



High Halden Church of England Primary School

Newsletter 6

Friday 14th November 2025

Autumn Term



'Rooted in God, we grow together'

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We are now well into Term 2, and it's wonderful to see so much great learning taking place across the school. The teachers have been so impressed with the children's focus, enthusiasm, and the progress they are making in all areas of their learning.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Poppy Appeal this year. We were delighted to raise £168, which will go towards supporting the Royal British Legion's important work.

A very special well done to the children who represented the school at the Remembrance Service. You made us all proud — particularly those who read the names of the fallen and shared the thoughtful poems they had written. It was a truly meaningful way to show respect and remembrance.

There has been a real buzz of excitement in Science lessons this week! Some of our older pupils have been exploring Newton's three laws of motion, investigating how forces affect movement in fun, hands-on experiments. Grasshoppers have been learning about magnets — discovering how magnetic attraction and repulsion work and testing which materials are magnetic. Meanwhile, Butterflies Class had a very special visit from the Guide Dogs charity as part of their topic on our senses, especially the sense of sight. The children were thrilled to meet Rosie the guide dog and learned about how she helps her owner in daily life.



It's been a busy and inspiring week, and we are so proud of the children's curiosity, kindness, and enthusiasm for learning.

Attendance

Reception	98.8%
Year 1	95.0%
Year 2	97.4%
Year 3	97.0%
Year 4	96.2%
Year 5	97.5%
Year 6	94.4%
National	95.4%
Local Authority	95.2%

We are absolutely delighted to share some wonderful news about our whole-school attendance!

This week, we received an email from the Department for Education (DfE) recognising the hard work and commitment across our school community to improve attendance. The DfE has identified our school as a high performer, with attendance outcomes among the strongest compared to similar schools — both in overall attendance and in reducing persistent absence.

This is a fantastic achievement and a real testament to the dedication of our families, pupils, and staff in making sure children are in school every day, ready to learn and thrive.

A huge thank you to all our families for your continued support — it really has made a difference. Let's keep up this brilliant momentum and continue working together to make every day of learning count!



Generosity

Respect



Wisdom

Trust

Hope

Worship

As part of our worship this week, we have been remembering and reflecting on the significance of the poppy and why, as a nation, we pause to remember those who have served and sacrificed.

We talked about the importance of hope and peace for the future, and the children shared some very thoughtful reflections on what remembrance means to them today.

During worship, we watched a short video that helped the children understand the symbolism of the poppy and why it was chosen as a lasting symbol of remembrance. You might like to watch it together at home and talk about what the poppy means to your family.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/poppies>



School Dinners

We have been informed by Tenterden Schools Trust that the cost of school meals will increase from January. From this date, each meal will cost **£2.85**, making the weekly total for Key Stage 2 children £14.25 (based on five meals).

Don't forget that applying for free school meals is a quick and simple process that could save you the cost of a school meal every day.

If your child is eligible, you can receive nutritious, balanced meals at no cost, helping you reduce daily expenses while ensuring your child eats well at school. To check your eligibility and apply, visit the Kent County Council website at

www.kent.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals



Book & Toy Donation Week

Help Luis & Ella Make a Difference!

**Monday 24th November
to
Friday 28th November**



Our amazing Head Boy, Luis, and Head Girl, Ella, are collecting soft toys and children's books in good, clean condition! These will help stock their Book Sale and Toy Tombola stalls to raise funds for their chosen charity.

**Keep an eye out for updates about the Book Sale and Toy Tombola.
Dates and times will be shared soon!**

Please bring any donations to the school office during our donation week.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION



**HIGH HALDEN
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

THANK YOU

YOUR **POPPY** SUPPORTS THE ARMED FORCES
COMMUNITY PAST AND PRESENT

Thank you for supporting The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Together we raised:

£168.78

To find out more about how your donation helps,
visit rbl.org.uk

Registered charity number: 219279

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Pantomime Trip

We have arranged for the whole school to attend a pantomime on **Friday 12th December 2025**.

The production of Jack and the Beanstalk will be taking place at The Sinden Theatre in Tenterden and our tickets are booked for the morning performance.

The cost for the trip will be **£12.00** per child; this includes the pantomime ticket, return coach travel and an ice cream during the interval.

Please don't forget to complete a consent form by 26th November for your child, the form can be accessed via this link:

<https://forms.gle/xZTWMTnuWahKb82YA>



PANTO TIME!

Christmas Jumper Non-uniform Day

Get ready to show off your festive flair and help us raise money for Save the Children on

Friday 12th December.

Dig out your funniest, sparkliest, or silliest Christmas jumper and wear it proudly for the day. We can't wait to see all the jingling, twinkling, and tinsel-tastic designs!

A suggested donation of £1 per child will go towards supporting this amazing charity.

This is also the day of our trip to watch the pantomime, let's make it a joyful and jolly day!



Save the Children.

Nativities

Just a reminder that the nativity tickets booking forms are open and will remain open until 4:00pm on Friday 21st November.

Tickets will be confirmed and issued by Friday 28th November.

A Class Dojo announcement will be shared to confirm the exact day tickets are sent home.

Please note: dress rehearsal for all children is Monday 15th December at 9:15am

Booking Form Links

EYFS/KS1 – Bumblebees and Butterflies:

<https://forms.gle/6fBF5akqjMVe4sG47>

KS2 – Grasshoppers and Dragonflies:

<https://forms.gle/6rVCvNjusW9gRYMi8>



Christmas Lunch

The children's Christmas lunch will be served on Wednesday 17th December.

We will be sending out the menu and pre-order form for Christmas lunch shortly.



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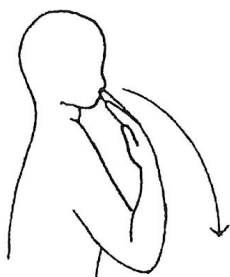
Hope

Makaton Sign of the Week

We're excited to introduce our new Makaton Sign of the Week! Each week, we'll be learning a new sign together in school. The sign will be displayed in the school hall and introduced to the children during worship and lunchtime.

Makaton is a wonderful way to support communication and inclusion for all our pupils. It would be lovely if you could join in by practising the weekly sign at home too – helping us all to learn and communicate together!

W/C 17th November



Please

W/C 24th November



Thank you

BOOK FAIR

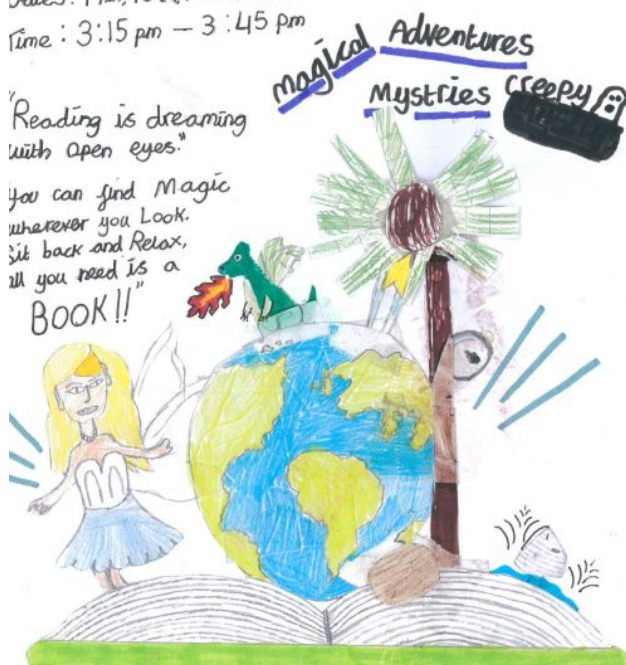
At High Haldens School Hall

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

Time: 3:15 pm – 3:45 pm

"Reading is dreaming
with open eyes."

You can find Magic
wherever you Look.
sit back and Relax,
all you need is a
BOOK!!



Book Fair Poster Competition

Congratulations to our two book fair poster competition winners

Phoebe (Yr 6) and Maggie (Yr 1)

Thank you to all of the children who entered, your wonderful posters are now on display around the school.

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Be Bright, Be Seen

We were recently successfully selected to take part in this year's Be Bright Be Seen 2025 campaign in partnership with Kent County Council's Safer Road User Team.

In partnership with KMFM, the campaign is distributing 25,000 reflective tags to school pupils across the county. These tags are designed to be attached to dark school uniforms, coats, and bags, making children more visible during their journeys to and from school. High-visibility clothing, like the reflective tags, play a vital role in road safety as they can be seen by drivers using headlights from up to three times the distance compared to non-reflective materials.

We have now received our reflective tags in school and will be giving them to the children to bring home this afternoon.

Thank you to Georgia, Giovanni's mum, for nominating High Halden School to receive the reflective tags.



Diary Dates



Date	Event
Monday 17th - Thursday 20th November	Scholastic Book Fair
Tuesday 18th November	Butterflies Come & Learn (9:00am)
Monday 24th - Friday 28th November	Soft Toy & Books Donation Week
Tuesday 2nd December	Dragonflies Come & Learn (2:15pm)
Thursday 4th December	Grasshoppers Come & Learn (1:45pm)

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