



School Update

Friday 19th December 2025

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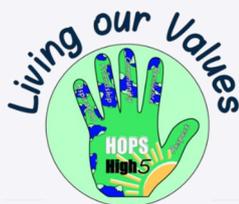
@Hall_Orchard

www.hall-orchard.leics.sch.uk



In this weeks update:

- It's Christmas!
- Diary Dates
- Promoting Positive Parenting Workshop
- First Time Admissions
- PTFA News
- School & Community News



It's Christmas!

Christmas Day is just under a week away now, and the children's excitement levels are so very high—I'm sure you're already aware of that though! An incredibly long and exceptionally busy Autumn term is complete and we are nearly at the end of what has been a challenging year for the school.

It has been a very hectic term—the children have done so much and have worked extremely hard—as have the hardworking staff. The children have experienced a lot of enjoyment in their learning with exciting experiences and cultural studies taking place in school across the term. Wider curriculum events, instrumental lessons and musical performances as well as trips and outdoor learning have also enriched their all round development.

We have celebrated Harvest, and now Christmas through drama, dance and song - each performance has been a joy to watch. It was fantastic over the last two weeks to see so many of you at our Pre-school and Reception Nativity Services, our KS1 Performances this week—and today—having such great turnouts in church for our KS2 Carol Concerts—I'm sure you'll agree the choir were fantastic. Wonderful experiences for all those involved.

May I take this opportunity to say thank you for all your support this term and wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

We'll see you back at school for the start of the Spring Term on Tuesday 6th January 26.

Merry Christmas to all!

Steve Dunn, Headteacher

Spring Term 2026

January 2026

Tues 6th School opens for Spring Term

Thur 15th Young Voices Concert, Birmingham

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

'Promoting Positive Parenting' Workshop

The Pastoral and Wellbeing team would like to invite you to a parent workshop entitled: *'Promoting Positive Parenting.'* The 7-week programme will give you simple and practical strategies to help build strong, healthy relationships, confidently manage your child's behaviour and prevent problems developing. It is an opportunity for you to hear about strategies to support your children at home if they are displaying anxious behaviours.

We will be holding two separate workshops.

- **Tuesdays 1:30pm-3:00pm**, starting 27th January for 7 weeks.
- An evening session will be held every **Wednesday 6:30pm-8:00pm**, starting 28th January .

Parents/carers must be able to commit to all 7 sessions.

Register your interest by emailing rharrison@hall-orchard.leics.sch.uk by 21st January 2026.

First-time Admissions: REMINDER

The closing date for applications for a school place in Autumn 2026 is Wednesday 15th January 2026.

This is for parents of pupils new to the school (including those who already have siblings at the school).

Parents are encouraged to apply online at <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/popular-now/apply-for-a-primary-school-place>

As we wrap up a fantastic term of fundraising, the PTFA would like to say a huge **thank you** for all your support. We're also delighted to share that last weeks **pop-up shop raised an amazing £183 in just half an hour** – thank you so much to everyone who came along and supported us! 🎉

Our fundraising events for 2025 are now finished, but there are still some easy ways you can help raise funds for the school over the Christmas period and into the New Year.

📦 Support Us While You Shop

You can continue to raise money at no extra cost simply by doing your usual shopping (including booking holidays!) through **easyfundraising**. It's quick to set up, completely free, and every purchase helps the PTFA support school projects.

👉 <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/hall-orchard-ce-primary-school-ptfa>

Don't forget to set up the donation reminder in your browser!

💡 Free Bill Review with Utility Warehouse

You can also support the PTFA by booking a free, no-obligation bill review with **Lisa at Utility Warehouse** (based in the village). You could save money on your household bills while helping to generate funds for the school.

👉 <https://uw.co.uk/ref/connector/CN-JX0W>

📖 Looking Ahead to 2026 – National Year of Reading

To celebrate the **National Year of Reading 2026**, we're excited to announce a school-wide **Sponsored Readathon** — helping to raise funds and support the school to continue developing a strong whole-school culture of reading for pleasure.

The Readathon will launch at the end of January, starting with a **non-uniform day** in exchange for an unwanted book donation. These donated books will then be sold at a **PTFA Book Sale in February**.

And here's the exciting part...

All funds raised from our reading activities will go towards a **TOP SECRET PTFA PROJECT** 🤫 ✨

We can't reveal the surprise just yet, but we promise it's something the children will love!

More details will follow when we return in January. We hope the children will be as excited as we are to take part in a year celebrating the joy of reading.

Thank you for your ongoing support—have a great Christmas.
The PTFA Team



⚡ Energy 📶 Broadband 📱 Mobile 🛡️ Insurance

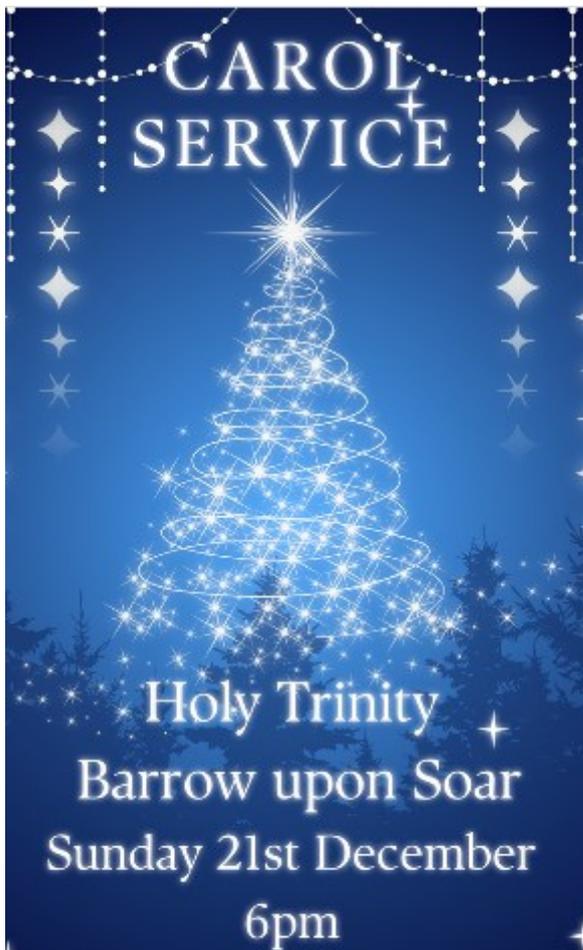
Helping you save time and money on your utility bills helps raise funds for the PTFA

Free of charge 1-2-1 bill review service
Based in Barrow – Upon – Soar

- Cheapest multi-service provider in the UK
 - Unbeatable broadband service with no mid contract price hikes
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 - Switching is simple we contact your providers for you
 - Up to £400 available to help you out of existing contracts*
 - Cashback on all your purchases everywhere you shop
 - The opportunity to earn an extra income, from home
- *full details are discussed during appointment.

To book an appointment for your free bill review click on the QR code or click connectors.uw.co.uk/CN-JX0W





CAROL SERVICE

Holy Trinity
Barrow upon Soar
Sunday 21st December
6pm

There are several events and services to get involved in at our churches—Holy Trinity and the Baptist Church—in the village over the Christmas period.

CRIB SERVICE



Christmas Eve
5.30pm

Holy Trinity Church
Barrow upon Soar



Join our Nativity!

21st December



Barrow Baptist **Bb**
your community church

Now is your chance to be part of the Christmas story... well not quite, but come and dress up (or your kids) as the characters you've always wanted. We promise to make it fun and we have costumes ready to throw on.

If dressing up is not your thing, no problem. Join us anyway (taking part is optional)

We'll start at 8:30am with a bouncy castle & breakfast followed by the Nativity celebration at 10am.



Barrow Baptist **Bb**
your community church

Carols by Candlelight Service

Sunday 21st Dec 6 pm

Followed by refreshments and mince pies.

Beventidge Street, Barrow upon Soar, LE12 8PL
Phone: 01509 416 603, Charity Number: 1129862