



## Weekly Newsletter

12 September 2025

*Making learning a lifelong adventure*

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

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been tremendous to have been able to welcome so many parents to our *Meet the Teacher* sessions over the course of the week and since last Friday. We really appreciate the high levels of support our parents give to their children's education and to the school, and we know it makes a real difference to their outcomes. The slides from these sessions are now available on the [year group pages of the school website](#), along with curriculum information and other resources.

Since last week, the new Reception children have completed their transition into school and are now eating their lunch in school and doing full days! Congratulations to them all. I have enjoyed popping into class quite a bit with Bess and today I made the first of my Friday visits to present headteacher awards and sing Happy Birthday. These form part of our weekly Celebration Assemblies, which resumed this week. Details of certificate winners can be found below.

Next week, I will be introducing our value for the half term in our Start the Week Assembly for Years 1 to 6 – friendship. A super one with which to begin the new academic year. On Tuesday and Thursday our Year 5 pupils will be participating in a science workshop on forces. Lastly, on Friday morning next week (19 September) any parents who are expecting to be able to volunteer in school on a regular basis are invited to attend a short briefing session in school.

Yours faithfully

*Jonathan Walker*  
Headteacher

### Staying Safe

#### **Harpenden Sewage Treatment Works - Upgrade Project**

We have been notified by Thames Water and Kier Construction that they will be starting a four-year upgrade project at the Sewage Treatment Works, which are located a short way down Piggottshill Lane, which runs behind the school's rear boundary. Construction work will be going on at the site from 7am to 5:30pm Monday to Friday and although they will be restricting HGV movements to between the hours of 9:30am and 3pm, this may result in some congestion or disruption for those who travel to school from the Alzey Gardens/Wheathampstead Road direction. Please be vigilant and take extra care.

## Headteacher Awards

Congratulations to the following children for their achievements this week.

• Reception Chestnut Class	Whole Class	For a really super first week in school.
• Reception Oak Class	Whole Class	For a really super first week in school.
• Year 1 Cedar Class	Gabriel	For working and concentrating so hard in English this week when learning about labels and captions.
• Year 1 Elm Class	Ben	For making such an excellent start to Year 1 by always trying his best, especially in English and being such a kind friend.
	Amelia	For always enjoying exploring learning during 'learning through play'.
	Samuel	For brilliant writing in phonics and English this week.
• Year 2 Hazel Class	Emma	For her thoughtful contributions in PSHE lessons this week. Your positive attitude shines through!
	Imogen	For settling in well into Year 2. You have been listening and following instructions so well.
• Year 2 Willow Class	Amelia	For exploring our learning during learning through play.
	Samuel	For making a brilliant effort with his writing in phonics and English
• Year 3 Birch Class	Whole Class	For a really super first week in school.
• Year 3 Redwood Class	Whole Class	For a really super first week in school.
• Year 4 Maple Class	Libby	For making an excellent start to Year 4, showing good learning behaviours and working well with others.
	Lenny	For working hard to create a detailed plan and storyboard for his graphic novel in English.
• Year 4 Pine Class	Ethan	For a carefully considered storyboard plan for his graphic novel.
	Oscar	For starting the new year with a drive to improve his reading.
	Roman	For having such a great start to Year 5 and challenging yourself in Maths
• Year 5 Ash Class	Sienna	For listening carefully in class and then working diligently to produce excellent work.
• Year 5 Hawthorn Class	Eva	For settling really well into Year 5 and getting on with your learning with no fuss.
	Anaya	For showing such enthusiasm for learning in every lesson.
• Year 6 Rowan Class	Max	For his hard-working attitude – a brilliant start to Year 6!
	Thomas	For his powerful setting description.
	Mohammed	For settling so well into new routines for year six. Mo has been such a role model to others!
• Year 6 Sycamore Class	Ama	For editing her work well to make improvements and taking high levels of responsibility.
	Cara	For showing good accuracy and control with her throwing and catching. Well done!
• PE Awards Infants	Sonny	For his great throwing and catching skills in PE this week. Well done!
• PE Awards Juniors	Harrison	For showing a good learning attitude and improvement with his drag-back turn. Well done!

## Community Matters

### Harpenden Youth Choir – Calling Singers in Year 3 and Upwards

Local music teacher Jenni Cresswell is looking for keen singers from Year 3 upwards to join her in preparing some repertoire for a charity Christmas concert in aid of the Harpenden-based [AT Society](#).

Membership of the choir is free of charge and the children must be available for the concert on Thursday 4 December, but please note some of our Year 6 singers will also be involved in the Rotary in Harpenden Carol Service the evening before on 3 December. More details can be found below.

- Concert date: Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December
- Concert time: 7pm – 9pm (choir will need to meet for rehearsals at 5.30pm)
- Concert venue: St John's Church
- Rehearsals - 4.30pm – 5.30pm on Thursdays: 25 September; 2, 9, 16 and 23 October, 13, 20, 27 November

If your child is in Years 3-8 and would like to be involved please send the following information to [cresswelljenni@gmail.com](mailto:cresswelljenni@gmail.com)

- Child's name
- Age
- Year Group
- Any illnesses, disabilities, pre-existing conditions, allergies or medication information
- Emergency contact name and number:

### Applefest



## Further Information and Reminders

### Attendance

Congratulations to Oak and Maple classes who have the best attendance this week, with 100% attendance.

## Diary Dates

*New and amended dates are shown in purple in future newsletters.*

Friday 19 September 2025, 8:50am	<i>Briefing session for parent volunteers</i>
Mon 22 September 2025	<i>Individual pupil photographs</i>
Tuesday 23 September (& 25 November)	<i>Pupil flu vaccinations</i>
Thurs 25 September 2025, 1:30pm	<i>Year 6 Leaders to Harpenden Peace Day Service.</i>
25 & 26 September 2025	<i>Y6 pupils host MacMillan Coffee Morning</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thursday 25 Sept, 9am – Rowan Class</li><li>• Friday 26 September, 9am – Sycamore Class</li></ul>
Friday 3 October 2025	<i>FoHBS Movie Night – Years 4 to 6</i>
Friday 10 October 2026	<i>FoHBS 80's &amp; 90's Disco</i>
Friday 17 October 2025	<i>FoHBS Movie Night - Years 1 to 3</i>
W/b 20 October 25	<i>Parent Consultations</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tuesday 21, 3:45 to 7pm</li><li>• Thursday 23, 3:45 to 7pm</li></ul>
Tuesday 21 October, 6:45pm	<i>FOHBS AGM</i>
24 October, 4, 13 and 27 November	<i>Open Mornings for entry to Reception in September 2026. Book a place via the school website</i>
25 October 2025	<i>School closes for half-term break at normal time</i>
Monday 3 November	<i>School opens for autumn Term 2</i>
Monday 1 December 2025	<i>School closed for Occasional Day</i>
Thurs 4 December 2025, 9:15am	<i>Reception Nativity</i>
Wed 3 December 2025	<i>Year 6 Choir attends Rotary in Harpenden Carol Service at High Street Methodist Church</i>
Saturday 6 December 2025	<i>Provisional date for FoHBS Christmas Fair</i>
Tuesday 9 December 2025	<i>Year 2 Nativity</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1:30pm - Hazel Class</li><li>• 2:30pm - Willow Class</li></ul>
10 December 2025, 6pm	<i>Choir to attend Mayor of Harpenden's Carol Service</i>
Friday 12 Dec 2025, 2:30pm	<i>Year 1 Christmas Carols around the Tree</i>
Wednesday 17 Dec 2025	<i>5pm - KS2 Green and Yellow House Carol Service 6:30pm - KS2 Blue and Red House Carol Service</i>
Thurs 18 December 2025	<i>School Christmas dinner, discos and L &amp; D Christmas Jumper Day</i>
Friday 19 December 2025, 2pm	<i>School closes at 2pm for Christmas holiday</i>