

HARRIETSHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Nurtured We Flourish

Dear Families,

19th January 2026

Thank you for all bearing with us during the water outage earlier last week. I was deeply humbled by the emails of support for the school that I received - thank you to everyone who sent one. In a time when we can all be quite quick to notice what is not going so well, it is so heart-warming to receive such lovely messages in support of the school and staff team. I always share these messages with the wider staff team and they are so greatly appreciated.

Kind regards,

Jackie Chambers
Headteacher

Money raised recently:

OPAL Disco: Our last OPAL disco raised a massive £1,267.47. Our massive thanks to Mrs Mannering and the team for enabling this to happen. Mrs Mannering has already purchased some new storage and toys for the playground and there will be more to come when the weather improves.

Just as an aside regarding playtimes, we are noticing some children are struggling to follow our school rules of Ready, Respectful and Safe at playtimes (not looking after each other and equipment). This is a huge contrast to how our children present in lessons. **We would greatly appreciate it if you could have a little chat with your children about this, as this will reinforce what we are saying in school.**

Christmas Fayre: Thank you to everyone who attended our Christmas Fayre and to the staff team who helped to put it together. We raised a grand total of £2123 for new laptops for our children.

With this in mind I have a business proposition for any businesses who may be interested - see below.

A business Proposition - Can you help?



Are you a company looking to support a local cause?

Can you support our school in its bid to upgrade our laptops for our children?

We are looking for companies to help us by either:

- 1) Making a monetary donation to the cause.
- 2) Match fundraising with us.
- 3) Matching every laptop we buy, by donating one.

Together, we can make a difference to our children's learning!

If you are able to help, please email the Headteacher, Jackie Chambers, on: headteacher@harrietsham.kent.sch.uk

Traffic, Parking and Road-use - an update:

We are increasingly seeing dangerous parking and use of the roads in and around the school. Almost daily, our neighbours are emailing us to let us know about cars who have parked right across their driveways or in other dangerous places. We have had to remind parents on several occasions recently about our expectations on the use of our carpark along with the zig-zag area and grass verge at the front of the school.

For the safety of our children, Mr Young (our Site Manager) will be out and about on the road outside the school at pick-up times to remind families of our safe parking expectations.

I remind you all to please treat him with respect at all times - he is out there to support the safety of our children.



Follow us on Social Media:

Harrietsham Primary
School TikTok:

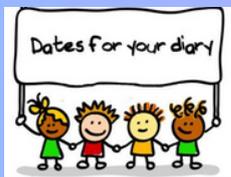


Follow our OPAL Progress:



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/>

Tuesday 20 th January:	Year 4 Class Worship 9am
Wednesday 21 st January:	OPAL Parent Lunchtimes Cancelled
Thursday 22 nd January:	
Wednesday 28 th January and Thursday 29 th January:	Parents Evenings
February	
Tuesday 3 rd February:	Year 3 Class Worship 9am
Tuesday 3 rd January and Wednesday 4 th February:	Year R Balance Bike Session
Friday 6 th February:	Number Day
Tuesday 10 th February:	Safer Internet Day: Families invited to attend at 2:30pm
Thursday 12 th February:	End of Term Disco for the children

TERM ENDS: Friday 13th 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	JAYS - PM	ROBINS - AM DUCKINGS - PM	HERONS - PM	KINGFISHERS - AM SWALLOWS - PM	EAGLES - AM
Week 2 W/C 12.01.26	SPARROWS - PM	WOODPECKERS - AM ROBINS - PM	HAWKS - PM	WRENS - AM NIGHTINGALES - PM	KESTRELS - AM
Week 3 W/C 19.01.26	JAYS - PM	ROBINS - AM DUCKINGS - PM	HERONS - PM	KINGFISHERS - AM SWALLOWS - PM	EAGLES - AM
Week 4 W/C 26.01.26	SPARROWS - PM	WOODPECKERS - AM ROBINS - PM	HAWKS - PM	WRENS - AM NIGHTINGALES - PM	KESTRELS - AM
Week 5 W/C 02.02.26	JAYS - PM	ROBINS - AM DUCKINGS - PM	HERONS - PM	KINGFISHERS - AM SWALLOWS - PM	EAGLES - AM
Week 6 W/C 09.02.26	SPARROWS - PM	WOODPECKERS - AM ROBINS - PM	HAWKS - PM	WRENS - AM NIGHTINGALES - PM	KESTRELS - AM

UPCOMING

Year 4 Class Worship on Tuesday 20th January at 9am.

All families of Year 4 children are welcome to attend. Please gather in the school office and a member of staff will ask you to sign in before showing you to the school hall.

Parents Evenings.

Please keep an eye out for communication from the office regarding the booking system for Parents Evenings this term.

Please note:

- Cygnets Parents Evenings will be **Tuesday 27th January after school** and **Thursday 29th January during the afternoon and early evening**.
- All other Parents Evenings will be **Wednesday 28th January and Thursday 29th January after school**.
- Following parental feedback at our first Parents Focus Group, parents evenings on Wednesday and Thursday will run in the **Key Stage Two classrooms** to allow families and teachers more privacy. If you are choosing to bring children to your appointment with you, please do keep them with you in the designated waiting areas. There will be an opportunity for you to look through your child's learning whilst you wait.

Appointments will be in the following locations (we will label all classrooms accordingly):

- Year 6 - Mrs Pickering's classroom
- Year 5 - Ms Pittam's Classroom
- Year 4 and Miss Roberts - Mrs Frosts Classroom
- Year 2 and Mr Hyder - Mrs Stroud's Classroom
- Year 1 - Mr Walkers Classroom
- Year R - Ms Kelly's Classroom

Reminder regarding dogs on our School Site:

We are sorry 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.

Kitchen News:

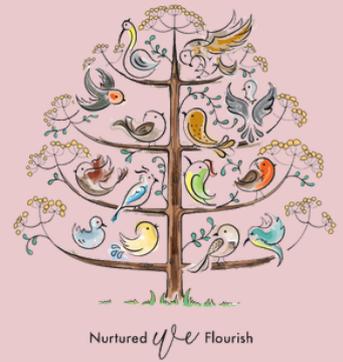
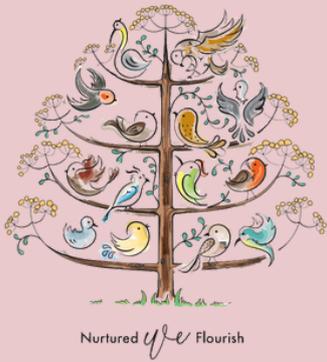
We are pleased to say that our school kitchen has received a 5 star food hygiene rating and a very impressive audit from KCC. A huge 'well done' to Tash and her team.



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



Whole School Attendance Last Week	94.4%
Whole School Attendance since beginning of School Year	94.2%



ATTENDANCE WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL
Children are required to see to attend school 190 days per year. The Government states that every month's 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%	96%	97%	92%	98%	89%	96%	95%	98%	89%	95%	92%	95%	91%
Year to Date		94%	95%	95%	94%	94%	96%	94%	95%	96%	93%	93%	94%	94%	92%

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%	97%	98%	98%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	97%	98%	98%	97%
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: 3rd 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 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.



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.

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.

“Come and find out how God loves you”

Please join us to celebrate

Messy Valentine's

Balloon Basketball | Giant Pass the Parcel | Bath Bombs | Crafts for our “Tree of Love” | Heart Hunt | Lego | Hand Print Cards | Decorate a Biscuit | Glitter Tattoos | Karaoke
And our Famous Messy Party Tea

14th
February 2026
3pm-5pm

St John the Baptist Church,
Harrietsham



LVB Join us on Facebook at Messy Church LVB



Winter Feels – A Guide for Young People

See a link to this wellbeing 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](#)