

HCFS Newsletter

Autumn Term Two – December 2025



A Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of this half term, I want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible learning and progress across our school. The children have worked exceptionally hard, and it has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and achievements in every classroom.

This term has been filled with memorable experiences. Our Christmas productions were truly magical—thank you to everyone who supported and attended these special events. Alongside this, the children have enjoyed a range of enrichment activities that have brought learning to life. Some examples are Y1 and Y3 exploring faith and culture through RE visits, Y4 delighted in a hands-on chocolate workshop, and Y5 developed confidence and skills through their Bikeability sessions.

These opportunities, combined with the dedication of our staff and the support of our families, have made this half term a great success. We are proud of the progress every child has made and look forward to building on this in the new year.

Wishing you all a joyful festive season and a happy, healthy New Year!

Warmest Wishes,
Mrs Hobson

Key Dates for Spring Term One

- 05.1.26 – INSET Day School Closed
- 06.1.26 – Spring Term 1 Commences
- 12.1.26 – Spring Term After School Clubs Commence
- 13.1.26 – Year 5 RE School Trip
- 14.1.26 – Year 3 Assembly 2:45pm Parents Invited
- 14.1.26 – Year 4 MTC Parent Meeting 5:15pm
- 21.1.26 – Reception Height & Weight Check
- 28.1.26 – Year 2 Assembly 2:45pm Parents Invited
- 28.1.26 – Year 6 SATs Parent Meeting 5:15pm
- 05.2.26 – Parent Coffee Morning 8:35am
- 06.2.26 – HSA Valentines Disco
- 11.2.26 – Year 1 Assembly 2:45pm Parents Invited
- 12.2.26 – Inter-house Competition
- 13.2.26 – Year 5 Graffiti Day
- 16.2.26 – 20.2.26 HALF TERM
- 23.2.26 – Spring Term 2 Commences

Congratulations

This half term's winning house
group is

Giraffes

with **760** points!

Bad Weather Notification

With the onset of winter and the potential bad weather this can bring, we will notify parents as soon as possible concerning whether school is able to open. Whilst we will always do our utmost to open to support working parents, it may not necessarily be possible to do so. In any such bad weather event, we will send an email/text message and update Facebook as soon as we know what the situation is like on the school grounds. This is likely to come by approximately 7:30am. Please ensure that we do have your up to date email and phone number. You can check and amend this via your Arbor account.



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Staff News



We say farewell and thank you to Miss Shah for her hard work and for greatly enhancing our sports provision over the past 18 months. In January, we look forward to welcoming Mr Flynn as our Sports Co-ordinator to continue this important role.

We are also delighted to welcome Mrs Ewen, our new Site Manager, who joined the team in December to help keep our school running smoothly.

Attendance Awards

7 th November	14 th November	21 st November	5 th December	12 th December
Foxes 99%	Kestrels 100%	W.peckers 99%	Swans 98.74%	Kestrels 98.67%
Ducks 98.33%	S.hawks 99.31%	Seals 98.89%	Seals 98.43%	K.fishers 98.62%
G.Eagles 98.28%	Falcons 99%	Ducks 98.67%	Falcons 97.5%	Seals 98.33%
S.hawks 97.93%	Swans 98.67%	Swans 98%	K.fishers 97.41%	Foxes 98%
Kestrels 97.67%	Seals 98.33%	Falcons 97.33%	Ducks 96.67%	W.peckers 97.33%
Deer 97.5%	Ducks 97.67%	K.fishers 97.24%	Kestrels 96.67%	Ducks 97%
Swans 97.33%	G.Eagles 97.59%	Deer 97%	W.peckers 95%	Falcons 95%
Hedgehogs 97.06%	W.peckers 97%	Hedgehogs 96.47%	Deer 93.13%	Deer 94%
Seals 96.67%	Badgers 96.13%	Rabbits 96.47%	S.hawks 92.24%	Badgers 92.73%
Badgers 96.36%	Rabbits 95.29%	Puffins 96%	Puffins 92.08%	G.Eagles 92.41%
Owls 96.23%	Puffins 95%	Kestrels 95.67%	Foxes 91.88%	Puffins 91.67%
Puffins 96%	Foxes 94.5%	Owls 95%	G. Eagles 90.95%	Owls 91.33%
Falcons 96%	Owls 94%	Foxes 94.5%	Rabbits 90.44%	Swans 90.67%
K.fishers 95.52%	Deer 92.5%	S.hawks 94.48%	Badgers 85.07%	Hedgehogs 90.59%
Rabbits 95%	K.fishers 91.72%	G.Eagles 94.14%	Hedgehogs 83.82%	S.hawks 90.34%
W.peckers 94.33%	Hedgehogs 91.18%	Badgers 92.21%	Owls 82.92%	Rabbits 73.46%

The end of Autumn Term Two Attendance Winners are:

Falcons class!

We strive to achieve a minimum of 95% attendance. Further information regarding attendance can be found on the [Attendance Page](#) of our school website.

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Principal Awards

7 November	 Swans	 Ducks	 W.peckers	 K.fishers	 Falcons	 Kestrels	 G.Eagles	 S.Hawks
14 November	 Deer	 Seals	 Foxes	 Owls	 Puffins			
21 November	 Swans	 Ducks	 W.peckers	 K.fishers	 Falcons	 Kestrels	 G.Eagles	 S.Hawks
5 December	 Deer	 Seals	 Foxes	 Owls	 Puffins			
12 December	 Swans	 Ducks	 W.peckers	 K.fishers	 Falcons	 Kestrels	 G.Eagles	 S.Hawks

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Core Value Awards - Respect

8 November	 Seals	 Deer	 Foxes	 Owls	 Puffins			
15 November	 Swans	 Ducks	 W.peckers	 K.fishers	 Kestrels	 Falcons	 G. Eagles	 S.Hawks
21 November	 Seals	 Deer	 Foxes	 Owls	 Puffins			
5 December	 Swans	 Ducks	 W.peckers	 K.fishers	 Kestrels	 Falcons	 G. Eagles	 S.Hawks
13 December	 Seals	 Deer	 Foxes	 Owls	 Puffins			



Half Term Highlights

Children in Need

On Friday 14th November, we supported Children in Need by holding a non-uniform day. Thank you to everyone who supported this charity by donating on the day. We raised £315 to donate.



Ministry of Chocolate (4th October)

The chocolate project is by far one of our favourite ones in the school and this year didn't disappoint! We started the project with a visit from Carl from the Ministry of Chocolate. He taught us about how chocolate is made and all about his visits to cocoa plantations in Ghana. We tried chocolate and even made our own chocolate with our choice of fillings. The children loved every minute, learned a lot and became level 10 chocolatologists!



Mrs Wallace
Y4 Teacher
LKS2 Phase Lead



Coffee Morning

It was wonderful to welcome you to coffee morning. Thank you for attending and spending time chatting over a cuppa and a biscuit. We look forward to seeing you next time on Thursday 5th February.
Merry Christmas!



Mrs Holmes
SENCO

Pantomime

On Tuesday 2nd December, Y2, Y3 and Y4 were visited by a touring pantomime company and were treated to a performance of Aladdin! It was fantastic inspiration for them ahead of their own Christmas performances just a few days later!





Half Term Highlights continued

EYFS Christmas Nativity

A Bundle of Joy...Celebrating our youngest performers. We are delighted to share the joy of our youngest children's recent performance. Their energy, enthusiasm, and talent lit up the stage and brought smiles to everyone in the audience.

A heartfelt thank you goes to all the parents and carers who joined us and showed their support. Your presence made the occasion even more special.

We truly hope you enjoyed watching their performance as much as we enjoyed preparing and presenting it. Moments like these remind us of the wonderful community spirit we share at our school.



Mrs Razaq
YR Teacher



KS1 Christmas Concert

Our Key Stage 1 pupils put on a fantastic festive performance with their Christmas concert, *Rock Around Christmas*. The children sang lively songs, showcased their dance moves, and filled the hall with holiday cheer. Their enthusiasm and hard work shone through, creating a joyful celebration for everyone.

Thank you to all the families for your support and for helping make this event so special!



Mrs Canty
Y2 Teacher



LKS2 Christmas Production

Lower Key Stage 2 have worked incredibly hard this term, and their dedication shone through in their spectacular performance of *No One Wraps Like an Elf*. The children showed wonderful commitment to learning their lines and brought enthusiasm and passion to every moment, making the play a real highlight of the term.

It was a joy to see them perform in front of KS1 and our parents, and the children were thrilled to have the adults in the audience. We are so grateful for the support you have given them, especially in helping them practise their lines at home — it made such a difference to their confidence on stage.

The performance was a fantastic celebration of the children's creativity and teamwork, and we are so proud of what they have achieved. And if you've found yourself humming the songs ever since, you're not alone — we think they might be stuck in our heads until Christmas!



Miss Shepherd
Y3 Teacher





Half Term Highlights continued

UKS2 Christmas Carols

Our UKS2 pupils delivered a truly wonderful carol concert on Thursday evening. Despite the wet and miserable weather, the event went ahead indoors, and the children lit up the room with their beautiful singing and heartfelt readings. Their performance brought warmth, joy, and plenty of Christmas cheer to everyone present—what a fantastic way to celebrate the season!



Mrs Good
Y6 Teacher



Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch

On Thursday 12th December, we supported the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day. In addition to this, we took part in a national Santa Dash by completing a whole school festive mile and it was also Christmas Dinner, what a busy day! Thanks to all who supported our efforts. We raised £50.00 to donate.





Half Term Highlights continued

Y1 and Y3 Church Visits

This term, some of our children have had the exciting opportunity to visit local churches as part of their Religious Education learning. These visits have helped deepen their understanding of Christianity and brought their classroom learning to life.

Year 3 enjoyed a wonderful trip to Saint Peter's Church in Hatfield, where they explored fascinating artefacts and learned more about the traditions and practices of Christianity. The children were curious and engaged throughout, asking thoughtful questions and making great connections to what they've been studying in class.

Year 1 had an equally fantastic experience at Gracemead Church, located just down the road from our school! The visit was full of fun and interactive activities, including dressing up in costumes, listening to engaging stories, and discovering aspects of Christianity through the creative use of puppets. It was a memorable day that really brought their learning to life.

We are so proud of how enthusiastic and respectful the children were during these visits, and we look forward to more opportunities to explore different faiths and traditions in the future.



Miss Campbell
RE Custodian



HSA Fundraising Events

It's been an incredibly busy first term, but what an amazing amount of fundraising we've achieved! Thank you for bearing with us through all the emails — we promise they were sent with good intentions.

Our discos were, as always, a huge hit. We ended up with plenty of happy (and very warm!) children who danced their hearts out (£500 raised). "Break the Rules" day brought its usual excitement, and it was great fun seeing which rules the children chose to bend this time (£600 raised).

Movie nights were another success, with drinks and treats that went down a storm (£500 raised). And of course, our Christmas Fayre was the big event of the term. Despite the uncooperative weather, it turned out to be a fantastic day. A massive thank-you to all the staff and volunteers who helped run the stalls — we couldn't have done it without you.

We're thrilled to share that the Fayre raised an impressive £1,700! We look forward to some more exciting events in the New Year and we can't wait to see you there!

This term the HSA have helped fund replacements of the very popular DogMan / Catkid books, improving the resources in the EYFS play area, replacing old broken display boards with new ones and updating all the wet play boxes for all year groups! So far we have funded over £2,500 of resources!

From all of the HSA we hope you have a fun filled Winter break!





Half Term Highlights continued

Bikeability

During the half term, some of our Year 5 pupils completed an exciting Bikeability training programme, designed to teach them how to cycle safely on the roads. Over the course of the week, the children learned essential skills and techniques to become confident and responsible cyclists.

The training wasn't just about theory – the children had the chance to ride on real roads, putting their new knowledge into practice. One pupil summed it up perfectly:

“Bikeability is a fun way of learning how to ride a bike safely on the road. You get to actually go on the road with a bike. I felt full of excitement when I did it!”

The sessions covered everything from road signals and positioning to bike safety checks. The children learned the importance of the ABCD check before setting off:

A – Air: Check tyres have enough air.

B – Brakes: Make sure brakes are working properly.

C – Chain: If it's brown, it's time for a new one!

D – Direction: Ensure the front wheel turns correctly and nothing is dangling that could cause danger.

They also discovered how to change gears when tackling hills and practiced holding out their hands longer when indicating – a small but vital detail for road safety.

The feedback from the children was overwhelmingly positive:

“It made me feel safe while also having fun.”

“I liked learning how to cycle on the road – the instructors were really nice too!”

“You learn different techniques and signals that you need to know for different types of roads.”

Thanks to the fantastic instructors and the enthusiasm of our pupils, Year 5 are now well-equipped to cycle safely and confidently. Well done, everyone!



Miss McLoughlin
Y5 Teacher





Half Term Highlights continued

Sports Events

Girls' Football

The girls kicked off their very first match of the new season — and their first time playing together as a brand-new team. Facing Birchwood Avenue, there were a few nerves at the start, but once they settled into the game, they began to find their rhythm. Although the result didn't go our way this time, the match gave us a strong foundation to build on. With every game, the team is learning, growing, and becoming stronger.

Next up was a thrilling encounter against St Phillip Howards. It was an exciting, end-to-end contest that could have gone either way. The girls played brilliantly, showing huge improvements and real determination — a sign of how quickly they're developing as a team.

On 27th November, both the girls and boys walked over to De Havilland School. Due to referee issues, Miss Shah stepped in to officiate the match. The girls played brilliantly and created a couple of chances, but unfortunately De Havilland came away with the win.

Boys' Football

The boys' football team is off to a flying start! The boys are currently tying for first place with Oak View and St Philip Howard. The boys have only lost 1 close game Oakview and they have beaten St Philip Howard 4-3, Birchwood 3-2 and a convincing 3-1 over De Havilland. The team is a fantastic mix of year 5 and 6 boys, with Edson controlling the middle, Tolu and Daniel defending and Dion making some great saves in the box. We're also fortunate to have pace down the wings with players like Lenny and Raastin. And that's all without one of our star performers from last year. We finally welcome Charlie back to the team after a long rest through injury.



Mr Nicholls
PE Custodian

Futsal Festival Yr 4 & 5

We also enjoyed our Futsal Festival — a fast-paced version of football that's even more furious and fun! Matches lasted just six minutes, with boys and girls playing separately in 4v4 games. We competed against four different schools, but this time the focus wasn't on keeping score. Instead, it was all about learning new skills, trying a new sport, and most importantly, having fun together.

Speed Stacking

Some of our pupils took part in the annual Speed Stacking Competition at Onslow St Audrey's School. With four schools competing, it was a fantastic chance to make new friends and take their speed stacking skills to the next level. We were proud to receive a certificate of participation.



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Out of School Achievements!



Level 7 Swimming

Level 8 Swimming

Level 5 Gymnastics

Dangerous Driving

We wish to address some significant safety concerns that have been brought to our attention regarding dangerous driving in Briars Lane and specifically into our parent drop-off car park.

With the number of children, adults, and community members present around our school, especially during drop-off and pick-up times, it is incredibly important that all drivers exercise caution and courtesy. The safety of everyone at our school, including children from HCFS and neighbouring schools, is our top priority.

It is worth noting that we installed speed ramps in the drop-off car park to help ensure that motorists enter and exit at a safe speed. We kindly ask all parents and guardians to always be vigilant and drive safely.

Thank you for your attention to this crucial matter, and for helping us maintain a safe environment for our children.

End of Term Message from the Chair of Trustees

I can't believe it is the end of the Autumn term already; it seems to have flown by! I am sure all the children are looking forward to their Christmas break. It has been a busy term with the wonderful Christmas productions and concerts that all of our children and staff worked so hard to put on.

The HSA has continued to thrive hosting a variety of very successful events such as the very popular 'Break the Rules' day, movie nights, bonfire disco and an amazing Christmas Fayre. I do hope you and the children have enjoyed them.

For this academic year I continue to act as the Chair to the Trust Board and Pierre Yves-Robert has again been elected as Vice Chair. We recently elected Parent Trustee, Mohammed Miah, who is now full member of the board.

We have been busy with board meetings and are due to undergo a further full skills audit in January where we review ourselves as Board to ensure that we continue to act to the best of our ability for the school. Each of our Trustees has a set link with an area of school which we review on a termly basis. These links include all curriculum subjects and then other areas like SEND, attendance, mental health and health and safety. We are always working with the school and the senior leadership team to ensure our standards remain high to keep our wonderful school, a great place to be. We wear a yellow lanyard so you can always identify who we are when we are in the school!

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

Maxine Kinghorn – On behalf of the HCFST Board