



In A Nutshell

Headteacher's Newsletter Spring Term 2026 Week 2

Dear All

As our first full week back ends, the children have been learning about the RSPB's Big Garden Bird Watch 23rd-25th Jan 2026 [RSPB Bird & Wildlife Conservation Charity](#). As a school, we will be taking part- albeit hopefully on a day when the weather is better! This links closely with our Science and Eco/Sustainability curriculum as classes will be learning on identification of different birds, may discuss when they have migrated from and also be



using mathematical skills to record their data. We are blessed with the most glorious grounds which are rich in wildlife and hope that we will be able to 'spot' many species! Perhaps you could also take part with your child at home or in a park? I have attached a classification chart to help!



This week, has been a quieter week as we settle back into the new year. To keep active with the amount of rain we have had, Reception and Year 2 have been exploring the apparatus and learning to challenge their gymnastic skills! Year 2 and year 5 have braved the outdoors for football and rugby sessions and Year 6 are in the process of being assessed for their swimming skills. Did you know that pupils need to be able to swim 25m by the end of Year 6 as part of the National Curriculum?

Year 1 have been learning to identify primary colours and use them to create secondary colours. They are exploring how adding white or black paint can change the tone of a colour. This learning will support their Pop Art creations planned for next week- we can't wait to see their final designs!

We would like to remind you that any messages sent to the class teacher via Class Dojo will not be responded to after 5:30pm during the school week, at weekends or during the school holidays. Any requests requiring a response should be made to the school office at office@hamseytlt.co.uk. Similarly any messages that need to be relayed to the class teacher that are pertaining to the school day, please also go through the school office as the class teachers do not necessarily pick up messages when they are teaching. To avoid important messages being missed, please always use the school office contact details.

Wishing you a lovely weekend

Mrs Mace





This week, we have focused our activities around the story 'Handa's surprise'. It's about a girl from Kenya who takes seven delicious fruits in a basket for her friend in another village. Thanks to the amazing support of our families, the children have enjoyed extending this topic by shopping with their families to bring in an item of fruit to add to our fruit basket. Throughout the week, we have used these fruits in our discussions and we have had enjoyed lots of opportunities to explore and taste them. We have learnt where the fruits grow and what countries they might come from. We have made banana muffins and we have also used the fruits in printing and sorting activities.

We have compared the fruits in size and colour and we have invested the seeds and stones within the fruits. We also problem solved 'how to get into a coconut'. Through trial and error, a hammer used by a sensible adult finally worked and we enjoyed tasting the coconut!

Using our knowledge of the story, the children have played bingo and they have sequenced the story, matching which animal had taken what fruit from the basket.

As a physical activity, the children had the chance to fill a basket with play fruits and walk with it balanced on their head like Handa. The children soon realised what a challenge and skill it is! They also practised their weaving skills by making their own baskets.

This week we also celebrated Vivienne's 25th anniversary of employment at Hamsey Green School. Vivienne moved from the school to the nursery when Acorns opened in 2020. Congratulations Vivienne!



If you have any problems with Arbor such as logging in, selecting meal choices etc; please contact the office at office@hamseytlt.co.uk in the first instance and not the class teacher. The office staff can usually solve any issues very quickly!

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.

12.01.2026—Email to Year 6 re residential balance

12.04.2026—Email to Year 6 re swimming



Attendance

1st place: Rowling (3) - 98.57%

2nd place: Dodd (1) - 98.28%

3rd place: Dahl (4) - 98.08%

Whole school: 95.69%

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 maintain the registers for all clubs and need 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 considerately 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. This is applicable even if you have put your hazard lights on. 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. [Select the option most like the issue - Report a highway issue - Surrey County Council \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](#) - 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@hamseylt.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.

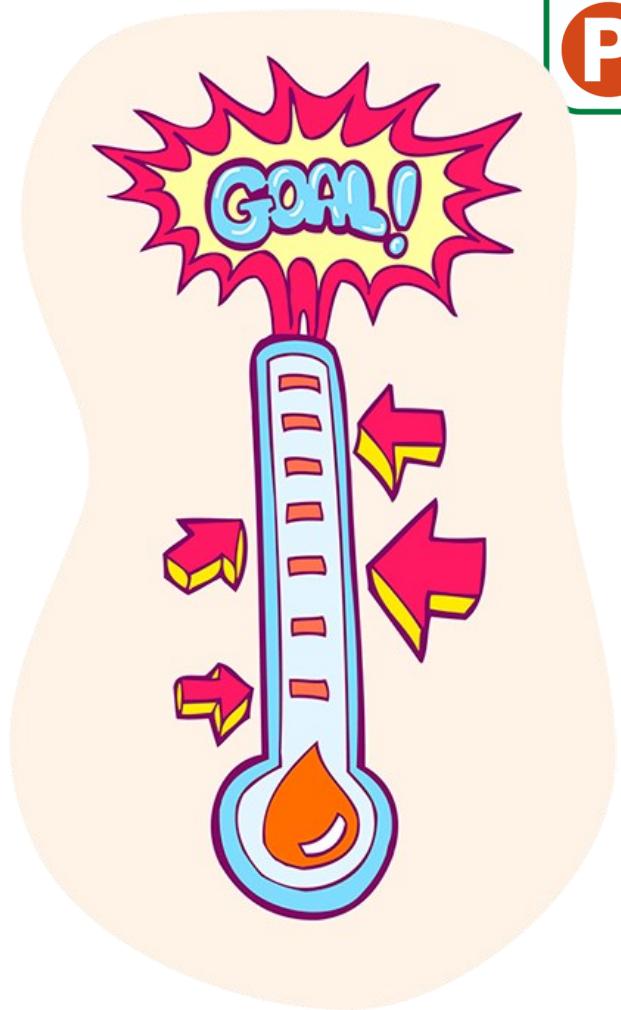
[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#) Please read this guidance before keeping your child off.

FOR CHARITY



THANKS
for your
DONATIONS

The friends of
**HAMSEY GREEN
PRIMARY SCHOOL**
P T A 



Contact email addresses for your information:

absence@hamseyltt.co.uk—for all absences including sickness and any medical appointments (future and on the day)

basc@hamseyltt.co.uk—for all enquiries, bookings and amendments to bookings for wraparound care

office@hamseyltt.co.uk—for all other enquiries

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 ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL—THIS INCLUDES SPREADS THAT MAY CONTAIN NUTS INCLUDING NUTELLA. THIS IS ALSO APPLICABLE FOR ANY EDUCATIONAL TRIPS.

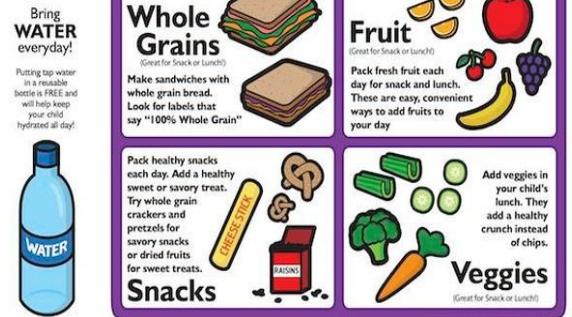
A Guide to Building...

Healthy Snacks & Lunchbox

P21P

Bring WATER everyday!

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



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!



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

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](https://www.priceandbuckland.com/hamsey-green-primary-school) 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.

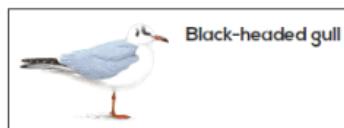
Advice and support is available from an Attendance Advice Officer by contacting Surrey Attendance Service as follows :-

North West - Tel: 01483 518130 South West - Tel: 01483 517179

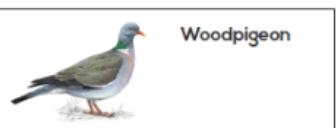
North East - Tel: 01372 833588 South East - Tel: 01737 737777

What did you see?

Can you find a way to make it easier for you to note down the highest number of each species that you **see together at the same time**? There is room below each bird's name for you to add your idea for doing this.



Black-headed gull



Woodpigeon



Collared dove



Feral pigeon



Robin



Blackbird



Great tit



Song thrush



Coal tit



Blue tit



Magpie



Jackdaw



Carriion crow



Hooded crow



Starling



House sparrow



Greenfinch



Chaffinch



Pied wagtail



Wren



Dunnock



Long-tailed tit

For more information, visit: rspb.org.uk/schoolswatch

Did you notice anything in particular about the birds you saw? Differences in how they moved or what they were doing? Or perhaps you managed to see and identify a bird not shown here? If so, note these things in the space below or on a separate sheet. Don't forget you can get help from rspb.org.uk/wildlife/birdidentifier

Your name

The RSPB is a registered charity in England & Wales 207070,
Scotland SC037654. Artwork by Mike Langman. rspb-images.com
362-0327-14-15



giving
nature
a home



RSPB Wildlife Explorers
and RSPB Young
Members are the junior and teenage
memberships of the RSPB.