



# High Halden Church of England Primary School

## Newsletter 16



Summer Term

Friday 8th May 2026

*'Rooted in God, we grow together'*

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It has been a relatively short week, but we have certainly packed a tremendous amount into it! The school has been buzzing with energy as we balanced our classroom learning with some fantastic enrichment opportunities.

On Tuesday, we spent the day outdoors, celebrating and enjoying our local environment in honour of Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday. It was a wonderful opportunity for the children to connect with nature and appreciate the wildlife right on our doorstep. The weather held out for us, allowing the children to explore, observe, and discuss the importance of conservation, a fitting tribute to a man who



has inspired so many of us to protect our planet.



We were also joined by the Smart Brothers for a road safety workshop. It was a brilliant session, full of humour and fun, but underscored by very important safety reminders. The children engaged brilliantly with the workshop, and we hope the key messages about staying safe near the roads will stay with



them as they travel to and from school.



Finally, I had the absolute pleasure today of announcing our Headteacher for the Day. We received so many brilliant applications filled with creative and thoughtful ideas that choosing just one proved impossible. As a result, we decided to appoint an Assistant Head for the day as well! A huge well done to Isla Hothersall Mackenzie and Isla Bennett for their outstanding applications. They will be taking on their new roles shortly and "living out" some of the suggestions they made in their proposals. We look forward to sharing more of their ideas with the rest of the school community soon.

### Attendance

#### Attendance percentage

Reception	98.2%
Year 1	95.6%
Year 2	95.5%
Year 3	95.4%
Year 4	95.6%
Year 5	96.6%
Year 6	95.6%
National	94.8%
Local Authority	94.5%

School	96.1%
National	94.8%
Local Authority	94.5%



Generosity

Respect



Wisdom

Trust

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## KS2 SATs Week

As we approach SATs week, we want to take a moment to tell our Year 6 pupils just how incredibly proud we are of them.

Over the past few months, we have seen you put in an immense amount of effort, showing resilience and a fantastic attitude toward your learning. You have worked incredibly hard, and now it is simply time to see that dedication pay off.

Please remember that these tests are not something to fear; instead, look at them as an opportunity to show off everything you have learned during your time at primary school.

**Good luck Year 6, you are ready for this!**



## Residential Trip

*A prayer for the children in Y5/6 who are off on their residential trip at the end of next week...*

Dear Lord,

We pray for our Year 5 and 6 children as they head off on their residential adventure.

Please keep them safe in all they do and guide them as they embrace new experiences. We ask that they have a wonderful time filled with fun and laughter, and the courage to challenge themselves when faced with something new.

May they return home with great memories and newfound confidence.

Amen.



## FTF Day

The countdown to Flourish Together Day is officially on! A huge thank you to everyone who submitted their workshop preferences; the booking deadline has now passed.

Starting next week, our team will begin the exciting process of allocating children to their workshops. We aim to ensure every student gets a fantastic mix of activities that spark their curiosity and creativity.

**Don't forget you are able to wear non-uniform for this day and you will need a packed lunch.**



## Half Term Dates

Here are the remaining term dates left for this academic year:

Term	Starts	Ends
5	Current Term	Friday 22nd May
6	Tuesday 2nd June	Tuesday 22nd July

Just a reminder that we also have Inset Days in school on:

**Monday 1st June**

**Friday 3rd July**



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# ♥ Steps for Huxley ♥

We are calling on the High Halden school community to come together and support a very special family with close links to our school. Huxley is a 10-year-old Year 5 pupil at Woodchurch Primary who is currently undergoing treatment for leukaemia. Some of our families may also remember Huxley's mum, Jesse Banach, who worked at our school during the pandemic, leading one of our class bubbles and supporting children through such a challenging time.

Huxley has been receiving treatment and care at The Royal Marsden Hospital, but the next stage of his treatment will require private funding. Now, this wonderful family needs the support of the wider community around them.

To help raise vital funds, Friends of Woodchurch School Association (FOWSA) are organising a sponsored walk on **Sunday 7th June** and we warmly invite children, families, carers and friends to join us. Whether you walk, donate, sponsor or simply help spread the word, every bit of support will mean so much.

It is free to take part, but we kindly ask each participating child to raise a minimum of **£5 sponsorship**, with any additional donations hugely appreciated. Every step taken and every pound raised will make a real difference to Huxley and his family.

♥ **100% of the money raised will go directly towards supporting Huxley's treatment.**

If you would like to take part, please register here so we have an idea of numbers:

[Registration Form](#)

**Sponsor forms are available from the School Office. There is also a fundraising page, if you are unable to join us for the walk but would like help:** <https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-huxley-fight-leukaemia>

We are grateful for everyone's kindness and sensitivity when talking about Huxley's journey, and we respectfully ask that the family's privacy continues to be supported during this difficult time.

Please help us get behind Huxley and his family and show the strength, kindness and generosity of our amazing school community. Together, we can make a difference ♥



**SPONSORED WALK**  
**STEPS** ♥  
*for* **HUXLEY**

📅 **SUNDAY**  
**7 JUNE**

🕒 **2-4 PM**

📍 **MEETING POINT:**  
**WOODCHURCH**  
**VILLAGE GREEN**

*Small steps. Big difference.* ♥  
TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A REAL IMPACT ♥

The poster features a green heart icon, a calendar icon, a clock icon, a location pin icon, and two footprints (one blue, one green) on the right side. At the bottom, there is a green lizard illustration and two small green hearts.

## Play Days – Play is Learning!

Our Term 6 Theme Day is all about the importance of play and the many ways children learn through it. We are excited to announce our “**Play Days – Play is Learning!**” event. On this day, children should come to school wearing clothes that they are happy to play in which has their **house colours**:

**Beech – Blue**    **Maple – Red**    **Elm – Yellow**

Throughout the day, children will work in their house teams and have the opportunity to explore and play in a variety of exciting areas, including:

- Outdoor and Forest School activities
- Role Play
- Craft and Creative activities

We are really looking forward to giving the children the opportunity to play, learn and work together, allowing them to flourish through their own interests, creativity and imagination. Mrs Ward is leading our Role Play area and would greatly appreciate donations or loans of:

- Fancy dress costumes (all ages)
- Clothing items suitable for dressing up
- Accessories such as hats, bags, glasses and wigs
- Costume jewellery

Please ensure that any items brought into school are clearly named so they can be safely returned.

Thank you for your continued support — we cannot wait for a fantastic day of learning through play!

### Roots to Food

We will be welcoming Darren from Roots to Food back to High Halden on Friday 5th June.

As before, each class will spend time during the day preparing a dish from scratch, using fresh ingredients and refining their culinary skills.

The recipe used on the day will be shared with you so that you may make and enjoy the dish at home if you wish to do so.



### Class Photos

Our school photographer will be visiting us in school on Wednesday 3rd June to take our annual class photographs.

Please can we ask that all children come to school in their full school uniform ready for the photographs to be taken.

Details of how to order copies of the photographs will be shared with you soon after photograph day.



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## Kent Adult Education Course - Happy Thoughts Jar

Date: 19/05/26

Time: 1:00-3:00pm

Location: High Halden Primary School

Course enrolment password: ashford

Please use the link or QR code on the instructions below to sign up for this free of charge course.

If you experience any trouble with enrolling in this way, please call 03000 415888 and quote ASH/152223/Q/PF and the Kent Adult Education team will complete the enrolment for you over the phone.



Dear Parent/Carer/Grandparent

You have expressed an interest in the course listed below.

To confirm your place, please click on this course title

['Happy Thoughts Jar'](#)

or scan the QR and **follow the steps below to enrol** as soon as possible



**Course Title:** Happy Thoughts Jar

**Course dates:** Tuesday, 19 May 2026 - 19 May 2026

**Course time:** 13:00 - 15:00

**Venue:** High Halden Church of England Primary School, Church Hill, High Halden, Ashford, Kent, TN26 3JB

The enrolment deadline will be seven working days before the course start date (12/05/2026)

- After clicking on the link or scanning the QR code, you will be taken to the correct course location on the Kent Adult Education website
- Click enrol
- Click the correct eligibility statement
- You will be asked to enter a password and this is: ashford
- You will get a message saying – added. Your course has been added to the basket but you are not yet enrolled.
- Go to My Basket and click
- Review your enrolments
- Click enrol now
- You will then be asked to login (if you already have an account) or register.
- When you have logged in or registered, you will then be taken through a range of windows with questions.
- When you have completed these, you will then get a message to say that you have been enrolled.

If you have trouble with this, please call 03000 415888 and quote ASH/152223/Q/PF and we will enrol you.

Join us for some crafty family fun time, where you can remember positive and happy thoughts and memories together

*Nurtured Roots*

Make & Take Workshops  
Tenterden

£15



**Oil Magic Emotions**

A session focused on helping you support your emotions using essential oils, where you'll create 2 personalised blends.

£20



**Nature's Medicine**

An empowering, back-to-basics on using essential oils for everyday support, where you'll make 3 blends for things like sleep, sniffles, and digestion.

£15



**Pamper Your Dog**

A reassuring introduction to using essential oils safely around your dog, including making 2 dog-safe sprays to use at home.

£35



**Green Cleaning**

A simple session on switching to lower-tox cleaning without overthinking it, where you'll make 4 different products to take home.

<https://buytickets.at/nurturedroots>

07543674913 WhatsApp

FOOD FESTIVAL  
By Aspex

OUT OF THIS WORLD



21st May

Mini Planet Meatballs  
with Out of this World Tomato Sauce,  
Pasta and Green Beans

Or

Veggie Big Bang Bangers  
with Cosmic Mash and Green Beans

And

Rocket Lolly



Diary Dates



Date	Event
W/C Monday 11th May	KS2 SATs Week
Tuesday 12th May	Bumble Bees Green Farm trip
Friday 15th - Monday 18th May	Year 5-6 PGL residential trip
Wednesday 20th May	Butterflies trip on the KESR
Friday 22nd May	Flourish Together Day Last day of term 5
Monday 1st June	Inset Day
Tuesday 2nd June	Term 6 begins Theme day - Play is Learning!

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