



NEWSLETTER

Monday 2nd June 2025

Message from the Head

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the final half term of our school year! I hope you have all had a restful and enjoyable break, and that the children are feeling refreshed and ready for the exciting weeks ahead.

This final stretch of the summer term is always a special time in school. There's a real sense of celebration in the air as we reflect on the progress made and look forward to the milestones still to come. This Friday, the children will explore potential careers and interests with a STEM focus. We're incredibly proud of all of our pupils already and want them to aim high with their aspirations for the future.

Over the coming weeks, we have a packed calendar of events: from sports days and trips to end-of-year performances and transition activities. These moments are not only fun but also vital in helping our children grow in confidence, build lasting memories, and prepare for the next stage of their learning journey. Please check the calendar dates within this Newsletter and updates on our website so that you don't miss anything!

This season, we look forward to enjoying some warmer temperatures and sunshine (hopefully!) so please ensure that your child/children are equipped every day with a full, school water bottle and sun protection in the form of a named cap/hat and long-lasting sunscreen.

Many of our families will be celebrating holy events this week and we extend our heartfelt wishes to everyone observing Shavuot, Pentecost and Eid-al-Adha. We celebrate the diversity of our community and the values of peace, gratitude, and unity that these special days inspire.

As always, we thank you for your continued support, and truly value our partnership, working together with families.

Kind regards,

Tamsin O'Brien
Acting Headteacher





SCHOOL DIY DAY— WE NEED YOU!



Dear parents of Harborne Primary School

The Friends are really excited to provide more details on the school DIY day which Mrs O'Brien mentioned in the last newsletter.

The day will be an exciting opportunity for parents of the school to come together and help maintain the outside space at Main Site. The jobs will include a general tidy up and clean of outside provisions, painting and planting. No specific skills are required and The Friends would be grateful for any amount of time parents can volunteer to help make this day a great success for the School — without parents, the day just won't be possible.

Details:

- Sunday 29th June at Main site, 9.30am-4pm
- No skills required, just your support and whatever time you can spare
- Refreshments will be provided
- Due to health & safety no children under 14 will be allowed on site
- A full Risk Assessment will be carried out by School and shared with all volunteers

If you are interested in volunteering on the day please join the event Whatsapp group via this [link](#) or if you have any questions please contact Georgia via the Friends email (friendsofharborneprimary@hotmail.com)

Many Thanks
Friends Group



Use of Social Media by children

As we support our children in developing the skills necessary to become safe, successful independent citizens, it is worth checking the age ratings for social media sites and apps that the children may be keen to use.



Facebook has an age-rating of 13+ years meaning that children in primary school should not have their own FB accounts or be using the FB account belonging to someone else without supervision

Please follow the link below to find comprehensive information from the NSPCC on how to help children stay safe on social media.

[What is social media? | NSPCC](#)

GOOD ATTENDANCE MATTERS!



Every school day counts



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

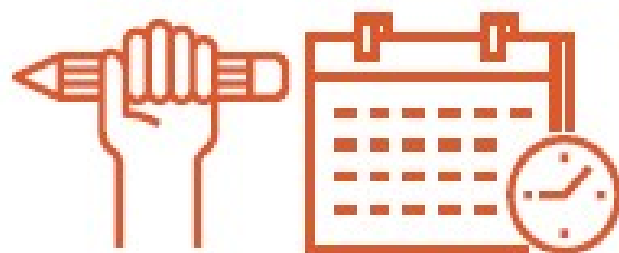
Why is regular school attendance and good punctuality so important for my child?

Regular attendance at school means that your child can make the most of their education and improve their chances in adult life. School can also help your child's social skills such as making and developing friendships.

The link between attendance and attainment in school is clear. The more a child is in school the more they increase their opportunity to fulfil their potential.

Good punctuality is important. For example, if a child arrives 15 minutes late at school each day, they lose almost 2 weeks of education over the year. Good punctuality also helps your child get into good habits for when they enter the world of work.

Lateness can cause your child embarrassment and, in some circumstances, can count as unauthorised absence.



How can I help my child enjoy school and attend regularly?

Be organised, have a plan, be consistent and involve your child!

You should:

- ensure they have an appropriate bedtime routine
- create good routines for mornings at home so that your child can arrive punctually and are properly equipped;
- avoid absence from school wherever possible – try to make doctors and dental appointments out of school hours
- make time to encourage and show interest in school work, friendships etc.
- attend school open evenings and functions
- Create a calm space for them to do homework, check they understand the homework and that it has been completed.
- share any education concerns your child or you may have with the school staff as soon as possible
- set realistic boundaries

Holidays/Leave in term time

Holidays in term time are not allowed. Parents/carers must apply for the authorisation of any leave prior to travel or their children could be reported to the council as missing in education.

Leave for other circumstances such as bereavement or family illness abroad may also not be authorised. Informing the school does not mean the leave is agreed. In the event of a genuine family emergency, parents should avoid requesting more than 5 school days absence. Leave due to weddings is unlikely to be authorised.

Two weeks unauthorised holiday/leave means at least 50 lessons missed that will never be repeated.



What does the law say I must do as a parent/carer?

Once your child is registered at a school, you are legally responsible for making sure they attend regularly. This means your child should not have any unauthorised absence as this would constitute an offence in law.

When attendance doesn't improve after support or, when a minimum of 5 days unauthorised holiday/leave is taken, legal action can be taken.

Courts can fine parents/carers up to £1,000 per child and for repeat offences the court can fine parents/carers up to £2,500 per child or impose a prison sentence of up to 3 months.

In many cases, but not all, parents/carers can discharge an offence by paying a penalty notice of £160 for each parent per child, discounted to £80 if paid within 21 days. For a family of two parents/carers with 3 children that would be at least £480.

Where can I get help and advice?

If you need support in relation to your child's attendance, help is available. Please make an appointment with the school to discuss your concerns.

Most difficulties can be resolved informally, but the staff can also arrange an early help assessment or make a request for support to Birmingham Children's Trust if necessary, with your consent.

School nurses can also be helpful if your child has a medical condition or has a lot of time off due to illness.

Parents/carers are strongly advised to work in partnership with the school to address any difficulties impacting school attendance. For more information about school attendance or if you need help or support, please use these links:

www.birmingham.gov.uk/saap

www.birmingham.gov.uk/love





***Peripatetic Instrument Lessons
Sign-up for September 2025***

***Deadline Wednesday 25th June 2025 12pm.
No payment. No place.***

Payment, registration and instrument selection

Payment, registration, and instrument selection for lessons should be made via Parentpay. Payment will be required upfront. Fees for the Autumn Term will go onto ParentPay on Wed 22nd April. Fees for each term are £110.

The deadline for payment will be **Wednesday 25th June 12pm**. No payments or applications will be accepted beyond this date and time and refunds will be issued.

Your payment of lessons confirms your acceptance of our Terms and Conditions and registration for lessons.

When you have paid for lessons, your ParentPay receipt will secure and confirm your child's place. Lessons are available for children who will be in Year 2-6 in September 2024. (If your child is Pupil Premium, please contact Dawn Foley in the Main Site office before making any payments).

Lessons will begin in the first two weeks in the Autumn Term. Further updates will be shared in September.

Instruments available are as follows:

<i>Available for Years 2 to 6</i>	<i>Available Years 3 to 6</i>
Guitar Violin Recorder	Woodwind Brass Cello



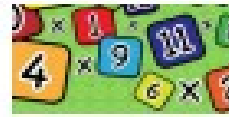
TERMS AND CONDITIONS- IMPORTANT PLEASE READ

- I understand that this is my only opportunity to sign my child up for the next academic year.
- I accept the expectation that my child is committed to have lessons for the duration of the entire academic year.
- I understand that payment will be required in advance of each new term.
- I understand that should the payment deadline for the upcoming term be missed, my child will not be able to continue having music lessons for the remainder of the year.
- I understand that my child can only learn one instrument at school.
- I understand that should we choose not to continue with lessons at any point, we will not be refunded for the term already paid for and my child will be taken off the register for the rest of the year.
- I understand that the Music Service [commit](#) to [offer](#) 30 lessons across the academic year.
- I understand that Music Service teacher absences will be made up in extra weeks should they fall short of the 30-week minimum. Any refunds due will be issued at the end of the academic year.
- I accept that should my child miss lessons due to illness, trips, TED Days, strikes or unforeseen closures, there will be no refunds.
- I understand that my receipt of payment on ParentPay is confirmation of my child's place.
- I understand that lessons are held in small groups of children, lasting for 20-30 minutes.
- I understand that lessons take place during the normal school day (including breaks and lunchtimes). Please note that school lessons may be missed, and timings are non-negotiable. Lessons are scheduled by the music teachers themselves.

- I understand that all communication and enquiries will be between myself and the instrument teacher via the child's practice diary as well as via email (teacher emails will be shared in September).
- I understand that instruments will be loaned by Services for Education - Music Services free of charge. I will ensure that instruments and cases are clearly labelled with my child's name and class. I understand that the school cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage to instruments or contents of cases, either privately owned or belonging to Services for Education - Music Services. All repairs and maintenance costs of Music Service instruments are covered by the Music Service. Any borrowed instrument is returned to school, in good condition, at the termination of this agreement.
- I shall encourage my son/daughter to undertake an appropriate amount of practice each week as directed by the instrument teacher and that he/she brings music, instrument and other materials to the lesson as required.



Multiplication Tables Check 2025



Dear Parent / Carer,

After the half term break, Year 4 children will be taking part in the multiplication tables check (MTC). The purpose of the check is to determine whether your child can fluently recall their times tables up to 12, which can be beneficial for future success in mathematics.

What is the multiplication check?

It is an on-screen check consisting of 25 times table questions, similar to Times Table Rock Stars that we set for your child's homework. Following some practice questions, your child will have 6 seconds to answer each question. The whole test should not take any longer than 5 minutes per child.

How will the results be used?

School will have access to all pupil's results, so like with all assessment, we can identify where the strengths are and if any children need support in the future.

Will you receive feedback on your child's check?

Yes. Your child's score will be included in their end-year-report. However, there is no official pass mark for the check.

Do you need to do anything to prepare for the check?

You don't need to do anything additional to prepare for this check, above the regular opportunities to play on TTRS. We will have opportunities for your child to practice on screens in school, as well as our weekly multiplication tables challenge.

We ask that your child has chance to relax over the half term holiday and come back feeling enthusiastic for their learning!

Further information about the MTC can be found at:

www.gov.uk/STA

Thank you for your support

Regards

Mr Williams and the Year 4 Team



'Happy Pupils Succeed'

These are some of the 'Playful Parrot' behaviours that we aim to encourage and develop on the playgrounds at Harborne Primary.



To support happy and collaborative play we would like to refresh our provision of 'Loose Parts' at both sites. We are again asking for donations of loose part materials that the children can use to combine, construct, manipulate, imagine and experiment - the possibilities are endless!

If you are able to supply anything from the list below (or similar items) or, have a business contact that might be able to help, please bring them to school or contact enquiry@harborne.bham.sch.uk FAO Mrs O'Brien. All materials will be checked for safety before being put out but please be aware that we cannot use any glass, sharp or broken objects. We can however, re-use lots that would otherwise be destined for landfill!

What are the loose parts?

pine cones

conkers

pebbles/shells

feathers

plastic bottle tops

corks

old keys

small metal parts

e.g. washers,

Allen keys

cable reels

pipes/guttering/

tubes/hoses

tyres

plastic bottle

crates

tree circles &

trunk slices

small logs &

wood

large pieces of fabric/blankets

pegs

beads and buttons

chalk

wicker baskets

metal pots, pans, jugs & cups

kitchen utensils & spoons

small world animals

curtain rings & empty cotton

reels

picture frames





Dates in the Diary

Mon 2nd Jun	School re-opens for all pupils
Fri 6th Jun	Y4 Futures Day
11th-13th Jun	Y6 Residential Trip
Fri 13th Jun	9.30-11.00am—Stay & Play Session for new REC intake (main site) 1.30-2.45pm—Stay & Play Session for new REC intake (annex)
Sat 14th Jun	Summer Fair — Annex
Mon 16th Jun	Y5 visit from Planetarium
Tues 17th Jun	Sports Day PM MS EYFS and KS1
Thurs 19 th Jun	Sports Day PM All of KS2
Fri 20th Jun	Y1 Fairytale dress up day
Mon 23rd Jun	EYFS Farm Visit - RS 8.50am—12.30pm RH 11.30am - 3.20pm
Tues 24th Jun	EYFS Farm Visit - RA 8.50am—12.30pm RP 11.30am—3.20pm
Thurs 26 th Jun	Sports Day PM Annex EYFS and KS1
Sun 29th Jun	9.30am-4.00pm School DIY Day (Main Site)
Mon 30th Jun	School Class Photos — both sites
Wed 2nd Jul	Moving Up Day
Thurs 3rd-4th Jul	Y3 Woodland Adventure Trip
Fri 4th Jul	Reports Home (Electronically)
Fri 11th Jul	Break the Rules Day
Tues 15th July	2.15pm — Y1 Assembly (main site and annex)
Wed 16th July	2.15pm — Y1 Assembly (main site)
Thurs 17th Jul	Youth Proms
Fri 18th July	Last Day of Term for Children
Mon 21st Jul	TED Day—School closed for all children

End of Year Reports

This year, we will be sharing the End of Year Reports electronically, on Friday 4th July. For this operation to be successful, please can you ensure that the School Office has the up-to-date email addresses for all parents/carers to be sent reports for their child/children, by Friday 20th June.

Kind regards,
Tamsin O'Brien

WE NEED YOU!



HARBORNE PRIMARY SCHOOL DIY DAY



Sunday 29th June

09:30 - 16:00 at Main site

Scan QR code to join WhatsApp group

Or email Georgia at friendsofharborneprimary@hotmail.com for more details





SUMMER FAIR

**14TH JUNE, 1-4PM
AT THE ANNEX**

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

Bouncy Castle

Games

Biscuit decorating

Face Painting

Crafts & plants

Food & drink

SEE YOU THERE!



Dates for your CALENDAR



We would love to see you at these events.

If you want to help make them possible please email friendsofharborneprimary@hotmail.com or join us at the meeting dated above 8pm, upstairs at The Plough, Harborne