

# HARRIETSHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Nurtured We Flourish

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Dear Families,

The children have had a great week learning about the value of money during Enterprise Week. Our older children have enjoyed some interesting talks from business owners and every class has begun thinking about how they can raise money for their class at the Christmas Fayre. The children have all saved money to 'purchase' a special treat on Friday afternoon, while Key Stage Two visited different countries to 'purchase goods' after changing currency at the Currency Exchange or the Bank, and Year 6 visited the Co-op to purchase food to make their families a meal. The whole experience has really taught our children about good financial management and about the true value of money. Our huge thanks to Ms Pittam for organising such a valuable learning experience.



Christmas has well and truly arrived at Harrietsham now. I have been made aware of some very naughty elves this week who have been getting up to lots of mischief! The Year 2 children were horrified that their elf had been playing with the photocopier over night!! The children also enjoyed a wonderful Pantomime on Monday. Our thanks to Mrs Frost for organising this opportunity for them.



### Staffing Updates:

I am pleased to let you all know that Mrs Weeks has been promoted to the position of Nurture Leader within our school. From next term, she will be running specific nurture groups from our Nurture Room. We are excited about the support this will give to lots of our children.

Mrs Allitt has also been appointed as a full time Learning Support Assistant within her school. Lots of our children already know her from Safehands, but, we are excited that she has already joined our team.

We have also appointed a part-time Finance Assistant, Mrs Atkins, who will join Mr Mellor (Admin Assistant), Miss Roberts (Attendance and Admissions Officer) and Mrs Masterson (Business Leader) in the office from January. We are sure you will join us in welcoming her to our team.



In addition to our OPAL TikTok site, Mr Mellor has kindly set us up a wider-school one.

Please do follow us and keep an eye out for updates.

**Harrietsham Primary School**

**@harrietshamprimaryschool | TikTok**



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

Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December:	OPAL Donation Day (children can wear own clothes in return for a donation for playtimes)
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December:	DATE CHANGE: Year R Christmas Show – 2:30pm Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> December:	Christmas Fayre after school
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> December:	I-Rock Performance to parents 2:30pm
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December:	Y2+ Y3 Christingle Service (children only)
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December:	Interim Reports Home <span style="float: right;">Families invited</span> Christmas Dinner – Christmas Jumpers allowed
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> 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<sup>th</sup> December - INSET Day – School Closed to all children)

TERM ENDS: Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025

# UPCOMING

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December - OPAL Donation Day

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December - Year R Christmas Show and Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Fayre



## Donation Day WEDNESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER

### ROLE PLAY

- Home Phones
- Keyboards
- Tills
- Microphones
- Dolls/ barbies
- Small cars
- Pots, pans and trays
- Utensils and cutlery
- Plastic cups, plates and bowls

### SPARES

- Waterproof coats
- Waterproof trousers
- Wellies - bigger sizes
- Hats and gloves
- Socks
- Jogging bottoms

### BUILDING

- Cable reels
- Tarpaulin
- Shower curtains
- Pegs
- Guttering
- Wood

### WEIRD AND WONDERFUL

- Suitcases
- Crutches
- Road signs
- Traffic cones
- Road barriers
- Pool noodles
- freestanding oven

### SPORTS

- All types of balls
- Wheeled items
- Rackets
- Pop up nets

### ARTS AND CRAFTS

- Colouring books
- Acorns, pinecones, conkers
- Instruments
- Rubbers and sharpeners



Hi Harrietsham!

KS2 were informed of an exciting writing competition during their worship today.

Have a look at the pictures for full information, including prizes!

I need your entries completed and returned to me by 12th December!

Message me with any questions, happy writing!  
If you want to take part, come and see me in Y4 Swallows for a booklet.

Mr Walker

## Design Our New Road Safety Signage!



**HOW TO ENTER:** Named entries (child's name and class) should be completed on plain paper and should be handed to Mrs Chambers by the end of Term (Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December).



## 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>



**Equality  
Diversity  
Inclusion**

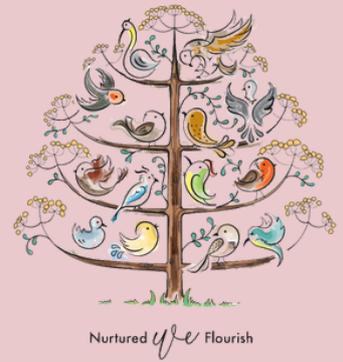
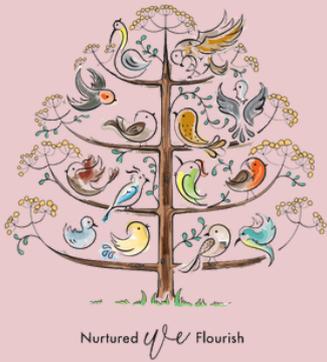
## Equality and Diversity Committee - Representatives Needed

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](mailto:emma.giannini@harrietsham.kent.sch.uk) if you would like to find out more or volunteer to represent one of these communities.



Whole School Attendance Last Week	94.9%
Whole School Attendance since beginning of School Year	94.7%



## ATTENDANCE

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

**ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL**  
Children are required to be in school 190 days per year. The Government states that every 1 month absence should be at least 9%.

How do YOU measure up?

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	18 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	27 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	36 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	45 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	54 Days	12 Weeks	300 Lessons
65%	63 Days	14 Weeks	350 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
Last Week	92%	97%	97%	95%	93%	97%	89%	99%	97%	94%	96%	97%	96%	95%
Year to Date	95%	96%	95%	94%	94%	96%	95%	96%	97%	94%	93%	94%	94%	94%

# 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
	100%	100%	99%	99%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	98%	99%	99%	100%	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.

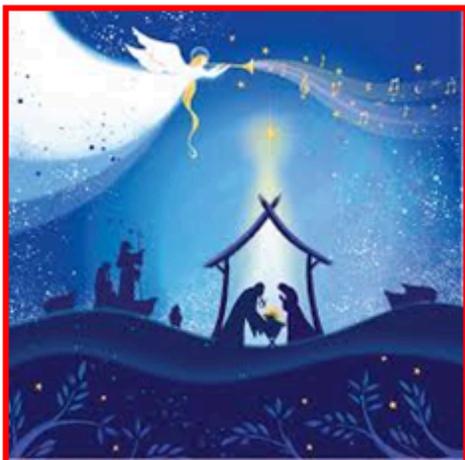
## Crib Service

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!



M E R R Y C H R I S T M A S

# NATIVITY FUN FOR ALL



## Christmas Nativity Fun with Messy Church

St Mary's Church, Lenham  
Sat 13 Dec | 3pm - 5pm

Come dressed up as a nativity character or have fun with our dressing up outfits.

Craft activities, Christmas Nativity, snacks and drinks to enjoy!



## The Pathways Church Christmas Special!

Lenham Community Centre  
Sun 21 Dec | 4:30pm - 6pm

A special Christmas service for young and old.

With Christmas nibbles, carols and a craft for children to make.



**Do bring family and friends. 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:



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

## Step Into Santa's Magical Grotto!

Experience the Wonder of Christmas

### A Winter Wonderland Awaits

Join us this festive season for the ultimate Christmas adventure at Santa's Grotto! Let your family bask in the joy and magic of meeting Santa Claus in a warm, beautifully decorated setting. Create cherished memories together and soak up the holiday spirit.

#### Event Details

- Date: 30/11/2025
- Time: 12.00 – 16.00pm
- Location: Harrietsham Village Hall, Harrison Drive Harrietsham Me171bz

#### Your Magical Experience Includes:

- Meet and greet with Santa, Take a photo to treasure on your own device
- A special selection Box for Primary or younger children
- joyful activities
- Warm seasonal treats and refreshments

#### Booking Information

To guarantee your spot, we recommend booking early.

Reserve by emailing [cilr.griffiths@harrietshamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cilr.griffiths@harrietshamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Enquiries: 07793240529

#### Admission Prices

- Children Free
- Adults Free
- Refreshments Donations welcomed

Your visit helps support local Village Hall! Don't Miss Your Chance!

Bundle up, bring your Christmas wishes, and celebrate with us in a world of festive wonder. Santa and his joyful elves are waiting to welcome you! Wishing you a very Merry Christmas from everyone at Santa's Grotto Harrietsham



## Schools Out!

### Christmas Holiday Club

Providing free childcare and peace of mind.

Schools Out Club provides the opportunity for children aged between 4 - 13 to participate in a range of **sports & fitness** and **arts & craft** activities. Sessions run for **4 hours** between **10:00 - 14:00**.

Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF) places are now available. Simply log into the HAF website [holidayactivities.com](http://holidayactivities.com) to book a space at one of our locations - or scan the QR code below.

#### Dates and locations:

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

Mon 22  
December

Tue 23  
December

Mon 29  
December

Tue 30  
December

HolidayActivities



Places for all other children available from 10 December 2025. Visit [stonesinthecommunity.org/programme/schools-out-holiday-club](http://stonesinthecommunity.org/programme/schools-out-holiday-club) on the day to book a space at one of our locations or follow our social.



[stonesinthecommunity.org](http://stonesinthecommunity.org)



## 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](http://www.bwlr.co.uk)

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