

# HARRIETSHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



## Nurtured We Flourish

28.2.25

Dear Families,

Welcome to Term 4 - we are now officially half way through the school year!

Thank you for bearing with us whilst we trial a new change for Term 4 lunch times. As you know, the playground is very small and I was becoming increasingly concerned with the low-level accidents which were occurring due to overcrowding on the playground. It was also apparent that lots of our children were frustrated with the lack of access to a range of play equipment - especially physical play.

I am pleased to report that lunchtimes have seemed happier this week, with fewer first aid incidents involving bumps and knocks. The children have reported that they are enjoying having more access to the play equipment - something which is now possible due to having less children out on the playground at one time. Some children have also reported that they like the playground being less busy and quieter. The ball pit and social spaces created during our Family Working Day have definitely been a huge hit (if you missed the video to show what we achieved, please see here: [Family Working Day](#)).

Pupil voice has been a big part of this trial - we continue to take on the views of our children in all that we do. Some children in Year 4, 5 and 6 reported that they miss playing with their friends in the other class, as a result we have changed break times so that this is now possible. Some older and younger children also reported that they didn't like everyone having a buddy. As a result, we have changed this too. I have to say, I have been really impressed with the sensible and thoughtful way that your children have raised their concerns with us and I hope that they can see that their ideas and thoughts have been taken on board.

As we look ahead to Term 4, please do remember to send your children to school with a waterproof coat and wellies, if you have them. We have new pallet welly racks now, so storage is not a problem!

Kindest regards,  
**Jackie Chambers**  
 Headteacher

### Term 4 PE Days

| Year Group / Class | PE Days   |
|--------------------|---|
| Year R             | Monday  |
| Year 1             | Monday and Thursday                                 |
| Kingfishers        | Monday and Friday                                   |
| Wrens              |   |
| Year 2             | Tuesday and Thursday                                |
| Sparrows           | Tuesday and Friday                                  |
| Jays               |   |
| Year 3             | Wednesday and Monday (when not doing Forest School) |
| Year 4             | Wednesday (some are swimming) and Friday            |
| Year 5             | Wednesday (some are swimming) and Thursday          |
| Year 6             | Wednesday (some are swimming) and Tuesday           |



### Term 4 Forest School Dates

| Monday                      | Tuesday  | Wednesday                           | Thursday                                 | Friday            |
|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| FEBRUARY 24                 | 24   | 26                                  | 27                                       | 28                |
| Year 3: Woodpeckers         | Year 1   | Year 2: Sparrows<br>Year 6: GROUP 3 | Year 4: Nightingales<br>Year R           | Year 5: Kestrels  |
| MARCH 3 (Book week)         | 4  | 5                                   | 6 (Book Day Dress Up)<br>Classroom based | 7                 |
| Year 3: Robins              | Year 1 (Fire safety visit - possibly no forest school) | Year 2: Jays<br>Year 6: GROUP 1     | Year 4: Swallows<br>Year R               | Year 5: Eagles    |
| (Science Week) 10           | 11   | 12                                  | 13                                       | 14 (Red Nose Day) |
| Year 3: Woodpeckers         | Year 1   | Year 2: Sparrows<br>Year 6: GROUP 2 | Year 4: Nightingales<br>Year R           | Year 5: Kestrels  |
| 17                          | 18   | 19                                  | 20                                       | 21                |
| Year 3: Robins              | Year 1   | Year 2: Jays<br>Year 6: GROUP 3     | Year 4: Swallows<br>Year R               | Year 5: Eagles    |
| 24                          | 25   | 26                                  | 27                                       | 28                |
| Year 3: Woodpeckers         | Year 1   | Year 2: Sparrows<br>Year 6: GROUP 1 | Year 4: Nightingales<br>Year R           | Year 5: Kestrels  |
| 31                          | APRIL 1  | 2                                   | 3  | 4                 |
| OPAL PARENTS LUNCHTIME WEEK | Year 1   | Year 2: Jays<br>Year 6: GROUP 2     | Year 4: Swallows<br>Year R               | Year 5: Eagles    |

Please Note:  
Date Changes

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March – Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> March:     | School recognition of Book Week (Masked and Extreme Reader and Book Fair)  |
| Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March:                                   | Fire Safety Talks within School  |
| Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March:                                  | <b>World Book Day (Dress-up as favourite book character)</b>   |
| Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> March:   | School recognition of British Science Week (Workshops within school, please send in an old white shirt for your child to decorate with Science learning during the week) |
| Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> March:                                 | Y1 Heroes Day in School  |
| Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> March:                                   | <b>Holi Festival 16<sup>th</sup> March (Hindu)</b>   |
| Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> March:                                   | M+M Productions of Alice in Wonderland to whole school   |
| Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March:                                   | <b>Red Nose Day (Dress-up Theme: Colourful)</b><br><b>Classroom Open Afternoon 2:30 – 3:15</b>   |
| Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April:    | <b>SEN review weeks – meetings with teachers of those on SEND register</b>   |
| Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March:                                  | Lullingstone Roman Villa Workshop in school for Y4<br><b>Year R Mother's Day Celebration in class</b>  |
| Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March:                                   | School recognition of Mother's Day 30 <sup>th</sup> March<br>School recognition of Eid 30 <sup>th</sup> March  |
| Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> March – Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April:    | <b>OPAL Parents Lunchtime Week</b> (Families may attend lunchtimes throughout the week to play with their children)  |
| Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> March:                                   | Interim Reports out to parents<br><b>Year 6 Parents KS2 SATs Info Evening 5pm – 6pm</b>  |
| Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April:                                   | <b>Year 1 Parents Phonics Info Evening 5pm – 6pm</b>   |
| Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April                                  | <b>Year 4 Parents Multiplication Tables Check Info Evening 5pm – 6pm</b>   |
| Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April and Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April: | Year R Cycle ready sessions  |
| Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> April:                                       | Easter Cards Home<br><b>Year 2 Class Worship 2:50pm</b>  |

TERM ENDS: Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025



# Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.



|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Whole School Attendance for the Week                      | 96.90% |
| Number of children with Outstanding Attendance (over 96%) | 232    |

## 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  | Heron  |
| 97.08%  | 97.2%   | 93%    | 97.78%      | 96.9%    | 98.97% | 99.29% | 97.14%      | 96.33%   | 98.67%       | 96.19%   | 96.9%  | 95.32% | 95.77% |



Two gold medals with the number 1 on them.

**WINNER**

Jays Y2

Robins Y3



## 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  | Heron |
| 92%  | 93%     | 90%    | 93%         | 79%      | 93%  | 100%   | 86%         | 97%      | 97%          | 94%      | 90%    | 100%   | 92%   |



**EVERY DAY COUNTS**

School and future success starts with good attendance.

**100%** Perfect - Our target for all students

**97%** Impressive - 6 DAYS ABSENCE (36 hours of learning lost)

**95%** Concerning - 10 DAYS ABSENCE (60 hours of learning lost)

**90%** Seriously worrying - 19 DAYS ABSENCE (114 hours of learning lost)

**DAILY LATENESS EQUATES TO...**

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

Education is important - DON'T MISS OUT!

# Reminder for next week ... Book Week 3rd -7th March



## Read & Raise

Help us to raise money to refurbish our school library by completing a sponsored read. Set yourself a challenge (e.g. 5 books in 2 weeks) and get as many people to sponsor you as possible to raise money for the library.

Ask for donations to our JustGiving page:

<https://www.justgiving.com>

The more money we can raise, the more exciting we can make our library!



## World Book Day

### Thursday 6th March

Come dressed as your favourite book character.



## Book at Bedtime - Thursday 6th March – 16:45 – 17:50

Come wearing PJs to listen to stories and enjoy some squash and biscuits as the sun sets.

Book Fair also available!

Pre-school room open for younger siblings.

Please register children **by 5th March:**

<https://forms.office.com/e/XqTjAFc8kc>

## Book Fair

### Monday-Thursday 15:30 – 16:00

KS2 corridor entrance from the playground.

Payment: - Cash - Card - Pre-purchased gift vouchers <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers> - Pre-pay at <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay>



## Extreme Reader Deadline 5th March

Read in the most extreme place possible, but your home adults need to be in the pictures too! Pictures to class teachers.



## Create – a – Character Deadline 5th March

Design a whole new book character! Your character can have powers, can be good, can be evil, the sky is the limit!

Draw your character and give it a name, hand in to your class teacher.

## Achievements

We are pleased to share with you that we now have a new Forest School logo!

Taking inspiration from several of the designs submitted into our competition, Mrs Humphrey and Miss Bradley have created the following logo.

**NEW**



Well done to Joshua, who received a Special Commendation for his 'The Story in Nature' competition entry.



## STORY IN NATURE

The Squirrel and the hedgehog.

One cold Autumn day, a squirrel walked by really sad because he couldn't find any nuts for the winter. The next day, a hedgehog walked by. He said don't worry I will be your friend and help you to find your nut. The squirrel agreed they set off to check his tree house. They didn't find the nut so they went to check the willow oak tree. He said, check up whole forest. They said o.k. 1 hour later, they checked the whole forest but there wasn't a little nut. 10 min later, they found a massive tree and with a huge nut on it. The squirrel fainter with the hedgehog laughed. The end.

Joshua 7 years

Our thanks to everyone who submitted a design, to Miss Bradley for her ongoing passion and support of Forest School at Harrietsham and to Mrs Humphrey for her amazing graphic design skills.

As we look ahead to British Science Week, we saw a news article in BBC Newsround this week which we have shared with the children in Worship. As a school, we are really sad to see this and we are keen to help the bumblebees. During Science Week, we will be creating wildflower seed bombs and using them to create a wildlife and bumblebee habitat in the below area of the school.

**British bumblebee numbers lowest on record**



GETTY IMAGES  
Across Great Britain bumblebee numbers declined by almost a quarter compared to the 2010-2023 average



We are incredibly thankful to B&Q for donating lots of seed and 8 metal planters for this project. Without them, project 'Save the Bumblebees' would not be able to happen.

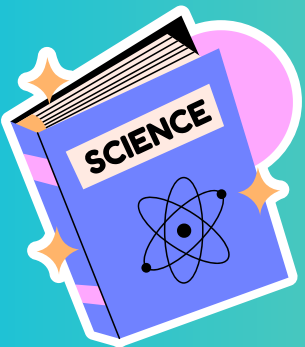
We are also thankful to Chris Back and Jack Skylark for helping us to clear the area. But, we now need your help...



**Can you lend some time to supervise a bonfire for us?**

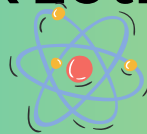


If anyone is willing to lend us a few hours of their time to supervise a bonfire to burn pre-cut branches and brambles, we would much appreciate it. Please get in touch if you can help: [headteacher@harrietsham.kent.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@harrietsham.kent.sch.uk)



Upcoming ...

**Science Week 10th -14th March**



Join us in dressing-up as a scientist.

Please provide your children with an old NAMED white shirt which will be worn over the top of their uniform. This will be used as a lab coat and will be decorated with new knowledge, diagrams and learning gained during the week.

If you have a STEM background or a job linked to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) and would be willing to talk to the children about what a job entails (during Science Week) please contact the school office.





**Do you know a  
company who  
may sponsor us?**

**We are looking for a new library,  
shelters for Forest School and  
sensory spaces within school.**



We have a number of projects that we would love to receive grants / sponsorship for.

If you work for a company who may sponsor a school, or donate resources to us, please let me know ([headteacher@harrietsham.kent.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@harrietsham.kent.sch.uk)).

Projects that we are currently looking to complete, which I feel companies may be keen to support, include:

- School Library development.
- A shelter for Forest School.
- A Forest School hide for wildlife watching.
- Developing a new sensory room for our children.
- Development of our Nurture room outdoor area.



If you feel your company may help us at all, please do ask them and let me know.

# HARRIETSHAM CE PRIMARY SCHOOL PRAYER GROUP MEETINGS THIS TERM

Please do feel free to join our Prayer Group at the school when they meet.

They will be meeting this term on the following dates at 2:45pm.

**Monday 10th March at 2.45pm**

**Friday 21st March at 2:45pm**

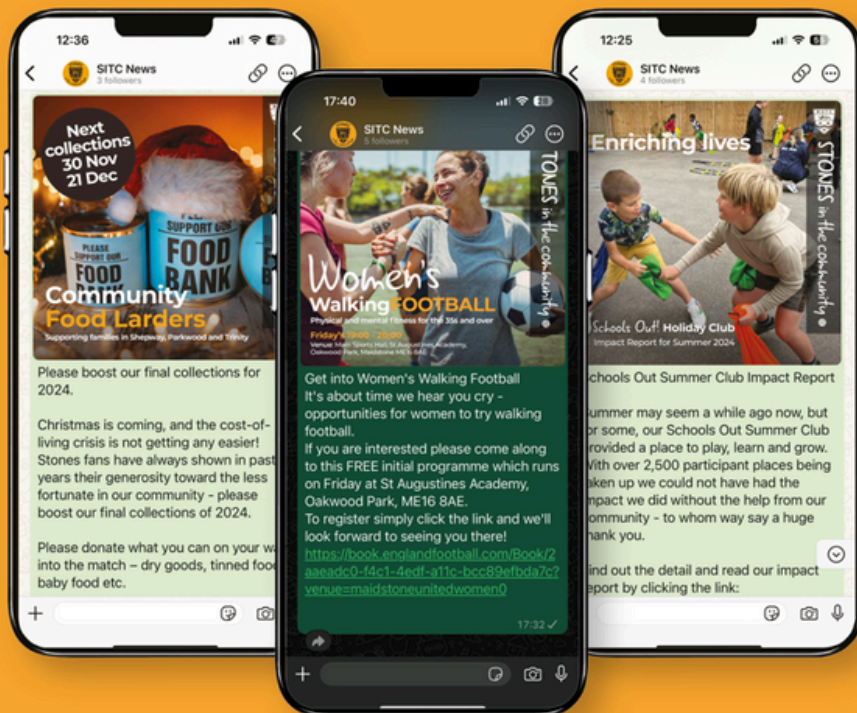
**Monday 31st March at 2:45pm**

If there is anything that you would like to ask the group to pray for, please do let me know ahead of the dates above:

[headteacher@harrietsham.kent.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@harrietsham.kent.sch.uk)

## 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.



# Stay in touch

Our news on  
 WhatsApp

Go to 'Updates' in the App and search

 SITC News  
in Channels.

  
STONES in the community 

If you know of any community events which may be of interest to our families, please do let me know so that I can add them to this page of our newsletter.