High Halden Church of England Primary School

Newsletter 3

Friday 2nd October 2026 **Autumn Term**

'Rooted in God, we grow together'

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It has been a wonderful two weeks at school, especially as we have taken full advantage of the pleasant autumn weather to move our learning outdoors whenever possible. Here is a glimpse of what our classes have been up to recently:

Bumblebees Class: The children went on an exciting village walk this afternoon, exploring our local surroundings and identifying key landmarks. They did a fantastic job spotting the school, the village church, and the village green!

Butterflies Class: Have been busily exploring their newly updated outdoor space. They have had a wonderful time in the mud kitchen, engaging with water play, and collaborating to build impressive structures using giant outdoor blocks.

Grasshoppers Class: Science lessons took a hands-on turn as the children conducted mini-investigations focused on making predictions and drawing conclusions. It was fantastic to hear them using high-level scientific vocabulary, such as *dissolve*, *disintegrate*, and *friction* to explain their reasoning.

Dragonflies Class: In celebration of National Poetry Day, the children have been combining creative writing with their current English topic on endangered animals. They have produced some thoughtful and moving poetry reflecting on the natural world and wildlife conservation.

Thank you for your continued support as always. We hope you all have a relaxing and restful weekend!

Attendance percentage

School	97.3%
National	96.3%
Local Authority	96.3%
Reception	96.3%
Year 1	95.1%
Year 2	97.2%
Year 3	99.2%
Year 4	97.9%
Year 5	97.7%
Year 6	97.6%

Attendance

Every Friday we reward the class who has the highest attendance with two tokens and classes who have attendance above 96% with one token to add to their jar. Once the jar is full, they can choose a class reward.



Generosity Respect Wisdom Trust Hope

Parents Evening

A reminder that 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

Booking links were recently sent out via email. If you haven't secured your appointments yet, please use the link for your child's class and book your preferred time slots as soon as possible to ensure you get a time that suits you best.



Xmas4Schools

On Tuesday 20th October the children will be bringing home their completed Christmas card design sheets.

The final date for return of design sheets back to the school is
Wednesday 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™

SALT Update

In the Balanced System®, the universal offer supports all children's speech, language and communication skills at home and at school. All children can benefit from activities like:

🖼️ Using pictures and diagrams to help them understand words and instructions
⏸️ Adults pausing to give them thinking time
👃👀👐 Using all of their senses to learn new words

Targeted, or extra support and specialist, or individualised support is also available for children who need this.

You can learn more about the Balanced System® on the SEND information hub:
kent.gov.uk/balancedsystem

Parking and Driving Reminder

A gentle reminder to all parents and carers about taking extra care when driving, parking and manoeuvring around school, particularly during drop off and pick up times.

With lots of children and families moving around in the vicinity of Church Hill, the school gates and the car park, please drive slowly, remain alert and take extra care when reversing or manoeuvring. Please make sure you have a clear view of your surroundings before moving your vehicle and be mindful that young children can be difficult to see.

We appreciate that drop off and pick up times can be busy with lots of activity, but the safety of our children must come first. Please allow a little extra time, be patient with one another and take particular care around pedestrians.

Thank you for your cooperation and for helping us to keep everyone safe.



EYFS School Tours

Is your child due to start school in September 2027?

Come and discover our small, nurturing rural school with a warm family feel, spacious classrooms and vast outdoor space.





We provide a calm, caring environment where every child is known, valued and supported to grow both academically and personally.

Book your personalised school tour and come and see what makes our school so special.

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

COME AND PLAY SESSIONS

For Prospective September 2027 Reception Children

DOUGH DISCO & STORY TIME
Monday 9th Nov 2026
2:30pm

MUDDY KITCHEN CAFE
Tuesday 17th Nov 2026
9:00am

OUTSIDE FOREST PLAY
Thursday 26th Nov 2026
9:00am

CHRISTMAS CRAFTS
Friday 4th Dec 2026
9:00am

CONTACT SCHOOL OFFICE TO BOOK A SPACE
Telephone: 01233 850 285
Email: office@high-halden.kent.sch.uk

HIGH HALDEN CEP SCHOOL

EYFS OPEN EVENING

For September 2027 prospective families



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 12th November at 6:30pm

THE MILDRED TRUST
RURAL COMMUNITY COMPASSION IN ACTION

Autumn

FREE HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES - OCTOBER HALF TERM 2026

Monday 19th October
Badminton- for ages 8+, Rolvenden Village Hall: 11am-12.15

Tuesday 20th October
Autumn Nature Club- for ages 4 to11, Sprout Squad Garden, Ivy Court Surgery, Tenterden: 10.30am-11.30am

Monday 26th October
Badminton- for ages 8+, Rolvenden Village Hall: 11am -12.15

Tuesday 27th October
Raving Pumpkins Party- for families with children ages 4 to12, The Old Dairy Taproom, Tenterden: 11.30am-1.30pm

Wednesday 28th October
Painting with Natural Dyes-create a tote bag, for ages 8 to 13, St Michael's Village Hall: 2.15-3.45pm

Thursday 29th October
Autumn Nature Club- for ages 4 to11, Sprout Squad Garden, Ivy Court Surgery, Tenterden: 10.30am-11.30am

For booking information please email:
info@themildredtrust.org
£5 deposit required to secure your families place, which will be returned to you on the day. Events are FREE!

www.themildredtrust.org
Email: info@themildredtrust.org
Facebook: TheMildredTrust
Instagram: themildredtrust
Phone: 07454 339246
Charity number: 1097210



Local Author Visit
📚✨ A quick reminder! ✨📚

Following Phil Henry's visit to school, there's still time to order one of his books at the special High Halden school price.

📖 Big Blue Blob
🍂 The Last Leaf of Autumn
⚔️ Keepers of the Realm

Books can be signed or personalised for your child, and orders will be delivered to school with no postage to pay.

👉 Take a look and order here:
https://philhenry.co.uk/schools/highhalden

⏰ Orders close this Sunday, 4th October.



Diary Dates

