



# High Halden Church of England Primary School

## Newsletter 10



Spring Term

Friday 23rd January 2026

*'Rooted in God, we grow together'*

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As we reach the end of Week Three, the dark mornings haven't dampened our spirits. It has been an incredibly vibrant week across the school, filled with outdoor discovery and cultural exploration.

We are thrilled with our new Forest School provider, Righteous Oaks. They have been providing wonderful opportunities for the children to engage with the natural world while learning essential outdoor techniques. Last week, I had the pleasure of touring our School Governors around the grounds. We came across a group of children working hard to start a fire; the sheer joy and pride on their faces when they finally succeeded was a highlight of the week! A huge thank you to Helen for planning such inspirational and engaging sessions. It is wonderful to see our pupils building resilience and teamwork in the Great Outdoors.



To celebrate World Religion Day, our children ventured out on a very special trip to visit either a Synagogue (EYFS/KS1) or a Gurdwara(KS2). These first-hand experiences are so vital for bringing our curriculum to life, creating memories that stay with the children long after they leave the classroom. The feedback from our staff was glowing: our children were incredibly respectful and represented our school values with immense pride.

An event like this doesn't happen without a lot of hard work behind the scenes. We would like to extend our gratitude to our Staff, thank you for the meticulous organisation and for ensuring the trip was a success. As well as, our volunteers, we truly appreciate you giving up your time to support us. We hope you enjoyed the experience as much as the children and staff did!



*Have a great Weekend!*

Whether you are heading out for a winter walk or staying cozy at home, we hope you have a relaxing and joyful weekend. We look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for **Week Four** on Monday morning!

### Attendance

#### Attendance percentage

Reception	99.0%
Year 1	96.6%
Year 2	96.8%
Year 3	96.9%
Year 4	96.2%
Year 5	97.6%
Year 6	95.1%
National	94.8%
Local Authority	94.5%

There is never a dull moment in the classroom, and this week has been a perfect example of why being in school every day is so important. Whether the children are being captivated by the storytelling of our puppet shows, stepping back in time to learn about the Celts, or mastering the complexities of long division, these "lightbulb moments" happen daily. When a child misses school, they don't just miss a lesson; they miss the shared excitement and the foundational steps that make learning click.

**Our Whole School Attendance is: 96.9%**

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child is here to share in these experiences. Let's keep this wonderful momentum going as we head into Week Four!

Generosity

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## Prayer Group

At our school, we value the strength of our community and the power of coming together. Mrs. Myers would like to warmly invite you to join our parent prayer group this coming week.

This is a wonderful opportunity to meet other parents, share a moment of reflection, and support our school community in a peaceful setting.

- **When:** Tuesday, 27th January
- **Time:** 1:00 PM

All are welcome-whether you are a regular attendee or joining us for the first time, we would love to see you there.



## Emergency Response

We continually review our provision to ensure we are prepared for any medical emergency. The safety and well-being of our children and staff are our absolute priorities. We would like to share with you some of the life-saving equipment we now have on-site:

**Defibrillator:** available for immediate use in cardiac emergencies.

**Life-Vac Devices:** We have recently invested in two **Life-Vac** systems. These are specialised devices designed to intervene quickly and effectively should a child or adult begin to choke.

**Emergency Epi-Pens:** We now stock emergency auto-injectors (Epi-Pens) to be used should any member of our school community suffer a severe anaphylactic reaction.



Our staff have received training in the use of these devices. While we hope we never have to use them, these investments are part of our ongoing commitment to providing a safe and secure environment for your children.

## Show and Share

We are delighted to invite all parents and carers to our "**Show and Share**" afternoon. This is a wonderful, informal opportunity for you to step into your child's classroom, look through their books, and see the fantastic work they have been producing this term.

From creative projects to progress in maths and writing, the children have so much to be proud of. We hope you can join us to celebrate their achievements together!

- **When:** Monday, 2nd February
- **Time:** Immediately after school
- **Where:** Your child's classroom

We look forward to seeing you there and sharing the children's hard work with you!



## Number Day Friday 6th February

We are excited to join in with Number Day to help raise the profile of maths across the school! This is all about making numbers fun and showing that maths is everywhere.

- **Dress up for Digits:** Children are invited to come to school dressed in a number theme (e.g., a football top or a numbered t-shirt). There is no need to buy anything new-feel free to get creative or use what you already have at home!
- **Maths Challenges:** Teachers will be teaching their classes new maths games and puzzles. I wonder if the children will challenge you to a game when they get home?

*(Please note: We are not collecting donations for this event; the focus is purely on celebrating maths!)*



## Governor Meeting Review-Term 3

At the recent Governing Body meeting, governors reviewed actions from the previous meeting and re-elected the Chair of Governors, with time also given to succession planning. We would like to extend our thanks to Clare for agreeing to continue in the role. Governors reviewed headline safeguarding information from across both schools, alongside contextual data, and were reassured by the oversight in place. Attendance figures were shared and celebrated, and Term 2 pupil outcome data was discussed in detail, with governors asking questions to better understand strengths and areas for development.

Governors also received feedback from recent governor monitoring visits, with time given to questions about the findings. The Christian vision, values and distinctiveness of both schools were a key focus, with governors celebrating a wide range of activities including Christmas visits, a shared Christingle service, class visits to church, the panto trip, Christmas dinner, and the carol concert at Woodchurch. Governors also noted the High Halden children's involvement in preparing for worship, and activities linked to World Religion Day at High Halden.

The Finance Committee provided an update on their recent monitoring and responded to governors' questions. A health and safety update was shared, including information about our new anaphylaxis kits in school and the introduction of LifeVac kits, with training provided for all staff. Finally, governors reviewed a number of policies and discussed how behaviour policies are shared across both schools with parents, ensuring clarity and consistency for families.



### PTFA Cake Raffle

The PTFA will be holding a Cake Raffle on Friday 13th February.

#### **Tickets on sale:**

From Monday 9th February at the school office

#### **Ticket price:**

£1 per ticket

Cash and card payments accepted

#### **The draw:**

The winning ticket will be drawn during the school day, and the lucky family will be able to take the cake home that day to enjoy.

Thank you for supporting the PTFA and good luck!

## **PTFA Glitter & Groove Valentines Disco Thursday 12th February 2026 4:30pm-6:00pm**

**Tickets available to purchase  
from  
the school office**

**Monday 2nd February**

**to**

**Wednesday 11th February**



**£6 per child**

**Card payment preferred  
(no bacs payments)**

**Snack pre-order required**

**All profit from this event will be donated to  
High Halden School PTFA**

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## Non-uniform Day

Friday 13th February 2026



Small gift donations on this day for our  
PTFA Mothers day/Someone Special  
Gift Shop

Further details regarding gift shop dates and  
how to register your child to take part will be  
shared soon



## ★ High Halden PTFA Fundraising Challenge – £20.26 ★

This term, we are inviting each child and their family to  
take part in our £20.26 Fundraising Challenge!

### 💡 The Challenge

Try to raise £20.26 – Individually or together as a family  
Every little effort helps and it's all for a great cause!

### 🔢 Why £20.26?

As this is our 2026 challenge, all fundraising ideas are  
linked to the number 26.  
Choose one idea or get creative and make up your own!

### 📅 Important Dates

📄 A letter and sponsorship form will be sent home on  
Monday 26th January, including all the details needed  
to take part.

Thank you for your continued support – we can't wait to  
see the brilliant ideas our families come up with!

# 2026

## Half term Break Reminders

Can you believe Term 3 is already half-completed?  
It's a short but busy term, and we want to make sure  
everyone is prepared for the upcoming break.

**Last Day of Term 3:** Friday, 13th February 2026

**February Half-Term:** Monday, 16th February –  
Friday, 20th February 2026

**How to check future dates:** We follow the standard  
**Kent County Council (KCC)** term dates. If you are  
looking to plan ahead or book holidays for later in the  
year, you can always check the [KCC School Term  
Date website](#) for future breaks.

*(Please note: While we follow KCC for holidays, our  
individual **INSET Days** are set by the school and will  
be communicated to you separately.)*

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/term-dates>

## Term 4 Theme Day

Looking Ahead to Term 4: Eco-Engineers

Starts Monday, 23rd February

We are excited to announce our theme for the next  
term: "Eco-Engineers: Building a Better Planet." This  
theme day will take our children on a journey through  
the world of sustainable design. We will be exploring  
how engineers protect our natural world, reduce  
waste, and find clever ways to save energy.

The focus will be on the creative process—the  
children won't just be learning about problems; they  
will be part of the solution!



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# Out & About, Together



Invite you to the  
**Snowdrop Fair**  
at Hole Park

**February 1<sup>st</sup> 10-3pm**  
**FREE OF CHARGE**

Hot Drink, Lunch and Coach Travel all Included  
for over 55s living in the Ashford District

To book your space please call, text or email  
Helen:  
07895052945  
righteousoaks@hotmail.com



Righteous Oaks Forest School  
(in association with IMAGO)



# BRICKS AT THE MUSEUM



DATES: 14TH TO 22ND FEBRUARY 2026 (HALF TERM)  
LOCATED: RAF MANSTON HISTORY MUSEUM  
TIMES: 10 AM - 4PM DAILY (3.30PM LAST ENTRY)



ARE YOU A LEGO ENTHUSIAST? IF SO THEN POP ON DOWN AND ENJOY THE FUN WITH LIKE-MINDED LEGO LOVERS AT OUR ULTIMATE FAMILY FRIENDLY EXHIBITION WEEK! (NORMAL MUSEUM ENTRANCE FEES APPLY) NO NEED TO BOOK!

OPTIONAL  
PRE-BOOKING  
AVAILABLE

BOOK HERE



**LEGO FIGURE HUNT**  
SEARCH AROUND THE MUSEUM, FIND THE HIDDEN LEGO FIGURES & WIN A PRIZE... ONLY £1.50

INTERESTED IN DISPLAYING YOUR LEGO MOC? EMAIL [INFO@RAFMANSTON.CO.UK](mailto:info@rafmanston.co.uk) FOR DETAILS

PLEASE CONTACT US ON:  
[INFO@RAFMANSTON.CO.UK](mailto:info@rafmanston.co.uk) OR  
[WWW.RAFMANSTON.CO.UK](http://www.rafmanston.co.uk) FOR MORE INFORMATION!

\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO: WEATHER CONDITIONS, MECHANICAL BREAKDOWNS AND SHORTAGE OF VOLUNTEERS AND/OR EXHIBITORS.

The Tenterden Drama

# BARN DANCE

featuring Rejigged Ceilidh Band

28th February 2026

Doors open 7pm, dancing 7.30pm

St Michael's Village Hall  
TN30 6DU

Tickets £15

[ticketsource.co.uk/todsproductions](http://ticketsource.co.uk/todsproductions)

Full bar, hot food and snacks available  
Prize for the best dressed!

Ofsted  
Registered

## FEBRUARY HALF TERM KIDS CAMP

For 5-11  
Years Old

Open daily  
8.30am - 4pm

Address

Ark Alexandra William  
Parker Campus, Parkstone  
Road, Hastings, TN34 2NT

£30  
A day

WE ACCEPT

Childcare Vouchers  
Tax-Free Childcare

Mobile  
Payments

[www.boomactive.co.uk](http://www.boomactive.co.uk)

16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> February

Join us this half term for action-packed days full of sports, games, challenges and wacky races!

Every day brings new activities to keep children active, engaged and smiling — all while learning teamwork, confidence and life skills.

[www.boomactive.co.uk](http://www.boomactive.co.uk)



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# Inspiring Futures Day

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2026

9am-12pm

We are excited to invite parents, carers, and community volunteers to take part in our Inspiring Futures Day at school.

This special morning is all about sharing real life career experiences and helping our children learn about the many exciting paths they could follow in the future.

Interested in helping?

Please contact the school office if you would like to come in and share your career with our children.

Any amount of time that you can join us for on the day will be very much appreciated.

Your time and experience can make a real difference.

Email: [office@high-halden.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@high-halden.kent.sch.uk)

Tel: 01233 850285



## Diary Dates



Date	Event
Monday 2nd February	Show and Share
Friday 6th February	Number Day
Monday 9th February	SEND Coffee Morning - EYFS/KS1
Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th February	Bikeability Cycle Training Course - Year 6
Thursday 12th February	PTFA Valentines Disco
Friday 13th February	PTFA Non-uniform Day PTFA Cake Raffle Last Day of Term 3

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