

HARRIETSHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Nurtured We Flourish

23.5.25

Dear Families,

Happy Half Term! It is incredible to think that a whole half term has passed by so quickly!

We have updated the children today to let them know that when we return from half term our new OPAL playing field will be opened for the Year 6 children. It is not yet ready for the footfall of all children, so Year 6 will be testing it out before the whole school will have free-flow access to it in September. From next term, the whole school will have their lunch time, with all LSAs on duty, from 12 - 1pm.

Today, we have said goodbye to Mr Mellor. Mr Mellor has worked as an LSA in lots of our classes but he has been given the amazing opportunity to return to Camp America for the summer as a group leader. We are hoping to welcome him back at some point in the future and we wish him all the very best for his time abroad.

In addition, we said goodbye to Reverend John Huggins yesterday. Reverend John has volunteered at the school as a Governor, and supported in many ways at the school in a volunteer capacity, for 8 years. He has been instrumental in driving the Christian ethos within our school and the children will always remember his teachings in their Thursday Church Worship. John is due to retire in the summer and so we wanted to wish him farewell and thank him in true Harrietsham style. We wish Reverend John the very best of luck for his retirement and thank him hugely for all he has done for the school over the years.

I wish you all a very happy and sunny half term break and we will see the children back at school on Tuesday 3rd June.

Kindest regards,
Jackie Chambers
Headteacher

School Projects - Do you know a company who can sponsor us?

CAN YOU HELP?

We have a number of great ideas for some fantastic school projects, which will enhance our school, our curriculum and the offer for our children. We have motivated and enthusiastic staff who are willing to put them into action. However, in order to achieve these, we would need to find sponsors.

If you know of any charities or companies who may be willing to sponsor us for any of the projects below, please do let me know (headteacher@harrietsham.kent.sch.uk).

The Dog Mentor
Affiliated School



Monday 19th May 2025

Today, I had the pleasure of visiting Harrietsham Church of England Primary School to meet Dog Mentor, Max, and to hear about the success he is having in supporting the children in their school lives.

I was met by Mrs Jackie Chambers and a Year 2 student, who was walking Max. She told me about how Max had given her the confidence to come into school some mornings.

During my visit, I witnessed Max going into a class who clearly valued and enjoyed Max visiting them. One student came to show me the Mini Max toy dog that she had. She explained to me that Mini Max was helping her through a challenging time, and she was clearly valuing this support.

I also heard about how Max is working with students by listening to them reading, offering comfort if they are upset or anxious and generally being a friend to all the children. Everyone that we met, including the staff, had a big smile as soon as they saw Max coming which clearly shows the positive impact he is having within the school.

Well done, Max, keep up the good work.

Di Prior

The Dog Mentor

di@thedogmentor.co.uk

www.thedogmentor.co.uk

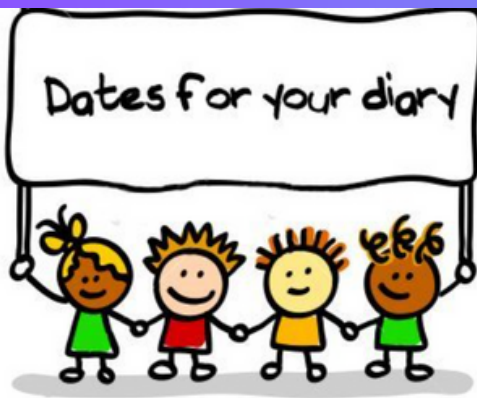
www.facebook.com/thedogmentor

Kind Donations and Huge “Thank-you’s”!

Thanks to local residents Tony and Judith for their kind donation of a picnic bench for Forest School - which our ‘removal men’ did a great job of relocating!

Thanks also to Summer and Amelie for their kind donation of a mud kitchen for Forest School.

Miss Bradley and all of the children are very appreciative and can’t wait to put both donations to great use.



Ordering School Photos:

The deadline for ordering class photos for delivery to school is 8th June. Orders can still be placed after this date, but there will be a delivery charge. Please get your orders in soon!

A plea from the School Office:

We are seeing an increase in numbers of children being collected from school early, often with little to no prior notice. Please can we ask that you do not collect your child early from school unless it is absolutely essential. If you do have pre-agreed medical appointments etc, please let the office know with as much notice as possible, otherwise please leave collection until 3:20pm.

Term 6

Tuesday 3rd June 2025 – Tuesday 22nd July 2025

TERM STARTS: Tuesday 3rd June 2025

(Monday 2nd June - INSET Day – School Closed to all children)

Tuesday 3 rd June – Friday 13 th June:	Year 4 Multiplication Check
Tuesday 3 rd June:	Year 5 animal dress up day New Date: New EYFS Cohort 24/25 New Parent Open Evening 5-6.30pm
Thursday 5 th June:	School recognition of World Environment Day
Monday 9 th June – Friday 13 th June:	Year 1 Phonics Screening Week Year 6 Level 2 Bikeability
Friday 13 th June:	School recognition of Father's Day 15 th June Year R Father's Day breakfast in class
Monday 16 th June – Friday 20 th June:	School recognition of World School Sports Week
Monday 16 th June:	Sports Day
Tuesday 17 th June:	Sports Day Reserve
Thursday 19 th June and Friday 20 th June:	New Year R Stay and Play Session 1 (1hr with parent) 15 chn per class
Friday 27 th June:	Year R Class Worship 2.50pm Classroom open afternoon 2:30 – 3:15
Monday 30 th June – Friday 4 th July:	School recognition of Children's Art Week
Wednesday 2 nd July and Thursday 3 rd July:	New Year R Stay and Play Session 2 (afternoon session 1-3pm) 15 chn per class

(Friday 4th July - INSET Day – School Closed to all children)

Monday 7 th July:	Year 4 local river walk
Thursday 10 th July:	Transition Day 1 (EYFS Home Visits) Meet the teacher after school 3:20 – 4pm
Friday 11 th July:	Transition Day 2 (EYFS Home Visits)
Thursday 17 th July and Friday 18 th July	Slight Change: OPAL Parents Lunchtime Visits
Monday 14 th July:	Year 6 End of Year Show Dress Rehearsal – 1:30pm
Tuesday 15 th July:	Year 6 End of Year Show – 1:30pm
Wednesday 16 th July:	Year 6 End of Year Show – 5pm
Friday 18 th July:	Year R Graduation Assembly to parents New Year R Transition Picnic 3:30 – 4:30pm
Monday 21 st July:	Reports sent to parents
Tuesday 22 nd July:	Year 6 Leavers Service at Church – 1:30pm

TERM ENDS: Tuesday 22nd July 2025



Nurtured by Flourish

Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.



Nurtured by Flourish

Whole School Attendance for the Week	90.95%
Number of children with Outstanding Attendance (over 96%)	226 of 401

A big drop since last week!

I have noticed an increase in requests for term time absence this term. Please be aware that, under Government Guidance, we are not allowed to authorise term time holidays. A Headteacher is only able to authorise term-time leave under exceptional circumstances. You may consider that a holiday will be educational, but your child will still miss out on the teaching and learning that their peers will receive whilst your child is away. Children returning from a leave of absence during term time are also unprepared for the lessons which build on the teaching they have missed and children can struggle to catch-up. Evidence shows that children who miss school do not achieve as well as those who attend regularly. For this reason, I ask that you please consider carefully whether any absence requested for your child is absolutely essential.

Class Attendance

Well done to all of the classes over our school target of 96%.

Attendance % for each Class (School Target 96%)													
Year R		Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Year 6	
Ducklings	Cygnets	Wrens	Kingfishers	Sparrows	Jays	Robins	Woodpeckers	Swallows	Nightingales	Kestrels	Eagles	Hawks	Hérons
92%	89%	90%	94%	92%	91%	88%	96%	93%	88%	91%	89%	91%	92%



Only Woodpeckers have hit our attendance target this week!
Well done Woodpeckers.

Class Punctuality

Well done to all of those children who have been on time every day this week.

Percentage of children who have been on time this week													
Year R		Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Year 6	
Ducklings	Cygnets	Wrens	Kingfishers	Sparrows	Jays	Robins	Woodpeckers	Swallows	Nightingales	Kestrels	Eagles	Hawks	Hérons
96%	96%	91%	97%	93%	90%	90%	90%	94%	94%	97%	86%	92%	100%



Only Herons have hit our punctuality target this week!
Well done Herons.

EVERY DAY COUNTS
School and future success starts with good attendance.

DAILY LATENESS EQUATES TO...

- 5 MINS LATE = 3 DAYS LOST
- 10 MINS LATE = 6 DAYS LOST
- 15 MINS LATE = 10 DAYS LOST

100% Perfect - Our target for all students

- 97% Impressive** - 4 DAYS ABSENCE (36 hours of learning lost)
- 95% Concerning** - 10 DAYS ABSENCE (90 hours of learning lost)
- 90% Seriously worrying** - 19 DAYS ABSENCE (174 hours of learning lost)

Education is Important - DON'T MISS OUT!

National Thank a Teacher Day – Wednesday 18th June



The UK-wide celebration of all teaching and support staff is back. National Thank a Teacher Day will be celebrated on Wednesday 18th June!

This event is aimed to celebrate all the amazing staff in our schools. They deserve the spotlight for everything they do.

Want to make someone's day? If you know a special teacher, dedicated support staff member or member of our school staff team, let them know how grateful you are by sending a free e-card on the [Thank a Teacher website](#).



A huge well done to the children in Year 6 who arranged the Ice Bucket Challenge today and managed to raise £80 for Young Minds, whilst drenching their teachers!

If anyone has any photos or videos of the event, please do email them onto me so that I can show any children who missed it in Worship on our first week back.

A huge well done, and thank you, to the organisers. The children organised the whole event completely by themselves - from persuading teacher 'volunteers' to take part, to advertising, to collecting fundraising. What a great example of the kind of children we are fostering here at Harrietsham - children who are willing to put in hard work and commitment to raising money for a cause important to them.



Library Update

Our library has been painted!!!

A team of lovely volunteers from Bedfont Scientific gave up lots of their time to clear and paint the walls. We cannot thank them enough for their time and commitment.

In addition, Miss Thurston's brother, who is a professional painter, was roped in to help in his spare time after work. Thanks to Miss Thurston for the arm twisting (!) and to her brother for giving up his time to decorate the 'hard to reach' places and tall ceilings.

Thanks also to our lovely team of staff who have put in time after school to paint so that it can be finished. We are truly lucky to have such a committed team of staff working so hard to create the best school for our children.

The next stage of the project will involve transforming the library into a Forest. Mr Walker has already begun measuring, and searching catalogues for exciting new additions to make the space great.

If you would like to donate to our library project, so that we can begin purchasing furnishings and new books, please donate via the link below.

The more we raise, the more we can do!

To donate, click here: [Harrietsham Library Just Giving Link](#)

Community News

The below are flyers that we have been asked to share by various community groups. Please note that we have no connection with these groups and so cannot endorse them, but we wanted to share the information in case anything was of interest.



ST. John's Harrietsham
Community Choir
Every other Monday



Come along to our
fun singalong community choir
for adults, singing popular songs for all!

fortnightly on
Monday evenings
(12th and 26th May)
in the church between
7pm and 9pm
Tea and coffee will be served.

Everyone is welcome

For more information please phone Claire Jane
on 01622 853819.

Sponsored by St John the Baptist Church, Harrietsham



AFFOR:)ABLE REFURBISHED BICYCLES

BUY a BIKE

Pick up an affordable refurbished bike at our next bike sale event at Goldwyn School, Ashford (TN23 3BT). Bikes are fully serviced, clean and available in a variety of sizes.

DONATE a BIKE

Bike too small or sitting unloved gathering dust? Donate it to us and we'll find it a good home. If you need a replacement, we'll offer you a 20% discount on a more suitable refurbished bike.

BIKE SALE EVENT

Goldwyn School, Ashford (TN23 3BT)
Saturday 24th May (10.00-13.00)
FREE bike checks during the event and bookable Learn-to-Ride sessions
info @CycleCommunity.org



www.CycleCommunity.org




Schools Out Club provides the opportunity for children aged between 4 - 12 to participate in a range of **sports & fitness** and **arts & craft** activities. Sessions run for **4 hours** between **10:00 - 14:00**.

Schools Out May Half Term 2025 Club locations:




<p>South Borough Primary School, Tovil, Maidstone 29-30 May 2025</p>	<p>Greenfields Community Primary School, Shepway, Maidstone 27-29 May 2025</p>	<p>Tree Tops Primary Academy, Brishing Lane, Maidstone 27-29 May 2025</p>
--	--	---

Book your place today - £5 per day per child by visiting stonesinthecommunity.org
(Once places are booked, payments are non-refundable)

Or follow our news channel on WhatsApp where links will also be shared.




stonesinthecommunity.org

LENHAM C.C.


2025 Season Junior Coaching

Monday 29th April onwards, outside @Lenham Cricket Ground, Ham Lane, Lenham.
Lead by ECB qualified coaches. All Coaches are DBS cleared

School Years 5 & Above – Hardball/Incrediball practice Monday evening's (except Bank Holiday) 18.30-20.00hrs starting Monday 13th May. Playing in the Weald of Kent Leagues

School Years 3 & 4 - Softball practice Thursday evening's 18.00-19.15hrs starting Thursday 9th May. Playing in Weald of Kent and Kent Cricket tournaments.

Cost for the season which includes annual subscription, coaching & match fees £70, additional siblings £60- *First session free, all are welcome to come and try*



School Years R, 1 & 2 - School year R, 1 & 2;- Softball, fun introduction to cricket. Thursday evening's 18.00-18.45hrs Starting 15th May for 8 weeks. Only available to register online; To register Search ECB All Stars Cricket- Search for a centre- write Lenham- Choose Lenham CC, Book place pay £50 online.

Contact Alex Gray 07760 132803 for any queries.

Wings of the Morning Field,
1 London Road,
Wrotham,
Sevenoaks, Kent,
TN15 7NS



THE EVENT WITH SOMETHING
FOR EVERYBODY

Sunday and Monday
25TH AND
26TH OF
MAY 10.00AM
TO
5.00PM

KIDS
Joe Peek Puppets
Rides
Magic
Kids Games Area
and more

ATTRACTIONS

Wrestling
The British Lawn Mower Racing
Association
Amazing Reptiles
Petting Farm
The Spotty Boys
Cookery Demo Tent
Chain Saw Carving
Kent Kite Flyers
Archery
Flying Ryan Stunts

- Archery
- Tudor Living History
- Equestrian Fun Club
- Ferret Rescue
- Jonathan Marshall
- Gemmas Farm
- Rural Crafts
- Birds of Prey
- Local trade stands
- Heavy Horses
- AND MORE!



Discounted online tickets or pay on the day
Under 5's go free!
www.britishshow.co.uk

DOG FRIENDLY WITH FUN DOG
SHOW FOR CHARITY

Dog Agility , Pedigree , Fun Dog show , Main Dog Show

MAIN STAGE toploader



MUSIC • FOOD &
DRINK •
ATTRACTIONS
• STANDS
• AND MORE



BARRACUDAS

ACTIVITY DAY CAMPS

AT A SCHOOL NEAR YOU IN **2025!**
EXCLUSIVE PARENT DISCOUNT

USE CODE **SCHOOL20** FOR AN
EXTRA £20 OFF YOUR BOOKING!

*Minimum 3 days. *Not to be used in conjunction with other offer codes

- 4½ to 14 year olds!
- 80+ Activities!
- Choice each session!
- Specialist Courses!
- Flexible bookings!

barracudas.co.uk
01480 467 567



HIGHLY RATED
School Holiday
Camps!!!



OFSTED REGISTERED



Trustpilot
★★★★★



SOUNDSTEPS
MUSIC SCHOOL

Free Children Piano/Keyboard
Taster Available Now

- Weekly 1 hour lessons available Monday to Sunday for children aged 5-13
- Children learn to read, write and play music in every lesson. we also provide keyboard at every lesson
- Termly Exams and certificate along with opportunities to sit at internationally recognised exams and perform at live events



Contacts us Now by Email, Phone, Whats App or
via our Website/QR Code to Book Your "FREE
TASTER SESSION"



e:office@soundstepsmusic.co.uk t:07926 371583
www.soundstepsmusic.co.uk

Play cricket this summer at your local clubs!

Click images below

8 weeks of fun packed sessions for ages 5-11 year olds. No experience required. Kit included with both programmes.
Book your place today! - [Book All-Stars](#) [Book Dynamos](#)



It all starts with...
BOWL BAT FIELD
ACTION PACKED CRICKET COURSES

FOR CHILDREN AGED 5-8

Sign up today

Ashford Town CC- Sundays 10-11am from 11th May
Mershams Sports Club- Fridays 6-7pm from 9th May



Play
Make Friends
Learn new skills
Cricket for kids aged 8-11

SIGN UP NOW

Ashford Town CC- Sundays 10-11am from 11th May
Mershams Sports Club- Fridays 6-7.15pm from 9th May
(Girls only and Mixed Sessions)
Sibton Park CC- Fridays 6-7.30pm from 2nd May
(Girls only)