OCTOBER 2024

HALSFORD PARK NEWSLETTER



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Dear families, parents and carers,

Welcome to our October newsletter which brings us to the end of our first half term.

Halsford Cup results



Huge congratulations to AIR House team - who achieved the most Core Value awards (counted through Dojos) over the course of the first half of the Autumn term. Each team achieved an incredible amount of Core Value awards, and should all feel very proud of themselves. Well done!

AIR- 8685 EARTH- 7962 FIRE- 8396 WATER- 7448

Keeping Children Safe online (Internet Safety) Six Top Tips for parents to keep children safe online

In each newsletter, we include an internet safety section to give some parents some top tips to help you support your family stay safe inline. This month's focus is on 6 top tips to help support parents keep their children safe online.



E Safety Workshop for Parents

Following on from Parent Forum input, Mrs Wilcox will be leading an E Safety workshop for parents which will include some more tips and also how this is covered in our curriculum. Save the date!

Tuesday 26th November 5.30-6.30pm - details to follow

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



SIX TOP TIPS

For Parents To Keep Your Children Safe Online

SafeguardED

Most parents & carers think their children and young people spend too much time on devices. DON'T FEEL BAD!

Lots of it is perfectly healthy anyway. Instead, follow these tips to keep them safe, happy and healthy.

Don't worry about screen time; aim for screen quality

Scrolling through social media isn't the same as making a film or story, or video calling Grandma. Use the Children's Commissioner's 'Digital Five A Day' to plan or review each day together.

Be Mindful Connect

Give to Be Active

Get Creative



Check the safety settings are turned on

Whether it's your home internet, mobile devices, consoles, apps or games, there are lots of settings to make them safer. The key ones are - can they chat to strangers, can they video chat or 'go live', are their posts public? What about safe search and Youtube? See parentsafe.lgfl.net for more.



Get your children to show you their apps and games

You don't need to know all about the latest app or game, but if your child shows you what they are doing and with whom, you'll probably see if it's appropriate or not. Remember 18 games are not more advanced – they are harmful to children! For parent guides to apps, including recommendations for kidsafe apps and video platforms, search for Common Sense Media reviews.



Don't try to hide news about scary things in the news

If you don't talk about it, your children might read inappropriate pages, believe scare stories or simply catastrophise in their heads. Why not watch Newsround together and talk about how they feel – there is guidance from Childline to help you.



Remind them of key online safety principles

There are too many to list, but remember human behaviour is the same online and offline. Remind your children to be a good friend, to ask for help if they are worried or if someone is mean, not to get undressed on camera and most important of all... if somebody tells them not to tell or ask for help because it's too late or they will get in trouble, THAT'S A LIE!

If you aren't sure, ASK!

Your school may be able to give you advice, but there are plenty of other places to ask for help as a parent or a child, whether it is advice or help to fix something. Lots of sites are listed at reporting.lgfl.net, including ones to tell your kids about (they might not want to talk to you in the first instance).









Early Years

Our first few weeks in Early Years have flown by! Over the past half term, we have been practising sitting quietly on the carpet, waiting for our turn to speak and have all become experts at putting away all the Early Years' resources at the end of discovery time!

We have been welcoming in Autumn – we enjoyed exploring the school grounds on our welly walk and looking for signs of Autumn arriving.

The children have also enjoyed learning about each other, how to be a good friend and what to do if we feel sad or angry. We are starting to learn how to use the Zones of Regulation to describe how we are feeling.

We have practised our colour mixing and painted our self-portraits, remembering all the features we need! We hope you enjoy a half term break. Please note that our first Find Out Friday will be the first Friday back at 2:40pm - we look forward to seeing you then.

Year 1

We are so proud of how hard the children are working in Year 1. They are settled into their morning routines and impressing us with their sentence writing in their Early Morning Work. We are now learning how to use adjectives to make our writing even more exciting. We have spent our last drawing club story this week in English and we are very excited to be introducing Curious Quests after half term. Please watch out on Google Classroom for more information on this!

In Maths, the children have been learning several concepts to support their mathematical skills, including part part whole and number bonds. They have been writing their own number sentences, thinking about resources they could use to help them.





The children have really enjoyed our 'Toys' experience and thank you for supporting the children through helping them with their creative projects and, where possible, joining them for our fabulous finish.





Year 2

In year 2 we have really enjoyed learning all about Alice in Wonderland. We have now made our 'Mad Hatter' hats in DT and are looking forward to our tea party at the end of the week. In English, we have been writing instructions on how to make a 'Mad Hatter' hat, to help someone else make their own, using our knowledge of time adverbials and imperative verbs. In Science we have been learning about healthy and unhealthy foods and where our food comes from. We have used our knowledge of healthy foods to design our own healthy wrap in DT which we will enjoy at our wonderful tea party. In Maths, we have continued to use resources to show our learning. We have been learning our number bonds to 10 and how we can use this knowledge to help us with our number bonds to 100. We have also started to look at addition and subtraction, which we will continue after half term.

Year 3

We have had a fantastically busy half term, continuing to explore electrical circuits, thinking about materials which are conductors or insulators and finding out about the history of electricity and all about thunder and lightning! We were all very proud of the dragon caves, lit up using our electrical circuits, which we designed, made and evaluated in D and T

It has been lovely to see so many children making their own circuits at home!

In English we have now produced our own 'Tell Me A Dragon' book, with our beautifully written dragon descriptions which matched our carefully drawn dragon pictures.

In Maths we have now finished our place value work and have moved on to addition and subtraction, trying different methods to carry out the calculations, as well as thinking about using related number bonds to help us. We have really enjoyed our times tables practice and are working hard to reinforce the tables we already know, as well as learning our 4 and 8 times tables.

The children have been superstars this half term and we look forward to another equally action packed half term after the holiday.

Wishing you an enjoyable break and thank you for your continued support of your children's learning.







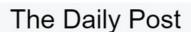
Year 4

We have worked so hard this term learning about our Experience topic of Light and Sound. To end our term, we were able to use sparklers for our fabulous finish, becoming Lila from our focus text; 'The Firework-Maker's Daughter'. After researching eye masks and practising different stitching techniques, we designed and made our very own eye masks. We thought about our science learning around light to help us.

In Maths, we have been learning column addition and subtraction using the expanded method compact method as well as thinking about the most efficient method for subtraction.

In English, we have been investigating our key text 'The Firework Maker's Daughter' and have been focusing around the events that take place in chapter 5 to write a diary entry as Lila the main character in the story. We need to use a lot of our working on words to help us such as past tense verbs, informal language and feelings and emotions vocabulary.

Year 5



Marvellous Marmoset Miracl ₹75p

Recently, a baby marmoset has been born at a zoo in, East Sussex and he was discovered on the 5th of August He is only measuring 3 centimetres and they can reach a height of 15 centimetres. They are native to South America.





The parents of the marmoset are named mum Rosie and dad Ben. Rosie moved to the zoo in January and Ben instantly liked her. The new arrival was born on the 5th August early morning Mark Kennward zoo manager noticed it clinging on to its mothers back.

Mark Kennward quoted "I'm so proud to work here especially when we help animals that are endangered "these animals are at risk because of illegal pet trade and habitat loss. Drusilla's is asking followers on social media to suggest a name for the mini marmoset. zookeepers are eager to tell visitors updates on the baby marmoset miracle!

Adding and subtracting larger numbers has been the focus for our maths over the last two weeks and children have been solving problems using these skills. We still encourage the children to practise their timetables at home using their Rock Stars login especially as this forms the foundation for our work on fractions later this term.

In Science, we continue to look at the changes of state and materials and their properties. We have been filtering, dissolving and evaporating in class experiments and the children planned and conducted fair tests.

The children have also looked at the use of single-use plastics and how other materials could replace these. They came up with alternatives such as bamboo clothes, boxes made of sugar cane and re-cycled crochet plastic bags and purses. After hot seating their ideas, they wrote newspaper articles using more formal journalistic vocabulary.

In Computing, we have been using Purple Mash to create newspapers reports as part of our homework project.

This week we are making iron men out of wire and foil. No doubt, these will make their way home to you in the next few weeks.

Reminder for half term:

Please could year 5 parents source and send in one empty plastic litre bottles and a large stone for painting after half term for our stunning start.







Year 6



The Year 6 pupils recently took part in the annual PGL trip to Windmill Hill. They consistently demonstrated all the core values and represented Halsford Park tremendously well.

Pupils took part in a variety of activities including: abseiling, archery tag, rock climbing, zip-wire, sensory trails, aeroball, rifle shooting, fencing, giant swing and 'all aboard'. Some rooms were kept in a tidier state than others!

This term, Year 6 have been creating 'Space Buggy' models. We have used handsaws to cut mitre joints to create a wooden frame. We reinforced our joints with trusses and are using a motor circuit system, connected to our axels, to power our buggies.



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 2024



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!

Year 3 and 4 Netball- 2nd October



Year 3 and 4 had a fantastic time at East Grinstead Sports Club on Wednesday 2nd October. The children began with some warm up drills, working on their footwork, ball control and teamwork. They worked around the courts, lead by students from Sackville and Imberhorne school, playing games which helped them to understand the rules. After a break, they then put on their bibs and played games against other East Grinstead schools. All the children participated in different positions on the netball court, showing their Core Values the whole time.

Well done Year 3 and 4 children for representing Halsford Park so successfully! Mrs Wilcox

Year 5 and 6 Girls' football competition- 9th October

On Wednesday 9th October, a team of year 5 & 6 girls represented Halsford Park at the annual schools' football tournament held at East Grinstead Sports Club. They were amazing!

Over a period of two hours, they played eight matches against schools from East Grinstead and the surrounding area. Although they drew their first match 0 v 0 this did not hold them back and they went on to win all subsequent games to give them a winning total of 15 points (second place had 12 points.) With short rests in between, it was a very busy morning but they scored 24 goals and only conceded 1. Some impressive statistics!



It was a real pleasure to watch the girls work so well together as a team, supporting each other when the other teams were pushing to score and displaying the core values over the course of the morning.

They will now be invited to play in the next round.

Congratulations to the team of Anya, India, Maia, Ella, Eve, Amelie, Lottie, Sofia, Meadow, and Holly. Thanks go to Mr Stepney for the training sessions, the hard work clearly paid off. Mrs Lucas

Cross Country - Sunday 13th October





On Sunday 13th October, I took a group of 26 children along to East Court in East Grinstead to participate in annual Cross Country event. This is organised each year by the East Grinstead Athletics club and is a fantastic opportunity for the children to experience distance running. Thankfully, it was a dry day, however due to rain the previous week, it was very muddy underfoot and as the day went on the course began to become more challenging.

As always, the children participating showed all of their Core Values. We had some fantastic finishes in the Year 4 race, placing 1st in the boys race and 3rd in the girls race.

The longer course for the Yr5/6 race was also incredibly well run and our children showed their determination to complete the 2300m course, showing courage. Well done to everyone that participated.

A huge thank you to Mr Stepney for training the children in school in the lead up to the event and also to the parents that came along to support on the day. Miss Loftus

Football League - 23rd October

This Wednesday boys from Years 5 and 6 got the football league fixtures underway. The two teams played 5 fixtures between them, winning 4 games and losing just one. This round of fixtures saw a rare headed goal in the six-a-side goals at East Grinstead Sports Club - Vigo heading in from a corner. Alexander also came away with a hat-trick in our final match of the afternoon against The Meads.

The girls' league fixtures did not start this week for Halsford Park. Mr Stepney

Football Trials

There will be trials (for boys and girls in Yr 5/6) on the first Thursday back after half term (7th November). Please ensure that, if your child wishes to take part in these trials, that they bring football boots to school that day and wear appropriate clothing.







School, Eco Council and A-Team 2024-2025





The A team were pleased to welcome our 9 new members so we have our full complement of 16 across Key Stage 2. We are the voices for and of the neurodivergent children in our school community and aim to make the school even more inclusive

On Tuesday, we were invited to an exciting Autism Ambassadors conference at the Amex Centre in Brighton with A-teams from across Sussex. We listened to an autistic 14 year old sing her song, met Paralympian Jessica–Jane Applegate (which Ms Davies loved) and heard autistic people who work as a paramedic and firefighter. They were inspirational and reminded us that autism is a superpower. We are going to share some of the things we learnt with the rest of the school in an assembly when we have written it! In our weekly meetings. In the afternoon, we made our own focus aids and took part in a graffiti workshop.

The only problem was the minibus getting a flat tyre on the way home but we got home safely.

It was a great day and we were really pleased to be joined by a couple of last year's year 6 A-Teamers. Thank you to Ms Davies, Mrs Sloane and Mrs M for taking us.

After the conference, Ms Davies was joined by Mrs Spencer for an awards ceremony for our Silver Autism Awareness Award which we are extremely proud of. Ms Davies

School Council



It's been an exciting start as we welcome our new members of School Council 2024–2025. We have wasted no time getting busy, as we look to find ways to reduce our Lost Property Mountain! We gathered ideas from each other and are currently surveying classes to review our suggestions and gain any new ones! We are focusing on our Responsibility core value in this project and looking at ways the children can do things themselves. One thing we can all do is to make sure school uniform and especially jumpers have a name on them. Labels are great but it can work just as well to write names on jumper labels with biro. Mrs Mackay

Eco Council

As we approach the end of the first half term, we say goodbye and thanks to the old Eco Council: Oakley & Milo, Herbie & Owen, Arlo, Sema, Scarlett & Isla, Freddie & Calli, Annabelle, Isla, Lucas & Carter who have moved onto their new school (good luck to you all).



We would like to welcome our new members: Connie, Dyllan, Oren & Sienna, Rupert & Oakley, Seb & Oscar, Anya, Hugo & Lucas, Esther & Nate. The old team stayed on to help settle in our new members and now it's time to hand over the reins.

The team have a busy term ahead; Launching our new campaign 'Cut Your Carbon!' Surveying the school, interviewing staff, pupils, and our connected communities to see how the school will hold up in the NEW Environmental Survey. Results will be released in the next newsletter so watch this space.



PTA-Volunteers

Our Christmas fair is Saturday 30th November 2–5pm. We will need lots of volunteers to make this event a success. Year 6 students and family members are welcome to help. Please sign up by clicking this link: volunteersignup.org/W49ED.

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/

Author Visit- 17th October



The whole school enjoyed the visit of the book author Olly Pike, who came to present his new book, 'Have You Seen a 'Normal'?'

The children enjoyed discussing how there's not such a thing as being 'normal'. This was a great opportunity to discuss diversity and celebrate what makes us all unique. Olly was very impressed with how engaged the children were. Mr Garcia

Times Tables Rockstars Competition- Key Stage 2

As a school, we will be taking part in a Times Tables Rockstars competition taking place between 12th-14th November for all children in Key Stage 2. Children will be able to take part in this competition at home and can be given time in school if they do not have access to a laptop/tablet at home.

Please note, children can still earn coins if they go over the one hour play cap, however their points will no longer go towards the competition.

Key Stage 2 children will be told about the competition during an assembly closer to the time. We would appreciate you encouraging your children to take part! Mrs Wilcox

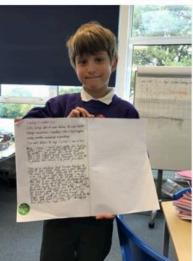


Learners will try to answer as many multiplication and division questions correctly as they can. The winning school and class will be based on the highest average number of correct answers per pupil.

RULES:

- Every correct answer that a student gives, in any game type, between the hours of 7:30am GMT to 7:30pm GMT each day will contribute to their class and school score
- There is a 60-minute limit playtime per player, per day.Each class has a minimum player count of 10. If fewer than 10 in the class play in the competition, their total will be divided by 10 regardless.

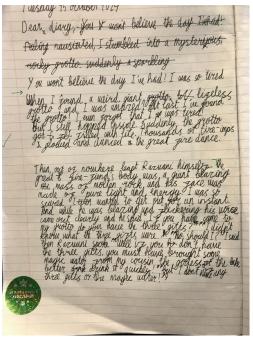




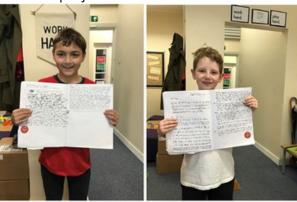




Headteacher's Awards



As part of our Behaviour for Learning policy, I love nothing better than celebrating children's group or individual successes and a way of doing that is to recognise when children have 'gone that extra mile' in terms of any of our core values. Miss Loftus and I have had lots of visitors already, ranging from taking responsibility for their work, showing courage in creativity for their creative projects and also for achievements outside of school.





We have many children who are bilingual (and also multi-lingual!) so I am always blown away by their achievements in English. Please see an example of some fabulous writing by Ilia who has only be learning English for a few years...

PTA AGM - 23rd October

Many thanks for those of you who were able to join us for our PTA AGM and particular thanks to those family members who have joined the PTA committee enabling us to stay a registered charity and most importantly ensure we are able to run events to support providing key resources and enrichment opportunities to our children.

May I take this opportunity to thank Lou Roach, who has been our Chair of the PTA for the last few years and has been pivotal in galvanising the team to raise continued funds for our school. I look forward to working closely with our new committee this academic year.

I hope you all have a wonderful half term break. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 4th November which is the first date our our two Family Learning Conferences. We look forward to seeing you then.

Thank you for your on-going support,

Claire Spencer - Headteacher

21st- 5th

Christmas Holidays

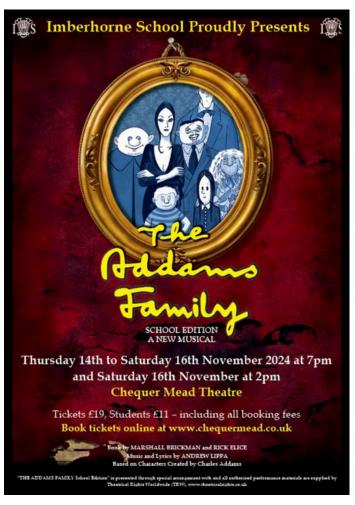
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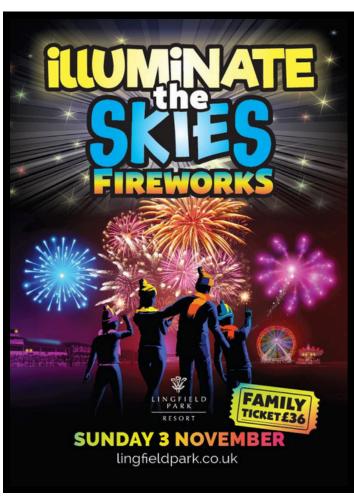
Dates for your Diary

<u> </u>			
October		January 2025	
25th	Last Day of Term	óth	INSET Day- School Closed
26th-3rd	Half Term Holiday	7th	Return to School
November			
4th	INSET Day- School Closed	Class	Assemblies - 9.00- 9.30am
5th	Return to School	17th Jan	6DS Class Assembly
5th & 7th	Family Learning Conferences	24th Jan	5JM Class Assembly
8th	Outdoor Learning Day- whole school	31st Jan	6CB Class Assembly
8th	Early Years- Find Out Friday 2.40pm	28th Feb	3RD Class Assembly
13th	Year 5- CEMA School Trip	7th March	1GS Class Assembly
14th	Year 3– Butser Farm Trip	14th March	1MS Class Assembly
20th	Early Years-Writing Workshop 2.30pm	28th March	5IG Class Assembly
26th	Parent Forum 9.05am- all welcome	4th April	3WR Class Assembly
26th	E Safety Parent Workshop 5.30pm	2nd May	2BG Class Assembly
27th	Flu Vaccines- Whole School	9th May	2LS Class Assembly
28th	Year 2-Great Fire of London Workshop	20th June	4DN Class Assembly
30th	PTA Christmas Fair 2-5pm	27th June	4JW Class Assembly
December		4th July	Early Years Class Assembly
4th	Key Stage 2 Carol Concert	11th July	Early Years Class Assembly
6th	Early Years- Find Out Friday 2.40pm	Sporting Events Calendar - Autumn Term 2024 https://halsfordparkprimaryschool.co.uk/wp- content/uploads/2024/09/PE-events-Autumn-	
20th	Last Day of Term		

Community Events











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ANXIETY TOOLKIT FOR PARENTS AND CARERS WEBINAR

SATURDAY 25TH JANUARY 2025, 10AM- 12 MIDDAY

LEARN PRACTICAL TIPS AND STRATEGIES TO HELP PARENTS AND CARERS SUPPORT

THEIR CHILDREN THROUGH ANXIETY IN THIS ONLINE EVENT!

Are you feeling overwhelmed by your child's anxiety? Join us for this online event where Your Space Therapies will provide you with practical tools and strategies to help you support your child. Emma Connor, Child Psychotherapist will share valuable, easy to implement strategies to navigate through challenging situations and promote your child's well-being. Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn and connect with other parents and carers facing similar experiences. Register now and equip yourself with the tools to better understand and manage anxiety in your child.

Price: £27.80

For more information and booking please scan the QR code:









Campus astro turf









