



HALTON HOLEGATE

C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

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*Learning and flourishing together
within the love of God*



I hope everyone has enjoyed a well-earned summer break and that the children are feeling refreshed, excited and ready to learn, grow and flourish together.

At Halton Holegate, our vision of "*Learning and flourishing together within the love of God*" is at the heart of everything we do, and I am excited to work with our children as they develop the confidence, curiosity and resilience they need to achieve their full potential.

I am very much looking forward to meeting children and families at the school gate on **3rd September**, hearing about everyone's summer adventures and beginning what I am sure will be a happy, successful and exciting year together.

Dates for the diary - 2026

3rd Sept – School opens

3rd Sept – Tour of Britain cycling event

11th Sept – 11+ verbal reasoning paper

18th Sept – 11+ non-verbal reasoning paper

22nd Sept – Class 2 trip to Wild Woodcraft

25th Sept – Macmillan Coffee morning
8.30am – 10.30am

25th Sept – Macmillan cake sale 3.00pm

20th + 21st Oct – Parents' evening

23rd Oct – Last day of term

2nd Nov – Start of term

6th Nov – Individual and sibling photos

Free Breakfast Club

We are delighted to be introducing our **Free Breakfast Club** from September, which will be available to all children from **Reception to Year 6**. The club aims to provide children with a healthy start to the day, helping them to feel settled, ready to learn and prepared for the day ahead.

Breakfast Club will open from **7:30am** each morning and will provide a welcoming environment where children can enjoy breakfast, spend time with friends and make a calm and positive start to their school day. We hope this provision will support both our families and our pupils' wellbeing, ensuring every child begins the day ready to learn and flourish.

Please note: To ensure appropriate staffing and food provision, children will only be able to attend Breakfast Club if their place has been booked in advance via Arbor.

Lloyds Tour of Britain

We are excited that the **Lloyds Tour of Britain** will be passing through Halton Holegate on Thursday 3rd September. Our older children will have the opportunity to watch the riders as they pass through the village and be part of this exciting event.

Please be aware that road closures and diversions may affect routes at the end of the school day. If any parents are delayed because of road closures, children will be kept safe in school until your arrival.

A huge thank you to **Halton Holegate Parish Council** for providing commemorative cowbells and flags so that the children can give the riders a fantastic welcome and have a special keepsake to remember the occasion.

Morning Drop-Off

The school gates will open at **8:20am**, allowing children to come into school and go directly to their classrooms, where they can settle in and begin their morning activities. Children will say their goodbyes at the gate and make their way independently into school. The gates will close promptly at **8:30am**.

For the first two days of term, Reception children will be welcomed at the school gate by their teacher, **Miss Kitchen**, who will help them find their classroom and settle in smoothly.

Please bring Nursery children to the **main office entrance**, where they will be greeted by **Mrs Reed** before joining their Nursery session.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

We are looking forward to hosting our **Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 25th September**. Parents, grandparents and friends of the school are warmly invited to join us from **8:35am to 10:30am** as we come together to raise money for this fantastic cause.

Whether you can stay for a few minutes or the whole morning, we would love to see you there. Join us for **coffee, cake and a chat**, while helping to support the invaluable work of Macmillan Cancer Support.

We will also be holding a cake sale at the end of the day so don't forget to bring some change and grab a treat for on the way home.

Donations of cakes will be gratefully received for both the coffee morning and cake sale. Please bring these to school the day before, unless they are perishable or need to be kept chilled, in which case the morning of the event will be fine.

We hope to see many of you there and thank you in advance for your support and generosity.

Medical information

Please make sure that your child's medical information is up to date and that the correct information is recorded on Arbor. **If your child has any medicines, inhalers or Epi-pens please ensure that these are in school and are in date.**

A letter will be sent out separately, asking you to confirm any allergies that your child may have. We ask that **all** parents complete and sign the letter, even if your child does not have an allergy.

If you need to discuss any concerns regarding your child's medical condition or their Individual Healthcare Plan, then please speak to the office.

Free School Meals

From September, there will be two categories of Free School Meals (FSM):

Targeted FSM

For families receiving Universal Credit with a household income below £7,400 per year. Children in this category receive free school meals, and the school receives additional **Pupil Premium funding** to support their education.

Expanded FSM

For families receiving Universal Credit with a household income above £7,400 per year. Children in this category will also be entitled to receive a free school meal.

If you think your child may be eligible, please ensure you apply. Registering not only helps your child access free meals but may also secure valuable Pupil Premium funding for the school, which supports additional resources and opportunities for our pupils.

Please note that these categories are separate from the **Universal Infant Free School Meals** scheme, which provides free school meals for all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

Mobile phones

As you may be aware, our school policy is that mobile phones should not be used during the school day. We understand that some children in Upper Key Stage 2 may carry a mobile phone to help them travel safely to and from school. If this applies to your child, please remind them that their phone must be handed in to the school office on arrival. Phones will be stored securely and returned to children at the end of the school day.

Term Dates 2026/27

School opens: Thursday 3rd September

School Closes: Friday 23rd October

School opens: Monday 2nd November

School Closes: Friday 18th December

School opens: Tuesday 5th January

School Closes: Friday 12th February

School opens : Monday 22nd February

School Closes: Thursday 25th March

School opens: Wednesday 14th April

School Closes: Friday 28th May

School opens: Monday 7th June

School Closes: Wednesday 21st July

Holidays

We understand that family time is important and that holidays can sometimes be less expensive during term time. However, every day in school really does make a huge difference.

Research from the Department for Education shows a clear link between attendance and achievement, with pupils who attend school regularly achieving better outcomes at both primary and secondary school.

Learning builds day by day, and even a short absence can mean children miss important teaching, discussions, practical activities and opportunities to develop friendships and confidence. The Education Endowment Foundation highlights that poor attendance is closely linked to lower attainment and can have a lasting impact on children's progress.

We therefore ask families to support their children's education by booking holidays during the school holidays and avoiding term-time absences. By working together to ensure children are in school every day, we can give them the very best opportunity to thrive, achieve and make the most of every learning experience.