



# School Update

Friday 29th August 2025

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## In this weeks update:

- Happy New Year!
- Diary Dates
- School Day timings
- GDPR/Nuts and FSM



## 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 the first couple of 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!

**Building (demolition) work** has already begun and we look forward to our new two-classroom block being in place for Christmas. This work brings disruption which is having an impact on access around school.

We've communicated a few changes to parents of children in Year 3/5&6 who have been impacted by congestion on the Victorian playground. To address this, we've made a few changes: Mrs Miles (Y4) and Mrs Baines (Y3) will use different entry/exit points and Year 5/6 children have been encouraged to arrive at school from the rear (Melton Road) and walk through the playgrounds, past the hall to the Year 5/6 building. We will also be allowing parents to walk through the Year 5/6 building at drop off allowing easier access down to Key Stage 1. The Melton Road gate will continue to be used through the building period.

We will continue to monitor pedestrian traffic flow and make changes as and when we need to. I would ask for your patience and understanding while we seek the best way to manage the large number of people around school at drop off and pick up.

Kind regards

Steve Dunn, Headteacher



## Autumn Term 2025

### September 2025

Mon 22nd- Fri 3rd Oct Year 6 Swimming Lessons

### October 2025

Mon 20th- Fri 24th Autumn half-term break

### December 2025

Fri 19th Last day of Autumn Term

## Spring Term 2026

### January 2026

Tues 6th School opens for Spring Term

### February 2026

Mon 16th- Fri 20th Spring half term break

### March 2026

Fri 27th Last day of Spring Term

**Term dates for [2025-26](#) and [2026-27](#) can be found on the school website. Please avoid booking holidays during term time. Many thanks**

## A reminder of our school day timings:

- Gates open at 8.35am when children in KS2 will be welcomed **straight into classrooms**; Reception and Y1 children will still line up outside the classroom doors.
- Registration will take place at **8:45am**
- School finishes at **3:15pm**

The children in **KS2** should be on the school grounds ready for the gates to open (8:35am) where they will **go straight in to their classrooms** so a prompt start can be made. They will not need to line up, but go straight in. Younger children will still wait outside their classrooms to be welcomed in by their teachers.

When waiting outside school before school, the children have been asked to move away from Church Street and instead wait further down the car park until the gates are opened.

# 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

## 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.



**Applications can be made [online](#).**

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

**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.**

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