HARRIETSHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Nurtured We Flourish



1st November 2026

Dear Families,

I hope you have all had a lovely half term break and enjoyed some quality family time. We are looking forward to seeing the children tomorrow and hope that they are looking forward to their return. We had such a busy first term at school - it certainly seems to have flown by - and Term 2 is likely to be just as busy. Please do keep an eye on our 'Important Dates for Families' here: Important Dates.

Each year I like to send out surveys to all of our stakeholders to find out what is working well in their opinion and what we could improve on. Our staff and children will be completing a survey within school and we would love to gather as much parental feedback as possible too. Last year, several really useful matters were raised through our survey, which have since been acted on, and hopefully improved things for our families.

As a result of the last survey we have:

- Further strengthened the areas that families praised - building on our nurturing ethos and creating specific nurture groups and continuing to develop our outside learning environments (Forest School, OPAL, EYFS and KS1 outdoor areas).
- Re-evaluated and re-written our school behaviour policy, with guidance from a nationally recognised behaviour change programme - 'When the Adults Change'. Our rules, and what they mean, are now very clear to our children and our staff are much more consistent in how they support children's behaviour and how they approach unwanted behaviour. As a result our classrooms and playgrounds are a lot calmer and more purposeful.
- Built on our Inclusion Team - We now have an Inclusion Leader, a Pastoral Leader, an Inclusion Assistant, a Nurture Leader and an advert out for a Pastoral Assistant.
- Re-written our curriculum to ensure it is more streamlined, purposeful and engaging for our children. We have reviewed each individual subject curriculum to ensure appropriate stretch and challenge for all children. We have added this information to our website so that it is visible to you all.
- Started sending out Interim Reports on terms when there is no parents evening, to keep you more informed about your children's learning and progress within school.
- Streamlined communication systems to one newsletter a week which is saved on our website, Arbor and now Tapestry.

I hope this will demonstrate just how important it is that we gather your feedback - your voice really does affect change.

Please complete the survey using this link at your earliest convenience:

https://forms.gle/RW2D11avyi5kdwcY7



We look forward to seeing you all back at school tomorrow.

Kind regards,

Jackie Chambers (Headteacher)

Term 2 Forest School Timetable

Miss Bradley has updated the Forest School Timetable for this term - please see below for your children's Forest School days this term.

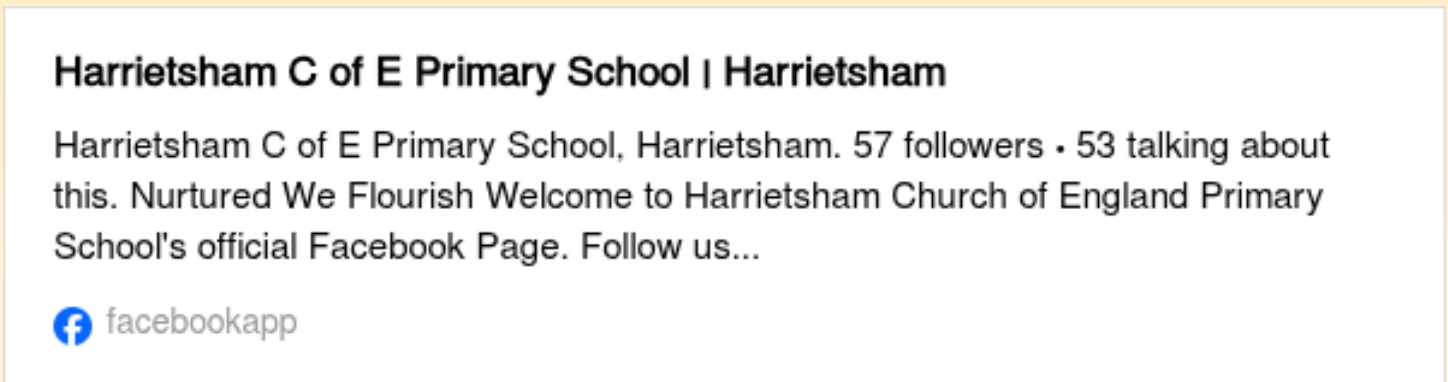
Please can I remind you all to please send your children into school with named wellington boots (or a change of wateproof footwear) and a named warm waterproof coat next term - Autumn has definitely arrived and the children will need these for Forest School and playtimes.

Please note: Forest school sessions are subject to change throughout the term. Changes will be communicated with as much notice as possible.

Forest School Term 2 26/27	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1 W/C 02.11.26	HAWKS - PM	ROBINS – AM KINGFISHERS - PM	SPARROWS – AM SWALLOWS - PM	CYGNETS – AM KESTRELS- PM	HERONS - PM
Week 2 W/C 09.11.26	HAWKS - PM	WOODPECKERS - AM WRENS - PM	JAYS – AM NIGHTINGALES - PM	DUCKLINGS - AM EAGLES- PM	HERONS - PM
Week 3 W/C 16.11.26	HAWKS – PM	ROBINS - AM KINGFISHERS - PM	SPARROWS – AM SWALLOWS -PM	CYGNETS - AM KESTRELS – AM	HERONS – PM
Week 4 W/C 23.11.26	HAWKS - PM	WOODPECKERS - AM WRENS - PM	JAYS – AM NIGHTINGALES- PM	DUCKLINGS – AM EAGLES - PM	HERONS - PM
Week 5 W/C 30.11.26	HAWKS - PM	ROBINS - AM KINGFISHERS - PM	SPARROWS – AM SWALLOWS - PM	CYGENTS - AM KESTRELS - PM	HERONS - PM
Week 6 w/c 07.12.26	HAWKS - PM	WOODPECKERS - AM WRENS - PM	JAYS – AM NIGHTINGALES - PM	DUCKLINGS – AM EAGLES – PM	HERONS - PM
Week 7 w/c 14.12.26	HAWKS - PM	ROBINS – AM KINGFISHERS – PM	SPARROWS – AM SWALLOWS - PM	CYGNETS – AM KESTRELS - PM	HERONS - PM

We have a new School Facebook Page - please follow us!

Please take a look at our new Facebook page via the link below We are looking forward to sharing lots of updates about developments within the school with you here.





First Aid this Term

In order to streamline important First Aid communications, all First Aid notifications will now be sent to you via Tapestry. Please ensure your account is active.

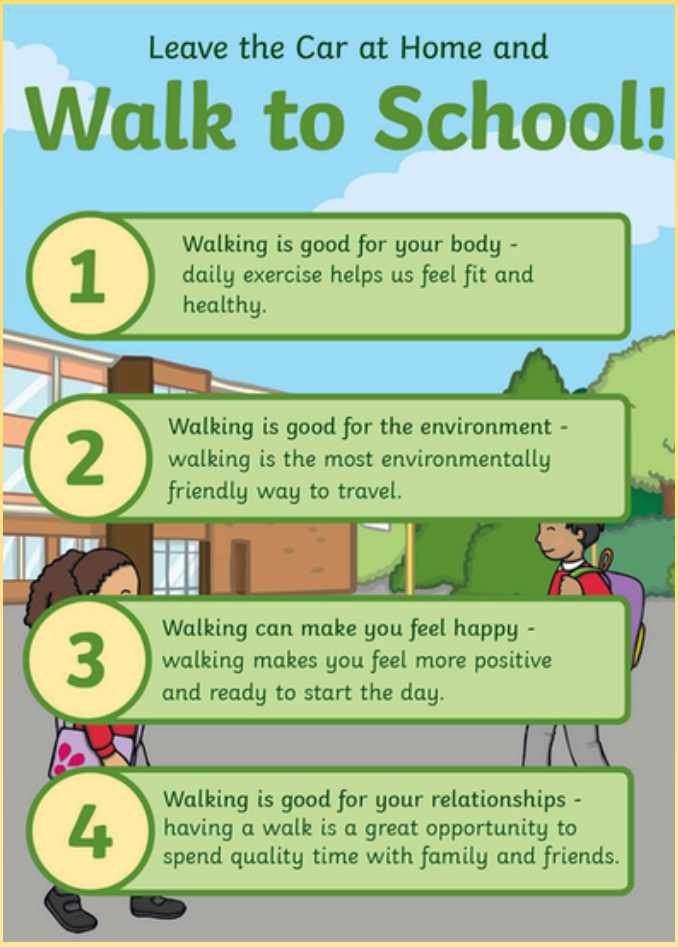
FIRST AID

National Assessments this school year

Children in Reception (Year R), Year 1, Year 4 and Year 6 take part in National Assessments each school year. Each year the DFE provide useful guides to parents of these year groups to let them know what these tests involve and how schools will approach them. I have saved these guides on our website here: **https://www.harrietsham.kent.sch.uk/assessing-our-curriculum-1**



Can you Walk to School this term?



Miss Bradley is busy applying for the Kent Wilder Schools Award. Last year we got Silver - this year we are going for Gold!

If you can help by walking to school as much as possible, please do!



This booklet was shared with me by KCC. It is a useful guide for families - please do click the link to find out more:



It would be lovely to see some of our children joining in with this very worthwhile event for our community.

Harrietsham Parish Council

Litter Pick

Saturday November 7th

9am-11am

Meet on the Village Green opposite the West Street shop.



Bring enthusiasm and gloves

Pickers & Hi Viz provided

Children will need accompanying adult

Event run by Harrietsham Parish Council

Supported by Maidstone Borough Council

More info 07891901831

Harrietsham Church of England Primary

Nurtured We Flourish

Love
Fellowship
Forgiveness



Reception 2027 School Tours

We warmly invite new Reception children and their families to join us for a school tour.

Tours will be held on the following dates:

- Monday 16th November: 9:30am
- Wednesday 18th November: 9:30am
- Thursday 19th November: 9:30am
- Tuesday 24th November: 9:30am
- Thursday 26th November: 9:30am
- Friday 27th November: 9:30am
- Monday 30th November: 9:30am
- Wednesday 2nd December: 9:30am
- Tuesday 3rd December: 9:30am and our Open Evening: 5:00pm – 7:00pm
- Wednesday 6th January: 9:30am
- Thursday 7th January: 9:30am
- Friday 8th January: 9:30am

Please call the school office on
01622 859261
to book a place on a tour or email
office@harrietsham.kent.sch.uk

Attendance



Our Attendance to date this year is:

93.9%

We need you to ensure that your children are in school EVERY SINGLE DAY.

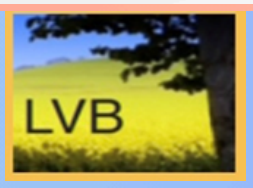
Did you know?

Just a few days of absence can make a big difference to a child's learning. A child who attends school every day benefits from consistent teaching, builds stronger friendships, and develops greater confidence in their learning. Even an attendance rate of 95% means a child misses around 10 days of school each year - that's the equivalent of two weeks of learning. **Every day at school counts, and regular attendance gives children the very best opportunity to achieve their full potential.**

Attendance Matters
Every student. Every day.



Church Notices



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.

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.



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.



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.



MESSY AND SENSORY PLAY



THE LITTLE CURIOUS CO.



Babies, Toddlers & Preschoolers

Mondays
Harpers Cafe
TN23 4QD

Tuesdays
Stalisfield Village Hall
ME13 0JE

Bookings through Happity

Follow us on socials for more information.

Facebook

THELITTLECURIOUSCO

Instagram

Happity