



High Halden Church of England Primary School

Newsletter 1



Friday 5th September 2025

Autumn Term

'Rooted in God, we grow together'

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We hope you all had a lovely summer holiday and enjoyed some well-deserved rest and family time. It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back this week, along with our new families who have joined our school community—we are delighted to have you with us.

Over the summer, the school had a little spruce up. Our hall has had a fresh lick of paint, and classrooms have been deep cleaned and tidied, ready for the children's return. The effort has certainly paid off—our pupils have come back looking so smart in their uniforms, and it has been fantastic to see so many happy, smiling faces around school. It really has been a great start to the term (despite Wednesday and Thursday's wet weather!). Fingers crossed that today's sunshine sticks around into next week!

We are also very pleased to welcome Mrs Ward, our new teacher, who will be working across both Grasshoppers and Dragonflies this year. We know you will join us in making her feel very welcome as she becomes part of our school community.

A quick reminder that our *Meet the Teacher* meeting for Grasshoppers is after school next Tuesday. We encourage you to attend if you can, as it's a great opportunity to find out more about the year ahead. For those unable to make any of the sessions, teachers will be sharing their slides via Dojo so you won't miss out on the key information. We're looking forward to another exciting term together and can't wait to see what the children will achieve this year.

Attendance

As we begin the new school year, we'd like to take a moment to remind everyone about the importance of good attendance. Every school day really does count—children who attend regularly are more settled, build stronger friendships, and make the most progress in their learning.

We understand that children may occasionally be unwell, and in those circumstances they should of course stay at home to rest and recover. However, we kindly ask that, wherever possible, routine appointments are arranged outside of the school day, and holidays are planned during school breaks.

Website

We have been working hard over the summer to prepare a brand-new school website, and we're excited to share that it should be going live next week. We'll let you know as soon as it is ready to use.

In the meantime, please accept our apologies if the current website is out of action for a short period while the changeover takes place. Thank you for your patience—we can't wait for you to see the new look!



Generosity

Respect



Wisdom

Trust

Hope

School Lunches

This term, we are pleased to welcome Aspens as our new school lunch provider.

A reminder that all children in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal every day. We encourage you to get your child to give them a try—especially on our fun theme days!

For children in Years 3–6 who are not eligible for Pupil Premium, lunches will need to be paid for in advance at the school office. Please note that we are aware a price increase will be coming soon, so this is a good time to let your child try the meals and see what they think.

Our lunches are freshly cooked at Homewood, and if you have any feedback, we would be more than happy to pass it on to the team.

Pupil Leadership

We are very proud to announce our new **pupil leaders** for this year. All of the children who put themselves forward gave excellent speeches, and we would like to say a big well done to everyone who took part. It was wonderful to see so many pupils showing confidence, enthusiasm, and commitment to our school.

After a democratic vote this morning, we are delighted to share the results. Congratulations to our new **Head Boy, Luis**, and **Head Girl, Ella**. We are also very pleased to introduce our new **House Captains: Rosie** (Beech), **Immy** (Elm), and **Margaret** (Maple).



PE Days and Forest School

A reminder that children should come to school in their **PE kits** on their designated PE days. This should be: Black or navy shorts / jogging bottoms and a yellow t-shirt.

For **Challenger Troop** and **Forest School**, children may wear older clothes that you don't mind getting muddy. On these days, they will also need to bring a **change of shoes**, as we cannot allow muddy shoes inside the building. It's also important that their feet are properly covered for safety.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep the children comfortable, safe, and ready for their activities.

Bumblebees	Butterflies	Grasshoppers	Dragonflies
Monday PE Kit	Monday PE Kit	Monday PE Kit	Monday PE Kit
Wednesday Forest School	Friday PE Kit	Friday PE Kit	Wednesday Y6- Challenger Troop Y5- Forest School



Kent Test

A reminder to parents of children in Y6 who have registered their child to take part in this years 11+ test.

This year the test will take place on:
Thursday 11th September.

Please ensure that your child has a good night's sleep, a healthy breakfast and is in school on time. They do not need to bring anything additional to school as we will provide them with everything they need.



Parents Evening

Our first set of Parents Evening meetings are due to take place on:

Tuesday 7th October
Thursday 9th October

An online booking system will be available for appointments.

We will send further information out soon with details which will help you book your appointment slot.



School Photos

On Tuesday 16th September, the children will have the opportunity to have their annual school photograph taken.

At the beginning of the academic year, we offer individual photos (whole class photos are taken in the summer term).

Our photographer will be from Kent School Photography, a local company who offer modern, up to date technology and online viewing & payments.

Please can we ask that your child is wearing their full school uniform.



European Day of Languages

We are looking forward to celebrating the **European Day of Languages** soon, and this year we will be focusing on **French**.

Our wonderful PTFA are kindly funding a **French breakfast** for the children to enjoy, and there will be lots of fun activities planned throughout the day (we'll share more details with you closer to the time).

For the occasion, we are asking children to come to school dressed in **red, white and/or blue**.

Merci



Jam Jars

Miss Hawkins and Mrs Butcher are in need of donations of empty jars for a project in school next term.

If you have any jars to donate these can be left in the school office.

Thank you in advance.



Harvest

We are looking forward to our Harvest Service at St Mary's Church on 25th September at 2:30pm. As part of our celebrations, we will be collecting donations of food for the village food bank.

We would be very grateful for any contributions of non-perishable items to help support families in our community. Suggested items include:

- Tinned fruit, vegetables, soup, beans
- Pasta, rice, noodles
- Cereal, biscuits, crackers
- Long-life milk or juice
- Tea, coffee, sugar
- Jars of sauces or spreads

Further details about the service and collection dates will be shared soon. Thank you for your generosity—it really does make a difference.

Flu Immunisations

This is a reminder that the school health team will be attending on Wednesday 1st October to administer the flu vaccination to children in years R-6 for whom they have received parental consent.



You can find more information about the Kent Immunisation team and the work they do here:

<https://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/service/immunisation-service/>

Pupil Premium

If your child is eligible for Pupil Premium, the school receives additional funding to help support their learning and development. This funding can provide a wide range of extra benefits, including access to subsidised trips, visits, clubs, and activities, as well as additional support in school.

Even if your child is in EYFS, Year 1 or Year 2 and already receives a free school meal, it is still important to apply as the school can then access this extra funding.

If you think you might be eligible, we strongly encourage you to apply—it only takes a few minutes and can make a real difference to your child's school experience. For more information [click here](#).



Fireflies Nurture Provision

A huge thank you to everyone who purchased items or sponsored Hudson's swimming challenge. Thanks to your generosity, we have raised vital funds for our new nurture provision, 'Fireflies'.

The space is coming together beautifully, and we are now just waiting for a few final touches. We can't wait to share it with the children, and we will of course post some images on Dojo very soon so you can see our fabulous new provision.



Club Spaces

We still have some spaces available in our after school clubs. These are a great opportunity for children to take part in a range of sports and activities, as well as spend time having fun with their friends.

If you would like to book a place on any of these sessions, please contact **Mrs Prebble** in the school office, who will be more than happy to assist.



Challenger Troop

We're excited that Challenger Troop starts for our Year 6 children next week!

Children will be travelling to Woodchurch and working alongside their Year 6 class. They will need to wear old clothes that you don't mind getting muddy—as experience tells us, they will get very dirty!

Challenger Troop always receives fantastic feedback from pupils, especially those who may feel a little nervous beforehand. It's a great opportunity to try something new, build resilience, and most importantly—have lots of fun!



TOTS & TALES

A LOVE FOR READING | A SAFE, NURTURING ENVIRONMENT

WEEKLY SESSIONS
FOR AGES 2-4

STORYTIME • MUSIC & MOVEMENT
ARTS & CRAFTS • FUN LEARNING GAMES

MONDAYS (TERM-TIME ONLY)
9:30-10:30AM OR 11:00-12:00PM

AMY & HILLY

BUILDING CONFIDENCE | LED BY QUALIFIED TEACHERS

LEARNING THROUGH PLAY | SOCIAL SKILLS

£8 PER SESSION OR £45 FOR 6 SESSIONS

EXTRAS

- UNDER 25 FREE WITH SIBLING
- SIBLING DISCOUNT AVAILABLE
- ADULTS GO FREE

FOLLOW US!



KEY DATES 2025–26

TERM 1



Tuesday 9th September

**Grasshoppers
Meet the Teacher**

Thursday 11th September

Kent Test

Thursday 25th September

Harvest Festival

Friday 26th September

**European Day of
Languages**

Friday 26th September

**MacMillan Coffee
Morning**

Tuesday 7th October

Parents Evening

Thursday 9th October

Parents Evening

Friday 10th October

**Hello Yellow
World Mental Health Day**

Friday 17th October

**Show Racism
the Red Card**



Family First Aid

Would you like to know:

- How to make an emergency phone call?
- How to use the primary survey?
- How to practise cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)?
- How to place a casualty into the recovery position?
- How to recognise and treat choking?
- How to treat and monitor bleeding, minor bleeds and burns?

This course is for you!

Where: High Halden Primary School

Date: 30/09/2025

Time: 1pm - 3pm

To book a place please use the link below:

<https://www.kentadulteducation.co.uk/courses/family-first-aid-ash152225qpf/>

We want you to enjoy learning with us. To help us provide the best possible experience for you, please let us know if you or your child have any disabilities or particular support needs.

**FREE, fun &
informal courses**



Stay & Play FOREST SCHOOL
Woodchurch, Kent
Fridays
10am-12pm or 1pm - 3pm
Birth - 5 years +

<https://bookwhen.com/righteousoaks>
<https://www.facebook.com/ROForestSchool>



SATURDAY FOREST SCHOOL
Woodchurch, Kent
First Saturday of the Month
10am-12pm
Birth - 10 years old

<https://bookwhen.com/righteousoaks>
<https://www.facebook.com/ROForestSchool>



Donations needed

Good quality second hand items including clothes and shoes (ladies, men's and children's), toys, linen, bric-a-brac and accessories.



Come along to our Jumble Sale!
Saturday 27th September
10am – 2pm at Age UK Hythe

These can be dropped off at the following hubs

Age UK Ashford, The Joe Fagg Community Centre, Starhope Rd, Ashford, TN23 5RF.

Age UK Hythe, Sanford House, Stada Street, Hythe, CT21 6BD.

From Monday 15th – Wednesday 24th September
from 9am - 3pm

For further details please contact:

01303 269602

vc@ageukhla.org.uk



Registered charity number 1142854. Company number 04481246. Age UK Hythe and Lymington 01303.

FRIDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2025 COFFEE MORNING



In aid of
Macmillan Cancer Support



9:00-10:00am in the outdoor 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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