



Weekly Newsletter

7 November 2025

Making learning a lifelong adventure



Our school value for this half-term is **POSITIVITY**

Dear Parents/Carers

This Week and Next in School

It has been great to welcome everyone back into school this week after the October half-term break. This week, we launched our value for the half-term – *positivity*. In a special Year 1 to 6 assembly, we explored the difference between negativity and positivity: being negative means you take something away and, by contrast, being positive is bringing something extra. It is about being full of hope and confidence: being a radiator, not a drain!

Next week, we will be holding our annual act of remembrance in school and joining in with the two minutes' silence at 11am on Tuesday. Poppy's will be available for children to buy in school, if they wish up to and on the day.

Also next week, we will be participating in the annual BBC Children in Need Event. The School Council have planned for a where-something-yellow-or-spotty Mufti Day and Kelly the Cook will be baking some special Pudsey biscuits. Parents will be invited to make a Children in Need Donation online. [Link to follow.](#)

Christmas is Coming

Year 1 parents are advised of a minor change to the timing of the *Carols Around the Tree* on 12 December and parents of Junior children are advised of a slight change to the published arrangements for our Key Stage 2 carol services on Wednesday 17 December. Do please check the diary dates section for more information.

Do have a look at this week's FoHBS News (attached PDF) in which you can find information about and requests for their Christmas fundraisers and 'meet' the new FoHBS team. Thank you to everyone who has stepped up to help continue such valuable work in our school community.

Yours faithfully

Jonathan Walker
Headteacher

Sports Desk

Congratulations to our Girls' football team who played in the Harpenden Schools Girls' football tournament yesterday. They drew 3 of their games and won two of them, beating Sauncey Wood and St Dominic's 2-0 and 1-0 respectively. This resulted in their coming third out of the 7 in their group and narrowly missing out on the semi-finals.



Headteacher Awards

Congratulations to the following children for their achievements this week.

• Reception Chestnut Class	Eliza	For trying very hard to use her robot arms in phonics.
	Penelope	For being such a kind friend to everyone in the class.
	Leo	For answering a question during story time using great vocabulary. He used the word 'camouflage'!
• Reception Oak Class	Mabel	For explaining what new words mean to the class, she told us what 'velvet' was and explained 'camouflage'!
	Miller	For always having such a positive learning attitude and trying his best. Well done Miller!
• Year 1 Cedar Class	Elodie	For writing some super character descriptions of the troll in English this week.
• Year 1 Elm Class	Daniel	For trying his best and doing some super reading and maths this week.
	Phoebe	For her excellent description of the troll in English.
	Noah	For having a great start to the new half term. You have been putting lots of effort in and trying your best.
• Year 2 Hazel Class	Carey	For persevering in Maths when rebalancing calculations to add or subtract 10 instead of 9 or 11.
	Hetty	For persevering in Maths when rebalancing calculations to add or subtract 10 instead of 9 or 11.
	Glinka	For always having a positive approach to tasks. Well done!
• Year 2 Willow Class	Ottilie	For always having a positive approach to tasks. Well done!
	Sienna	For super detail in English when writing ion past tense and writing expanded noun phrases. Well done!
	Isla S	For fantastic works in maths when using column addition method. Isla showed confidence and independence. Well done!
• Year 3 Birch Class	Ellie	Demonstrating confidence in our first lesson of our new science topic based on light. Well done!
	Lev	For confidently contributing lots of great ideas in class
• Year 3 Redwood Class	Marley	For making a noticeable effort to participate more during lessons.
	Logan	For including a range of technical vocabulary when writing about an imaginary TV this week.
	Elle	For working hard in art this week, drawing an object with precision and effective shading.
• Year 4 Pine Class	Freddie	For demonstrating fluency in key facts and sharing his mathematical thinking on multiplication and division
	Eleanor	For using technical vocabulary to explain the flow of a river in geography
	Jack	For persevering with some tricky Maths questions when regrouping to help addition and subtraction.
• Year 5 Ash Class	Flossy	For making such an excellent start to our new art tropic with both contributions in class and when recording initial ideas.
	Anaya	Your excellent points and arguments while discussing the celebration of Guy Fawkes Night, in RE.
• Year 5 Hawthorn Class	Joseph	For your hard work and knowledge on the planets, in science.
	Juliet	For her positive attitude in every lesson and wanting to challenge herself
	Amelie	For powerful free form poem demonstrating an excellent understanding of the text and character
• Year 6 Rowan Class	Marcin	For the confidence that has shown during the open mornings, showing prospective parents around.
	Charlie	For his ball control skills shown during hockey this week in PE.
	Holly	For listening really well to instructions and putting them into action, achieving great success with her underarm throwing. Well done!
• PE Awards Infants	Otis	For making really sensible, positive decisions in PE.
	Thomas	For excellent work with his partner in our passing and teamwork drills in tag rugby. Well done!
	Jack	For excellent work with his partner in our passing and teamwork drills in tag rugby. Well done!

Staying Safe

Following the change to Greenwich Mean Time and the rapid drawing in of the evenings this week, we are no longer able to permit children in Years 5 and 6 who attend after-school clubs to walk home alone. Please help them to keep safe by ensuring there is a responsible person to collect them.

Community Matters

Gang show 2026

A number of our pupils are involved with this year's Gang Show at the Eric Morecambe Centre and [tickets are on sale now](#).



Emergency Services Open Day - Sunday 23 November

Please see separate flyer about this local pre-Christmas event.

Further Information and Reminders

Attendance

Congratulations to Oak and Maple classes who have the best attendance this week, with 99.3% and 97.3% attendance.

To notify school of medical appointments or Secondary school visits please complete [this form](#) found on the school website.

Lunchtime Help

We really appreciate the parents and grandparents that give up an hour of their day to help at lunchtimes. We are always in need of extra people, especially if staff are unexpectedly absent. So, thank you to those who regularly help or have stepped in at short notice in recent days.

If any other parents or carers have a spare hour they can give occasionally to help out please sign up via [this link](#).

It's 12-1pm and a great opportunity to see another part of your child's school day and the kids love to see a familiar face.

Christmas Fund Raising

A huge thank you to Mrs and Mr Lewis for sorting all the Christmas Design orders in readiness to be sent out today. All orders would have been distributed out to pupils today to be taken home.

Diary Dates

Additions or amendments shown in purple.

Friday 14 November 2025, 3pm	Year 4 Open Classrooms
Wednesday 26 November 2025, 3pm	Year 6 Open Classrooms
Thursday 27 November 2025, 3pm	Year 1 Open Classrooms
Thursday 27 November 2025, 3pm	Year 5 Open Classrooms
Friday 28 November 2025, 3pm	Year 3 Open Classrooms
Monday 1 December 2025	School closed for Occasional Day
Thursday 4 December 2025, 9:15am	Reception Nativity 1 st performance
Friday 5 December 2025, 9:15am	Reception Nativity 2 nd performance
Wed 3 December 2025	Year 6 Choir attends Rotary in Harpenden Carol Service at High Street Methodist Church
Saturday 6 December 2025	Provisional date for FoHBS Christmas Fair
Tuesday 9 December 2025	Year 2 Nativity • 1:30pm - Hazel Class • 2:30pm - Willow Class
10 December 2025, 6pm	Choir to attend Mayor of Harpenden's Carol Service
Friday 12 December 2025, from 2:15pm	Year 1 Christmas Carols around the Tree 2:15 – Elm Class 2:45 - Cedar
Friday 12 December 2025, 3pm	Year 2 Open Classrooms
Wednesday 17 Dec 2025	5pm - KS2 Green and Red House Carol Service 6:30pm - KS2 Blue and Yellow House Carol Service
Thurs 18 December 2025	School Christmas dinner, discos and L & D Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 19 December 2025, 2pm	School closes at 2pm for Christmas holiday