

HARRIETSHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Nurtured We Flourish

Dear Families,

2nd March 2026

It has been lovely to see the children back in school this week after their half term break. It has been a busy week with lots of recruitment for me and a visit from our School Improvement Advisor thrown in too.

I am very pleased to report that our School Improvement Advisor was very complimentary about the journey our school is on. He was pleased that he could see lots of positive improvements in the learning opportunities for the children across the whole school. He could see how hard the staff are working to provide the best possible school for our children. I am very, very proud of our wonderful staff team after receiving this feedback.

Unfortunately, I have to announce that another member of our staff team will be leaving us at the end of Term 4. Mrs Stroud has been looking to move to Lincolnshire with her family for some time now and she has decided to leave at Easter. Mrs Stroud has worked at Harrietsham for nearly three years and she has been a dedicated teacher and French Leader during her time with us. We wish Mrs Stroud all the very best as she takes this new opportunity with her family; she will be missed. We are pleased to announce that we have recruited a wonderful teacher to teach our Year 5, Eagles Class, from Term 5. Myriam Rodriguez will join our school family and teach in Year 5 for the remainder of this school year. Miss Rodriguez is an experienced teacher, having taught in Key Stage One and Key Stage Two previously. Please do keep an eye out for her and join us in welcoming her to our school family.

Kind regards,

Jackie Chambers
Headteacher

Thank you so much for your generous donations - we raised £442.94 for the ECHO Heart Charity.



REMINDER:

Please only send your child to school with an item from home (toy or fidget) if this has been pre-agreed with their teacher.

Please do not send your child to school wearing a smart watch.



Follow us on Social Media:

Harrietsham
Primary
School TikTok:

Follow our OPAL
Progress:

Forest
School
News:



We are fundraising - 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



Important Safety Announcement



I am embarrassed to have to write to our parent body, again, after receiving more complaints about the parking, road use and a general lack of respect for the area in and around our school.

We spend our time in school teaching our children about our school rules - Ready, Respectful and Safe. I am disappointed that our children are not witnessing all of our families modelling this expected behaviour, especially in the area directly outside of our school.

I ask that we, please, work together to make the roads outside our school safe for our children. If you witness anyone being unsafe, or disrespectful, on the roads outside of our school, please do make a note of their registration number and make the school office aware. We will then report these issues to the local police.

I wanted you to see some of the comments that residents and other road users are making:

"I appreciate you are not responsible for the language, attitude and lack of following basic Highway Code instructions of the parents collecting children from your school but the situation this afternoon was appalling - parents parked on double yellow lines, parked over the "keep free signage" by the bus stop and general mayhem causing those of us who had the misfortune to be trying to get home serious delays - - it was carnage."

"I'm just thankful that I'm not a child of these households as if this is how their parents behave, including defamatory language hurled at innocent drivers, there is no hope for our future generations."

"I have lived here for over nine years, but we have never experienced parking issues to this extent.... Despite the clear signage stating "No Parking" and "No Turning," many school parents continue to ignore these instructions"

"A lady came flying around the corner and very nearly drove into me. She had to break sharply... She made no attempt to slow down or acknowledge what she had done."

"Just yesterday I witnessed cars double parked on the road, cars half parked on the already too narrow pavements, making it impossible for other cars to access West Street and for pedestrians to use the pavements."



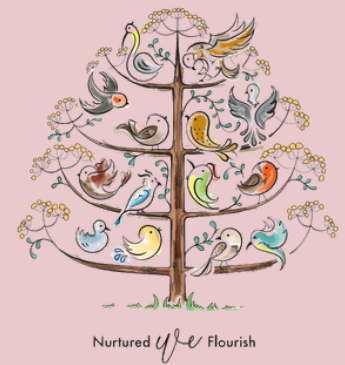
All dates for the term can also be found on our website here:

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

U P C O M I N G

<u>March</u>	
Monday 2 nd March:	Prayer Group Meeting at School 2:45pm
Tuesday 3 rd March and Wednesday 4 th March:	Year R Cycle Ready Session
Thursday 5 th March:	World Book Day (Dress-up as favourite book character) Masked Reader and Book at Bedtime
Friday 6 th March:	Library Grand Opening Parents Welcome to visit the Library at 3:30pm
Monday 9 th March – Friday 13 th March:	British Science Week
Monday 16 th March – Friday 27 th March:	Two-week window for SEND reviews with Teachers (Teachers will invite relevant parties)
Thursday 19 th March:	Classroom Open Afternoon 2:45 – 3:15
Friday 20 th March:	Red Nose Day (Dress-up Theme: Colourful) Prayer Group Meeting at School 2:45pm
Monday 23 rd March:	Year 4 Trip to Hever Castle
Wednesday 25th March:	Year 4 Easter Show – 9:30am (with KS2) Year 4 Easter Show – 4pm
Thursday 26 th March:	National Epilepsy Awareness Day: Children may wear purple in recognition
Monday 30 th March:	I-Rock Concert at 2:30pm Year 6 Parents KS2 SATs Info Evening 3:30pm – 4pm
Tuesday 31 st March:	Year 4 Level 1 Bikeability Sessions Year 2 Class Worship 9am
<u>April</u>	
Wednesday 1 st April	Interim Reports Home Year 4 Level 1 Bikeability Sessions Year 4 Parents Multiplication Tables Check Info Evening 3:30pm – 4pm
Thursday 2 nd April:	Easter Service in school (children only) Year 1 Parents Phonics Info Evening 3:30pm – 4pm End of Term Disco for the children

TERM ENDS: Thursday 2nd April 2026



Whole School Attendance Last Week	90.9%
Whole School Attendance since beginning of School Year	93.9%



Our school target is 96%. We need more children to be in school every day to reach this target.

The learning of children who are not in school regularly is impacted - gaps are developed and these children do not achieve as well as their peers with better attendance.

As per Government Guidance, all holidays during term-time will be unauthorised.

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		62%	90%	93%	89%	88%	91%	96%	95%	97%	92%	93%	95%	99%	94%
Year to Date		93%	95%	94%	93%	94%	95%	95%	95%	96%	93%	93%	95%	94%	92%

Class Punctuality

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

		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%	100%	100%	99%	99%	100%	100%	100%	98%	99%	100%	100%	98%
Year to Date		100%	100%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	98%	98%	99%	99%	98%



PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING

Support Your Child • Support Your School

☀️ What Is Pupil Premium?

Pupil Premium is extra government funding that helps schools support children from low income backgrounds to achieve their best.

💡 Could Your Child Be Eligible?

You can apply if you receive any of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment & Support Allowance
- Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit Support under Part 6 of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit (without Working Tax Credit, and income under £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on

✍️ How To Apply

Applying is quick and simple!

🔗 Apply for Free School Meals (FSM) here:

👉 <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals>

Your application automatically checks Pupil Premium eligibility.

➡️ **Even if your child receives Universal Infant Free School Meals (Reception–Year 2), you should still apply as they can receive extra support.**

🎁 What Extra Support Does My Child Receive In School?

We use Pupil Premium funding to support individuals and groups of children. Some of the extra support that we provide includes:

- ☀️ Extra learning support
- ☀️ Support with school trips and uniform
- ☀️ Access to clubs, tuition and wellbeing support
- ☀️ Enrichment opportunities

🌳☀️ Access to Holiday Activities & Food (HAF) Clubs!

Children eligible for benefits-related FSM can join the national HAF Programme, which offers FREE:

- 🍷 Healthy meals
- ⚽ Sports & outdoor activities
- 🎨 Arts, crafts & cooking
- 👯 Fun sessions with friends

🛒 Supermarket Vouchers

Kent County Council also provide digital supermarket vouchers for eligible families during school holidays via the HAF platform.

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

Come and join us on 1st Tuesday of every month, from 2pm – 4pm: 3rd March this month at the Booth Hall.

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 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.