



Weekly Newsletter

26th June 2026

Making learning a lifelong adventure

Heatwave Edition



Dear Parents/Carers

This Week in School - *What a Scorch...*

...as the papers might say! The children and staff have been amazing this week, coping in some of the most extreme temperatures the UK has seen. Thank you to all of them!

Thank you also to parents who were able to take children home earlier from Tuesday. This has helped to make children and staff more comfortable, whilst avoiding a more formal or fuller closure, that would have impacted on learning time, which we have endeavoured to keep reasonably productive in the morning sessions. Thanks also to those who have lent fans, brought in cooling treats and air conditioning units which we have used in some of the hottest spaces in school.

The children have been using our outside spaces at points during the day mostly sitting quietly in the shade. See images below. We are fortunate to have a fair amount of mature tree cover which, together with the fixed shelters and some gazebos provided plenty of different areas for this.

This week we explored honesty in our assemblies on Monday, before the mercury started to climb, and there have been no celebration assemblies this week to avoid overheating.



Staff News

Congratulations to Mrs Olivia McIntyre (Year 2 Hazel Class teacher until the start of her maternity leave last month) and her husband Sean on the birth of their little boy Declan, born just one week ago in the early hours of last Friday morning and weighing in at 6lb 12oz.

Yours faithfully

Jonathan Walker

Headteacher

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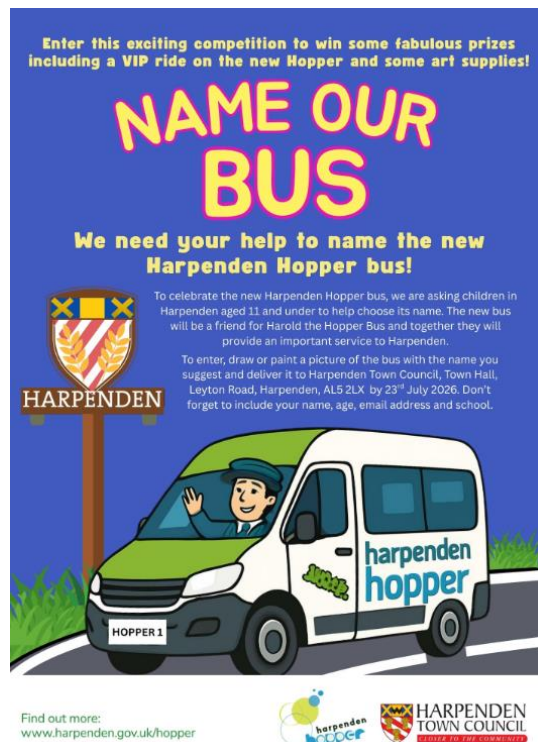
Community Matters

Help us name the new Harpenden Hopper mini bus and win some exciting prizes!

Harpenden Hopper minibuses "Harold" and "Holly" have been working hard for people in Harpenden since 2018. Holly is now retiring so the Town Council has been very excited to buy a new bus for this fantastic charity. We can't wait to introduce a new friend to Harold. Can you help us name the new bus? I attach a competition poster with all the information you need.

Did you know?

The Harpenden Hopper is a local minibus service and has been a vital part of our community for ten years. Anyone can use this service, it's low-cost and you can simply hail the Hopper anywhere along its route which covers areas not reached by commercial bus companies. Uniquely, the Harpenden Hopper isn't just a transport provision, it's an inclusive service seeking to help combat loneliness whilst also reducing congestion and pollution. You can find further information including its route and timetable here: www.harpendenhopper.co.uk



Enter this exciting competition to win some fabulous prizes including a VIP ride on the new Hopper and some art supplies!

NAME OUR BUS

We need your help to name the new Harpenden Hopper bus!

To celebrate the new Harpenden Hopper bus, we are asking children in Harpenden aged 11 and under to help choose its name. The new bus will be a friend for Harold the Hopper Bus and together they will provide an important service to Harpenden.

To enter, draw or paint a picture of the bus with the name you suggest and deliver it to Harpenden Town Council, Town Hall, Leyton Road, Harpenden, AL5 2LX by 23rd July 2026. Don't forget to include your name, age, email address and school.

HARPENDEN

Find out more: www.harpenden.gov.uk/hopper

harpenden hopper

HARPENDEN TOWN COUNCIL

Supporting Families

Parent & Carer Support Autumn Term 2026

FREE to parents and carers living in Hertfordshire



TALKING ADDITIONAL NEEDS

A 6-week group for parents and carers of children **2-19**, with any additional need. Your child does not need a diagnosis.

- Understand your child's behaviour.
- Develop strategies that really work.
- Reduce conflict.
- Improve emotional regulation.
- Explore sensory needs.
- Increase your child's resilience.
- Manage different needs in your family.



Tuesdays 8.00 – 9.30pm
15th Sep to 20th Oct
Online Course ID 864
ages 10-19

Tuesdays 9.45 – 11.15am
3rd Nov to 8th Dec
Online Course ID 859
ages 2-19

Wednesdays 7.00 – 9.00pm
4th Nov to 9th Dec
F2F Course: ID 858
Longdean School
Hemel Hempstead
ages 2-19

TALKING FAMILIES

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged **0-12** sharing tips on:

- Managing behaviour with consistency.
- Encouraging positive behaviour.
- Building your child's self-esteem.
- Setting and maintaining boundaries.
- Responding to tantrums and difficult feelings in children.
- Developing a strong parent/child relationship now and for the future.



Thursdays 8.00 – 9.30pm
17th Sep to 22nd Oct
Online Course ID 861

Wednesdays 9.45 – 11.15am
4th Nov to 9th Dec
Online Course ID 860

TALKING ANXIETY

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children **3-19**, supporting you to:

- Understand why young people and adults get anxious.
- Develop strategies to handle anxiety in yourself and others within your family.
- Recognise the early signs of anxiety.
- Reduce stress and tension.
- Encourage resilient behaviour.



Wednesdays 7.45 – 9.30pm
4th Nov to 9th Dec
Online Course ID 862

TALKING DADS

6, weekly sessions for dads & male carers of children **0-19**, sharing information on:

- Improved listening and communication skills.
- A healthy dad-child relationship now and for the future.
- Effective strategies for dealing with anger and conflict.
- How to enforce boundaries.
- Being the dad, you want to be.



Wednesdays 7.45 – 9.15pm
16th Sep to 21st Oct
Online Course: ID 867

Tuesdays 7.45 – 9.15pm
3rd Nov to 8th Dec
Online Course: ID 868

TALKING ANGER in TEENS

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged **11-19**, supporting you to:

- Understand why children & adults get angry.
- Develop strategies to handle anger in yourself and others within your family.
- Recognise the early signs of anger.
- Reduce conflict and arguments.
- Encourage positive behaviour.



Tuesdays 7.45 – 9.30pm
15th Sep to 20th Oct
Online Course: ID 863

TALKING TEENS

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged **12-19**, covering:

- The Teen Brain: the changes taking place and why behaviour changes.
- The link between behaviour and communicating difficult feelings.
- How to maintain your relationship with good communication.
- Understand risk taking behaviour around drugs, alcohol and gang culture.
- How to negotiate and reduce conflict.



Wednesdays 7.45 – 9.15pm
16th Sep to 21st Oct
Online Course: ID 865

Wednesdays 7.45 – 9.15pm
4th Nov to 9th Dec
Online Course: ID 866

Booking essential. Please Quote the Course ID

To check eligibility and book a place, please contact Supporting Links on: **07512 709556** or bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk

These courses are provided free to parents by Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund. Information taken on booking will be used to process your booking, check your eligibility, identify any access needs and will be stored in accordance with our GDPR policy which is available on request



Children's Wellbeing Practitioner Workshops July – September 2026

Workshops are open to all young people & parents/carers of children and young people who attend a school or are registered with a GP in Hertfordshire. A referral is not needed to access a workshop.

All workshops are currently being delivered online via Microsoft Teams. For more information about what each workshop covers and to book a place onto a workshop, visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/hct-childrens-wellbeing-practitioners-33494371787>



Workshop	Date & Time
Supporting your Child's Self-Esteem and Resilience A workshop focused on parents/carers supporting their child to improve their self-esteem and resilience.	Tuesday 25 th August 10am-12pm
Supporting with Sleep Difficulties This workshop focuses on supporting children and adolescents with managing their sleep difficulties and things parents/carers can do to help.	Tuesday 4 th August 6-8pm
Developing your Child's Emotional Literacy A workshop focused on parents supporting their child with developing emotional literacy.	Wednesday 8 th July 6-8pm Wednesday 19 th August 10am-12pm Tuesday 8 th September 6-8pm
General Emotional Wellbeing and Regulation Tips for Parents/Carers A workshop focused on parents supporting their child's general emotional wellbeing and ability to emotionally regulate.	Wednesday 15 th July 10am-12pm Tuesday 11 th August 6-8pm Wednesday 16 th September 10am-12pm

To access the recorded **Emotionally Based School Avoidance Webinar** please visit:
<https://www.hct.nhs.uk/service-details/service/childrens-wellbeing-practitioners-21/>

Further Information and Reminders

Attendance

Congratulations to Cedar and Maple classes who have the best attendance this week, with 100% attendance. More information can be found on the [Attendance and Leave of Absence page](#) of our website.

Lunchtime Volunteers

We are in desperate need of volunteers to help with Lunch next week. We only have one volunteer so far. Monday, we have staff out on the Y5 trip so will be especially short.

Please sign up on <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4BAEA823A7FDC16-63207034-lunchtime>



Lunchtime Helpers

Lunchtime Helpers

 Sarah Ward  Contact

Please review the available slots below and click on the button to sign up to help at lunchtime. Lunch starts at 11.45 and finishes at 12.45. Help involved cutting up younger ones food, pouring drinks and ensuring children change over to pudding, once they have eaten most of their main. Thank you!

 **Location** Beeches Bistro

Diary Dates <i>New or amended events</i>	
Tues 23 June 26, 1:30pm	Y5/6 Sports Day
Thurs 25 June 2026, 9:15am	YR/1/2 Sports Day
Friday 26 June, 2:50pm	Reception Sit Together and Read event
Monday 29 June 2026	Y5 Young Mariners Visit
Tuesday 30 June 2026	Year 1 class assemblies: 9am Elm Class, 2:45pm Cedar Class
Monday 6 July 2026	Y1 Woburn Safari Park Visit
Tuesday 7 July 2026	Autumn Clubs Portal Opens 6.30pm (external providers book directly)
Wednesday 8 July 2026	Postponed Sports Day for Infants (9:15am) and Y5/6 (1:30pm)
Thursday 9 July 2026	Transition Day
Friday 10 July 2026	Pupil reports out to parents
Saturday 11 July 2026	FoHBS Summer Fair
14 & 15 July 2026, 6:00pm	Year 6 leavers' production
Mon 20 July 2026, 6pm	Year 6 leavers' event (TBC)
Mon 20 July 2026, 9:30am	HB's Got Talent
Tues 21 July 2026, 9am	Year 6 leavers' assembly
Tues 21 July 2026, 1:30pm	school closes for summer holiday