

HPS Newsletter 14.04.26

Tuesday 14th April 2026

Harborne Primary School



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a restful break and enjoyed the brighter evenings that are finally starting to arrive. It has been wonderful to welcome the children back into school yesterday, and we are looking forward to a productive and enjoyable Summer 1 Term.

Staffing Updates

We are delighted to welcome several new colleagues to the Harborne Primary School team this term:

- **Mr Martyn Mellor – Year 5 Teacher**
- **Mr Clem Hardy – Year 6 Teacher**
- **Mrs Chrissy Heard – Designated Safeguarding Lead**
- **Mrs Deborah Julien – Pastoral Assistant**
- **Mrs Katie Pye – Pastoral Assistant**

Each of them brings valuable experience and a strong commitment to supporting our pupils academically, socially and emotionally. Please join me in offering them a warm welcome and wishing them the very best as they settle into their new roles.

Year 6 - Walking home

With the lighter evenings now upon us, Year 6 pupils may walk home independently, provided we have written parental permission. If you would like your child to walk home alone, please ensure the permission form has been completed and returned to school.

Sports Festivals – Exciting News

We are pleased to share that this year's Sports Festivals will take place at a Lordswood School for Boys, offering a safe, secure and spacious environment for all pupils to enjoy. This move will allow us to deliver a more inclusive and engaging experience for every child.

Further details, including timings and arrangements for parent and carer access, will be shared closer to the date.

Year 6 SATs – Supporting Your Child

As we approach SATs, it is important that this remains a calm and manageable period for our Year 6 pupils. We know that children perform at their best when they feel supported, rested and reassured.

Helpful strategies for reducing stress and anxiety include:

- Maintaining a consistent bedtime routine
- Encouraging regular breaks from revision
- Providing reassurance rather than pressure
- Ensuring that each child arrives at school for 8:30am for a healthy, free breakfast Monday - Thursday of SATs week .
- Keeping mornings calm and organised
- Talking openly about any worries your child may have

Our staff will continue to support pupils in school, and we appreciate your partnership in helping them feel confident and prepared.

Key Dates

A reminder to please keep an eye on the key dates that have been shared in newsletters since December 2025. These include assessment windows, enrichment events, transition activities and end-of-year celebrations.

Ofsted Monitoring Visit

We are currently awaiting the outcome report from our recent Ofsted monitoring visit. As soon as the report is received, we will share it with all parents and carers. Thank you for your continued support throughout this process.

Working Together

If you have any concerns or questions at any point this term, please contact your child's Class Teacher or Head of Year in the first instance. We are always here to help and want to ensure that every child feels safe, supported and happy in school.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support and partnership. We look forward to a positive and successful Summer 1 Term.

Warm regards,

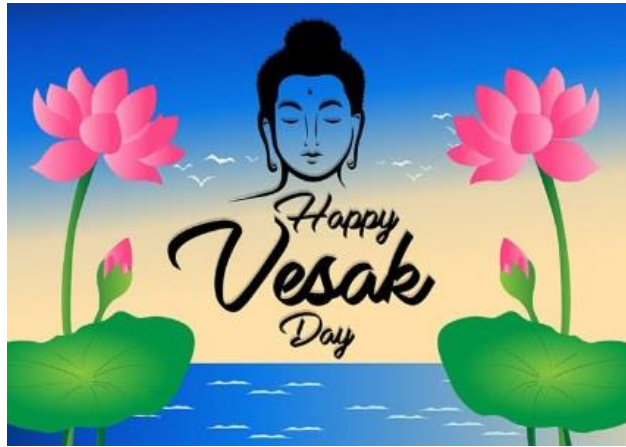
Mrs Francis

Head Teacher

Congratulations!



Huge congratulations to Miss Ball and her husband upon the birth of their baby daughter - Beatrice. We wish you great joy and at least reasonable sleep together!



Each class will focus on a different country and language. The children will spend time learning a few key words or phrases, discovering interesting facts about the culture and exploring traditions, music or stories linked to that country.

As part of the day, each class will also learn about an artist from their focus country. Inspired by this artist, the children will create artwork together. These artworks will be displayed for parents and carers to enjoy at our Languages Day Gallery after school, open until 4pm - please join us and drop in!

The countries, languages and artists chosen reflect the rich backgrounds within our school, with each class focusing on a culture that represents at least one member of their class group. This helps children see their own identities valued and gives everyone the chance to appreciate the diversity around them.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you into school to celebrate the children's creativity and learning. Thank you for your continued support in helping us build a community where everyone feels seen, respected and included.

[The Elliot Foundation Academies Trust \(TEFAT\) - Meeting for Parents and Carers](#)



We welcome back Hugh Greenway, Chief Executive, Accounting Officer and Travis Latham, Senior Regional Director (West Mids) from The Elliot Foundation Academies Trust, to meet with parents and carers again to provide further information and answer your questions about the Elliot Foundation. Please join us at the Annex, on Tuesday 21st April - 9:15-10:15am.

SEND Coffee Meets

Please join us for our next SEND Coffee Meets:

- Thursday 30th April, 9:00-10:00am, Main Site
- Thursday 21st May, 3:00-3:30pm, Annex
- Thursday 18th June, 9:00-10:30am, Main Site
- Thursday 9th July, 9:00-10:30am, Annex



The Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Project



Growing Sunflowers for a Great Cause 🌻

The School Council is excited to be launching a sunflower-growing project across both school sites this term! This lovely initiative will help our children learn more about *hidden disabilities* whilst also raising money for the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Charity.

Over the coming weeks, every class will be involved in planting, caring for and celebrating our sunflowers as they grow.

🌱 Getting started: During class assemblies, the children will learn about hidden disabilities and the importance of kindness and understanding. Each class will choose a small team of “sunflower gardeners” to work alongside their School Councillor and help care for the plants.

🌱 Planting the seeds: The sunflower seeds will be cultivated in classes in small pots.

🌱 Moving outdoors: Once the sunflowers are ready, they will be planted into large planters around the school, with each year group having planters to care for. We are really hoping the whole school community will help look after and respect the plants so they can thrive.

🌱 Caring, learning and fundraising: The gardeners will continue to care for the sunflowers as they grow taller and stronger. We will also be sharing a donation link with families, giving families the opportunity (if they wish) to support the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Charity and sponsor their child’s class.

To add some extra excitement, there will be prizes at both sites:

- 🌻 Tallest sunflower (EYFS, KS1 and KS2)
- ❤️ Most money raised

Thank you for supporting this meaningful project. We can't wait to see our school filled with bright sunflowers — and even brighter conversations about inclusion and understanding.

Charitable Fund-Raising



We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all families for your monetary contributions to our recent charity fundraising events for the Comic Relief and Downs Syndrome Awareness charities. Together, we have raised £105.00 - the ParentPay link is still live if you would like to make a donation. Your support will help to make a real difference.

The children thoroughly enjoyed taking part, wearing their own clothes and odd socks, which helped to create a fun and inclusive atmosphere across the school. More importantly, the day provided valuable opportunities for pupils to learn about the important work of the charities we support. Through discussions and activities, the children developed a deeper understanding that every child has the right to respect, opportunity and care. It has been wonderful to see their empathy and awareness grow.

Thank you once again for your continued support in helping us to nurture kind, thoughtful and socially responsible young people.

Friends' Curry & Quiz Night



CURRY & QUIZ NIGHT

FRIDAY 24TH APRIL

Friends of Harborne Primary parents social.
Hosted by resident quizmaster Stoo Pittaway.
Get your team names ready!
Teams of 4-6.

Venue: Harborne Social Club
Doors open at 7pm
Quiz start time: 7.45pm
Tickets £15 per person
This includes a Vegetarian Curry made by
the incredible Change Kitchen!
Drinks available to purchase.



Dates for your diary



Please see below a list of key dates for your family diary:

Summer Term

- Monday 13th April: First day of Summer Term for pupils
- Wednesday 15th April Y5 & Y6 Author visit – Beth O’Brien
- Friday 17th April: Languages Day (Parents/Carers invited to tour gallery 3:30-4:00pm)
- Tuesday 21st April - Elliot Parent/Carer Q&A Meeting @Annex 9:15-10:15am
- Friday 24th April: Friends’ Curry & Quiz Night at Harborne Social Club
- Monday 4th May: May Bank Holiday (school closed)
- Thursday 7th May: TED 7 (school closed to pupils)
- Friday 8th May: Eid Fest (at Main Site, everyone welcome - 3:35-5:00pm)
- Friday 15th May: Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Sports Festival at Lordswood School for Boys (1:30pm)
- Friday 22nd May: Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6 Sports Festival at Lordswood School for Boys (1:30pm)
- Monday 25th May-Friday 29th May: Half-term holiday
- Wednesday 3rd June-Friday 5th June: Y6 Residential
- Friday 12th June: Disco for children (3:20-5:00pm, both sites)

- w/b 15th June: EYFS Fathers' Day Event
- Friday 26th June: Summer Fair (at Annex, everyone welcome - 3:30-6:00pm)
- Wednesday 1st July: Transition Day
- Tuesday 7th July: Futures Day (STEM focus)
- Thursday 16th July: 'You Choose' Day

Final day of the academic year for pupils

- Friday 17th July: Final day of the academic year for pupils
- Monday 20th July: TED 8 (school closed to pupils)

First day of the academic year 2026-27 for pupils

- Thursday 3rd September: First day of Autumn 1 for pupils

Attendance and Punctuality Matter



We remain committed to supporting all children and families to achieve at least our target of 96% attendance, over the course of the academic year. Learning at school starts at 8:50am every day and it is very important that children arrive on time to access every learning opportunity.

If you would like any support with improving your child's attendance and/or punctuality, please speak to Mrs Brown or Ms Barron.

Medication in School



In line with our Supporting Children with Medical Conditions in School Policy, please note that we cannot administer non-prescription medications in school. Please see the wording from the policy below:

The school does not store or administer non-prescription medication in school. Non-prescription medication should be taken outside of school hours. In exceptional circumstances, the headteacher may authorise a parent/carer to attend school to administer non-prescription medication on the school site; however, this requires written authorisation and is at the headteacher's discretion.

If your child requires prescription medication, please speak to a member of office staff to fill in a consent form.

The policy can be viewed here: [Harborne Primary School - Policies](#)

Healthy Snacks

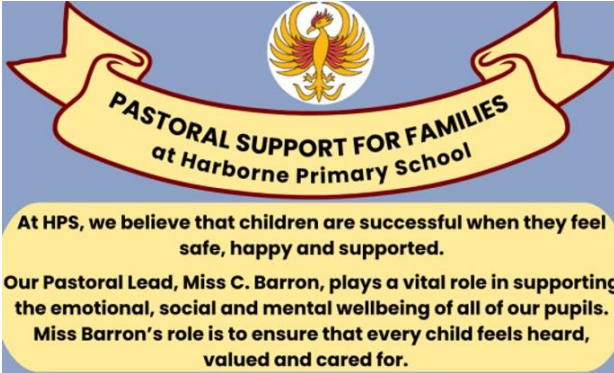


- A reminder that EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 children all receive a portion of free fruit in school, every morning.

- Children in Years 3-6 can bring a healthy snack in for playtime, or can purchase a healthy snack from the kitchen.
- Please note that we are a healthy-eating and nut-free school.

Pastoral support

Please contact Ms Barron if you would like to discuss pastoral support for your child or family. We are very happy to try to support with a range of different situations. Please see the images for more information. Ms Barron can be contacted directly during office hours on 07354 896960.




PASTORAL SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES
at Harborne Primary School

At HPS, we believe that children are successful when they feel safe, happy and supported.

Our Pastoral Lead, Miss C. Barron, plays a vital role in supporting the emotional, social and mental wellbeing of all of our pupils. Miss Barron's role is to ensure that every child feels heard, valued and cared for.

- Emotional Support: Helping children manage feelings like anxiety, sadness or anger.
- Attendance and Behaviour: Working closely with families to improve attendance and develop positive behaviours.
- Early Help and Safeguarding: Identifying when extra support is needed and linking families with the right services.
- Family Liaison: Acting as a friendly point of contact for parents who may need advice, reassurance or someone to talk to.
- Promoting Inclusion: Ensuring every child feels they belong, especially those facing challenges at home or in school.



We have a dedicated phonenumber for parents/carers to contact Miss C. Barron if they require urgent/emergency pastoral support. Tel: 07354896960

Malachi - support for families



To support families at Harborne Primary School, we have work with an organisation called Malachi. They offer professional, therapeutic family support - they are highly regarded within this field and have established relationships with some of our local secondary schools already, including KEVI Lordswood Girls' School.

The link below will take you to their website, so you can get a flavour of what they offer. The 1hr sessions with a professional therapeutic practitioner can take place at either school site, or even at home, and a cycle usually lasts around 12 weeks.

[Home - Malachi](#)

They work primarily with parents but children are at the heart of everything they do, practitioners will include them at key points of the programme.

If you think your family could benefit from working with Malachi, please get in touch with Mrs Walters via our Enquiry email.

Contact Us

If you have any questions or comments, please use the contact details below to get in touch with us.

Harborne Primary School

enquiry@harborne.bham.sch.uk

Station Road

Harborne

Birmingham

B17 9LU

Tel: 0121 464 2705

Harborne Primary School Annex

Court Oak Road

Harborne

Birmingham

B17 9AB

Tel: 0121 464 2705 (Opt 1)

Visit us on the web at <https://www.harborneprimary.co.uk/>