

Harwich Community Primary

School and Nursery



Newsletter – Friday 11th Sept '26

OUR FIRST WEEK

What a fab first week we have had. The children have all settled so well to their new routines and getting to know the staff in their classes too.

I have seen them engaged in their 'No Outsiders' work as well as learning the new expectations of the new year and new topic work too! I am so very proud.



MEET THE TEACHER POWERPOINT.

This week our teachers have posted a PowerPoint slide to read through at your leisure about what to expect in the new class. Please do catch up with these as they have some valuable information about what to expect and how to support your children in their new class.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

School Photographs - **Tuesday 29th September**

Hello Yellow Day - **Friday 10th October**

Autumn Half Term- **Monday 26th October- Friday 30th October**

Back to School- **Monday 3rd November**

See separate sheet for Autumn Term dates

IF YOUR CHILD IS ILL

If your child is too ill to attend school, please can you call the school

office and leave a message with child's name, class teacher and the reason for their absence. Please do not leave a message on DOJOS as these can often be missed.

LUNCH TIME MENU

We will be on **week 1** of our lunch menus for next week.

OUR SCHOOL RULES AND VISION

Our school rules are simple and are a common thread in all that we do here at Harwich Community Primary School. They are: -

Be Kind

Be Safe

Be Responsible

We also pride ourselves on our updated vision being:



*At Harwich
Community Primary
School, every child belongs
and every day counts*



NAME IT OR LOSE IT!

Please can we urge you all to label everything. It is much easier to find items when they have been lost, run away or been eaten by the lost property monster.

Why not try our STICKINS labels using this link below or use a sharpie pen on the clothing labels.

[Clothes Name Labels. Stick On School Name Labels, Name Tags: Stikins®](#)

PE TIMETABLES

It is important that PE kits are in school from the very first day. The PE timetable is as follows:



PE Kit Reminder



As we get ready for another exciting year of sport and physical activity, we would like to remind families of our **PE kit expectations**.



Our PE Kit

Children should have:

- **White round-neck T-shirt**
- **Black shorts**
- **Black jogging bottoms** for colder weather
- **Black jacket** for the winter months

Please ensure that all PE kit is **clearly named**, as this makes it much easier for us to return items to their owners!

We want all children to be comfortable, warm and ready to take part in PE throughout the year. As the weather gets colder, children should have their **black jogging bottoms and black jacket** available for outdoor activities.

PE TIMETABLE

Reception- Monday mornings

Year 1 - Monday pm and Tuesday am

Year 2 - Monday pm and Thursday am

Year 3 - Wednesday pm and Friday am

Year 4 - Tuesday am and Thursday om (swimming)

Year 5 - Tuesday pm and Friday am

Year 6 - Tuesday pm and Thursday pm

INFORMATION FOR DROP OFF AND PICK UP TIMES

Drop off

- **Gates will open at 8:45am**
- **All children** will need to be dropped off at the gates
- Children will make their own way to class- no lining up!
- Please do not loiter outside the gate once you have dropped your child/ children off.

Pick Up

- Only one adult/ person to come and collect your children.
- If older siblings are collecting, they need to be 14 or over!
- Please also let grandparents and other family members know too.

PARKING CONSIDERATELY

Please can I remind you to adhere to the parking restrictions and the highway code.

- You can only park in the disabled space if you have a blue badge on display.
- You should not park on the zig zag lines.
- The junction to the little car park in front of our school should not have cars parked on either side.



HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIMES

We would like to remind families about the rules surrounding holidays during term time.

Holidays should not be taken during school term time.

Schools are required to follow national attendance legislation and Essex County Council guidance, which means that requests for leave during term time can only be authorised in **exceptional circumstances**.

Taking a holiday during term time without the school's permission will normally be recorded as an **unauthorised absence**. Where the relevant attendance threshold is met, this can result in a **Penalty Notice being requested from Essex County Council**. The current national threshold is 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school-week period.



♥ **Please be honest with us**

We also want to make an important request to our families.

Please be honest with us about the reason your child is absent.

We understand that families sometimes find themselves in difficult circumstances, and we will always listen and work with you wherever we can. However, if a child is going on holiday, please tell us that this is the reason

rather than reporting them as unwell when they are not.



If we know the true circumstances, we can have an honest and constructive conversation with you and make sure the absence is recorded correctly. It also helps us to maintain a positive relationship with families and, most importantly, to support your child's attendance and education.

We work much better together when we are open and honest with each other. ♥

Every school day matters. Regular attendance gives children the best opportunity to learn, make progress, enjoy time with their friends and take part fully in school life.

For further information, please see the [Essex County Council guidance on school attendance and penalty notices](#).

CLASS DOJO COMMUNICATION
Please can I remind you all to sign up for Class DOJOs, if you are not already. It is where we communicate important information and school events as well as our weekly newsletters, lunch menus etc. You can also send a message to the class teacher or any other member of staff, including myself.

We would like to kindly remind parents and carers that our usual communication hours are **8:00am – 5:00pm, Monday to Friday**.

Our staff work incredibly hard throughout the school day and often go

above and beyond to support our children and families. Once the school day has finished, it is important that they have the opportunity to **switch off, relax and enjoy time with their own families**, just as we all need to do.

We therefore ask that emails, messages and communications with school staff are kept within these hours wherever possible.

We would also kindly ask parents and carers to **avoid using the parent chat facility outside of these hours too**. We appreciate that the chat is a useful way for families to communicate with one another, but we want to ensure that everyone feels able to switch off from school-related conversations in the evening and at weekends, without feeling that they need to respond immediately.

Thank you for helping us to create a culture where we **respect everyone's time, wellbeing and family life**. A happy, rested and supported staff team is better able to give their very best to our children. ❤️

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

ATTENDANCE

Reception Class- 99.2%

Year 1 - 95.7%

Year 2 - 95%

Year 3 - 100%

Year 4 - 90%

Year 5 - 99.2%

Year 6 - 95.3%

Whole school - 96.3%

STARS OF THE WEEK

Reception- everyone

Year 1- Amari

Year 2 - Archie & Kallum

Year 3 - Florence

Year 4- Elbie

Year 5 - Jack

Year 6 - Kiara



PRESENTATION AWARDS

Year 1- Luca

Year 2 - Ayla

Year 3 - Emily

Year 4- Esmae O

Year 5 - Eva

Year 6 - Jessica

OUTSTANDING OTTERS

What a wonderful week our newest little people have had in school. I have been super impressed with how quickly they are settling and enjoying every second of their new school chapter.

