NOVEMBER 2024

HALSFORD PARK NEWSLETTER



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Dear families, parents and carers,

Welcome to the November edition of our monthly newsletter where we are all starting to get excited about Christmas. Big thanks to our PTA for decorating the school and arranging what is sure to be an enjoyable Christmas Fair. I hope to see as many of you as possible tomorrow Saturday 30th November.

Parent Forum

On Tuesday 26th November, Mrs Durrant consulted with the forum on an Induction checklist for families joining our community during the school year i.e. creating an overview of what we can do to ensure the best possible transition when joining our school. Thank you for all that contributed. One of the ideas was to hold a Conversation Café every half term to invite families new (or old) to the school to join myself or Mrs Durrant for a hot drink and a biscuit where we can answer any questions or talk through school life/share resources with you. Dates to be agreed. We will have the minutes sent out to parents shortly.

Friendly Reminder

As discussed in Parent Forum, please be reminded that children need to have hair tied back for PE and if below the shoulders, be tied/pinned back so not to get in the way of their learning/covering their eyes. It also stops the spread of head lice. https://halsfordparkprimaryschool.co.uk/wp-

content/uploads/2024/11/School-Uniform-Requirements-November-2024.pdf



Can we also remind that bikes and scooters are not permitted to be ridden on school premises (so not down the drive or in the playground) – this includes any younger siblings. This is to ensure the safety of all our community. Thank you in advance. https://halsfordparkprimaryschool.co.uk/wp-

content/uploads/2024/11/Halsford-Park-Parent-Carer-Code-of-Conduct-2024-2025.pdf

Quick Links

Please click here

<u>Chartwells West Sussex</u> <u>ParentPay</u>

Brigade Uniform
Ordering

PTA Secondhand
Uniform

School Gateway
Payments

Register for Cool Milk

Whole School Overview

The Halsford 100

Homework Guide

Parents & Carers
Code of Conduct

Attendance & Sickness Information



Online safety: Nintendo Switch

Each newsletter, I will continue to include a top tips poster around an area of online safety. This month's is an overview of what parents need to know about the Nintendo Switch. We hope you find this useful.



E-Safety workshop for parents and carers- 26th November

We hosted an E-Safety Workshop on Wednesday 26th November which I know those who attended found very useful. A huge thank you to Mrs Wilcox for preparing and leading, as well as Miss Loftus for providing a cinema club for childcare. A copy of the presentation as well some useful resources can be found on our website https://halsfordparkprimaryschool.co.uk/internet-e-safety/

Children in Need-Friday 15th November



We had a wonderful day raising money for Children in Need and enjoyed seeing the children in their colourful spots and Pudsey outfits! Thank you all so much for your generous donations to Children in Need, together we raised an incredible £434.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal- November



Thank you to everyone who sent their child in with donations for the Poppy Appeal.

In total we raised a fantastic £409.28 for this worthwhile cause.

First Aid Training for Children- 21st November

Last week, the children were able to engage in a First Aid workshop led by Life Safety Training and funded by our PTA. The workshops were planned and structured to progressively teach the children about a range of topics from calling the Emergency Services to give to our younger children, up to practising CPR on dummies.

No doubt the children will have lots to teach you about! Thank you, as always, to our PTA for funding this PSHE

enrichment experience.











The Switch is a hybrid console released by popular video game company Nintendo in 2017. It's classed as a hybrid because it's designed to be played both at home on a television, like traditional consoles (think a PlayStation or an Xbox) or out and about like a portable console, such as a GameBoy. It uses two detachable and wireless 'Joy-Con' controllers on either side of the con sole's screen, which can be used by one or two players. The Switch can be played on the internet with the purchase of Nintendo Switch Online, in the living room together or on the go during long journeys, but bear in mind it needs to be charged just like anything else!





NINTENDO SWITCH ONLINE



ONLINE DANGERS

While online, your children will be able to play with and chat to people on compatible games, which will mostly be good-natured fun, but could potentially expose them to vulgar language, indecent images or worse. There are options to limit this though, which are detailed below. It's worth remembering that many games can be played offline, so while it's not essential to get Nintendo Switch Online, it is certainly something to consider.



NINTENDO eSHOP

The Nintendo eShop is where games can be purchased over the internet and downloaded directly onto the device. If you choose to enter your bank details (or PayPal account) onto the Switch, you can save them for easy access later on. Do note however that these can be viewed by anybody with access to the console, unless you specify otherwise. A child might accidentally purchase a game or item from the shop if these details are left improperly protected, which could leave you with a nasty surprise.

NINTENDO'S VIDEO GAME SELECTION



PORTABLE GAMING





PARENTAL CONTROLS

PAREN I AL CON
Nintendo released a free
downloadable app that can be
used in tandem with the
Switch called Nintendo Switch
Parental Controls. Once you've
got the app on your mobile
device, it's a simple process to
pair your two devices, giving
you a suite of options to help
make sure your child is having
fun in a safe and structured
environment curated by you.



ONLINE RESTRICTIONS

Another major inclusion in the app is the ability to block your child from seeing anything to do with age restricted games. There's also an extremely helpful feature that restricts access to games that have free communication features between strangers on the internet. This includes things like private messages and unsolicited images. Should you be concerned that strangers might be using the games to talk to your child, a simple press of a button will disallow any access they might have.

PLAYW ITH YOUR CHILD

One of the wonderful things about the Switch is that there are an abundance of great games you and your child can enjoy together, and even with the whole family. Nintendo has a long history of making and supporting fun, family friendly games like Mario Kart and Mario Party, both of which can be played with two or more players using the Joy-Con controllers.



NINTENDO ESHOP SETTINGS

In the Nintendo eShop you can set up a password to help stop your child or somebody else from accessing any sensitive information, such as bank account details. The options here include entering a password to access the eShop to begin with, when any saved credit card information access is attempted, or when PayPal is accessed, choosing which areas are password protected helps ensure you're deciding what level of access is given on the device. For example, if you're happy to have your child browse the shop for games they might want, you can allow access to the eShop but introduce the password before a purchase is made ensuring no mishaps occur.



LIMITING PLAYT IME

By linking the app with the Nintendo Switch, you can set time limits and reminders when you think enough time has been spent playing. It also lets you see if a game is still being played and gives you the option to automatically put the console into sleep mode if the message is ignored. This should only be used as a last resort though as it could cause some friction between you!

SET PLAYTIMES

Another handy feature is the ability to set different playtimes for days of the week, allowing you to tailor play time around you and your child's schedules. This is great for setting boundaries and encouraging gaming as part of a healthy routine. It will also help your child organise with their friends when they can all be online.



SEE PLAY HISTORY

The Nintendo Switch Parental
Controls app can also send a report
telling you how much time your
child spends playing each game.
This is a great way to spot their
favourite or most played games and
might be a nice way for you to find
out more about a title before talking
to your child about it. It could also
help identify any possible issues
around playtime before they arise.



Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for S years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNI LAD Gaming and GAMINGbible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.











https://www.nintendo.com/switch/system/, https://www.nintendo.eo.uk/Support/Parents/Safety/Keeping-your-child-safe/How-does-Nintendo-keep-your-child-safe-888083.html, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PLdWHOW9zqc, https://www.nintendo.eo.uk/Nintendo-Switch/Nintendo-Switch-Online/Nintendo-Switch-Online/Nintendo-Switch-Online/Nintendo-Switch-Online-1183143.html









Early Years

In Early Years we have enjoyed learning about ways to keep our bodies healthy, including thinking about the foods we eat, keeping our teeth clean and getting enough sleep as well as plenty of exercise.



We enjoyed making and tasting pumpkin soup. We all had a go at exploring the ingredients and mixing everything we needed together - delicious!

We are hoping to learn more about looking after our teeth and the job of a dentist when people from Bluebell Dental come to visit us next week.

We have been working hard to use our phonics sounds to write letters to Santa. We then took our first trip out and all walked to the Post Office to each post our letter in the post box. We eagerly await our replies!

We are also busily rehearsing for our Christmas performance and are enthusiastically learning words and actions to some fun Christmas songs.

Year 1

The children have been working so hard in our English lessons where they have been writing sentences using a full stop and capital letter. We have characters in Year 1 to help us remember these and these are 'Noodle' and 'Titch.' Please ask your child at home if they can tell you what these characters mean. Also, as part of our English lessons we have been inventing things using junk modelling and construction. This helps us with our ideas and imagination for writing. Have a look at some of the creations we have made at school.

In Maths we have been using resources to help us with subtraction. We have been working on calculations with numbers less than 10 at the moment to secure our knowledge of what subtracting means. We have used counters and number lines to help us solves these calculations.

In DT we have been designing a piece of playground equipment either a swing or slide and over the coming weeks we will be using a range of joins we have learnt in lessons to create these and we look forward to sharing some of our finished work with you over the coming weeks.

We were so proud of how the children showed all of our core values during our First Aid workshop. They learnt about big and small accidents, what number to call in an emergency and practised putting each other into the recovery position.











Year 2

In Year 2 we have been enjoying learning about the Great Fire of London and really enjoyed our workshop with the Rainbow Theatre this week, we learned lots of interesting facts which we will be using to write our own fact files over the next few weeks.

In English, we have written descriptive paragraphs using our senses to say what we might have seen and heard on the streets during the Great Fire of London, we have worked hard to include expanded noun phrases and are starting to challenge ourselves by starting our sentences in different ways.

In maths, we have been practising adding and subtracting, using our number bonds to help us to do this mentally. We have been using resources such as dienes, Numicon and counters to represent our learning in different ways.

We have started learning about William Turner in our art lessons and are looking forward to creating our own pieces of artwork in his style over the next few weeks.

We have also been busy rehearsing our nativity, which we are very excited to share with all of our families very soon.

Year 3

Year 3 have been superstars again, engaging enthusiastically with all the recent learning and soaring to success.

We had a fantastic trip to Butser Ancient Farm; the children learnt so much and were a credit to Halsford Park School. They had an amazing time exploring houses from different periods and finding out about how life was before, during and after the Stone Age.

We followed up with an investigation into what life might have been like in the Stone Age by building a shelter to protect them from the elements in their Outdoor Learning Sessions. We are looking forward to making Egyptian flatbread as part of our Fabulous Finish!

In Maths we have been continuing our work on addition and subtraction whilst learning how to add and subtract using the column method. We have been Maths superstars!

In English we have written a Stone Age poem and are currently identifying the features of newspapers, so that we can produce our own Egyptian related newspaper article. We are really looking forward to the learning

ahead of us.









Year 4

Year 4 have had a fantastic start to the Autumn 2 term. We have begun our learning about the Romans, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings and found out about the many invasions that took place in Britain! In English, we have been planning, drafting, editing and publishing newspaper articles all about the story 'Beowulf' which originated as an Anglo-Saxon poem written sometime between the 8th and 1lth century. We have loved finding out about this gruesome tale and adding eyewitness accounts to our newspapers. In Maths, we have been deepening our understanding of times tables, using formal and informal methods to multiply and divide numbers up to the 12 times tables. We have been using manipulatives (resources), songs and written methods to help us. We also enjoyed taking part in first aid training in which we learned how to put someone in the recovery position, wrap a burn and support someone with a cut. We are looking forward to more exciting learning this half term and to the carol concert taking place at St Swithun's church on Wednesday 4th December.

Year 5

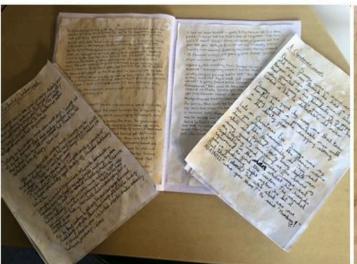


What a stunning start Year 5 got off to this half term! Two weeks ago, the children had the opportunity to experience first-hand life in the WW1. We visited replica trenches at the Centre for Experimental Military Archaeology and handled original artefacts. Genuine mustard gas alarms, periscopes and gas masks were just a few of the items the children handled. The whole experience transported us all back in time and made for a very valuable and immersive learning experience. Incidentally, a big thank you to all the parents who have provided plastic bottles and stones .The stones will be painted later on in the term, and distributed around the town to see if any return to school. This activity will teach children about how soldiers went off to

war and how few returned. It is lovely to see and hear the children 'show and tell' as these are primary historical sources of evidence. It allows pupils to really make that connection with the past and our ancestors.

In Maths, our timetables have come in very useful as we have been learning about factors, multiples, prime, squared and cubed numbers. We have now moved onto fractions and these can prove challenging if the child is not familiar with their multiplication tables so please encourage them to keep practising on Times Tables Rockstars at home. This can be accessed on a laptop or phone and the children know their login and password details. Keep being so enthusiastic with this great WW1 topic, year 5!





As at was nearing the end of the day. Scrooge decided to pack up so he clotched his briggers and made his way to the delapidated door. He look a fleeling look around the cold room and his eyes gell upon Bob Cratchets disk. "What a lot of nonesense." He thought to himsely withinstanas... Ban himbug! "He prepared himsely for the next day, withinstanas... Ban himbug!" He prepared himsely for the next day, by laying out heaps of paper on the floor. The counting house was much like Borooges mind: Cold, empty, dark and onloved. Gtopping outside of the door, the cold hit him like a hammer. He slowly walked on the blanket of snow, leaving footprints imprinted on the Snow. The walk Seemed long and neverending, but for Scrooge this was a chance to think about money and his earnings. As he reached his mansion he trudged up the steps that he bnew so well as outer every countless, lebourious day he came up these stairs. He hobbled into the sitting room which had absolutely no Pictures or menones as there was a hole in his sold where his love should've been.
Unsurprisingly, the room was solemn and uninviting with no Cackling of a griendly fire.

Year 6

Year 6 have been working exceptionally hard recently! Over the past week, we have completed mock SATs papers and have tackled them with an excellent attitude. We've also been writing narratives based on Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol. The pupils have been focusing on including ambitious vocabulary to describe Scrooge and to build tension before the spirits arrive. We will be moving on to write biographies of Queen Victoria.

In maths, we have been looking at all things fractions: adding them; subtracting them; multiplying them; dividing them and converting mixed numbers and improper fractions.

Outdoor Learning Day-8th November





The children had a fantastic time during our Outdoor Learning Day . The weather was the best we have had for our outdoor learning day meaning the children were out for most of the day. The children were able to enjoy taking part in a range of lessons all of which took place outside. KS2 took part in an English lesson where they acted out telling a story as well as an art lesson where they drew their pictures on the playground in chalk and also a Geography lesson looking at our school on maps and trying to recreate it with natural materials. KS1 went on a scavenger hunt and also used their art skills to create a mask and did some leaf rubbings. Early Years took a walk on the field looking at areas of the school they have not yet been to and enjoyed looking for natural items.

Barclay's Girls' School Partnership- Equal Access School for the Year 2024

Halsford Park have been given an award by the Barclay's Girls' School Partnership for being an Equal Access School for the Year 2024. This is due to our participation in the day of girls' football last academic year and our open offer for football. It has been great to see so many girls putting themselves forward to represent the school in football. Girls have attended our after school football club and go to D&D Footie Focus. The impact is being seen on the pitch with our recent good results in girls' competitions. There are still more fixtures to play and we will be looking to give some more children the opportunity to take part. Mr Stepney





Key Stage 1 Badminton Festival- 13th November



On Wednesday 13th November, ten, year 2 children came with me to Imberhorne Upper for a badminton festival. It was run with the support of Year 11 pupils, many of which were exstudents of Halsford Park. The children had six stations to work around, which were planned to improve their basic skills. I was so proud of the children's enthusiasm and the effort that they displayed. They listened really well and showed our core value of courage to try everything. Well done HP! Mrs Mackay

Year 5 and 6 Netball League- 13th November

Halsford Park competed in the Netball League at East Grinstead Sports Club and the team played really well-working together as a team with any combination of the players - they definitely showed all of our core values. They managed to win 2 out of the 3 matches too- awesome work! We were especially proud of their cooperation and teamwork. Mrs Sheldrake

Scores were-

Match 1 vs Baldwins Hill - 4:1 Match 2 vs Blackwell - 6:4 Match 3 vs Escots - 3:8











On Thursday 14th November 12 children from year 5 and 6 took part in a range of sporting events involving both track and field events. These ranged from javelin to relays. The children were very enthusiastic and really enjoyed competing against children from other schools. They showed great sportspersonship and were cheering their team on when they were not taking part. Well done to all involved. We came 8th Overall. Well done everyone. Mrs Sears

Year 5 Sports Crew- 20th November

A big well done to the twelve year 5 children who participated in the 'Sports Crew' training at Imberhorne. They all worked very hard planning their chosen games and enjoyed interacting with the children from the other schools. They will now use their skills to support our Key Stage 1 children at lunchtimes. Miss Harris





Year 5 and 6 Boys and Girls Football Competition- 20th November



The football leagues at East Grinstead Sports Club got back underway on the 20th with the Boys A Team playing two fixtures and the Girls team playing three games. The boys played some great passing football and scored in both games - Elliott (pictured) scoring the goals.

The girls played some excellent football and battled hard in the bitterly cold conditions. Evie and Anya (pictured) getting their names on the scoresheet more than once and Eve keeping a clean sheet in all three games! Mr Busse & Mr Stepney

Halsford Boys A 1 Copthorne 0 Halsford Boys A 1 Crawley Down 2 Halsford Girls 3 The Meads 0 Halsford Girls 1 Copthorne 0 Halsford Girls 1 St. Peters 0

Key Stage 2 New Age Kurling and Boccia- 27th November

Congratulations to our New Age Kurling team and Boccia players!

Some of our Key Stage 2 children attended a festival this week at Imberhorne Upper, which introduced them to the sports of Kurling and Boccia. We had two teams and each group had 4 kurling stones. The teams took it in turns to push the stones towards the target.

The winning team scored points for all their closest stones (on the target) until the opposite team's stone come into play. Our pupils played some incredible shots and came away excited by their new skills. Well done to all who participated. You were, as usual, great ambassadors for Halsford Park School and good sports! Mrs Manville



Girls Mid Sussex Active Football Final- 27th November

Having won the East Grinstead area tournament earlier this year, the Halsford Park Girls' football team went to the MSA finals at St Paul's College on the 27th November.

The top 6 of all 40 schools who entered the local area tournaments – attended. Each of the 6 teams who were in attendance had either won, or finished second in their local area tournament.

Our first game we come up against the eventual tournament winners, Windmills – who will go to the Sussex County Finals. The Windmills passed the ball round the pitch brilliantly and kept us in our own half for most of the game. Halsford's girls defended amazingly and almost managed to force a draw against very good opposition. In the end, we fell to a 1-0 defeat in the opening game.

We followed this up with two more tough games, against St Wilfrid's (Hayward's Heath) and Bolnore. In these games, the girls found their rhythm and had a lot more of the ball, eventually coming away with 1–0 victories in both games. Anya and India scoring the goals with brilliant finishes from outside the penalty area.

Our fourth opponent was a familiar one, in the form of Crawley Down, with whom we drew 0-0 in the East Grinstead Area tournament. Once again, we were unable to be separated – our girls doing tremendously well to fight back from a goal down to equalise through India.

In our final game of the MSA finals, the goals started to flow and we came away with a 3-0 win against Birchwood Grove. Sofia and Ella both turning in corners from Anya, with Anya herself adding her second goal of the tournament. Halsford Park finished 2nd in the final standings and each player received a silver medal. Well done to: Eve for her commanding performances in goal; Lottie and Maia for their tremendous performances at the back; Holly, Sofia and Amelie for their non-stop energy, determination and willingness to win the ball back; India and Anya for their constant running and goal threat and also to Ella who played through injury in the finals and still managed to score us a goal! Well done to the team for representing Halsford Park so well in this tournament. Mr Stepney







School Council



School council has been very busy already as we aim to reduce lost property throughout the school. In line with our Responsibility core value, we want to encourage all children to look after their belongings. Each year group is creating a reminder poster for their classroom. We are also going to create a league table to encourage awareness. School Council are going to survey their class and total how many students have their name in their jumper, cardigan and jacket. With the totals we can generate a league table. We want to check regularly and keep the table up to date! We are really hopeful that this will have a positive affect for all. Mrs Mackay

Eco Council

The Eco Council is busy surveying the school for this years Environmental Survey. The results of this will determine what the focus of the environmental projects are this year. We have 10 topics that we look at: Biodiversity, Energy, Global Citizenship, Healthy Living, Litter, Marine, School Grounds, Transport, Waste and Water. The following link gives more detail; https://www.eco-schools.org.uk/ten-topics/ A Big Thank You to everyone that helped their child with November's 'Cut Your Carbon' project. We are tallying all this results this week, calculating the Carbon savings and proudly displaying our final figures as a whole school. We are sure it will be an impressive number! Mrs Lochwood

Top Tips



Less Oven Time

If you've got an air fryer or a microwave, you can save money by using them instead of the oven. For example, according to the BBC, cooking a jacket potato in the oven would cost £1.02 - but 26p in an air fryer and just 5p in a microwave!



Winter Tip! Check your pipes: Insulate your pipes with lagging inside and outside your home and fix any drips. This will prevent your pipes from freezing

Eco Celebrities at Halsford Park

In acknowledgement of Cain and Oscar's rubbish walk, they were asked by the East Grinstead Mayor to switch on the town's Christmas lights last weekend.

Both of them were extremely excited and proud to have such an amazing responsibility. Did anyone spot them?

Well done boys, what an honour!







How to become a volunteer at Halsford Park

We are always looking for members of our school community to come and volunteer at school to help our children. Volunteering is a great way to give back to the local community and we have seen the benefits of having volunteers coming into school to help with reading, gardening etc. It can also be a great way to gain experience of working with children if this is a career you are considering. Most of our volunteers currently work to support children with reading; however, if you have a passion for outdoor learning and gardening, and you are free on a Friday afternoon, then helping out with outdoor learning may be for you! We will provide safeguarding training to all volunteers.

For more information, please see our website: https://halsfordparkprimaryschool.co.uk/guide-for-volunteers/

Amazon Wish List

If you would like to make a donation via the Halsford Park Amazon wish list the link is https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1W92U15ZTOXUK?ref_=wl_share We open each package with a sense of excitement and are extremely grateful for every donation.



Early Years Intake 2025



Do you have, or do you know a child born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021? If so, they are eligible to start school in September 2025. We have set the dates for our Early Years tours – please see our website for details about booking in a visit.

Early Years Prospective Parents – Halsford Park Primary School Applications can be made online at www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions from Monday 7th October at 9am. For further advice or information please contact 03330 142 903. The deadline is Wednesday 15th January 2025. Please spread the word of how great our school is!

Welcome back

We will be welcoming back Miss Charley Thomas to school in the last week of December. She is returning from her maternity leave to teach alongside the Year 2 team on a Monday and Tuesday as well as covering any teachers across the school. She has already been back in to visit the children who were all very pleased to see her.

Thank you for your continued support.

With very kind regards Mrs Claire Spencer - Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

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November		Class Assemblies - 9.00- 9.30am	
30th	PTA Christmas Fair 2-5pm	17th Jan	6DS Class Assembly
December		24th Jan	5JM Class Assembly
4th	Key Stage 2 Carol Concert	31st Jan	6CB Class Assembly
6th	Early Years- Find Out Friday 2.40pm	28th Feb	3RD Class Assembly
10th	KS1 Christmas Performance– EYSG Parents watching	7th March	1GS Class Assembly
	KS1 Christmas Performance-	14th March	1MS Class Assembly
10th	2BG Parents watching	28th March	5IG Class Assembly
11th	KS1 Christmas Performance– 2LS Parents watching	4th April	3WR Class Assembly
11th	KS1 Christmas Performance- 1MS Parents watching	2nd May	2BG Class Assembly
11111		9th May	2LS Class Assembly
12th	KS1 Christmas Performance- 1GS Parents watching	20th June	4DN Class Assembly
12th	KS1 Christmas Performance- EYKS Parents watching	27th June	4JW Class Assembly
		4th July	Early Years Class Assembly
18th	Chartwells Christmas Lunch	11th July	Early Years Class Assembly
20th	Last Day of Term	<u> </u>	, , ,
21st- 5th	Christmas Holidays		

January 2025			
6th	INSET Day- School Closed to children		
7th	Return to School		
16th	Year 4- Hindleap Warren - Parents Meeting 2.30pm- <i>details to follow</i>		

Sporting Events Calendar - Autumn Term 2024

https://halsfordparkprimaryschool.co.uk/wpcontent/uploads/2024/09/PE-events-Autumnterm-2024.pdf

Community Events







