

HCFS Newsletter

Autumn Term One – October 2026



A Message from the Principal

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

As we reach the end of Autumn Term One, I would like to thank our children, staff and families for an incredibly positive start to the academic year. The term began with home visits for our Reception children and baseline assessments across a couple of our year groups. Children in Year 5 enjoyed a memorable residential visit to Cuffley Camp, demonstrating resilience, independence and excellent behaviour throughout. Children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 also celebrated the season through their Harvest Festival performances, while children in Year 6 have benefited from swimming lessons, helping to develop confidence and important life skills.

We have also enjoyed strengthening our partnership with families through parent consultations and our English and Maths parent lessons. Thank you to everyone who attended and engaged so positively with these opportunities. The half term concluded with an exciting inter-house competition, where pupils demonstrated teamwork, determination and school spirit.

As we head into the break, thank you for your continued support. I wish all of our families a restful and enjoyable half term and look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting and successful term.

Warmest Wishes,
Mrs Hobson

Key Dates for Autumn Term Two

- 04.11.26 Parent Coffee Morning 8:30am
- 05.11.26 HSA Bonfire Disco
- 09.11.26 No After School Clubs – JAG Available**
- 11.11.26 Yr 6 Parent Assembly 2:45pm
- 12.11.26 HSA Break the Rules Day
- 16.11.26 Bikeability Week Yr 5
- 20.11.26 Children in Need Non Uniform Day
- 27.11.26 Occasional Day School Closed**
- 30.11.26 HSA Winter Fayre 2:30pm
- 07.12.26 Yr 1 RE Trip
- 14.12.26 Yr 3 RE Trip
- 14.12.26 Open Classroom 3pm to 5pm
- 15.12.26 EYFS Christmas Nativity 9:45am
- 15.12.26 KS1 Christmas Concert 1:30pm
- 16.12.26 LKS2 Christmas Production 9:45am
- 16.12.26 EYFS Christmas Nativity 1:30pm
- 17.12.26 KS1 Christmas Concert 9:45am
- 17.12.26 LKS2 Christmas Production 1:30pm
- 17.12.26 UKS2 Christmas Carols 5:15pm
- 18.12.26 Term Finishes at 1pm – NO JAG**
- 04.01.27 INSET Day School Closed**
- 05.01.27 Spring Term 1 Commences

Congratulations

This half term's winning house group is

Panthers

with **485** points!

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Staff News

We would like to let our school community know that Mrs Atkin will be beginning her maternity leave in the next couple of weeks. While we will miss her during her time away from school, we are delighted for her and her family as they prepare to welcome their new arrival. We know that families will join us in wishing Mrs Atkin all the very best for this exciting chapter.

We are also thrilled to share the wonderful news that Mrs Good and Mrs Vieira are both expecting babies. On behalf of everyone at HCFS, we send our warmest congratulations to Mrs Good, Mrs Vieira and their families. We are excited to celebrate this special news with them and wish them health and happiness as they prepare for their growing families.



Attendance Awards

11 th September	18 th September	25 th September	2 nd October	9 th October	16 th October	23 rd October
Flamingos 100% Penguins 100% Wrens 99.6% Ducks 98.67% Owls 98% K.fishers 96.79% G.Eagles 96.33% Doves 94.62% Swans 94% Falcons 93% Kestrels 92.33% W.peckers 92% Puffins 90.67% S.hawks 90.67%	Ducks 98.67% Kestrels 98.67% K.fishers 98.21% Doves 97.69% Flamingos 97.62% Wrens 97.6% Owls 97.33% Swans 97% Puffins 96.92% Falcons 96.33% Penguins 96% G.Eagles 94% W.peckers 93.67% S.hawks 92.67%	Swans 98.67% Puffins 98.62% Penguins 97% Falcons 97% G.Eagles 96.67% Wrens 96.4% Flamingos 96.19% S.hawks 95.67% Ducks 94.67% Doves 94.62% Owls 94.33% W.peckers 94.33% K.fishers 94.29% Kestrels 93.67%	Doves 99.2% Ducks 98% Falcons 95.67% Flamingos 93.33% G.Eagles 96% Kestrels 95.33% K.fishers 98.57% Owls 94.67% Penguins 88% Puffins 98.97% S.hawks 96.92% Swans 98% W.peckers 98% Wrens 91.6%	Puffins 98.97% K.fishers 98.21% Ducks 98% S.hawks 98% Doves 97.6% Falcons 97.33% Swans 96.67% W.peckers 94.67% G.Eagles 94.33% Owls 94% Kestrels 93.67% Flamingos 91.67% Wrens 90.4% Penguins 82.21%	S.hawks 99.33% K.fishers 98.57% Doves 98.4% Flamingos 97.14% Kestrels 97% W.peckers 96.67% Swans 96.33% Falcons 96.21% Ducks 94.67% Owls 94.33% G.Eagles 93% Penguins 92.86% Puffins 92.07% Wren 92%	Flamingos 99.05% K.fishers 98.57% Falcons 98.29% W.peckers 97.33% S.hawks 97.33% Swans 97% Kestrels 96.67% Doves 96% Ducks 95.33% Penguins 94.34% G.Eagles 94.33% Puffins 93.79% Owls 93.67% Wren 87.2%

The end of Autumn Term One Attendance Winners are:

Kingfishers 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.

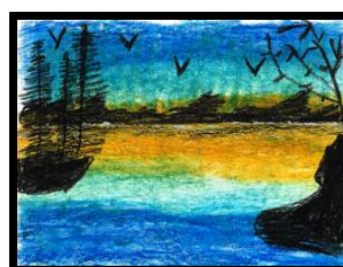
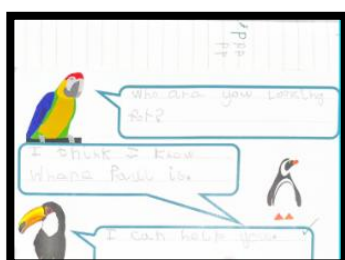
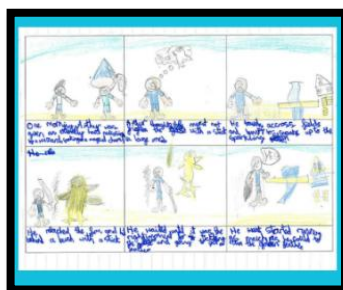
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Principal Awards

11 th September	 Swans	 Ducks	 W.peckers	 K.fishers	 Falcons	 Kestrels	 G. Eagles	 S. Hawks	
18 th September	 Doves		 Wrens		 Owls		 Puffins		 Sports Star
2 nd October	 Swans	 Ducks	 W.peckers	 K.fishers	 Falcons	 Kestrels	 G. Eagles	 S.Hawks	 Sports Star
9 th October	 Doves		 Wrens		 Owls		 Puffins		 Sports Star
16 th October	 Swans	 Ducks	 W.peckers	 K.fishers	 Falcons	 Kestrels	 G. Eagles	 S.Hawks	 Sports Star
23 rd October	 Doves		 Wrens		 Owls		 Puffins		 Sports Star



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Core Value Awards - Kindness

11 th September	 Doves		 Wrens		 Owls		 Puffins	
18 th September	 Swans	 Ducks	 W.peckers	 K.fishers	 Falcons	 Kestrels	 G. Eagles	 S. Hawks
2 nd October	 Doves		Riley Wrens		 Owls		 Puffins	
9 th October	 Swans	 Ducks	 W.peckers	 K.fishers	 Falcons	 Kestrels	 G. Eagles	 S. Hawks
16 th October	 Doves		 Wrens		 Owls		 Puffins	
23 rd October	 Swans	 Ducks	 W.peckers	 K.fishers	 Falcons	 Kestrels	 G. Eagles	 S. Hawks



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Half Term Highlights



Mrs Wallace
Key Stage 2 Lead

Cuffley Camp

Year 5 had a fantastic time at Cuffley Camp!

Wednesday

After a very quick and easy journey, we arrived at camp and straight away went to play some games on the field. The field quickly became one of the children's favourite places to hang out with their friends, search for fossils in the dirt or play some fun games. After a lovely lunch, the children then split into their groups. One group built shelters (and tried to protect themselves from the bucket of water poured over them!) while the other group did a climbing activity called Gladiator. This had our children climbing vertically up a wooden pole, tyres, nets and try to reach the top. The children were amazing at challenging themselves throughout these activities and it got the excitement for the rest of the trip building! On Wednesday evening, after a pasta dinner, we had a campfire in one of our camps. The children learnt some silly songs, played a game called 'Manners Gallery' and roasted their own marshmallows.

Thursday

We woke up on Thursday ready for a full day at camp! We had a delicious breakfast of waffles, fruit and yogurt but also had things like croissants and cereal available too (we definitely didn't go hungry). We had meatballs and garlic bread for lunch and then a lovely afternoon snack before we went to pizza palace to make our own pizzas for dinner!

The activities on Thursday started with fire building and target sports. This included archery and axe throwing. The children were amazing at all of the activities. They enjoyed trying to light a fire with sparks from flint and steel and were able to create small fires despite the soggy conditions we had that morning. The target sports included archery and axe throwing. The children all learnt the techniques and played some games to also add some competition! Well done to those children who managed to hit the targets! We also did SOS, an activity where the children learnt some basic first aid. They then put these new skills into practise when they discovered a PLANE CRASH! The children had to help the injured passengers and remember the steps for DR ABC to check any unconscious passengers. It was a lot of fun, even the adults enjoyed pretending to be injured around the crash site!

We finished the day with a variety of games on the field which went into the evening. Thank goodness some of the children remembered their torches!

Friday

Friday morning started with a bacon or sausage roll before we split off for a morning of more activities! Camo concealment was our first activity where we all put on camouflage paint, and the children played a variety of games to see how well they could conceal themselves. Our afternoon activities were a fun surprise as we got to choose between rock climbing or crate stacking. The children were able to choose which of these two activities to complete and it was amazing seeing them all thrive, especially those who started a little bit nervous! It was a fantastic way to end our time at Cuffley before a nice calm coach journey home.



Mrs Hobson
Principal

Macmillan Coffee Morning

A huge thank you to all of our families who joined us for our Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 25th September. It was wonderful to see so many parents, carers, family members and children come together for coffee, cake and conversation while raising money for such an important cause. Your generosity and support helped make the event a real success. We would also like to give a special thank you to our Senior Pupil Leadership Team, who did an outstanding job staffing the refreshment stalls, welcoming visitors and helping the morning run smoothly. They represented our school brilliantly and should be very proud of their contribution.

We raised an impressive total of £303!

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Half Term Highlights - continued



Mrs Summers
AVP Pastoral

Parent Lessons

It has been wonderful to welcome so many of our families into school to see what we have been learning in English and maths. We hope you enjoyed the opportunity to work alongside your child and perhaps even felt a little challenged by some of the learning experiences yourselves!

Our children absolutely loved having parents and carers in the classroom, and they were incredibly proud to share all that they have learned since the start of the school year. I am sure you will agree that they have been very busy since September and have already made a fantastic start to their learning journey.

We also hope these sessions provided a valuable insight into how you can support your child at home. As you will have seen, the children are highly capable learners, even if they occasionally suggest otherwise when it comes to reading or practising their skills at home!

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. The strong relationships between home and school play a vital role in helping our children flourish, and we greatly value the encouragement and interest you show in their learning.

If you have any questions about your child's learning or would like further guidance on how to support them at home, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher.



Mr Nicholls
Y4 Teacher

Y4 Assembly

This term has been packed with exciting learning across the curriculum, including art, science investigations into states of matter, singing, persuasive writing and maths.

What better way to celebrate and share our achievements than through our Year 4 assembly! After lots of hard work and rehearsals, it was wonderful to see the assembly run so smoothly. The children did a fantastic job delivering their lines with confidence and enthusiasm, and their performance of *Mamma Mia!* was a real highlight.

We hope you enjoyed watching it as much as we enjoyed presenting it!



Miss Surry
EYFS & KS1 Lead

Harvest Festival

What a spectacular turnout we had for our annual Harvest Festival! Our school hall was completely full, and it was wonderful to see so many families supporting the children.

The children were absolutely brilliant throughout the entire show. They performed with incredible confidence, singing a fantastic selection of autumn songs, reciting poetry beautifully, and even playing a variety of musical instruments. Every single child spoke so clearly, making it a joy to watch.

A huge thank you to everyone who came along to make the event so memorable. We must also say a massive thank you to our dedicated staff, who worked hard to support the children in learning their parts.

Well done, everyone!



Half Term Highlights - continued



Miss Pape
Vice Principal

Inter-house Competition - HCFS Got Talent!

What a fantastic afternoon we had at the HCFS Talent Show! Our audience thoroughly enjoyed cheering on the performers, who wowed us with their confidence, creativity and talent. Every participant should be incredibly proud of themselves for stepping onto the stage and giving their best performance. Well done to everyone who took part and helped make the event such a fun and memorable occasion for the whole school community!

A huge congratulations to Mohammad, who was crowned the winner of HCFS Got Talent! His fascinating science fact-based performance impressed both the judges and the audience, showcasing not only his knowledge but also his confidence and presentation skills. A huge well done to Mohammad on his well-deserved victory and for inspiring us all with the wonders of science! 🧪📖🏆



Miss McLoughlin
Y5 Teacher

Year 5 Assembly

Following our recent Year 5 class assembly, we would like to say how incredibly proud we are of all the children. They performed with confidence, enthusiasm and maturity, sharing their learning about some of the topics covered so far this year including Hatfield House, their imaginative chimera writing, and their exciting experiences at Cuffley Camp.

The children spoke clearly, supported one another brilliantly and truly showcased the resilience, teamwork and curiosity that make Year 5 such a wonderful year group. From start to finish, they represented themselves and the school exceptionally well. We genuinely could not have wished for a better performance and would like to thank all the families who attended and supported the children. It was a pleasure to celebrate their achievements together, and we are delighted to have shared some of the many exciting learning experiences from their Year 5 journey so far.



Miss Kaylan
Y2 Teacher

Bright Future Assembly

Bright Futures is a programme that inspires young people to think positively about their future, encouraging them to explore careers, set goals, and make positive choices. Through visits from professionals, pupils learn about different career pathways, the skills needed to succeed, and the challenges people overcome to achieve their ambitions.

Most recently, we welcomed Nurse Justin from Cambridge Hospital, who spoke to the children about her career in healthcare. The children were extremely interested and engaged, asking thoughtful questions about working in a hospital. Previous visitors have included Helena Garik from London Transport, Victoria Bird, Sky News Editor, and Asher Moses, CEO of London Black Cabs. These inspiring talks help raise aspirations, build confidence, and encourage children to believe they can achieve their future goals.



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Out of School Achievements!

		
Competed in a squash tournament	For winning lots of trophies and medals in Tennis competitions for his under-8 age category!	Achieved gold at the St Albans Athletic Championships

Follow us on Social Media!

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Instagram to keep up to date with everything happening at school. We regularly share updates on our learning, celebrate special award winners, and showcase the exciting events and activities taking place throughout the year.

It's a great way to see what your children have been achieving and to stay informed about school life. We look forward to connecting with you online!



Parents/Carers of Hatfield Community Free School



Hatfieldcfs1