

# HARRIETSHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Nurtured We Flourish

12th January 2026

Dear Families,

I just wanted to say a huge thank you to you all for bearing with us this week as we have had to change plans for drop-off and collection with short notice due to the snow and ice. Thank you to everyone who has checked in with us or offered to help. A huge thank you also to our staff who have supported with smiles on their faces, regardless of how many changes we had to make! Thank you also to the children who have been EXCELLENT and have really impressed us with how flexible they have been. We also had issues with heating on Monday and Tuesday morning, and, again, the children were wonderful. This has not been the easiest start to the new year, but, it has been lovely to have the children back after the Christmas break.

Kind regards,

**Jackie Chambers**  
Headteacher

### A lovely email to share:

We received this lovely email from the Church, and although it is some time since the Carol Service, I thought it was important that the children saw it:

On behalf of the Church, a thank you to you and to the children for the wonderful singing of silent night at the carol service last night. I know everyone enjoyed their singing, the smiles on people's faces proved they were enjoying their singing. Please pass on our congratulations to the children, who represented the school so well.

### A notice regarding dogs on our School Site:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the many ways you support your children in getting to and from school. We appreciate and understand how enjoyable it can be for families to walk together with their dogs as part of the school routine.

However, we would like to clarify that dogs are **not permitted on the school playground or school grounds (even if carried)**. This is a policy followed by the majority of schools and is in place for a number of important reasons, including safeguarding, health and safety, allergies, and the comfort of all children and families.

We would like to reassure parents that our school dogs are an exception to this policy. The school dogs have undergone extensive training and are fully insured to be on the school premises as part of our school provision.

We kindly ask that all dogs are kept outside the school gates at drop-off and collection times. Your cooperation helps us to ensure a safe, calm, and inclusive environment for all pupils.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

### Follow us on Social Media:

Harrietsham Primary  
School TikTok:

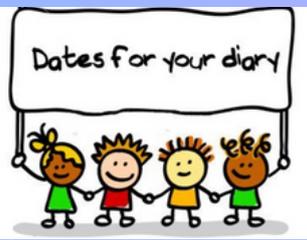


Follow our OPAL Progress:



Forest School News:





All dates for the term can also be found on our website here:

<https://www.harrietsham.kent.sch.uk/term-dates-1/>

<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January:</b>	Deadline to apply for new EYFS Cohort spaces at school for September 2026 Spring Census Day (All infants to have a school dinner unless otherwise notified)
<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January:</b>	<b>Year 4 Class Worship 9am</b>
<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January:</b>	<b>OPAL Lunchtime (parents invited in to play)</b>
<b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January:</b>	<b>OPAL Lunchtime (parents invited in to play)</b>
<b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January and Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January:</b>	<b>Parents Evenings</b>
<b>February</b>	
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February:</b>	<b>Year 3 Class Worship 9am</b>
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January and Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February:</b>	Year R Balance Bike Session
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February:</b>	<b>Number Day</b> Children to wear to school a Maths Hat for a competition
<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February:</b>	<b>Safer Internet Day:</b> Families invited to attend at 2:30pm
<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February:</b>	<b>End of Term Disco for the children</b>

**TERM ENDS: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

## PE Days:

- **Monday** - Year 1, Year 4 and Year 5
- **Tuesday** - Year 5, Year 6, Robins and Swallows
- **Wednesday** - Year R, Year 1, Woodpeckers, Nightingales
- **Thursday** - Year 2 and Year 6
- **Friday** - Year 2 and Year 3

Forest School Term 3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1 W/C 05.01.26	AYS - PM	ROBINS - AM	HERONS - PM	KINGFISHERS - AM SWALLOWS - PM	EAGLES - AM
Week 2 W/C 12.01.26	SWALLOWS - PM	WOODPECKERS - AM	HAWKS - PM	WRENS - AM NIGHTINGALES - PM	KESTRELS - AM
Week 3 W/C 19.01.26	AYS - PM	ROBINS - AM	HERONS - PM	KINGFISHERS - AM SWALLOWS - PM	EAGLES - AM
Week 4 W/C 26.01.26	SWALLOWS - PM	WOODPECKERS - AM	HAWKS - PM	WRENS - AM NIGHTINGALES - PM	KESTRELS - AM
Week 5 W/C 02.02.26	AYS - PM	ROBINS - AM	HERONS - PM	KINGFISHERS - AM SWALLOWS - PM	EAGLES - AM
Week 6 W/C 09.02.26	SWALLOWS - PM	WOODPECKERS - AM	HAWKS - PM	WRENS - AM NIGHTINGALES - PM	KESTRELS - AM

## UPCOMING

Please come and join Harrietsham Prayer Group on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January at 2:45pm.

This is an opportunity for anyone to come along to join the group in prayer. If you are not able to come along, but would like to ask the group to pray for something in particular, please do email the school office.



### A plea from Mrs Weeks for our Nurture Room:

We are currently updating our Nurture Room and would be grateful if you're having a post Christmas sort out for any of the following items:

- \*\* 50 piece or lower puzzles    \*\* Barbies and clothes    \*\* Action figures    \*\* Duplo

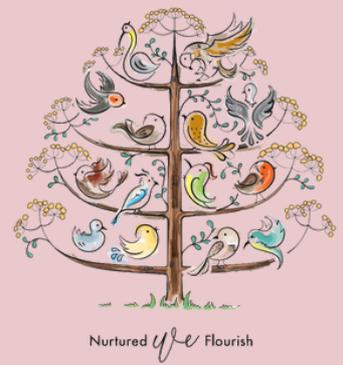
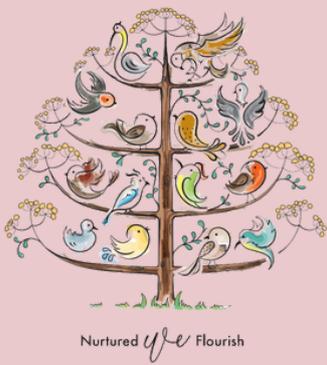
### New Staff:

I'm sure many of you will have already met Corinne Allitt and Daisy Clark who have joined us recently as LSAs. Both Corinne and Daisy also work with Safehands, so both are well-known to the school. In addition, this term, Hannah Harris has joined us as the new Year R teacher who will take over when Emma Giannini goes on maternity leave and Kate Atkins has joined us as Finance Assistant in the office. We are sure you will join us in giving these staff members a huge Harrietsham welcome.

## REMINDER - ROAD SAFETY AND PARKING!

Please drive and park sensibly on the roads around the school. Breaking the rules of the highways puts our children in danger. Please do not block the entrance to roads, the school carpark or residents driveways and please do not park on the crossing where the drop curb is at the front of the school.

**Please help us to look after our children and to keep them safe on the roads.**



Whole School Attendance Last Week	94.0%
Whole School Attendance since beginning of School Year	94.2%



## 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 attendance 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
Last Week	99%	95%	96%	94%	91%	96%	95%	93%	94%	93%	91%	97%	93%	90%
Year to Date	94%	95%	95%	94%	94%	96%	94%	95%	96%	93%	93%	95%	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
Last Week	100%	100%	98%	99%	99%	99%	100%	99%	99%	99%	98%	98%	97%	99%
Year to Date	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	98%	99%	98%	98%	99%	99%	98%

# 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.

## 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.



## 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 - We're Moving!

As we have the great news that we are increasing in numbers attending, we are moving to the Booth Hall (at the front of Harrietsham Village Hall on the left as you enter). Thanks to a generous grant from the Parish Council to cover the hire of the hall, entrance is still free in 2026.

Come and join us on 1st Tuesday of every month, from 2pm – 4pm: 3<sup>rd</sup> February this month.

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.

## 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

## 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.

## 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.



## Active 60 Newsletter - January 2026

**Happy New Year - Our resolution is to be Active Everyday!**

**5 simple ways to stay active every day in the cold**

**Winter months.** ❄️💪

1. Indoor workouts at home - Try bodyweight exercises like squats, push-ups, yoga, Pilates, or short online workout videos—no equipment needed.
2. Take brisk winter walks - Bundle up and go outside during daylight hours, even if it's just 10–20 minutes. Fresh air helps energy, mood and improves concentration.
3. Turn chores into movement - Clearing snow, walking the dog or even cooking can keep you moving more than you realize.
4. Use active breaks - Stand up every hour to stretch, do jumping jacks, march in place, or climb stairs—especially helpful on cold days at home.
5. Try a winter-friendly activity - Activities like indoor swimming, ice skating, dancing or going to the gym keep exercise fun despite the cold.

**The Chief Medical Officers recommend that all children are active for 60 minutes a day, with schools being responsible for delivering 30 of these active minutes.**



**See a link to this well-being guide for children and young people on our website below.**

**There are some useful tips included - please do take a look.**

**[Harrietsham Church of England Primary School - Mental Well-being Support](#)**