



High Halden Church of England Primary School

Newsletter 2



Friday 18th September 2026

Autumn Term

'Rooted in God, we grow together'

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It has been lovely to see the children continuing to settle into their new classes, routines and learning. Thank you to everyone who attended our Meet the Teacher sessions. We hope you found these useful and that they gave you a clearer understanding of the routines, expectations and learning in your child's new year group. Don't forget to visit the [class pages](#) on our school website, where you will find knowledge organisers, learning overviews, Meet the Teacher slides and other useful documents. These are updated each term and are a great way of keeping up to date with what your child is learning and supporting conversations about their learning at home.



Our Bumblebees have settled into school life brilliantly. They are enjoying and engaging with all areas of the curriculum and making the most of both their classroom and outdoor environments. There has already been lots of imaginative role play, plenty of water fun and, excitingly, they have started their phonics sessions too! It is wonderful to see their confidence growing as they become increasingly familiar with school life. Mrs Myers revealed a little hidden gem to our Butterflies this week, which she has been busy working on over the summer! The children now have access to their very own outdoor learning environment to use during lesson times. There is already a new mud kitchen and water runs to investigate, with even more still to come. It is a really exciting addition to the provision and will allow the children to continue benefiting from a rich, play-based curriculum both inside and outdoors.



Earlier this week, there was a crime committed in Grasshoppers... Thankfully, it was all in the name of learning! The children became forensic scientists, investigating fingerprints and discovering how forensic scientists ask questions, examine clues and work alongside the police to understand evidence left at a crime scene. There was certainly lots of excitement and some excellent scientific thinking taking place! Over the summer, we also updated the class set of Chromebooks for our Dragonflies, and the children have been busy putting their new devices to good use. They have also been getting to grips with their music curriculum, where technology has been helping them explore and create music. I know Mrs Ward has particularly enjoyed using technology with the children to make some grunge music, I'm sure the Dragonflies will be more than happy to tell you all about it!



Have a lovely weekend, and we look forward to seeing everyone again next week!



Attendance

Attendance percentage

School	98.2%
Reception	99.5%
Year 1	91.9%
Year 2	99.5%
Year 3	100.0%
Year 4	100.0%
Year 5	97.8%
Year 6	98.6%

Attendance across the school has been fantastic since we returned – thank you! A special congratulations goes to Grasshoppers, who have achieved an amazing 100% attendance – every child in school, every day! Well done to all of our children and families for making attendance such a priority. Being in school every day really does make a difference to children's learning, friendships and progress. Let's keep it going!



Generosity

Respect



Wisdom

Trust

Hope

Author Visit

We are delighted to welcome local author Phil Henry to our school on Friday 25th September for a very special day of stories, creativity and imagination!

Phil will be joining us for the whole day and will spend time with each class, leading lively and interactive sessions that combine the magic of storytelling with fun creative writing activities.

The children will have the opportunity to listen to Phil's stories, share their ideas, get creative and discover just how exciting writing can be.

We can't wait for a fantastic day of storytelling and creativity!



Harvest Festival

We will soon be celebrating our Harvest Festival and collecting food donations to help top up the High Halden foodbank. We kindly ask families to bring in non-perishable items during the week beginning **28th September**.

Items we are collecting:

- Tinned foods
- Soups & pasta
- Cereals & cereal bars
- Toiletries (soaps, toothpaste etc)

All donations will be taken over to St Mary's Church for our special service on **1st October at 2:30pm**, and you are all warmly invited to join us. Let's come together to give thanks to God for the food we have and do some good for our local community!

Music Mark

We are delighted to share that Mrs Myers has led the school in achieving the Music Mark! Music Mark is the UK Association for Music Education, championing and supporting access to high-quality music education for all children and young people.

A huge congratulations and thank you to Mrs Myers, and to everyone who has contributed to music across our school. This recognition celebrates our commitment to providing children with opportunities to experience, enjoy and participate in music, helping them to develop their confidence, creativity and, most importantly, a lifelong love of music.



Rawlinson Fun Run

On Friday 2nd October a small group of pupils from years 2, 3 and 4 will be taking part in the Rawlinson Fun Run.

This is an annual event that is organised by Dulwich Prep School in Cranbrook and will take place on their school site.

Good luck to the children taking part!



Parents Evening

Our first Parents' Evening meetings of the year will take place on:

Wednesday 7th October: 3.30pm–6.30pm

Thursday 8th October: 4.30pm–7.00pm

Appointments will be booked through an online booking system.

Booking links will be sent by email at 4pm on Monday 21st September.

We look forward to welcoming you and sharing how your child has settled into the new school year.



SALT Update

kent has adopted the Balanced System® framework to better support children with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN).

This approach means that everyone in a child's life, including speech and language therapists, work together to support their speech, language and communication development at home and in their school or early years setting.

You can learn more about the Balanced System® on the SEND information hub:

kent.gov.uk/balancedsystem

Video: <https://vimeo.com/1037777526>

Or version with BSL:

<https://vimeo.com/1069632466>

FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 2026

COFFEE MORNING



In aid of
Macmillan Cancer Support



9:00-10:00am in the mobile classroom

As always, we would be most grateful of any donations of cakes or savouries. Please do not send any products containing nuts.

There will also be a cake sale for the children during the school day.
We invite them to bring a 50p donation with which they will be able to purchase a cake.

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HOLIDAY HQ

OCTOBER

HALF TERM

HOLIDAY CAMP

LAUNCHING OCTOBER 2026

- ✓ Action-packed activities every day – sports, games, crafts, challenges & more
- ✓ Mission Starlight this October – a new space-themed adventure every day
- ✓ Make, create & take it home – including our Solar System Planetarium
- ✓ Great value holiday childcare – with offers & discounts available

SCAN TO FIND YOUR HOLIDAY HQ & BOOK NOW



MISSION CONTROL IS CALLING...



OCTOBER PROGRAMME

Give your child an October half term filled with activities, creativity, active play, new experiences and plenty of fun at Holiday HQ. With exciting activities throughout the day and a programme designed to keep children engaged, Holiday HQ offers October half term childcare that's about much more than simply filling the school holidays. Find your nearest October half term holiday club and join Mission Starlight.

DAILY ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- HERO ACTION** Big adventures bringing each day's theme to life
- SKILL ZONE** Fun challenges to test skills, teamwork & confidence
- CRAFT ZONE** Imagine it. Create it. Make it yours.

MAKE YOUR OWN PLANETARIUM

PLUS - 100+ WAYS TO PLAY WITH CHILDREN'S CHOICE EVERY DAY

SCAN TO FIND YOUR HOLIDAY HQ & BOOK NOW



0333 577 1533
HELLO@JUNIORADVENTURESGROUP.CO.UK

- ✓ Save with Early Bird
- ✓ Sibling Discounts Available
- ✓ Book Ad Hoc or Weekly
- ✓ Tax-Free Childcare Accepted




Diary Dates



Date	Event
Friday 25th September	MacMillan Coffee Morning Local Author Visit
Wednesday 30th September	Flu Immunisations
Thursday 1st October	Harvest festival
Friday 2nd October	Rawlinson Fun Run
Wednesday 7th October	Parents Evening
Thursday 8th October	Parents Evening

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