



January 2026

Hungerford Primary School Newsletter



“Pupils are happy, feel safe, and thrive in our caring, ambitious school.” Ofsted March 2025

Our Values

Respect To show determination and perseverance

Resilience To show mutual respect, kindness and understanding of the world and everyone in it.

Responsibility To develop independence and make responsible, safe choices

Principal's Welcome

With the term now well underway, it has been wonderful to see the children settled, engaged, and enjoying their learning. Although the first week of January brought a short interruption due to snow, we are grateful for the understanding and cooperation of

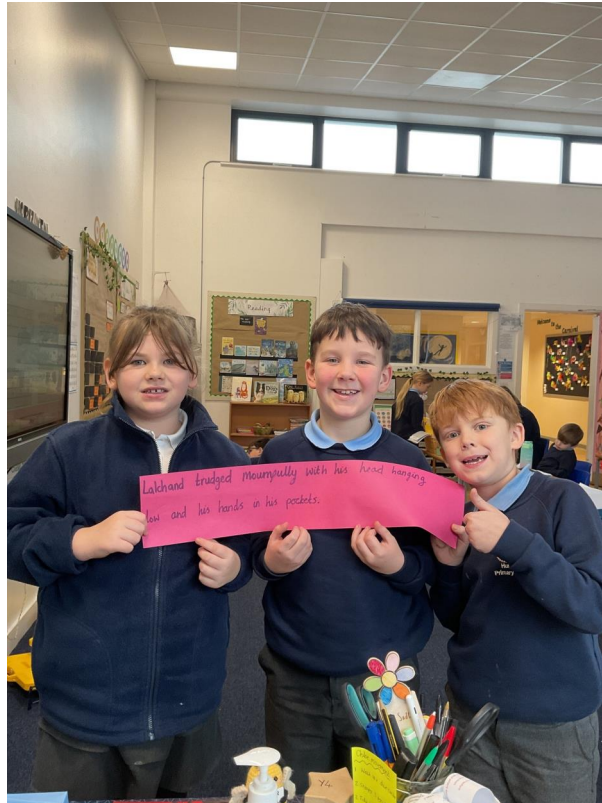
parents during that time. Since then, the school has quickly returned to its usual rhythm, and we are looking forward to the weeks ahead.



Please do follow us on Facebook. Our teachers regularly share photos and updates that give families a glimpse into classroom life and the learning taking place each day. It's a lovely way to see what the children are working on and to celebrate their experiences in school.

Year 4 Class Assembly

Last Monday, the Year 4 children welcomed their families into school for a special assembly. It was a wonderful opportunity for pupils to proudly share the work they have been completing this year and to reflect on their learning so far. The children presented with confidence and enthusiasm, and it was lovely to see so many families joining us to celebrate their achievements.



KS1 Bike Skills Workshop

This year, the Trust has invested in enrichment projects to enhance the experiences of all our children. Last week, it was the turn of Year 1 and Year 2, who took part in a bike-skills programme to develop confidence and control.

The children were fantastic throughout, showing determination, focus, and a real *can-do* attitude. We are incredibly proud of how they approached the sessions, and the instructors were full of praise for the children's enthusiasm and the respect they showed at all times.

Year 1





Year 2





Humanutopia building resilience for transition

As part of a Trust-funded enrichment opportunity, our Year 6 pupils took part in a Humanutopia day, welcoming children from Whitchurch Junior Academy to join them.

The day was practical, engaging, and interactive, giving pupils the chance to think about the challenges they face as they grow up, build confidence, and reflect on their strengths. Children were encouraged to be brave, aim high, and make the most of their time at primary school.

The pupils took part enthusiastically and with real maturity, and it was lovely to see them so engaged and reflective throughout the day. It was a positive and worthwhile experience for everyone involved.



Big Bird Watch

Last week, the children took part in a Big Bird Watch during their outdoor education sessions. Ahead of the national event, pupils enjoyed observing and identifying birds in the school grounds, developing their curiosity and appreciation for the natural world. It was lovely to see such focus and enthusiasm outdoors.





Communication

We kindly ask that any questions or concerns are shared directly with the school rather than between parents. This helps us respond quickly, avoid misunderstandings, and ensure everyone has accurate information. Thank you for your support in helping us maintain clear and positive communication.

Community Concerns about Litter

We've recently been made aware of concerns from members of the local community about litter in the area. While many of our children take great pride in looking after their environment, we know that reminders are sometimes needed.

In school, we'll be reinforcing the importance of responsibility and respect for our shared spaces, and we'd appreciate your support in encouraging children to dispose of litter properly on their way to and from school.

Thank you for helping us maintain positive relationships within our community.

New initiative ...



WOW – Walk to School Challenge

We are excited to be taking part in WOW – the Walk to School Challenge, an initiative that encourages children to walk or wheel to school and build healthy, positive routines. Pupils can earn monthly badges by travelling actively to school at least once a week — including walking, scooting, cycling, or 'Park and Stride'. More information will be shared with families shortly.

Uniform

Our uniform policy forms part of the shared expectations agreed by families when joining the school. The correct uniform helps to create a calm, purposeful learning environment and supports children in developing pride, responsibility, and a sense of belonging.

We would like to remind parents of the following expectations:

- **Jewellery:** Small stud earrings are permitted. No other jewellery should be worn to school for safety reasons.
- **Footwear:** Black shoes or plain black trainers are suitable for the school day. Other trainers should be worn **on PE days only**.
- **PE Uniform:** On PE days, children are expected to **wear the correct school PE uniform**. PE kits should be plain and appropriate for school; sports brands and fashion items are not part of our PE uniform.
- **Outdoor Learning:** Children should wear suitable, practical clothing for outdoor lessons. Clothing should be chosen for comfort, safety, and learning, rather than fashion.

We appreciate parents' ongoing cooperation and support in helping children meet these expectations and arrive at school ready to learn each day. Thank you for working in partnership with us.

Hungerford Sporting News ...

A huge well done to our two Hungerford Dodgeball teams yesterday! They showed outstanding improvement and confidence as the competition progressed and we were signalled out for our sportsmanship and honesty. Overall, Team A won 3, drew 1 and lost 2 whereas Team B won 4 and lost 2. Thank you to everyone who took part and for all your support!



Great news ...

Year 6 pupil Max is a passionate rugby fan and plays for Crewe and Nantwich Rugby Club. He was incredibly lucky recently to meet one of his rugby heroes, Tom Curry. Tom, who plays for Sale Sharks and the British Lions, generously spent time chatting with the

children, signing memorabilia, and sharing his experiences. He was a fantastic role model - an experience the children will remember for a long time.



Star reader



We are continuing with our start reader approach. All the children who read five times this week are entered into our raffle. We have some a wide range of fantastic books for the children to select and keep as a gift from the school.

Reading regularly at home—even just 10 minutes a day—makes a huge difference to children’s progress, confidence, and enjoyment of books. Whether it’s sharing a bedtime story or listening to your child read aloud, every little bit helps build strong reading habits. Thank you for your continued support!

Parking

Please be mindful when parking before and after the school day. We kindly ask that you do not block residents’ driveways or homes. Your consideration helps keep our school community safe and respectful for everyone. Thank you for your support.



We’d love for you to follow us on Facebook! It’s a great way to stay connected and see what’s happening across the school—we’re sharing more updates, photos, and celebrations than ever.

Diary Dates

January

05.01.26 School opens

13.01.26 Infant Movie night

15.01.26 Junior Movie night

15.01.26 Year 4 swimming starts

19.01.26 Clubs start

26.01.26 Year 4 Class Assembly 2:45pm – parents invited

29.01.26 Year 6 Trust event. – Humanitopia building resilience for transition

February

09.02.26 KS1 disco

10.02.26 KS2 disco

10.02.26 Safer Internet Day

12.02.26 School closes

23.02.26 School opens

March

05.03.26 World Book Day

09.03.24 Year 3 Class Assembly 2:45pm – parents invited

20.03.26 End of term report to parents

20.03.26 Last day of clubs

24.03.26 and 26.03.26 Parent consultations times tbc

27.03.26 School closes

Daily reporting of absences

Please report any pupil absences first thing in the morning. There is an absence line where you can press 1 and leave a message. It is important all absences are reported daily to the office.

Attendance



Regular school attendance is really important for giving children the best start in life. Ideally, students should aim to attend 100% of the time. Missing school often can make it harder to keep up with work and may cause extra worry. If you have any concerns about your child's attendance, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

Did you know...?

- A child who is 10 minutes late misses 32 hours a year of education.
- A child who misses 1 day a week loses 2 months a year of education.
- Half a day a week missed throughout school life equates to 1 full year of lost education.

Penalty Notice Fines for School

To help maintain good attendance, the school and local authority may issue penalty notices if attendance rules are broken. Here's how it usually works:

First offence: If your child takes unauthorised leave (like a holiday during term time) or is regularly late without a valid reason, you may receive a warning or a penalty notice. This usually involves a fine.

Second offence: If the issue happens again within a short period, another penalty notice may be issued, with a higher fine. Continued absence without permission could also lead to further action from the local authority.

Third offence: Repeated offences may result in more serious consequences, such as prosecution in court, which can carry larger fines or other penalties. We want to work with families to avoid these situations, so if you have any concerns about your child's attendance, please get in touch with the school office as soon as possible.

If a penalty notice is issued, it usually means a fine will need to be paid. We encourage all parents to make sure their children attend school regularly and on time to avoid these consequences.

Safeguarding

Looking out for our children's well-being is really important to us. If you ever need to talk to someone at school about safeguarding or any welfare concerns, please get in touch with the office on 01270 902057. You can ask to speak to a member of our Safeguarding team: Mrs. Wheaver and Mrs. Carman (Designated Safeguarding Leads), or Mrs. Blackburn and Mrs. Bartrum (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads).

You can also email us at hungerfordoffice@sbmat.org, and the Admin Team will make sure your message reaches the right person who will get back to you. Thank you.

learn to love and love to learn