3	98.1%
Year 4	96.6%
Year 5	97.8%
Year 6	94.5%
National	95.7%
Local Authority	95.5%

We know this is the time of year when coughs and colds are more common. Please do ensure you follow NHS guidance when deciding whether your child is well enough to attend school.

In particular, please remember that children should not return to school until 48 hours after the last episode of sickness or diarrhoea. This is essential to help prevent the spread of germs and keep everyone in our school community healthy.

If you need further advice or would like to access some support, please visit the [Attendance section of our school website](#) for guidance and useful links.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain good attendance and a healthy school environment.

Generosity

Respect



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Reminder: Xmas4Schools

At the end of last term the children brought home their completed Christmas card design sheets.

The final date for return of design sheets to school is **Tuesday 4th November**.

If you would like the opportunity to purchase products with your child's design on them please complete the form on the reverse of the artwork and hand this in to the school office for processing. The print company cannot accept late submissions, so forms must be received by the deadline stated above.

If you have any questions about the ordering process, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Xmas4schools™

Remembrance

You may have noticed our new flag flying proudly outside the school as part of our Remembrance Day proceedings. A big thank you to Mr Ball for his help in making this possible.

Some of our Year 6 leaders will be representing the school by taking part in the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial in the churchyard on Sunday 9th November. The service will begin with a gathering at 10:45am, with the Act of Remembrance taking place at 11:00am.

We are very proud of our pupils for their involvement in this important community event.



PTFA Meeting

Our first PTFA meeting of the year will take place on Tuesday 4th November at 2pm here at school. Everyone is welcome to attend — we'd love to see some new faces and hear fresh ideas!

If you're unable to join us but have suggestions or would like to get involved, please speak to Cally (Posy's mum) or email Mrs Prebble.

Come along and help us plan and organise some great fun events for the children to remember!



Poppy Appeal 2025

Suggested donation amounts

- Pencil Sharpener 50p
- Snap Band £1.00 (Limit of 1 per child)
- Reflective Poppy 50p
- Rulers £1
- Adjustable Bracelet £1

Available to purchase from
28th October to 7th November
during morning breaktimes

Thank you for your support



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Parking - Engine Idling

We'd like to remind everyone of the importance of switching off your car engines while waiting outside the school at drop off and pick up times.

Keeping engines running (idling) may seem harmless, but it actually creates unnecessary air pollution right where our children are arriving and leaving each day.

Turning off your engine helps to:

-  **Keep the air cleaner** for our children and community
-  **Protect the environment** by reducing emissions
-  **Make the area calmer and quieter** for everyone

Thank you for helping to keep our school a cleaner, greener, and healthier place!



Year 6 Canterbury Cathedral Visit

Our Year 6 pupils have been given the wonderful opportunity to take part in a Cathedral Schools Day at Canterbury Cathedral, one of the most significant and historic Christian sites in the country. This special event will take place on Thursday 6th November and we are thrilled to have secured a place, as it is always in high demand.

Cathedral Schools Days are a unique chance for our pupils to come together with children from other schools. Pupils will participate in a range of workshops and prayer space activities in the morning, and a Worship Service in the afternoon - all set within the awe-inspiring setting of Canterbury Cathedral.



Whole School Poster Design Competition



*Design a Poster – Win a Prize!
Open to all year groups.*

Get creative and design a poster for our School Book Fair for your chance to win a voucher to spend at the fair!

Your poster should include:

 *Dates: 17th, 18th, 19th & 20th November*

 *Time: 3:15pm – 3:45pm*

 *Location: School Hall*

*Hand in your poster to Mrs Prebble by
Friday 7th November*

Good luck – we can't wait to see your amazing designs!

SCHOLASTIC TRAVELLING BOOKS

FREE BOOKS
for your school
when you buy at
the Book Fair!

A pop-up book-store
with hundreds of
books from
JUST £2.99

Come to our
BOOK FAIR

What are you waiting for?

Come find us at your Book Fair!

TIME: 3:15 to 3:45pm

DATE: 17th to 20th November

LOCATION: School Hall

Find these characters and
EVEN MORE BOOKS online

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Come and Play!



We'd like to invite children and their families who are interested in joining our school in September 2026, to come and play!

- 17th November at 2:30pm - Storytime
- 26th November at 9:15am - Outside Play
- 2nd December at 9:15am - Dough Disco
- 11th December at 9:15am - Christmas Crafts

Call 01233 850285 or email office@high-halden.kent.sch.uk to book your space.

www.high-halden.kent.sch.uk



HIGH HALDEN CEP SCHOOL EYFS OPEN EVENING



An opportunity for new and prospective families to hear all about our wonderful school. Come and meet our Headteacher and Early Years staff as well as tour the school.

Thursday 13th November at 6:30pm



Is your child due to start school in September 2026?



We warmly invite you to come for a personalised family tour of our school.

At High Halden, families are always pleasantly surprised by:

- our spacious indoor and outdoor learning environments.
- how children are supported with nurture and care in a welcoming, family feel community.
- our happy, calm and fun environment full of enriching experiences.



Discover how our children grow in a school that is warm, supportive and alive with opportunities to flourish!



We'd love to show you around, answer your questions, and help you picture your child's exciting journey with us. Contact the School Office to book your individual tour.

01233 850285 or office@high-halden.kent.sch.uk

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Help us to raise free funds as you shop this Christmas

Every Christmas present you buy is a present for

High Halden Church of England Prima...



Scan the QR code to make a difference every time you shop online. Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk



- 1 Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk
- 2 Sign up and search for us
- 3 Your favourite retailers donate to us whenever you shop with them

Get free donations from thousands of retailers including:



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🎁 Ukrainian Christmas Shoebox Appeal 🎁

Let's share some Christmas kindness!

This Christmas, we're sending shoebox presents to **wounded Ukrainian soldiers**, as well as **newborn babies** and **children** affected by the war — to bring them warmth, comfort, and joy this festive season. Here are some ideas;

💛 For Soldiers:

- 🧦 **Something to wear:** warm socks, gloves, or a hat
- 🎮 **Something to do:** small game (no language needed), puzzle, model kit (non-military), notebook, pens, or art supplies
- 🍪 **Something to eat:** biscuits, chocolates, sweets, or a small durable cake
- 🌸 **Something nice:** a small luxury toiletry (no basics like toothpaste or shower gel)
 - 📧 **A Christmas card**

👶 For Babies:

- 🍼 **Something to wear:** babygrow, vest, hat, mittens, socks
- 🧸 **Something to keep warm:** small blanket, soft wrap, or comforter
 - 🧸 **Something soft:** a small soft toy or rattle
 - 📧 **A gentle Christmas card**

🎨 For Children:

- 🧸 **Something to play with:** small toy, puzzle, simple game (no batteries)
- 👕 **Something to wear:** warm hat, gloves, socks, or scarf
- 🖍️ **Something creative:** colouring book, crayons, pencils, stickers
- 🍪 **Something to eat:** sweets, chocolates, or biscuits
 - 📧 **A cheerful Christmas card**

🎀 How to Wrap:

- Wrap the **outside of the box and lid separately**
 - Don't wrap the items inside.
 - No need to list contents.
- Clearly label: **Soldier, Baby, or Child.**

BOXES TO BE DELIVERED TO;

RM CYCLES, Leigh Green Industrial estate TN30 7DE

OR

If your school is partaking in the appeal, I will do a pick up from school.

Let's make Christmas brighter — **one shoebox at a time!** 💙💛





Dandelion Time invite you to our **Candlelit Christmas Concert** — a truly special evening of festive music and celebration in support of Dandelion Time.

Wednesday 17th December, from 6:00pm
St Augustine's Chapel, Tonbridge School

Followed by mulled wine and mince pies

Join us in the beautiful surroundings of **St Augustine's Chapel** for a heart-warming night featuring performances by:

- **The Kent Police Band**
- **Tonbridge Rock Choir**
- **West Kent Junior Voices**
- **Shears Green Junior School**

You'll also have the chance to sing along to traditional carols and enjoy a special festive reading from **Leigh Johnstone** – award-winning garden designer, mental health campaigner and Instagram personality **The Beardy Gardener**.

After the concert, relax with **mulled wine and mince pies**, accompanied by enchanting music from the **Kent County Youth Orchestra**.

All proceeds will help Dandelion Time support children and families across Kent who have experienced trauma and emotional difficulties – helping them heal, grow, and flourish.

Tickets now on sale:

- Adults: **£20.00**
- Children: **£12.00**

Doors Open: 6:30pm

Concert Begins: 7:00pm

Approx. Finish: 8:30pm

We can't wait to share this magical evening with you. Your support makes a lasting difference to the families we help.

With warm festive wishes,

The Dandelion Time Team

Book here: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/dandeliontime>

Diary Dates



Date	Event
Tuesday 4th November	Xmas4schools Christmas Artwork Deadline PTFA Meeting, 2pm
Thursday 6th November	Year 6 Canterbury Cathedral
Tuesday 11th November	Remembrance Day in School
Monday 17th - Thursday 20th November	Scholastic Book Fair