

School Update

Friday 1st September 2023

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Don't forget to follow us on Twitter to get up-to-date news of the happenings at school. You'll find photos of activities, achievements as well as celebrations.



Scan Me

Autumn Term 2023

September 2023

Fri 15th Mrs Baines' Class Assembly—9am

Tues 19th School Photographer—individual photos

Fri 22nd Miss Hoult's Class Assembly—9am

October 2023

Fri 6th Mrs Kneafsey/Mrs Parry Assembly—9am

Mon 9th- PGL—Year 6
 Fri 13th

Fri 13th Mrs Grannero/Mrs Bharmal Assembly—9am

Mon 16th Half-term
 -Fri 20th

Mon 23rd INSET Day—children not in school

December 2023

Fri 22nd Last day of term

Happy New (Academic) Year !

Welcome back to a new term and a brand new academic year at Hall Orchard CE Primary! We have now completed our first few days back and as ever, they have been incredibly busy with children settling into their routines with their new teachers and classmates. They are now primed and ready to continue on their learning journeys. Our youngest children have been in and out of school this week with their families —there have been very few tears, even from parents! Our new start and finish times are now in place, and there are fewer children arriving after registration which is fantastic! Lunchtimes have changed allowing the children more valuable learning time in the afternoons—very helpful for our KS2 children.

We welcome Mr Hanford to the school this term — he will be leading PE lessons alongside classteachers as we move toward having two active PE sessions per week. He is also running after school sports sessions which are already very popular with the children.

There is still plenty of work to do on the new build at the rear of the school and so we are still limited on access routes. At the moment, whilst we await completion of work adjacent to the 'new' Reception classrooms, we have had to close off the entrance at the front of school and ask that you use the side entrance (down the jitty/alley) until further notice.

It has been great to be able to meet and greet many of you in the mornings as I continue to get to know more of the wider Barrow Family. If you do see me out and about, stop me and say 'hi' - I'll always be there with a welcoming smile.

Here's to another fantastic year,
 Steve Dunn, Headteacher



Our whole-school reward system called HOPS **High 5**—based on our 5 core values—has now been running since Easter, and we have been blown away by the children’s engagement with it. Our school rules are linked to these values so the children are rewarded for living them through their positive behaviours. They earn value points each time they demonstrate one of these values, with the overall aim of achieving enough points to receive a values badge. Interim certificates are issued at regular milestones and weekly **Values Awards** will be given out to children who show their commitment to the **value of the week**.

HOPS High 5 – school rules

Our school rules underpin our core values and are as follows:

- Allow everyone to learn. (Value of **Community**)
- Be kind. (Value of **Friendship**)
- Respect people and property. (Value of **Respect**)
- Learn from my mistakes. (Value of **Resilience**)
- Be my best self. (Value of **Aspiration**)



Our newest recruit

At some point later this term, we will be welcoming a new recruit to our amazing wellbeing team - Nelson, a Golden Retriever, will be joining us as our school dog. The decision has been made following extensive research, including discussions with other schools that have a school dog and approval of the Governing Body. As has been proved in many other schools, having a dog can really help improve the mental health and wellbeing of many children—this will be Nelson’s aim. We hope he will be able to support children in school in areas such as Forest School, reading, nurture groups, with attendance and also being in the quiet areas at playtimes.

As he is still young, he is currently attending intensive training and needs to get to know the adults in school and be familiarised with the school environment before working with any of the children. When he is ready, he will attend school for two days a week and be based in the Victorian Building with Mrs Roodhouse. Only then will he start to engage with the children.

Obviously, rigorous risk assessments are in place and Mr Harvey and Mrs Roodhouse have been working on them over the Summer. When he is moving around the school he will be on a lead and always with an adult. Please don't worry if your child is not confident around dogs or has allergies — Nelson will have a safe space in school with Mrs Roodhouse and no child will have to spend time with him if they don't want to.

Nelson will live with Mrs Roodhouse and he will be their family dog but can't wait to spend some time at Hall Orchard. We will update you further once Nelson is ready to join us!



IMPORTANT: GDPR & Communication

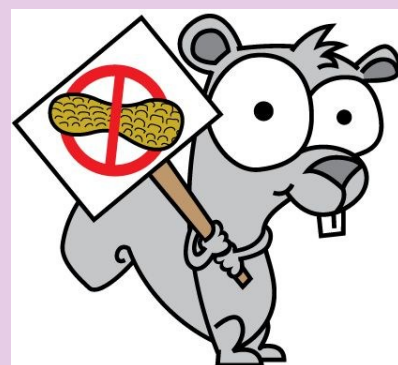
In order to ensure compliance with our GDPR and Safeguarding Policies, we need to ensure that we have up-to-date details for your child. If anything has changed over the summer, e.g. home address, **medical/health/dietary needs**, mobile phone numbers, additional contact details, *etc.* then please inform the office asap. If you are unsure that we have the correct details, please do get in touch so we can check these for you. Alternatively, you can check your details at any time using the Parent Lite app. Many thanks for your support in this matter.

Healthy Snacks and Nut Allergies

As we are a Healthy School, could you please ensure that if you do send a snack for your child to eat, it is a healthy one, such as malt loaf, dried or fresh fruit, Scotch pancakes, (sugar free) fruit bars, *etc.* and not chocolate biscuits, crisps or sugary snacks.

Children in Foundation, Year 1 and 2 will receive a free piece of fruit for snacktime. This varies from apples to pears, tomatoes to raisins.

I would also ask that you **do not send products containing nuts** into school at any time (including lunches), as we have some pupils with severe allergies.



Are you eligible for free school meals?

Free School Meals– please claim!

Just a reminder that pupils may be eligible for a Free School Meal at any age in their school career.

Year 2 and below: If your child is in reception, year 1 or year 2 they can get free school meals as part of the national Universal Infant Free School Meals Scheme. **It is important that if you receive a qualifying benefit you still need to register for free school meals under the eligibility scheme.**



The school can then get extra funding to help with your child's education—this is called the **Pupil Premium**. This money can be used to subsidise school trips and afterschool clubs for the next 6 years.

Years 3-6: For your child to qualify for free school meals, you must get one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit and your household income after tax is less than £7,400 pa
- Child Tax Credit, as long as you are not getting Working Tax Credit and have an annual income of less than £16,190
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- The guarantee part of Pension Credit
- Asylum seeker support.

From 19 April 2022, children whose families have No Recourse to Public Funds can get Free School Meals if their annual household income is: **less than £22,700 for families with one child or less than £26,300 for families with two or more children.**

Applications can be made [online](https://tinyurl.com/2an83map).

Click <https://tinyurl.com/2an83map> to apply

If you have any questions, or need confidential advice then please do get in touch with the office.

Start and finish times

Our 'new' start and finish times have got off to a good start with the majority of children being in school on time. A reminder that the day now looks like this:

- Children will be welcomed into classrooms from 8:40am
- Registration will take place at **8:45am**
- Breaktime will take place mid-morning and last 15 minutes
- Key Stage 1 lunchtime will be 11:45am - 12:45pm
- Key Stage 2 lunchtime will be 12:15pm - 1:15pm
- School will finish at **3:15pm**

Children should be on the school grounds ready for the doors to open (8:40am) so a prompt start can be made—teachers will be there to welcome them in. Children arriving after registration miss valuable learning and support opportunities as well as disrupting the learning of others when they do arrive, so please ensure your child arrives on time.

School Uniform

It's great to see the children looking so smart in their uniforms. They are encouraged to take the same pride in the way they look as they do in their work. Our uniform list is simple, and all the items are readily available:

- Grey skirt or pinafore dress
- Grey trousers or shorts
- White polo shirt
- Blue sweatshirts, cardigans or fleeces with the school logo on
- Pale blue and white checked dress (summer) or playsuit
- Black school shoes with white, grey or black socks / black or grey tights

Blue sweatshirts, cardigans, fleeces and polo shirts with the school logo on can be purchased from *Example School Uniforms* on Sileby Road www.exampleschooluniforms.com, or from *Rosebuddies* on Loughborough Market and online at www.rosebuddiesonline.co.uk/. All items of clothing must be named.



Additionally, we have a wide selection of good quality, used uniform available in reception which is free.

PE Kit

Some form of physical activity takes place most days. This may be PE or Games, inside or outside. Your child must have a change of clothing for these activities kept in a bag. PE kit should be left in school all week so that it is readily available and taken home for cleaning at the weekend.

We expect children to have the following:

- Black shorts
- Plain white T-shirt—not football/rugby/sports kit
- Plimsolls for indoor gym/dance
- Trainers for outdoor PE
- Tracksuit/warm top for cold weather (black, blue or grey)
- A suitable bag to store the PE kit

Kit should be clearly labelled. It will not stop them losing it but at least they may get it back! PE and Games are not the same thing. Trainers which are worn outside are not safe on indoor apparatus. Plimsolls or bare feet are suitable for indoor work.



Jewellery in school

We do not allow the wearing of jewellery and ear-rings must be removed for PE. Large, colourful hair accessories/head bands and nail varnish are not to be worn at school.