

HARRIETSHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Nurtured We Flourish

Monday 17th November 2025

Dear Families,

We have had another extremely busy week this week.

Year 5: Year 5 enjoyed a great trip to Kent Life. Our many thanks to the staff and to the parent helpers who accompanied them. The children had a great time and learnt lots too. As some of you know, Mrs Stroud is off poorly at the moment and we are extremely thankful that Miss James has stepped in, as a familiar teacher to the school, to support the class until Mrs Stroud returns. In times of teacher absence, it can be tricky to secure a consistent supply teacher, let alone one who knows the school and our way of working. We are very thankful to Miss James for helping out.

Anti-Bullying Week: This week we have celebrated Anti-bullying Week, and shown our support against bullying, by wearing odd socks to school all week. This is a cause close to our children's hearts, and I have been delighted by the number of children who have come to find me to let me know their thoughts about bullying. In worship this week, we have thought about 'how we want to be treated and how we should treat others'. Our Shining Lights also led Key Stage Two in a special Anti-bullying worship on Thursday. Our thanks to the Shining Lights and to Mrs Wells for supporting them.

Remembrance Service: The school made me very proud during our Remembrance service outside on 11th November. We observed a 2-minute silence with lots of children joining us in their Cubs / Scouts / Squirrels / Beavers / Rainbows / Brownies uniforms (I was delighted to be taught the different uniforms by the children too - I have nearly got it!!). Three of our Shining Lights, Matilda, Thandie and Alfie, led us in prayer and each class presented their hand-made poppy wreath too. Key Stage One then performed a song for us. The whole experience was lovely. We were also really impressed with the children who attended the Remembrance church service with Mrs Wells - our thanks to Mrs Wells for organising both events.

Children in Need: We helped raise money for Children in Need on Friday by dressing in spotty clothes. We were delighted to be visited by the students from The Lenham Secondary School for their Dance Dash (despite their school being closed for the day!). Our children enjoyed their musical medley and enthusiastic dancing. They have promised to let us know how much they managed to raise. We also raised money through Miss Frazier's Cake Sale after school - the amount will be announced asap.

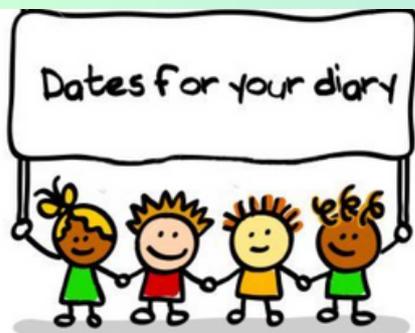
Diabetes Awareness: With several members of our school community suffering with diabetes, we wanted to recognise this important day as a school community. Therefore, on Friday 14th November 2025, we painted our nails blue to help to Nail Diabetes! We raised awareness for diabetes and showed our support for people living with the condition.

To see our latest news, please visit our new website here: <https://www.harrietsham.kent.sch.uk/latest-news>

Kind regards,

Jackie Chambers

Headteacher



All dates for the term can also be found on our website here: <https://www.harrietsham.kent.sch.uk/term-dates-1/>

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|---|---|
| Monday 17 th November and Wednesday 19 th November: | New EYFS Cohort 26/27 Parent Tours |
| Monday 24 th November and Wednesday 26 th November: | New EYFS Cohort 26/27 Parent Tours |
| Thursday 27 th November: | Classroom Open Afternoon 2:45pm – 3:15pm |
| Friday 28 th November: | Non-Uniform Day for Bottle Tombola and Chocolate Tombola |
| December: | |
| Monday 1 st December and Wednesday 3 rd December: | New EYFS Cohort 26/27 Parent Tours |
| Tuesday 2 nd December: | Year 5 Class Worship – 9am |
| Wednesday 10 th December: | OPAL Donation Day (children can wear own clothes in return for a donation for playtimes) |
| Thursday 11 th December: | DATE CHANGE: Year R Christmas Show – 2:30pm Christmas Jumper Day |
| Friday 12 th December: | Christmas Fayre after school |
| Monday 15 th December: | I-Rock Performance to parents 2:30pm |
| Tuesday 17 th December: | Y2+ Y3 Christingle Service (children only) |
| Wednesday 17 th December: | Interim Reports Home Christmas Dinner – Christmas Jumpers allowed |
| Thursday 18 th December: | Christmas Jumpers allowed KS2 Church Service 2pm – 3pm (children only) Year 1 Nativity – 2pm CANCELLED: End of Term Disco for the children |
| Friday 19 th December - INSET Day – School Closed to all children) | |
| TERM ENDS: Thursday 18 th December 2025 | |

UPCOMING

Classroom Open Afternoon - 27th November: Families are invited to visit their children's classes between 2:45pm and 3:15pm. Collection for children will be at 3:20pm from outside the school gates as usual.



Online SafetyTalk - Lenham:

You are all invited to a 'Digital and Online Awareness Briefing for Parents' that will focus on the increasingly complex and potentially dangerous online world that children are growing up in. Mr Gaygan, a fabulous speaker from The Towers School, will deliver the session.

Tuesday 25th November at 2-3pm at Lenham Primary School

KS2 Christmas Church Service



We are very excited to be able to celebrate Christmas at St John the Baptist Church in Harrietsham with Years 3 - 6 on **Thursday 18th December.**

The children in Years 3-6 will walk to the church after lunch. **Parents may collect their children from the church at 3pm.**

Those who have not arranged collection will walk back to school with staff and will be dismissed as usual at 3.20pm.

If your child is being collected from the church, they will be reminded to take all of their belongings with them from school.

Nearer the time, you will be asked to inform the school about your pick up preference.

Classes will require some extra helpers for their walk to the church. These volunteers are welcome to stay for the church service and will be required to support classes walking back to the school.

Unfortunately, we are unable to invite all parents to the service due to space inside the church. If you are available to support with walking the children to the church, please let your class teacher know.

We are sure it will be a lovely occasion, and a brilliant way to end the term.

Equality and Diversity Committee - Representatives Needed

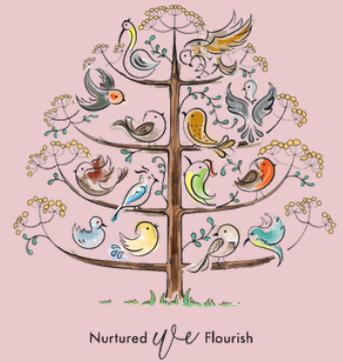
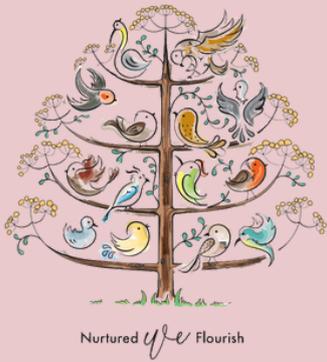
We are still looking for parents or carers who can represent the following communities on the committee:

- People/ families from ethnic minority backgrounds
- Religious backgrounds
- LGBTQ+



If you feel you can bring your perspective and voice to help us shape a more inclusive environment for all our children and families, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact Mrs Giannini at emma.giannini@harrietsham.kent.sch.uk if you would like to find out more or volunteer to represent one of these communities.



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|--|-------|
| Whole School Attendance Last Week | 94.4% |
| Whole School Attendance since beginning of School Year | 94.7% |

ATTENDANCE WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL
Children are required to attend school 190 days per year. The Government states that every 2 month absence should be at least 95%.

How do YOU measure up?

| Attendance | Days Absent | Weeks Absent | Lessons Missed |
|------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|
| 95% | 9 Days | 2 Weeks | 50 Lessons |
| 90% | 19 Days | 4 Weeks | 100 Lessons |
| 85% | 29 Days | 6 Weeks | 150 Lessons |
| 80% | 38 Days | 8 Weeks | 200 Lessons |
| 75% | 48 Days | 10 Weeks | 250 Lessons |
| 70% | 57 Days | 11.5 Weeks | 290 Lessons |
| 65% | 67 Days | 13.5 Weeks | 340 Lessons |

- 89% & Below** Drastic effect on academic achievement
- 95%-90%** Cause for concern
- 100%-96%** Excellent

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 |
| 93% | 94% | 98% | 94% | 88% | 96% | 98% | 96% | 95% | 93% | 94% | 94% | 94% | 90% |
| 95% | 96% | 96% | 94% | 93% | 96% | 95% | 95% | 97% | 94% | 93% | 94% | 94% | 93% |

Class Punctuality

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

| 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 |
| 99% | 99% | 98% | 100% | 98% | 99% | 98% | 98% | 99% | 96% | 97% | 99% | 98% | 97% |

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.



Notices from St John the Baptist Church, Harrietsham

Community Choir

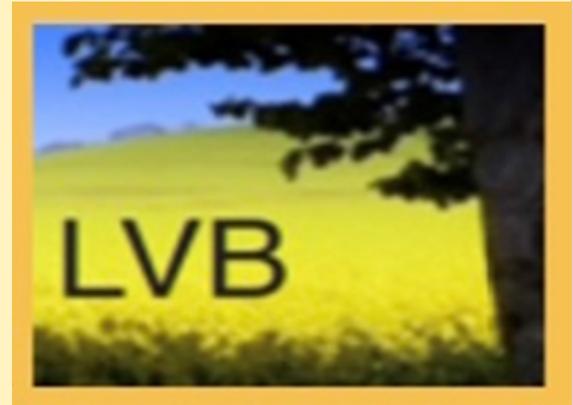
Come along to our fun singalong community choir for adults, singing popular songs for all!

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.



Games Club

Come and join us in the Church Room (there is a door into this at the back of Harrietsham Village Hall)

We meet on the 1st Tuesday of every month, from 2pm – 4pm.

We supply games but please feel free to bring something you would like to 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.

Bible Study

Come and join our Harrietsham Bible Study group

We meet on 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.

Crib Service

If anyone would like to take part or help behind the scenes on the day, please contact Pamela Cuerden on 01622 859442.

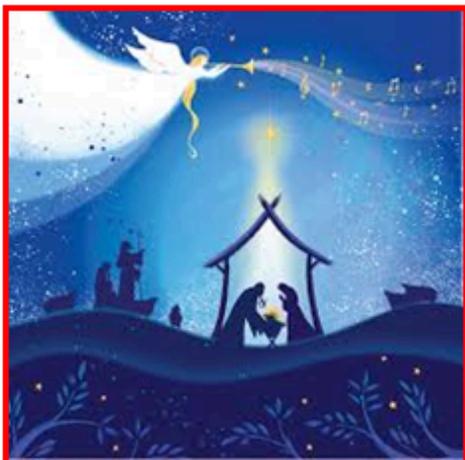
Crib Service

We will be holding our crib service at St John's Church in Harrietsham

at **3pm**

on **Christmas Eve.**

Come and dress up if you want to, and bring your mum, dad, aunties, uncles, grand-parents, brothers, sisters and friends!



We would love to see you all.
Everyone is welcome!

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:



- Fri 5th December
- Mon 12th January
- Fri 6th February
- Mon 2nd March
- Fri 20th March
- Mon 20th April
- Fri 15th May
- Mon 15th June
- Fri 10th July

COMPETITION



Design the livery for Maidstone's recycling truck!

We're launching an exciting new art competition in partnership with SUEZ, and we want your designs on the road!

Your Mission

Create bold, imaginative artwork that inspires Maidstone to recycle more and protect our environment. Whether it's food waste, garden waste, or general recycling, your design could help spread the message in a fun and eye-catching way.

The Prize

Winning design will be featured on a real waste collection vehicle with an option of having the winners name included too. The winner will also receive **£200** worth of health and wellbeing or environmental vouchers.

Why Enter?

- Make a real impact in your community
- Promote sustainability through art
- See your creativity brought to life on a moving canvas!

Competition runs between 1 October and 30 November 2025

Want to get involved? To enter download a template from our website XXXX.

Let's get creative for a cleaner, greener Maidstone!

Terms and conditions apply.



Girlguiding
Len Valley District



Brownies Wed 6.30 - 8.00pm

Rainbows Thurs 5.00 - 6.00pm

Leaders urgently needed!

Can you help give young girls the opportunity to make friends and have adventures that help them grow and thrive?

No experience needed—just enthusiasm!

For more information, please contact Karen Gambrell, District Commissioner at lennyvalleydc@gmail.com

BREDGAR & WORMSHILL RAILWAY FATHER CHRISTMAS SPECIAL EVENT

Sat & Sun 6th & 7th December
Sat & Sun 13th & 14th December



Take the majestic Steam Train to Father Christmas's Woodland Grotto on the most anticipated journey of the year!
Featuring a Christmas Treasure Trail, Christmas Crafts and Activities for all ages, an open Fire for Marshmallow toasting and a private meeting with Father Christmas where he'll present your child with a personal gift.



For more details and to book tickets: www.bwlr.co.uk

Sutton Valence Hockey Club Juniors

Sutton Valence Prep School, Chart Sutton, ME17 3RF



We welcome all abilities for fun, games & skills

From Reception upwards

Every Sunday

9:30am
Mini's, U8's, U10's

11:00am
U12's, U14's, U16's

Returning:
14th September 2025

For Further details, please contact:
Juniors at SVHC Tel: 07845112514, Email: svhc.juniors@gmail.com