

HARRIETSHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Nurtured We Flourish

Dear Families,

30th March 2026

As we approach the Easter Holidays, I wanted to update you all on a few key staffing changes at Harrietsham.

As you know, Mrs Stroud will be leaving us at the end of this term. Mrs Stroud is moving away with her family and we wish her the very best of luck for this new adventure. Miss Rodriguez will be joining us after the Easter break to teach Year 5 Eagles class. Miss Rodriguez will also lead English within school.

Mr Young will also be leaving us at the end of this term as he is moving on to manage a secondary school site. We are extremely thankful for Mr Young's hard work at Harrietsham over the last year and we wish him the very best of luck in his new challenge.

Mrs Wells will be leaving us at the end of April as she is leaving to work for Rochester Diocese. She has been an asset in leading Christian Distinctiveness within our school, ensuring that Collective Worship has a positive impact on our children and that they have moments to reflect spiritually within the school day, and she will be missed by all within our school family. Mrs Leyla Gambell and Mr Mark Newell will be covering Mrs Wells' days with Year 4.

As you know, Mr Gambell will also be leaving us. We are extremely lucky that Mr Gambell has agreed to stay on at Harrietsham until at least 15th May to continue supporting Year 6 with their SATS preparation and to carry out some site tasks until we are able to recruit a new Site Manager. Mrs Fenner, our new Deputy Headteacher, will be joining us after the Easter break to ensure a thorough handover with Mr Gambell.

In addition to the changes above, we will have two Phase Leaders from next term. Mr Walker will lead the Lower School (Year R, Year 1 and Year 2) and Ms Pittam will lead the Upper School (Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6). Both Mr Walker and Ms Pittam would be very happy to support you, in their role of Phase Leader, if you have any queries relating to your child's learning.

Family Working Day Invite: Tuesday 7th April - 10am until 4pm.

If you find yourself at a loose end on Tuesday 7th April, and you would like a fun day out with the children, where you are also making a difference to the school, please do consider coming along to our Family Working Day. We will be making some rabbit-proof planters for Forest School, clearing new play spaces and helping to improve outdoor learning areas. Please do bring along any tools that you have, a packed lunch and warm clothing. Children are welcome, but, must be the responsibility of their parent / carer.

Kind regards,
Jackie Chambers
Headteacher

Follow us on Social Media:

School News:

OPAL Progress:

Forest School:



We are fundraising - Can you help?

Are you a company looking to support a local cause?



Can you support our school in its bid to upgrade our laptops for our children?

We are looking for companies to help us by either:

- 1) Making a monetary donation to the cause.
- 2) Match fundraising with us.
- 3) Matching every laptop we buy, by donating one.



Together, we can make a difference to our children's learning!

If you are able to help, please email the Headteacher, Jackie Chambers, on:
headteacher@harrietsham.kent.sch.uk



Below is a summary of some key dates this term. For a more detailed calendar, please see our website here:

<https://www.harrietsham.kent.sch.uk/term-dates-1/>

UPCOMING

Miss Rodriguez transition day with Eagles

Year 5 Class Worship 9am

Monday 30th March:	I-Rock Concert at 2:30pm Year 6 Parents KS2 SATs Info Evening 3:30pm – 4pm
Tuesday 31st March:	Year 4 Level 1 Bikeability Sessions Year 2 Class Worship 9am
April	
Wednesday 1st April	Interim Reports Home Year 4 Level 1 Bikeability Sessions Year 4 Parents Multiplication Tables Check Info Evening 3:30pm – 4pm
Thursday 2nd April:	Easter Service in school (children only) Year 1 Parents Phonics Info Evening 3:30pm – 4pm Disco Cancelled

TERM ENDS: Thursday 2nd April 2026



Tuesday 7th April: Easter Holiday Family Working Day

Join us to help with outdoor projects at Forest School, on the playground and in class outdoor areas. If you have gardening / woodworking tools, please do bring them along.



OPAL Raffle Winners

The following children have won our raffle this week for showing our school rules in their play:

- Belle - Year 1
- Lewis - Year 1
- Grace - Year 1
- Jasmine - Year 3
- Jonah - Year 6



Donation Thanks

A huge thank you to :

- Mr and Mrs Goody for donating a wheelbarrow and artificial grass.
- A local resident, Louise, for donations to the YR and KS1 outdoor area - pallets, gravel and a water table.
- A local resident, Jackie, for some bricks.

Expectations Focus

Please help us reinforce our uniform expectations.



We are focussing on tightening expectations around the following key things within school ...

- **Wonderful Walking in the corridors:** Walking in silence when in corridors / cloakrooms so as not to disturb others learning.
- **Tidy Cloakrooms:** Picking up items from the floor and looking after our belongings.
- **Lunch Hall:** A tidy lunch hall after eating and great use of our manners.

To help us with this focus on our expectations, please can I ask that you all **ensure your children are sent to school with the correct uniform every day.** Please remind yourselves of the expectations below:

[Harrietsham Church of England Primary School - School Uniform](#)

(Optional) Active Uniform for Years R, 1 and 2:



Traditional Uniform for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6:



Please Note: Black Hoodies should not be worn on either PE or Forest School days. PE kits (with black joggers) should be worn on Forest School days.



Whole School Attendance Last Week	94.8%
Whole School Attendance since beginning of School Year	93.9%

Our school attendance target is 96%.

We need more children to be in school every day to reach this target.

As per Government Guidance, all holidays during term-time will be unauthorised. We will also not authorise early collection from school unless proof of appointments can be provided.

If your child is well enough to be in school, it is imperative that you ensure they are in.

Being absent from school impacts your child's life chances:

- **At the end of Primary School:** Pupils with 95 - 100% attendance in Year 6 are 30% more likely to reach expected standards in Reading, Writing, and Maths compared to those with 90-95% attendance.
- **At GCSE Level:** Pupils with less than 90% attendance are less than half as likely to achieve grades 9-4 in English and Maths.
- **In Future Earnings:** Each additional day of absence between Years 7 - 11 is linked to a loss of approximately £750 in future lifetime earnings.

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
Last Week		96%	91%	98%	78%	96%	100%	99%	97%	95%	95%	92%	98%	95%	96%
Year to Date		93%	94%	94%	90%	94%	95%	95%	95%	96%	94%	93%	95%	94%	93%

Class Punctuality

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

		Punctuality % for each Class (% of marks on time)													
		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
Last Week		100%	100%	99%	100%	99%	99%	100%	98%	99%	98%	99%	98%	99%	97%
Year to Date		100%	100%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	98%	98%	99%	99%	98%

Notices from St John the Baptist Church, Harrietsham



Community Choir

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

At St John the Baptist Church, Harrietsham.
We meet once every fortnight between 7pm and 9pm.
Tea, coffee and cake will be served. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, please phone 01622 853819.

Prayer Meeting

The Harrietsham prayer group now meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, at 4pm in the Church Room (at the back of the village hall).

Everyone is welcome. Please phone Paul on 01622 859634 or Pamela on 01622 859442 for more details or to ask for prayer, or do just come along to pray about our community and anything on your mind.



Bible Study

Come and join our Harrietsham Bible Study group on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, at 2pm in the Church Room (there is a door into this at the back of Harrietsham Village Hall).

Please join us on the day or phone 01622 859442 to find out more.

Tea and coffee will be served and everyone is welcome.

Supported by St John the Baptist Church, Harrietsham

Games Club

Come and join us on 1st Tuesday of every month, from 2pm – 4pm, at the Booth Hall.

We supply games but please feel free to bring something you would particularly like to introduce us to, teach us or just play.

Please join us on the day or phone 01622 859442 to find out more. Tea and coffee will be served and everyone is welcome.

Supported by St John the Baptist Church, Harrietsham.

Harrietsham CEP School Prayer Group

Please do come along and join our Prayer Group who meet in school at 2:45pm on the following dates:



- Mon 20th April
- Fri 15th May
- Mon 15th June
- Fri 10th July



JOIN OUR FUN

EASTER MESSY CHURCH

Harrietsham Church

SATURDAY 28TH
MARCH 3PM-5PM

EASTER EGG
FOR EACH
CHILD

Hunt the Easter Character,
Crafts, Games, Easter Story and
Singing, Visit the Lambs (tbc)

Please be on time for the schedule

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK AT MESSY
CHURCH LVB



CALYPSO @ EASTER

EASTER CAMPS

Calypso have a very exciting two weeks of camps planned this Easter, including some **special guests** for the inaugural Club Calypso Camp!

<https://calypsocricketcoaching.com/so/d4PqmbfpM?languageTag=en&cid=8d19f9a3-5806-4626-91c9-42d4032bdadf>

If you are interested in doing to cricket over the Easter Holiday, Calypso Cricket has lots to offer. Please click on the link for further information and booking details.

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.

Free Schools Out! Easter Club 2026

HAF registered children, book your place now!

Mon 13 Apr • Tue 14 Apr • Wed 15 Apr • Thu 16 Apr

Greenfields Community Primary School, Shepway, Maidstone | Archbishop Courtenay Primary School, Tovil, Maidstone | Leigh Academy Tree Tops, Brishing Lane, Parkwood, Maidstone

Sessions run for 4 hours between 10:00 - 14:00.

Schools Out Clubs provides the opportunity for children aged between 4 - 13 to participate in a range of sports and arts & craft activities.

Places are available for children who are registered on the Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF) and receive Free School Meals. Simply log into the HAF website holidayactivities.com to book a space at one of our locations.

STONES in the community
stonesinthecommunity.org

Cohesion.Design



MEET THE TEAM

Thursday 9 April
11am to 12.30pm
Gallagher Stadium

- 🌀 Watch a first team training session
- 🌀 Meet the players and get their autographs
- 🌀 Take some selfies with your favourites
- 🌀 Visit the club shop

ORGANISED BY MAIDSTONE UNITED'S CHARITY
STONES in the community



Free 11+ Preparation and KS2 learning support

Harrietsham Church of England Primary School has partnered with Atom Learning, a Key Stage 2 learning and 11+ preparation website, to provide free KS2 learning to primary school children who are eligible for Pupil Premium.

Eligible students will receive access to Atom Home for free (normally £575.90 a year).

There is a 5-day free trial of Atom available for non-Pupil Premium families.

What is Atom Home?

Atom Home is an online learning and exam preparation platform for ages 7-11. Covering English, maths, verbal reasoning and non-verbal reasoning, children can practise 11+ questions and explore learning resources, mock tests, video tutorials, and exam preparation materials.

Do you know someone who is eligible?

If you would like to explore this resource further, please visit:

<https://atomlearning.com/pupil-premium/primary-schools>

After completing the form on this page, the school office will receive a notification to verify your child's pupil premium eligibility. Once confirmed, your child's Atom Home account will be created.

How to find out if you are eligible for Pupil Premium:

If you feel your child is eligible for Pupil Premium, but you have not yet claimed this, please visit: <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals#tab-1>