

JUNE  
2026

# HALSFORD PARK NEWSLETTER



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Dear Families, Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our June newsletter after what has been quite an unprecedented week. I would like to extend my thanks to the staff team for continuing to provide an education for our pupils. I would like to thank the family community for your support and understanding when we had to change the school day timings at very short notice. But mainly I would like to congratulate the pupils on their resilience during this heat. Phonics, the Year 6 production rehearsals, writing tasks have all continued albeit at a calmer, slower rate. I am very proud of you all.

## PTA Summer Fair- 13<sup>th</sup> June

A huge thank you to all that came to our PTA Summer Fair this month. It was such a fantastic afternoon - a huge thanks to all the staff, family, pupils and of course our fantastic PTA for volunteering and organising. We are yet to find out the total but it definitely is over £3000 - all proceeds going towards our goal of refurbishing our Learning Labyrinth.

## Halsford Cup- Summer 1 Results



Apologies these scores were delayed at the end of the term - we were busy with Diversity Day and Sports Day! But better late than never, the results for Summer 1's Core Value totals were:

Fire 10,037 Earth 10,986 Water 8630 Air 10,489

A huge well done to team Earth for a hugely impressed final total!

## Moving On and Moving Up - Transition Arrangements

As per our email on 25th June, we will be sending out the teaching structure for the next academic year, and telling the children today who their class teachers are. Please also find a link to the presentation we created for Parents (Family) Forum [Halsford Park Transition](#) to share how we plan for transition.

## Quick Links

Please click here

[Chartwells West Sussex](#)

[ParentPay](#)

[Brigade Uniform  
Ordering](#)

[PTA Secondhand  
Uniform](#)

[School Gateway  
Payments](#)

[Register for Cool Milk](#)

[Whole School Overview](#)

[The Halsford 100](#)

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[Parents & Carers  
Code of Conduct](#)

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Information](#)

[Report parking  
concerns](#)



### **Everyone Belongs Day- 22<sup>nd</sup> May**

We had an absolutely wonderful time celebrating our "Everyone Belongs Day" last month! It was brilliant to see the children proudly sharing what makes them unique and we all loved learning so much more about each other's fascinating backgrounds, cultures and hobbies. Thank you to everyone and to the School Council for organising such a special, vibrant day! Mr Garcia.

### **Great Athletes Visit - 16<sup>th</sup> June**

We were delighted to welcome Great Athletes to school for a truly memorable morning with Commonwealth gymnast Courtney Orange and Zimbabwean gymnast and British para-athlete Nerys Pearce.

Every child from Early Years to Year 6 took part in an exciting sponsored fitness circuit, led by Nerys. Her energy, enthusiasm and encouragement motivated every child to give their best, regardless of ability, creating a fun, inclusive and positive atmosphere throughout the morning. Even several members of staff joined in and were certainly feeling the effects of their efforts afterwards! It was fantastic to see so much determination, teamwork and enjoyment on display.

Following the fitness circuit, Courtney delivered a truly inspiring whole-school assembly based around the message, "I Can Do It." He shared how a teacher recognised his natural speed as a sprinter and encouraged him to try gymnastics—a decision that changed the course of his life. Courtney also spoke honestly about the serious injury that ended his dream of becoming an Olympian. Rather than giving up, he chose to focus on new opportunities, using the skills he had developed through gymnastics to build a successful career as a professional dancer, travelling and performing around the world.

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our families, we are thrilled to announce that we have raised over £7,500! Sixty percent of this will be invested in new PE equipment for our pupils, while the remaining 40% will support Great Athletes to continue to support athletes and deliver inspirational programmes in schools across the country.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported your child in taking part and helped us raise such an incredible amount of money. We already have some exciting ideas for how we will invest our share of the funds to further enhance PE and school sport. Mr Burgess.

### **Parent Forum - 23<sup>rd</sup> June**

Thank you to those parents who attended Parent Forum where we discussed the school's plans for Moving On and Moving Up Year Groups 2026-2027 (Transition) this year (see below). Minutes to follow.

A huge thanks to all the parents and carers who have joined the Parent Forums this year. Your contributions are much valued. Following parent/carer voice, we have agreed to change the name to Family Forum which better represents the community who have parental responsibility for the pupils of the school. We will need an Early Years rep for next year so please do contact Mrs Spencer so she can explain the process and role, the dates for meeting will be released at the start of the term.

### **Online safety: A guide for parents and carers on screen addiction**

This guide looks at how to tackle a range of potential risks such as possible damage to health and wellbeing, app addiction and a lack of sleep. We hope you find it useful.

### **Parent information session Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 5.30 - 6.30pm**

Additionally, we have teamed up with our IT support providers Eduthing to welcome all parents and carers from schools across the Everychild Partnership Trust to join an online information session on 'Raising children in a digital world Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 5.30-6.30-pm'. Please see the attached flier for details on how to register for what is expected to be a very useful session.





## Early Years

What a wonderful few weeks it has been in Early Years, filled with exciting learning and new experiences! We went on a minibeast hunt to find different creatures in our outdoor area and worked together to build bug hotels to create safe homes for them. We have also been learning all about the ocean and using key vocabulary from our Drawing Club story, *Somebody Swallowed Stanley*. The children have enjoyed using new words such as pollution, submerged and aided in their discussions and learning. We created a variety of models using recycled materials while learning about how pollution affects our oceans and wildlife. We discussed simple ways to help look after our planet, such as putting rubbish in the correct bin and recycling materials whenever possible. We also loved taking part in our exercise session with Courtney Orange, which has helped us stay active and healthy. As we look forward to the final few weeks before the summer holidays, we are excited to learn more about Year 1 and all the adventures that await us.

## Year 1

In Year 1, we have been looking at stories based on days out. We have look at Paddigton's Pop Up London book by Michael Bond and Mr Gumpy's Outing by John Burningham. We have based our writing on these books and when writing, have tried to use adjectives to describe things we have written about.

In Maths, we have been looking at time. We have looked at days of the week and months of the year. We have learnt songs to help up remember the order of these. Ask us if we can remember these and sing the song to you. We will be moving on to looking at how to tell the time to the hour and half past.

In Science, we have been looking at animals. We have looked at the difference between reptiles and mammals and have been able to describe some differences and similarities. Have a look at us sorting these animals. We have also learnt what a herbivore, omnivore and carnivore are.

Over the next few weeks, we will have a focus on DT. We will be looking at healthy eating and will be making dips and dippers. Please make sure you have filled in the form for your child to make and eat the food we create.





## Year 2

In Year 2 we have been really enjoying learning about the seaside. The children loved their school trip to the beach, particularly the rock pooling! We were so impressed with all of the children's attitudes and how they showed the core values, despite the rainy weather.

In English, the children have been writing an explanation text about how to stay safe in the sun and in maths we have been learning about mass, capacity and volume. We have been doing lots of practical learning using scales and measuring jugs to give the children the opportunity to practise reading different types of scales.

In Geography, we have been learning about the different human and physical features of a coastline. The children really enjoyed spotting some of these on our trip. We have also been learning about how the seaside has changed over time in History lessons, the children were really interested to find out about a 'Penny Lick' and bathing carriages!

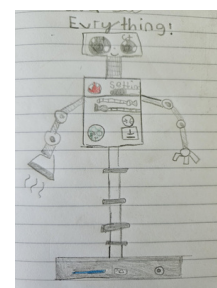
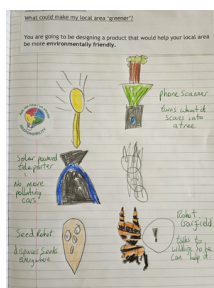
## Year 3

In Year 3 we have settled well into our last term looking at our topic "Greener Grinstead". Using our walks to swimming as guidance, we have talked about our local area and what the positives and negatives are. From this, the children have begun to design a product that would benefit our local area and make it 'greener'. We will be moving on to putting together an information pack on the product itself, where it will be located in our local area and its benefits. These will then be presented to another class.

In English, we have moved WRITERS sequence to working on writing an alternative middle of a story based on the book 'Leon and The Place Between'. The children have started this by drawing what is inside the box that Leon stepped into, moving onto creating a word bank for each world.

In Maths, we have been learning about mass and capacity, now knowing how to use scales to measure the mass of different objects. The children are now learning how to add and subtract mass and capacity. After this unit, we will be learning how to tell the time using both analogue and digital clocks.

At the end of this term, we are designing and making a healthy sandwich. In order for your child to take part, please complete the Google form that was sent out in a previous email.





#### **Year 4**

Year 4 have made an excellent start to their last half term in year 4.

In English, we have immersed ourselves in the world of Greek mythology, focusing on the story of Hercules and his famous labours. Inspired by this, the children have invented their own mythical beasts and planned a new challenge for Hercules to complete. They have been showcasing a range of writing skills developed throughout the year, including the use of fronted adverbials, expanded noun phrases and direct speech.

In Maths, we have been building on our learning about decimals, focusing on recognising and understanding tenths and hundredths. The children have been using place value knowledge to help them read, compare and represent decimal numbers. This will prepare them well for our upcoming unit on money, where they will apply these skills regularly when calculating and solving real-life problems involving pounds and pence.

Our music lessons continue to be a highlight, with the children making great progress on their djembe drums. We are excited for the opportunity to perform and share what we have been learning very soon.

In Geography, we have been researching Italy and learning about its location, climate and physical features. The children have compared life in Italy with life in East Grinstead, identifying similarities and differences in weather patterns and seasonal changes. As part of our learning, we have explored seasonal foods and discovered how the climate influences what can be grown and eaten at different times of the year. We have compared seasonal produce in Italy and England, helping us to understand how geography and climate can shape food choices and traditions.

#### **Year 5**

Year 5 have been enjoying our key text -Holes by Louis Sachar. They wrote a diary entry from the perspective of the main character and edited with a focus on sentence types and paragraphing.

We have been looking at what makes a healthy pizza as part of our Design Technology. We do this in celebration of culture and seasonality - our children will be making their own, using healthy ingredients and considering how these can be changed to alter texture, taste, appearance and smell. We will provide all the ingredients. It will be cooked on the premises but will not be consumed at school. Therefore, we will send children home with their pizza in a foil wrapping so please keep a look out!

Our experience lessons have been looking at the great Lakes of North America. We have looked at climate and compared rainfall graphs to East Grinstead. We have also looked at the human and physical geography features of this area.

Our maths lessons have had a heavy focus on decimals; what each place value beyond the decimal point represents and how to accurately add and subtract decimals.

Science lessons have involved looking at the impact of asteroids on celestial bodies. We conducted an investigation with flour and playdough to see if the size/mass of an 'asteroid' would create a deeper / wider crater and which variables would need to be kept the same to keep it a fair test. They recorded their observations on a table and then wrote an explanation.

Please note that PE will be now be on a Monday and a Wednesday. This term our focus will be on Athletics and Rounders.





## Year 6

It has been an incredibly busy and creative few weeks in Year 6 as the countdown to our production of Aladdin officially begins! The classrooms and corridors have been absolutely buzzing with energy, talent, and just a little bit of theatrical magic. We have been filling the school with song, mastering some incredibly catchy tunes and learning how to project our voices all the way to the back row. The children have also been working hard to memorise complex routines and perfect their timing. Furthermore, the children have been rolling-up-their-sleeves, designing and painting a spectacular backdrop, as well as crafting some truly magical props that will bring Agrabah to life.

Whether they are center stage under the spotlight or working magic behind the scenes, every single member of Year 6 is pouring their heart and soul into making this a show to remember.

**A note for Parents:** Costume letter has been sent today and ticket details will be heading your way very soon. Please keep practicing those lines and songs at home—we can't wait to show you the final result!

## Outdoor Learning Day- 4<sup>th</sup> June

On the 4th June we had a whole school outdoor learning day where we spent the majority of the day learning outside the classroom. Even though the weather was not that good and it rained throughout the day we managed to get out and undertake some of our learning outside. Many areas of the curriculum we covered. Early Years went on a walk to collect materials to make nature masks and they played a game to learn about caterpillars and how they camouflage themselves. Key Stage 1 made owls in art and also went to the outdoor learning area to measure items for their maths lesson.



They liked the challenge of finding something which was exactly 20cm, 30cm 40cm etc. Key Stage 2 took part in an English lesson where they wrote a poem about what they could see. They also made bug hotels and played games to learn about different areas of science. Mrs Sears.

## Year 5 & 6 Cricket Finals- 9<sup>th</sup> June



Wow! What an amazing afternoon we had. On the afternoon of the 9th June, seven children from Year 5 and 6 headed down to Antsy cricket ground to play in the mid Sussex final event of cricket. There were six teams in total there. Firstly, we were split into groups of three and played each of those teams. We did really well in our round winning the first competition and losing the second which meant we came second in our group overall. As the weather was still shining we got to carry on playing and got put into the third and fourth play offs.

All players played exceptionally well, we batted many 6s and 4s as well as fielded some tricky balls and made sure our bowling was straight so we did not give away many wides. Overall we did very well and came 3rd out of the whole competition. Well done to all who took part, Mrs Sears, who went with you is very proud of your achievement and looks forward to seeing some of the Year 5s back again next year when they are in Year 6. Mrs Sears.

# GOODBYE

## Good bye and thank you



We are sadly saying goodbye to Mrs McKay, our School Council Lead and Higher Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA) as she is taking on a new challenge of becoming a local school's Business Manger. Mrs McKay has been a much valued member of the school since 2017 and we are very grateful for her support with a range of children's learning through covering classes PPA and attending Sports Fixtures, as well as leading our School Council for the last few years. We wish her every success for her new role. Classes PPA will be covered internally by our current team and I hope to update you by the end of the year on Mrs McKay's replacement.

We are really sorry to be saying goodbye to Lizzy Copley who has been working with the school on a volunteer basis as an Art Counsellor. She has really supported some of our children and we are really grateful to the time she has given to our community and wish her every success in her career moving forwards. Thank you Lizzy!

## Welcome

I would like to welcome Mrs Karen Brockwell to the team as our new Midday Meals Supervisor. Karen knows the school well as has been working previously for Chartwells. She has already made a super addition to the lunch team.



## Tennis Balls Required



We are looking for any unwanted or used tennis balls that you may have at home. The children love using tennis balls during playtimes for a variety of games and activities, and we are always grateful for donations to help keep our supplies topped up. If you have any tennis balls that you no longer need, please send them into school with your child and hand them to their class teacher.

## Updated Uniform Requirements

From September, we will be introducing purple PE T-shirts as part of our primary school PE kit. There is no need to replace your child's current white PE T-shirt immediately. We are happy for children to continue wearing their white PE T-shirt until it needs replacing. When a new PE T-shirt is required, we kindly ask that you purchase the new purple version instead.



This is what can be purchased via our uniform providers Brigade, but a plain purple t-shirt can also be worn.

This gradual transition will help reduce unnecessary waste and expense for families while ensuring that, over time, all children move to the new PE kit.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

With kind regards

Claire Spencer - Headteacher

## Dates for your Diary

July		September	
1st	Year 6- Imberhorne Induction Day	1st	INSET Day- School Closed to Children
1st	New EYs Morning Session 10am	2nd	Children Return to School- Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6
1st-3rd	Year 6- Sackville Induction Days	7th	New Early Years- Start School
3rd	Year 4- Djembe Drums Performances	25th	Individual Photographs
3rd	PTA- Non Uniform Day & Disco	29th	Family Forum- 9.05am- all welcome
6th	Year 5- Imberhorne Taster Day	<b>Class Assemblies - 9.00- 9.30am</b>	
10th	New EYs Story Time 1.30pm	2nd July	1 Sharratt- Rescheduled Class Assembly
13th	Year 6- Production- Franklin Parents	3rd July	2 Blake Class Assembly
16th	Year 6- Production- Turing Parents	10th July	EYs Floella Class Assembly
22nd	Year 6 Leavers Assembly- PM	17th July	EYs Donaldson Class Assembly
22nd	Last Day of Term		

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Dates: July - 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>  
 August - 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>

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