

# HARRIETSHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Nurtured We Flourish

26th January 2026

Dear Families,

We have enjoyed another fun-filled week at school. Thank you to everyone who was so understanding about the water situation again on Monday. Although it was touch and go for a while, we are pleased we managed to open.

Our Year 5 and 6 children enjoyed a great performance of Footloose at The Lenham School on Wednesday last week and the teachers were incredibly impressed at how well they represented our school throughout the entire trip.

On Friday last week, we launched our new lunchtime routine. To date, we have had a lot of children in and out of school during lunchtimes - finding their way to classrooms and gathering in the Key Stage Two toilets. Our new routine means that all children will enter and exit the hall externally and use only the outside toilets. There will be no other opportunity for them to enter areas of the school which are unsupervised during lunchtimes. We have also reinforced our behavioural expectations of our children at lunchtimes. We have spoken to them about their use of manners, and about our expectations of them in the lunch hall. Additionally, we have reinforced how they can show that they are 'Ready, Respectful and Safe' on the playground. Our children are very excited as they will be earning raffle tickets for showing consistent following of our school rules and they will be in with a chance to win a prize in our weekly prize draw. Myself and Mr Gambell will now run a Lunch Club daily. If our children are not following our school rules at playtimes, and they are showing that they need a little more support at playtimes, they will be expected to attend Lunch Club. Here, they will demonstrate to us that they are ready to follow the rules through their interactions with the provision provided inside, before being allowed back outside. Nurture Club will continue to run as usual at lunchtimes. We are really excited about this new model for our school. We had a lovely lunchtime on Friday and the children spoke about it being a lot calmer. If you could please reinforce our school rules (and how these may look in the lunch hall and the playground) with your child this week, it would be greatly appreciated.

Kind regards,

**Jackie Chambers**  
Headteacher

### Traffic, Parking and Road-use - an update:

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. Please treat him with respect at all times whilst he carries out this important task.



#### Please be reminded:

- To only park in designated spaces in our visitor car park - please do not block entrances and exits.
- To leave the zig zag area outside the school clear - this includes the grass bank.
- To leave residents driveways clear.
- To ensure you follow the rules of the highway in terms of parking. Please do not park in a location which will reduce visibility for other drivers.

**We would prefer to hold onto your child past 3:20pm while you park safely, than for an accident to occur outside our school involving our families.**



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](mailto:headteacher@harrietsham.kent.sch.uk)

### Follow us on Social Media:

Harrietsham Primary School TikTok:

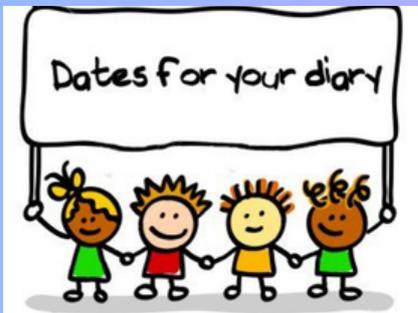


Follow our OPAL Progress:



Forest School News:





Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> January:	Year 4 Class Worship 9am
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January and Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> January:	Parents Evenings
<b>February</b>	
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February:	Year 3 Class Worship 9am
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January and Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February:	Year R Balance Bike Session
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> February:	Number Day
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February:	Safer Internet Day: Families invited to attend at 2:30pm
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> February:	End of Term Disco for the children
<b>TERM ENDS: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026</b>	

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

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

## UPCOMING

### Year 4 Class Worship on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> 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 27<sup>th</sup> January after school** and **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January during the afternoon and early evening**.
- All other Parents Evenings will be **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January and Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Good News - Miss Frazier has won us a Little Wandle Prize.



### 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





Connecting the  
Children's Heart  
Community

# Wear Red Day

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February

Please send children with a donation for ECHO - we will be collecting on the gate.



We are excited to be able to support a charity which is very close to the heart of one of our families on the last day of term, **Friday 13th February 2026**. We will be collecting for the ECHO charity in celebration of National Heart Month 2026.

**We are inviting our school community to wear red to school on Friday 13th February in return for a donation in the buckets which will be on the gate in the morning and afternoon on the day. Whether it's a red jumper, a ruby skirt, or even a cherry scarf, this is your chance to come together, have fun, and support children and young people with heart conditions. We can't wait to see those red outfits!**

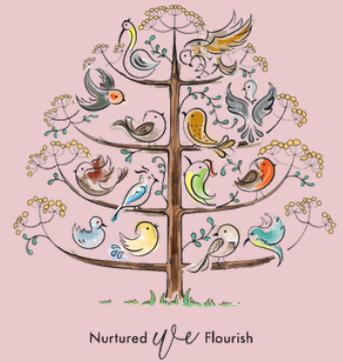
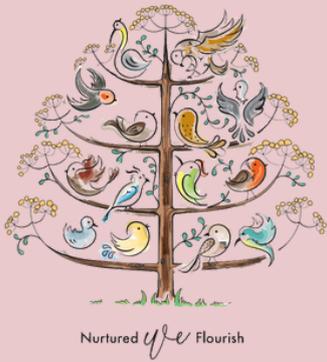
This is a cause very dear to one of our families after their daughter was taken ill suddenly after her birth with a congenital heart defect called coarctation of the aorta. Charities have been, and will continue to be, central to her care, and to the support of her family, throughout her illness. The ECHO charity concentrates on support for families as a whole. They run events in the community for heart patients and their families. They do ward visits and run a drinks and snacks trolley in the hospital. They run parent peer support groups, sibling support events, and events specifically for children both in and out of hospital. They also offer bereavement support.

Here is a link to the charity's webpage should you wish to receive more information:  
<https://echo-uk.org/>.



Supporting children with heart conditions and their families.





Whole School Attendance Last Week	94.6%
Whole School Attendance since beginning of School Year	94.3%



## ATTENDANCE

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

**ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL**  
Children are required to be in school 190 days per year. The Government states that every month's attendance should be at least 91%.

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	95%	97%	93%	92%	94%	92%	97%	96%	94%	96%	94%	94%	95%	93%
Year to Date	94%	95%	95%	94%	94%	96%	94%	95%	96%	93%	93%	95%	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%	99%	99%	98%	99%	99%	99%	99%	98%	98%	100%	98%	97%
Year to Date	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	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:



- 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.



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

14<sup>th</sup>  
**February 2026**  
3pm-5pm

St John the Baptist Church,  
Harrietsham



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](#)