

HARRIETSHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Nurtured We Flourish

Dear Families,

9th March 2026

We have had another extremely busy but incredibly fun and engaging week of wonderful learning about books, reading and fairy tales. Our huge thanks to Mr Walker who has been the mastermind behind the entire week - busily organising amazing lessons for children to take part in, our Masked Reader competition, writing competitions, our Book at Bedtime event and our Book Fair. Our thanks also to our staff for taking part in such an event with huge enthusiasm and for giving our children this amazing learning opportunity.



Our Book Week finished this week, with the opening of our newly refurbished Library. We were delighted to invite into school representatives from Bedfont Scientific who helped us to decorate the library. We are really pleased that we have been able to create such a lovely, engaging space for our children to enjoy reading in. We are also delighted that we have been able to purchase Accelerated Reader which provides a structured monitoring systems for our children to follow when reading. Our huge thanks to Mr Walker for designing such a wonderful new space for our children, to Mrs Mannering for labelling all of our books and for setting up the Accelerated Reader programme, to Bedfont Scientific and all of our staff and volunteers who helped to provide the resources and 'manpower' when decorating. Our children are extremely lucky.

We are really looking forward to another week of incredible learning next week, this time focussed around Science and organised by Ms Kelly. I really cannot thank our wonderful staff enough for their time and efforts in creating such wonderful and enriching learning opportunities for our children.

Kind regards,

Jackie Chambers
Headteacher

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. We are beginning to get collectors cards brought into school (Football and Pokémon). **Please do not allow your child to bring these in under any circumstances.**

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



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

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

UPCOMING

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 25 th 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
April	
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



OPAL Raffle Winners

The following children have won our raffle this week for showing our school rules in their play:

- Nathan - Year 3
- Bella - Year 4
- Batiste - Year 4
- Olive - Year 5
- Alfie - Year 6



Laptop Donation



As you know, we are currently saving money to purchase new laptops for our children to use within school to enhance their learning across the curriculum and in Information Communications Technology lessons. We are delighted that a family within school asked their company to support this cause and, as a result, **Viisafe Ltd** have donated **£500** towards the purchase of laptops for our children. We cannot thank them enough and know that this very kind donation will help enhance access to digital learning and improve educational outcomes for our children.

The Wilder Kent Awards

This weekend I had the pleasure to accompany Miss Bradley and Miss Roberts at an awards ceremony run by Kent Wildlife Trust to recognise the hard work that they have put in to supporting the environment and wildlife in and around our school. I am so proud to announce that they got the Silver Award.



The awards saw 90 organisations shortlisted, with 25,000+ individuals recorded as having taken action for nature. Their joint efforts resulted in a staggering 400,000+ people across the county receiving the nature benefits from the actions taken by the entrants. In total, almost 70 hectares were improved or restored for nature - that's the size of 98 football pitches. It just shows how small actions by individuals can have a real impact!

There was real diversity with the groups and organisations who took part, from businesses and community groups, to schools, nurseries, colleges and universities, as well as village, town and city councils. 22 groups received the highest accolade of gold, 25 silver and 31 bronze, with 10 awarded commendations for their efforts. I am so proud of Miss Bradley and Miss Roberts for their hard work in this area.



Traffic, Parking and Road-use - Reminder:

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 the crossing at the front of the school clear.
- 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.



Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.



Whole School Attendance Last Week	94.7%
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	99%	90%	96%	82%	90%	99%	97%	96%	98%	97%	93%	97%	96%	98%
Year to Date	93%	95%	94%	92%	94%	95%	95%	95%	96%	94%	93%	95%	94%	93%

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%	98%	100%	100%	99%	100%	98%	98%	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:



- 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.



HolidayActivities



Free Schools Out! Easter Club ²⁰/₂₆

HAF registered children, book your place now!

Mon 13 Apr • Tue 14 Apr • Wed 15 Apr • Thu 16 Apr

**Greenfields Community
Primary School**
Shepway, Maidstone

**Archbishop Courtenay
Primary School**
Tovil, Maidstone

Leigh Academy Tree Tops
Brishing Lane, Parkwood,
Maidstone

Sessions run for 4 hours between 10:00 - 14:00.

Schools Out Clubs provides the opportunity for children aged between 4 - 13 to participate in a range of sports and arts & craft activities.

Places are available for children who are registered on the Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF) and receive Free School Meals. Simply log into the HAF website **holidayactivities.com** to book a space at one of our locations.



STONES
in the community®