

HARRIETSHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Nurtured We Flourish

24.1.25

Dear Families,

It seems that time is just flying by! The children are impressing us daily with their hard work in their lessons. Please do ask them to tell you about their latest topic.

Parents Evenings:

We hope to see as many of you as possible at the upcoming Parents Evenings on 5th and 6th February. More information about how to book appointments will follow soon. You will get the chance to look through your child's learning in their books and to speak to their teacher about how they are achieving in their learning at present. This two-way communication between home and school really does make a difference to how well your children achieve in school and I would encourage everyone to please make an appointment.

School Uniform:

Please can I remind everyone of our school uniform policy, which I have outlined below and overleaf, but which can also be found on our website here: <https://www.harrietsham.kent.sch.uk/school-uniform/>. We are seeing a few adjustments to some of our children's uniform in places, and I would like to make sure that we are all ensuring that we are abiding by the policy, please. Please do remind yourselves, and your children, of the main parts of the policy as below.

Kindest regards,

Jackie Chambers

Headteacher

Optional Active Uniform for Years R, 1 and 2:

**** Please note: Children are able to wear our traditional school uniform if they wish to.**

- Maroon sweatshirt / cardigan **with Harrietsham emblem**.
- **Plain** / Harrietsham emblem (optional) white polo shirt.
- **Plain black** leggings or jogging bottoms (unbranded) / sports shorts for the summer.
- **Plain black** trainers / plimsoles / suitable shoes every day (no boots, please).
- White, black or grey socks.
- Book Bag (Harrietsham emblem optional – no ruck-sacks, please).

PE Kit (Please note: If Active Uniform is worn, no other items of separate PE kit are needed, except):

- House coloured PE T-Shirt for PE days.

Children may wear their Maroon sweatshirt / cardigan for PE. If a separate sweatshirt is preferred, it must be plain black and ideally without a hood.



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

- > Maroon sweatshirt / cardigan **with Harrietsham emblem.**
- > **Plain** / Harrietsham emblem (optional) white polo shirt.
- > **Grey** school trousers, long shorts, skirt or pinafore.
- > Red and white checked summer dress (optional - Terms 1, 5 and 6)
- > **Plain black** school shoes (no boots, please).
- > White, black or grey socks or tights.
- > Book Bag (Harrietsham emblem optional – no ruck-sacks, please).

PE Kit:

- > House coloured PE T-Shirt.
- > **Plain black** sports shorts.
- > **Plain black** leggings / joggers.
- > **Plain** black or white trainers.
- > **Plain black** sweatshirt, ideally without a hood, or school maroon sweatshirt / cardigan.



Jewellery:

Children should not wear jewellery in school, with the exception of a watch or one small pair of stud earrings.

Hair:

Long hair (hair which is longer than shoulder length or which restricts vision) should be tied back.

Other items needed:

- > Wellies for outdoor play and Forest School.
- > Waterproof coat with a hood (even in the summer terms please) – This should be waterproof and not a tracksuit coat.
- > All in one wetsuits are useful for Forest School and outdoor play.
- > Named water bottle.
- > A plain hat for the warmer months.



Term Dates and year dates for families: [Term Dates | Harrietsham Church of England Primary School](#)

Parent Calendar: [Calendar | Harrietsham Church of England Primary School](#)

Term 3

Tuesday 7th January 2025 – Friday 14th February 2025

TERM STARTS: Tuesday 7th January 2025

(Monday 6th January - INSET Day – School Closed to all children)

Tuesday 7th January:	Year 5 Apprentice Hook Day
Thursday 16th January:	Spring Census Day (All infants to have a school dinner unless otherwise notified)
Monday 20th January – Friday 24th January:	New EYFS Cohort 24/25 Parent Tours
Wednesday 29th January:	School recognition of Chinese New Year
Monday 3rd February – Friday 7th February:	Recognition of Children's Mental Health Week
Wednesday 5th February and Thursday 6th February:	Parents Evening



Core Values Awards

- Ducklings: Thea
- Cygnets: Jenson
- Wrens: Eric
- Kingfishers: Billy

- Sparrows: Ceci
- Jays: Grace
- Woodpeckers: Cooper
- Robins: Reggie

- Swallows: Renezmai
- Nightingales: Emily
- Kestrels: Freddie
- Eagles: Annie
- Herons: Mo
- Hawks: Penny



Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.



**KS1
Winner**



Ducklings 98%



**KS2
Winner**



Hérons 98.46%

Attendance this week

Year 6: 91.96%

Year 4: 93.5%

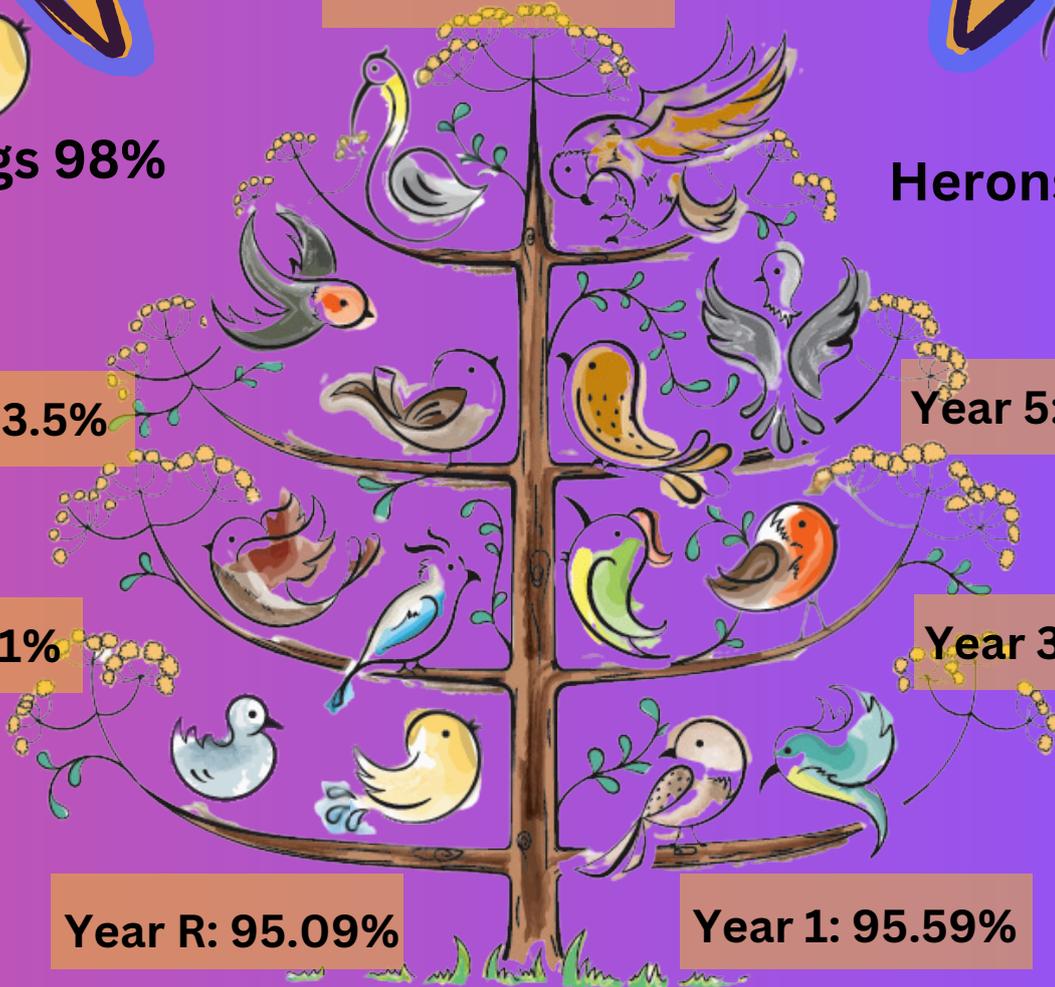
Year 5: 93.11%

Year 2: 94.61%

Year 3: 93.93%

Year R: 95.09%

Year 1: 95.59%



Every day in school counts...



and every minute counts...





PRAYER GROUP MEETINGS THIS TERM

Please do feel free to join our Prayer Group.
The group meets in the office on the following dates:

Friday 31st January at 2.45pm
Monday 10th February at 2.45pm

Church Connections

Please see below a letter from John Higgins, Priest in Charge at our local Church
- St John the Baptist, Church.

The Len Valley Benefice

– to touch everyone with God's love

The Parishes of Boughton Malherbe, Harrietsham, Lenham and Ulcombe

January 2025

To all those in the Len Valley Benefice,

I have written a letter to you at the start of most years that I have served in the Len Valley benefice. This letter contains more news that is personal to Lorraine and I than in previous years.

It is public knowledge that Lorraine is ending her time as Chaplain to The Living Well in June this year, and I will seek to retire from paid ministry this year as well. My intention is to complete my time with you in September 2025. The reason for my choosing this coming year to retire reflects being blessed with a pension this summer, noting that I have suffered an increasing burden of health problems last year (which I have mainly kept private) and the desire to spend more time with my still growing brood of grandchildren.

However, we have a house to sell in Deal (it is on the market) and we will be looking for one to live in on the south coast. Anybody who has ever sold or bought houses in England knows how unpredictable this can be, and obviously we can't give a definite retirement date until we actually have somewhere to move to. However, I wanted to give you plenty of notice so that you can be prepared.

Remain sure that I will continue to be committed to serving you all until my last day here. I tried to prepare our PCCs for changes ahead by starting up a strategy group last year to think ahead for changes that I suspect will be needed when I go. Our verse for the year is deliberately Isaiah 41:13 which reads,

"For I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, do not fear, I will help you".

This is a verse to 'lean into' as the year progress, and it will be as important to Lorraine and I as it may be to you.

For those involved in the Lenham Hub team, I remain committed to this project and maybe I can support you from "afar" with things like grant applications? We will need to discuss who is the best person to chair this group as time passes. To those in our Church of England Schools, I will continue to try to help you until the end of this academic year, including being a Foundation Governor in Harrietsham.

Our benefice services this year are entitled, "Re-sourced in Christ" and have been deliberately designed that we all draw back into the foundational elements of our

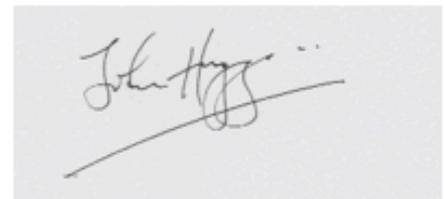
Christian faith: varying from areas such as rest and stillness to boldness and Scripture. We are also blessed with new as well as established preachers in the benefice, who have already proven their worth, as well as a great "gang" of retired clergy and readers. There are also a few people who are considering the possibility of ordination to sacramental ministry (who could then take Holy Communion and Baptisms) by the new Dover Pathway, which is exciting for them and for us.

Of course, there is and will be much that I want to say to you as individuals and as a church, and there are still many months for this to happen, but most of all I want to say a ginormous "Thank you" for having us, for putting up with us, and for all your support and encouragement as we have lived here amongst you. We are going to miss this place!

I also want to say "Thank you" for the half-day a week that you have allowed me to research for a PhD. The thesis is now well-underway, and I intend to complete this next year. Most importantly, I hope and trust that this research into Christian motivation to be involved in tackling the climate crisis will bear fruit in years to come. Perhaps retirement will give me time to write a book?

As for you, I have no doubt that the Christlike God will continue to love and care for you and to lead you, as individuals, as churches, as schools and as villages, as you place your hand in his. God loves you so much that he gave his only son for you. It is the greatest love that can be shown, and God's love is as real today as 2,000-odd years ago, when Jesus was born to incredulous parents in Bethlehem.

With deep love in Christ

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature is written in a cursive style and appears to read "John Huggins".

John Huggins, Priest-in-Charge

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.



Providing free childcare and peace of mind.

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**.

**South Borough
Primary School**

Tovil, Maidstone

Mon 17 - Wed 19 Feb 2025

**Greenfields Community
Primary School**

Shepway, Maidstone

Mon 17 - Wed 19 Feb 2025

**Tree Tops
Primary Academy**

Parkwood, Maidstone

Tue 18 - Thu 20 Feb 2025

Places are **FREE** and open to all children aged between 4-12, and are on a first come basis.

Visit stonesinthecommunity.org/programme/schools-out-holiday-club to book a space at one of the locations above.

 **SITC News** Follow on WhatsApp

stonesinthecommunity.org



STONES
in the community

COMING SOON... BIG BEAR GRRRLZ!!



Big Bear FC will soon be offering Friday evening sessions, for girls.

The same fun coaching as our popular Saturday sessions, but this one is just for the 'Grrrlz!!'

Register your interest via the link provided. You can also contact us via socials or the details below: