



In A Nutshell

Headteacher's Newsletter Autumn Term 2026 Week 3



Dear All

This week, the children have been focusing on British Values– the Rule of Law. Not only have classes been electing class monitors, but who would be their representative on the School Council and Eco Council. These roles are really important as the children are able to express their views to help sculpt the school in decision making. Did you know the School Council fed back about what they wanted in terms of a school caterer and what play equipment classes wanted to have? The Eco Councillors support the classes in promoting sustainability - last year with a drive on recycling. This year, we are hoping to reapply for the Eco Schools Award so their input will be invaluable too as well as promoting RECYCLE WEEK with the theme of 'Rescue Me'.



This week, Reception have been working on fine and gross motor skills; controlling a counter with a paintbrush and riding our bikes, trikes and scooters.



Year 6s tried to put aside their nerves, albeit with trembling hands, to read their Head Pupil/Prefect speeches to the school. We could not have been prouder of them, with all achieving their best. For the first time, we even had a video link entry from a pupil who had been absent! We also had a record breaking 41 entries!! Sadly there is only a limited amount of roles so there was disappointment for some of them but a huge congratulation to them all.

On Monday and Tuesday we conducted termly fire drills at Acorns and the Primary. We were so pleased at how sensibly the children evacuated and lined up in their new place. This linked well with Year 2s learning as the Fire Service visited their classes to talk about fire safety. I was very much hoping we might see a fire engine... but sadly not! Also, as a whole school, this week, we participated in National Coding week. Pupils attended a special assembly on Monday where year 6 children engaged in 'live coding' a human being around a maze. Throughout the week, pupils across the school used Bee Bots, Scratch and other programs to join in with the festivities.



Dodd class showed some excellent communication skills and teamwork to make a 'house for a mouse' at Forest school this week. They were great at using natural resources and their imagination to build structures for animals to live in.



On Wednesday, heads bobbed up and down and the children raised the roof with their amazing singing as Rock Steady gave a flavour of the instruments the children could learn if they joined the bands. Please see the office should you require a flyer to sign up. Maybe we will launch the career of the next Ed Sheeran or Taylor Swift!



You will have received an email about Olive Dining offering an exciting Favourites Menu for Census Day on Thursday 1st October, featuring some of the students' most-loved dishes. Alongside this, Olive Dining are also running a fun student engagement activity, giving students the chance to win one of three prizes.



Next week, Monday, our clubs start up! Please ensure you know where and when you are collecting your child. We hope they have a great time learning and consolidating skills.

Finally, it is with great sadness to let you know that we will be saying farewell to Mrs Booker, who has been a TA with us for over 15 years. Spending her time in Reception and Year 1 she has taught hundreds of children and had a huge impact on their learning. Mrs Booker's last day will be next Thursday and I am sure you will wish her the best of luck on her promotion and next endeavour!



Wishing you a lovely weekend–hope to see you at one of the McMillan Coffee sessions.



Mrs Mace



Head Pupil	Bow	
Deputy Head Pupil	Chase	
Diamond Team	Hudson	Ollie
Ruby Team	Bow	Chloe
Sapphire Team	Elizabeth	Esme
Opal Team	Kayla	Sophie
Topaz Team	Chase	Luca S
Emerald Team	Charlie	Isla H

Friday 25th September

8.30-9.30am & 2-3pm



We have had a very positive second week as we continue to welcome and settle more children into Nursery. It has been wonderful to see our new starters growing in confidence, becoming familiar with their new surroundings, and beginning to build relationships with both nursery staff and peers. Our existing children have been fantastic at showing kindness and helping our new starters feel welcome throughout the day.

This week, we have been excited to explore the newly launched "*Gruffalo Granny*" story. The children enjoyed listening to the story before exploring their very own Gruffalo-themed sensory tuff tray. Using a wonderful selection of natural resources, the children were able to develop their imaginations while enjoying a range of sensory experiences linked to the story.

We have continued to make the most of our outdoor areas, with our sensory garden and construction area proving to be particularly popular. Indoors, the children have enjoyed getting creative with a variety of painting experiences, including marble painting, leaf painting and finger painting. These activities provided opportunities to experiment with colours, textures and different painting techniques whilst developing fine motor skills, creativity and self-expression.

Our younger children have particularly enjoyed exploring small-world play, which has encouraged lots of lovely interactions, communication and shared play with their peers. They have also enjoyed a range of sensory experiences, including sand, water, shaving foam and painting activities.



Communication this week

If you receive a letter that is addressed to another student, please return it unopened to the school office. Thank you for your help.



17.9.2026—Email to whole school—re PINS project with parent survey

Attendance

1st place with 100%: Donaldson

2nd place with 99.26% Morpurgo

2nd place with 98.8% Rundell

Whole school: 97.14%

AUTUMN TERM			
DATE 2026	TIME	EVENT	PRICE
Tuesday 1 st Sept		TRUST TRAINING DAY INSET	
Wed 2 nd Sept	All day	SCHOOL INSET DAY	
Thurs 3 rd September	All day	Pupils return Year 1- 6 Nursery Stay and Play & Reception home visits all day	
Fri 4 th Sept	All day	Nursery Stay and Play & Reception home visits all day	
Fri 4 th Sept	From 2.45pm	PTA preloved uniform sale in small hall, meet and greet, PTA sign up to help	
Mon 7 th Sept – Fri 11 th Sept	8.30-8.50	Reception start mornings until 1.10pm for lunch Group 1 M,Tu,F Group 2 W,Th,F New Rec drop in coffee and tea meet and greet in the small hall Nursery opens to all this week	
Tuesday 8 th Sept	3-5pm	Year group curriculum drop in	Sign up on Arbor
Tuesday 8 th Sept	3-5pm	Barnardo's presentation at Curriculum meeting	
Mon 14 th Sept		All Rec staying a until 1.10pm this week	
Wed 16 th Sept	9.00am & 11.00am	Year 2 Fire Safety Talk	
Fri 18 th Sept	6-7pm	PTA AGM venue TBC	
Mon 21 st Sept		Rec all in Full Time	
Friday 25 th Sept	8.30-9.30 & 2-3pm	MacMillan Coffee Morning (main hall am, small hall pm)	Donation on the day
Friday 25 th Sept	9-11am	Acorns MacMillan (Trust Hall)	Donation on the day
Friday 25 th Sept	n/a	PTA Christmas art projects begin for sale nearer Christmas	Info to follow
Friday 25 th Sept	After school time TBC	PTA Hamsey Green at Kids Space!! Info to follow	TBC bookable on Arbor
Wednesday 30 th Sept	All day	Year 5 to Science Museum	
Monday 28 th Sept	8.30-10.30am	EBSNA Workshop	
Tues 6 th Oct	6-8pm TBC	PTA Hair plaiting workshop	
Wednesday 7 th October	Drop off in class-rooms	Harvest Festival	Donation of non- perishable goods for the Caterham/ Warlingham food banks
Wednesday 7 th Oct	9.15-11.45am	Year 6 to Junior Citizen	TBC
Friday 9 th October Mon- day 12 th October	3-4.15pm 2.50-4pm	Years 4, 5 & 6 Autumn Event Reception, Years 1, 2 & 3 Autumn Event	£4.00 per ticket – snacks and drinks included – bookable on Arbor
Monday 12 th October	In school	Individual photos	
Monday 12 th October	8.30-10.30am	EBSNA Workshop (on topics raised from the first workshop)	
Friday 16 th October	8.25-8.50 small dining hall drop off	PTA bottle donation for tombola FULL OWN CLOTHES DAY	BOTTLES
		2 week Half term 19TH Oct-30TH Oct	

Collection of Hamsey Green children by older siblings

Please be reminded that children can only be collected by someone over the age **16**; unless we have been given written permission from a parent for those in Years 5 and 6 to leave without an adult.

After school activities

If your child is not going to be attending an after school activity but has been in school that day, please can you **inform the office** and not the class teacher. The office maintains the registers for all clubs and needs to be aware of any child who is not going to be in attendance. Thank you for your co-operation.



Children should **NOT** be riding their scooters or bikes through the staff car park, down the driveway or through the playground at the beginning or end of the school day. Please ask the children to dismount and ensure you supervise your children whilst they are on them. Adults have reported some children are riding on the school grounds that is likely to cause an accident or damage to cars. Thank you for your co-operation.

PARKING & ROAD SAFETY

Once again, we have had some phonecalls from neighbouring properties regarding inconsiderate parking and unacceptable behaviour/language towards our neighbours at drop off and pick up times. **Please park considerably around the neighbouring properties to the school. According to the Highway Code it is an offence to park across driveways and it is illegal to park over dropped kerbs. Parking on a private driveway without consent is a civil offence of trespass and may result in prosecution.** A number of parents have raised concerns regarding speeding traffic on Tithepit Shaw Lane at drop off and collection times. Please complete the road safety assessment form for Surrey to assess the road. We would recommend this is done as we return to school after half term to ensure they come when school is back in business. [Select the option most like the issue - Report a highway issue - Surrey County Council \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](https://www.surreycc.gov.uk) - please select Road Safety Outside a School. Should anyone be interested, there is a vacancy for Road Crossing Patrol for outside the school. This is a paid vacancy through Surrey County Council.



Absences, medical appointments & sickness

If your child is absent from school or has a medical appointment, please email absence@hamseytlt.co.uk or leave a message on the absence line (01883 622000 option 1). Please let us know their full name, class and reason; including any symptoms they may be displaying. We do need to hear from an adult **each day** a child is absent for safeguarding reasons. Please do not bring your child to school if they have been sick during the night. If your child has been sick or has an upset stomach, children may be off school for 48 hours following the last episode, each case is dealt with separately.

To avoid impacting your child's attendance ALL medical/dental/optician appointments should be booked outside of school hours

Thank you for your co-operation.

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk) Please read this guidance before keeping your child off.

Healthy packed lunches

We've noticed that some of the packed lunches coming into school are not necessarily healthy or nutritious. Please can you ensure that what you send in is enough to keep them going for their afternoon lessons.

PLEASE REMEMBER WE AIM TO BE A NUT FREE SCHOOL—THIS INCLUDES SPREADS THAT MAY CONTAIN NUTS INCLUDING NUTELLA. THIS IS ALSO APPLICABLE FOR ANY EDUCATIONAL TRIPS.

A Guide to Building...

Healthy Snacks & Lunchbox

P2iP

Bring WATER everyday!

Putting tap water in a reusable bottle is FREE and will help keep your child hydrated all day!



Whole Grains

(Great for Snack or Lunch)

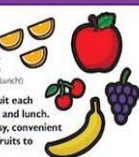
Make sandwiches with whole grain bread. Look for labels that say "100% Whole Grain"



Fruit

(Great for Snack or Lunch)

Pack fresh fruit each day for snack and lunch. These are easy, convenient ways to add fruits to your day



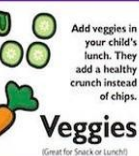
Snacks

Pack healthy snacks each day. Add a healthy sweet or savory treat. Try whole grain crackers and pretzels for savory snacks or dried fruits for sweet treats.



Veggies

Add veggies in your child's lunch. They add a healthy crunch instead of chips.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

CAN YOU SPARE A HOUR OR SO A WEEK? COULD YOU OFFER TIME TO HEAR SOME CHILDREN READ OR HELP KEEP OUR LIBRARY TIDY! IF SO, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE WHO WILL MAKE AN APPOINTMENT FOR YOU WITH MRS MACE TO DISCUSS HOW TO BE A VOLUNTEER. PLEASE NOTE- A DBS WILL NEED TO BE APPLIED FOR UNDER OUR SAFEGUARDING EXPECTATIONS.



We are collecting used printer ink cartridges. Please bring them and put them into the recycling box in the office. We are unable to recycle toner or laser cartridges. Any cartridges recycled, helps the school to raise some money. Thank you!

Recycle 4 Charity



We are regularly asked by parents, carers, grandparents and friends of the school as to how you can support the school to continue to provide a rich, wide-ranging curriculum and a high standard of education. If you would like and are able, to support the school and your child's education, please buy one of the books on our Amazon wishlist. This will arrive at school a few days later and be added to the children's non-fiction book box or class library.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3GIZF85XRY4MG?ref=wl_share



School Uniform

We are depleting our school stock of uniform. We now only stock very small sizes of cardigans. All uniform items are purchased through Price and Buckland directly. Price and Buckland will refer you back to us if it's stock that we hold. [Hamsey Green Primary School](#) | [Price & Buckland](#) Please be aware that any items ordered through Price & Buckland to be delivered to the school will take longer than if you pay for p&p for home delivery.

Please name your child's school uniform and coats. We have a lot of unnamed uniform in our lost property box!

FOR NEWSLETTER FOR ALL PARENTS FROM SCHOOLS

If you consider that there are exceptional circumstances relating to your request, please let the school have full details. Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis.

Penalty Notices to Address Poor Attendance at School

A Penalty Notice may be issued as an alternative to the prosecution of a parent/carer for their child's unauthorised absence from school (absence without the agreement of the school or not covered by a medical note) and will be used by Surrey County Council in the following circumstances :-

1. Pupils identified by police and Attendance Advice Officers (formerly Education Welfare Officers) engaged on Truancy Patrols and who have incurred unauthorised absences.
2. Leave of absence in term time (5 days or 10 sessions or more).

Please be aware that The Education (Pupil Registration)(England)(Amendment) Regulations 2013, which became law on 01 September 2013 state that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

The Headteacher is also required to determine the number of school days a child can be away from school if leave is granted.

In such cases the Headteacher/Governing Body must decide whether there are exceptional circumstances. They may request that Surrey County Council issue Penalty Notices when the absence is not authorised.

Warnings will not be given where it can be shown that parents have been notified that such absences will not be authorised.

3. Finally, the issuing of a Penalty Notice will also be considered where it is judged that a parent is failing to ensure their child's regular school attendance.

This will be considered when a pupil has incurred 10 or more unauthorised sessions in the previous 10 school weeks, which may include a pupil arriving late after close of registration.

If you believe at any stage that your child's absence from school may leave you liable to receive a Penalty Notice, it is extremely important that you act without delay to secure their regular attendance.

If you have any questions or require further support to achieve an improvement in your child's attendance, please contact your child's school or the Attendance Advice Officer.

Penalty Notice relating to Exclusions

If a child is excluded from school, Section 103 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 places a duty on parents/carers to ensure that their child is not in a public place without justifiable cause during school hours.

This duty applies to the **first five days of each exclusion**. Failure to do so will render the parent/carer liable to a Penalty Notice. (Alternative education provision will be made available from the sixth day of any exclusion.)

Amount Payable for a Penalty Notice and Consequences for repeat unauthorised absences

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children [in a rolling 3 year period](#) since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, **per parent/carer per child**, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, **per parent/carer per child**, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, **per parent/carer per child**, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

Advice and support is available from an Attendance Advice Officer by contacting Surrey Attendance Service as follows :-

North West - Tel: 01483 518130 South West - Tel: 01483 517179
North East - Tel: 01372 833588 South East - Tel: 01737 737777