



July 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 Message

As we reach the end of another wonderful academic year, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been a hugely successful year for Hungerford Primary Academy.

Our children have embraced every opportunity that has come their way, demonstrating our values of **respect, responsibility and resilience** each and every day. From sporting competitions and festivals, educational visits and residential experiences, performances, celebrations and fundraising events, our pupils have represented the academy brilliantly and created many lasting memories along the way.

I am incredibly proud of all that our children have achieved this year, not only academically but also through the way they support one another, contribute to our school community and embody our motto to **"Learn to love and love to learn."**

As previously shared, we will be saying farewell to Mrs Bartrum and Miss Owen at the end of this term. Both have made a significant contribution to the life of Hungerford and have supported countless children and families during their time with us. We thank them for their dedication, care and commitment and wish them every success and happiness in their new roles and future adventures.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to all of our parents, carers and members of the wider community for your continued support throughout the year. Whether attending events, supporting fundraising activities, working alongside us to support your children's learning, or simply championing the school in the community, your partnership makes a real difference. Hungerford is a special place because of the strong relationships we have with our families, and we are incredibly grateful for your trust, encouragement and support.

Finally, I would like to thank our dedicated staff, governors and colleagues across St Bart's Multi-Academy Trust for their commitment and hard work throughout the year. Together, we have ensured that our children continue to thrive and enjoy the very best opportunities.

To our Year 6 pupils, we wish you every success as you move on to the next stage of your journey. To all of our families, thank you for being part of our Hungerford community.

Have a wonderful summer break and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year ahead.

Farewell, Year 6!

As another academic year comes to an end, we say a fond farewell to our wonderful Year 6 pupils. It has been a privilege to watch them grow into confident, resilient and caring young people, and we are incredibly proud of all they have achieved during their time at Hungerford.

Our end-of-year celebrations began with a fantastic production of **Jack and the Beanstalk**, where the children showcased their talents, confidence and sense of humour to delighted audiences. The hard work, enthusiasm and teamwork they demonstrated throughout the production made it a memorable occasion for everyone who attended.

The children also enjoyed their special **Year 6 Gala**, dressing up for the occasion and celebrating together with food, music and a disco. It was a wonderful opportunity for them to have fun, reflect on their time together and create even more special memories before moving on to the next stage of their education.

During the **Leavers' Assembly**, pupils shared memories of their time at Hungerford, reflected on their journey through primary school and celebrated the friendships, achievements and experiences that have shaped them along the way. There were smiles, laughter and a few tears as children, staff and families looked back on the many special moments they have shared.

To conclude the celebrations, our Year 6 pupils took part in the traditional **clap out**, with children and staff gathering on the playground to give them a heartfelt send-off. As they made their way through the crowd of cheering pupils and staff, it was a special and emotional moment for everyone involved, marking the end of their primary school journey and the beginning of an exciting new chapter.

We wish all of our Year 6 leavers every success and happiness as they begin their secondary school journey. We are incredibly proud of the young people they have become and know they will continue to achieve great things. Remember, **once part of the Hungerford family, always part of the Hungerford family**. Good luck, Year 6 – we know you will be amazing

Looking Ahead to 2026–27

Please see the term dates for the next academic year.

Key dates and events for the year will be shared as soon as possible after the start of term in September, so please keep an eye out for a separate communication.

APPROVED HOLIDAYS ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027

HOLIDAY PERIOD	CLOSING DATE (AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY 3.15PM UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED)	RE-OPENING DATE
INSET DAY Tuesday 1 st September		
SEPTEMBER 2026		Staff return on Tuesday 1 st September Pupils return on Wednesday 2 nd September
AUTUMN 2026 Half Term - 26 th October 2026 - 30 th October 2026	Friday 23 rd October	Staff return on Monday 2 nd November Pupils return on Tuesday 3 rd November
INSET DAY Monday 2 nd November		
CHRISTMAS 2026 21 st December 2026 - 1 st January 2027	Friday 18 th December	Staff return on Monday 4 th January Pupils return on Tuesday 5 th January
INSET DAY Monday 4 th January		
INSET DAY Friday 12 th February		
SPRING 2027 Half Term - 15 th February - 19 th February	Thursday 11 th February	Monday 22 nd February Staff & Pupils return on Monday 22 nd February
EASTER 2027 26 th March - 9 th April	Thursday 25 th March	Monday 12 th April Staff & Pupils return on Monday 12 th April
MAY DAY 2027 Monday 3 rd May	Friday 30 th April	Tuesday 4 th May Staff & Pupils return on Tuesday 4 th May
SUMMER 2027 Half Term - 31 st May – 4 th June	Friday 28 th May	Monday 7 th June Staff & Pupils return on Monday 7 th June
SUMMER 2027	Tuesday 20 th July	
INSET DAY Wednesday 21 st July		
INSET DAYS		
Please note that pupils will not attend school on these days:		
Tuesday 1 st September 2026		
Monday 2 nd November 2026		
Monday 4 th January 2027		
Friday 13 th February 2027		
Wednesday 21 st July 2027		

Return to school

Just a quick reminder that we start back on Wednesday 2nd September 2026.

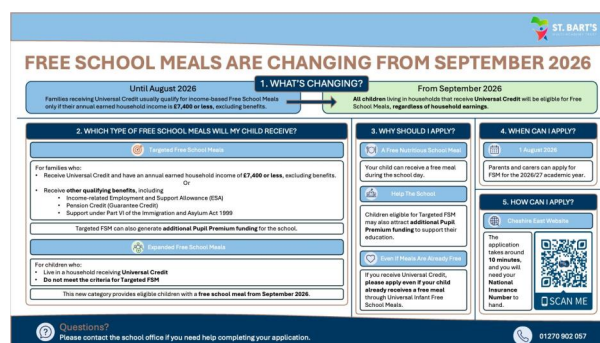
Stay Connected with Hungerford!



Don't forget to follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with everything that's happening across the academy. From celebrating pupils' achievements and sharing exciting learning opportunities to showcasing trips, sporting events and special moments from school life, our Facebook page offers a wonderful window into the vibrant Hungerford community.

We are sharing more updates, photos and celebrations than ever before and would love for you to join us on the journey

Free School meal changes



ST. BART'S

FREE SCHOOL MEALS ARE CHANGING FROM SEPTEMBER 2026

1. WHAT'S CHANGING?

Until August 2026: Families receiving Universal Credit qualify for Income-Related Free School Meals only if their annual earned household income is £7,400 or less, excluding benefits.

From September 2026: All children living in households that receive Universal Credit will be eligible for Free School Meals, regardless of household earnings.

2. WHICH TYPE OF FREE SCHOOL MEALS WILL MY CHILD RECEIVE?

Targeted Free School Meals

For families who:

- Receive Universal Credit and have an annual earned household income of £7,400 or less, excluding benefits. Or
- Receive other qualifying benefits, including:
 - Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
 - Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit)
 - Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Targeted FSM can also generate additional Pupil Premium funding for the school.

Universal Free School Meals

For children who:

- Live in a household receiving Universal Credit
- Do not meet the criteria for Targeted FSM

This new category provides eligible children with a free school meal from September 2026.

3. WHY SHOULD I APPLY?

Free School Lunches

Your child can receive a free meal during the school day.

Help The School

Children eligible for Targeted FSM may also attract additional Pupil Premium funding to support their education.

4. WHEN CAN I APPLY?

7 August 2026

Parents and carers can apply for FSM for the 2026/27 academic year.

5. HOW CAN I APPLY?

Complete Your School

The application takes around 10 minutes, and you will need your National Insurance Number to hand.

SCAN ME

Questions?
Please contact the school office if you need help completing your application.

01270 902 067

School Meals – Ready for September



As we look ahead to the new academic year, we would like to remind families about the importance of pre-ordering school meals through ParentPay.

To help ensure that meal numbers are accurate each day and that children receive their preferred choice, all school meals should be booked in advance, even if your child receives Universal Infant Free School Meals or Free School Meals and no payment is required.

We are still seeing a number of meals that are not being pre-ordered, which can cause difficulties for both our catering team and school staff.

If you experience any problems accessing ParentPay or booking meals, please contact the school office and we will be happy to help.



Uniform

Uniform Reminder for September

As we prepare for the new academic year, we would like to thank parents and carers for your continued support in maintaining the high standards we expect at Hungerford Primary Academy.

Key expectations include:

- Black shoes or plain black trainers
- Navy sweatshirt or cardigan (logo or plain)
- Sky blue polo shirt (logo or plain)
- Dark grey trousers, skirts or pinafores
- No hoodies or branded sweatshirts
- PE kit: white or sky blue T-shirt, navy or black shorts, pumps for indoor PE and trainers for outdoor PE
- Jewellery should not be worn, with the exception of small stud earrings where permitted

- Hairstyles should be appropriate for a primary school setting, with no shaved patterns, extreme styles or unnatural hair colours

We understand that occasional issues can arise, and we simply ask that you let your child's class teacher know if there is a temporary difficulty.

If you are experiencing challenges sourcing uniform, please do not hesitate to contact the school office. We have a range of good-quality, nearly-new uniform items available and are always happy to help.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring that all children arrive at school ready to learn and proud to be part of the Hungerford community. Together, we can maintain the high standards that make our school such a positive place to learn and grow.

Daily reporting of absences

If your child is unable to attend school, please ensure that you inform the school office as soon as possible on the morning of their absence. You can do this by calling the school and selecting **option 1** to leave a message on our dedicated absence line.

To help us safeguard all pupils and maintain accurate attendance records, it is important that **every absence is reported to the office each day that your child is absent**.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep our children safe and accounted for

Attendance



Good attendance is one of the most important factors in helping children achieve their full potential. Every day in school provides valuable learning opportunities, helps children build friendships and routines, and supports their overall wellbeing.

We encourage all pupils to aim for the highest attendance possible. Even a small amount of missed learning can quickly add up, making it more difficult for children to keep pace with the curriculum and feel confident in their learning.

Thank you to all of our families who work hard to ensure their children attend school regularly and arrive on time each day. If you are experiencing any difficulties or have concerns about your child's attendance, please contact the school office. We are here to work in partnership with you and provide support wherever we can.

Every day counts, and together we can help every child make the most of their education.

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

Penalty Notices may be issued for:

Term time Leave: Penalty Notice fines may be issued for term time leave of 5 or more days (10 sessions) in a 10-week period.

10 Sessions of Unauthorised absence in a rolling 10 week period: A Penalty Notices may be considered when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period.

However, school retain the discretion to request a Penalty Notice before the threshold is met. For example, where parents/carers are deliberately avoiding the national threshold by taking several term time holidays below the threshold.

Per Parent/Per Child:

Penalty Notice fines will continue to be issued per parent/carer per child. For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent/carer receiving 3 separate fines.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for term time leave or irregular school attendance the fine will be charged at:

£160 per parent/carer, per child if paid within 28 days of the issue, reducing to £80 per parent/carer, per child if paid within 21 days.

(Unpaid penalty notices may result in a parental prosecution)

Second Offence

Where it is deemed appropriate to issue a second penalty notice to the same parent/carer for the same pupil within 3 years of the first penalty notice, for either term time leave or irregular attendance the second penalty notice will be charged at:

£160 if paid within 28 days. (Unpaid penalty notices may result in a parental prosecution)

Third Offence

On the third time that an offence is committed within 3 years of the first penalty notice for either a term time leave or irregular attendance a penalty notice will not be issued.

The Local Authority may place the matter before the court. The Magistrates may impose a fine up to £2500.

The case may proceed to Parental Prosecution under the Single Justice Procedure. If found guilty of the offence of 'Failure to send a child to school' the Magistrates can impose a fine up to £1000 or legal proceedings under Section 444 (1a) can include a fine of up to £2500.

Safeguarding

At Hungerford Primary Academy, the safety and wellbeing of our children is at the heart of everything we do. We are committed to ensuring that every child feels safe, supported and valued, and we encourage parents and carers to contact us if they have any concerns about a child's welfare or wellbeing.

If you would like to speak to a member of our Safeguarding Team, please contact the school office on **01270 902057**. Our safeguarding leads are:

- **Mrs Wheaver and Mrs Carman** – Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs)
- **Mrs Blackburn and Miss Tomley** – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSLs)

You can also email **hungerfordoffice@sbmat.org**, and our Admin Team will ensure that your message is passed promptly to the most appropriate member of staff.

We believe that strong partnerships between home and school are essential in keeping children safe, happy and able to thrive. If you are worried about a child, no matter how small the concern may seem, please do get in touch. We are here to listen and help.

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