Harpley CE Primary School
Living, Learning & Flourishing

WEEKLY NEWS AND INFORMATION

'I will instruct you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.' Psalm 32:8

Dear Parents/Carers,

We say goodbye to Helen West and Lily Harman in October. I'm sure you will join me in wishing them all the best for their new adventures, and thanking them for their hard work and dedication for the children at Harpley. I will keep you updated on new arrivals as soon as I have news.

We will be having a prayer space morning Wednesday 15th October. This is a great opportunity for the children to have some calm reflection time and also supports the R.E. curriculum. The morning will be run by a prayer space group who have visited many of Norfolk's church schools. This promises to be a fun, relaxing and educational morning for all the children.

Year 5 and 6 will be having their residential in March 2026. A letter with more details has come home today for those year groups. More information nearer the time at a planned parents' information evening.



News from the Infants (Reception, Year 1 & Year 2)

We have been busy as usual this week enjoying an active and creative week. We have most of our "Challenge areas" open now and the children are able to access everything from sand play, writing and mark making, fine motor practice, building and construction, Art and design, role play and even discovery through our mud kitchen (sorry if there have been muddy clothes). The children have been choosing where to learn but are encouraged to engage in a variety of different activities during the week. We have been so busy and having so much fun I have forgotten to take photos but will make sure I share some soon.

In our more formal sessions we have been counting, ordering and comparing numbers to 20 (sounds simple but we have been doing some really deep thinking about numbers). We have also been writing a familiar story and learning how to compose simple sentences recognising the verbs in each sentence. The year 2's have been able to extend their sentences with adjectives too.

All in all a marvellous week!

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Infants:

Amos for super maths work this week

Mia for super reading

Lucien for super writing in the writing shed

Juniors:

Luke for brilliant and thoughtful answers in RE this week

All of year 6 for brilliant group leader work in PE this week.

News from the Juniors (Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 & Year6)

This week has been another busy one in Oak class. As a class we have been looking in English at big cats, due to the links to our new book for writing. The children have been researching and are working towards producing fact files about 4 different big cats. They have been telling us lots of interesting facts and information. All the adults have definitely learnt a lot this week! In science year 3 and 4 have been building circuits, they found that they don't always work and tested different ways to fix this. In PE the children have been working hard learning about tag rugby and they also completed some circuits this week with lots of interesting obstacles to tackle. They did really well and should be proud of themselves.

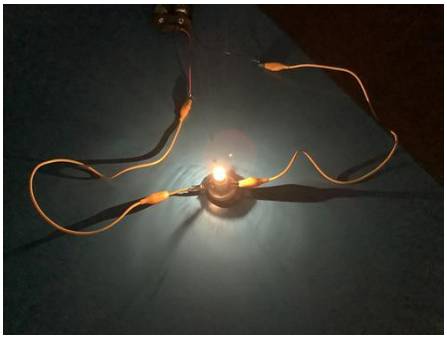
We also took the chance on Thursday to chat to the new year 3 children and ask them about how it has been joining the KS2 class and what they would change if they could.

Max said " I love year 3, it's been fun, I wouldn't change anything!"

Rose " I have been enjoying it and learnt so much. I would change having a class pet and a class sleepover would be cool!"

Oriel " I have been enjoying learning about animals, science, music and art have been fun too! I would like a class pet!"
Luke " I like not having to sit on the carpet! I like the work as well!"
Felicity " I like the reading corner and would spend more time there! I like how year 3 is."
Ruby " I am enjoying it, I would stay longer and not go home early!"

It's lovely to see how positive they are and how well they have settled in.





REGULAR DATES

School gates are open 8.40am - 8.50am (the gate closes at 8.50 and after this time your child will be marked in the register as late) Pick up is 3.20pm.

MONDAY – 22nd September 2025 (Week 2 on the NORSE menu – *please pay for school lunches on a Monday)* Meals are £2.70 each

MONDAY

TUESDAY

All pupils to come to school in their PE kit, they will remain in them all day. Please could children bring in spare socks and school shoes so that if they have been out on the field and their shoes and socks are wet, they have another pair to change in to.

WEDNESDAY

AM Tom Relihan, drum tutor
To sign up please contact Tom via email on tomrelihan@gmx.com

THURSDAY

All pupils to come to school in their PE kit, they will remain in them all day. Please could children bring in spare socks and school shoes so that if they have been out on the field and their shoes and socks are wet, they have another pair to change in to.
1.30-3.00pm whole school open afternoon, for prospective new pupils & parents in all year groups, please tell people who you think might like to attend.

FRIDAY

FUTURE DATES

1.30-3.00pm Thursday 25th September whole school open afternoon, for prospective new pupils & parents in all year groups, please tell people who you think might like to attend.
9th October 2.00-3.00pm Harvest Festival at St Lawrence Church
15th October AM Y6 ECMP. YR ECMP, vision & hearing (letters home w/c 1.9.2025)
W/C 3rd November parent consultation appointments
7th November AM school photographs
17th November AM Flu vaccinations
8th December 1.30-3.00pm Nativity & Carol Service in St Lawrence Church

VISION, VALUES & COLLECTIVE WORSHIP - Friendship
Collective worship: - Collective worship this half term is all about friendship.

This week the children have been talking about loneliness, a friend in need and how friendship provides vital support.
Genesis 2:18. "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."

Our 5 Core Values:



Value Leaders: Our value leaders take responsibility for supporting the leadership of visions and values in the school. The year 5 & 6 value leaders at each school have been tasked with leading a collective worship after half term. All the value leaders at both schools (yrs3-6) will be updating our visions and values displays and supporting me to improve the school environment. They are beginning to chair their own meetings too!

FIRST ADMISSIONS

SCHOOL YEAR 2025/26

Parents of children born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022 should automatically receive a booklet and application form through the post. Parents can apply online www.admissionsonline.norfolk.gov.uk (website open between 23rd September 2025 and 15th January 2026)
Or you can contact admissions on 0344 8008020. Applications received after 15th January 2026 will be treated as late and will not be considered until places for all on time applications have been allocated.

This Harvest, the food bank really needs:

- Tinned meat
- Tinned fish
- Tinned vegetables
- Tinned / packet soups
- Jars of cooking sauce
- Small bottles of squash
- Small jars of coffee
- Tinned rice pudding
- Tinned custard
- Tinned fruit
- Biscuits
- Milk

King's Lynn Foodbank
Together with Trussell



TERM DATES

2025 AUTUMN TERM 	2026 SPRING TERM 	2026 SUMMER TERM 
Wednesday 3rd September – Friday 19th December (Half term – Monday 27th October – Friday 1st November)	Tuesday 6th January – Friday 27th March (Half term – Monday 16th – Friday 20th February)	Tuesday 14th April – Friday 17th July (Half term – Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May)

Great Massingham & Harpley Federated Schools are seeking to appoint highly motivated and enthusiastic individuals to join the Governing Body.

It will give you the chance to make a real difference to young people and give something back to your local community.

There is no requirement for you to have an understanding of the education system, just the necessary skills, character and time to contribute. There is plenty of training available to help you learn about education. Schools needs and benefit from a range of professional knowledge on their governing board.

As a governor, you will be able to:

- Use your own experience of education and life beyond school to inform conversations
- Develop and utilise your skills in a board-level environment
- Make a valuable contribution to education and your community
- Support and challenge the school so that it improves for pupils and staff
- Bring your unique experiences, perspectives and insights in to decision-making in the interests of the school community

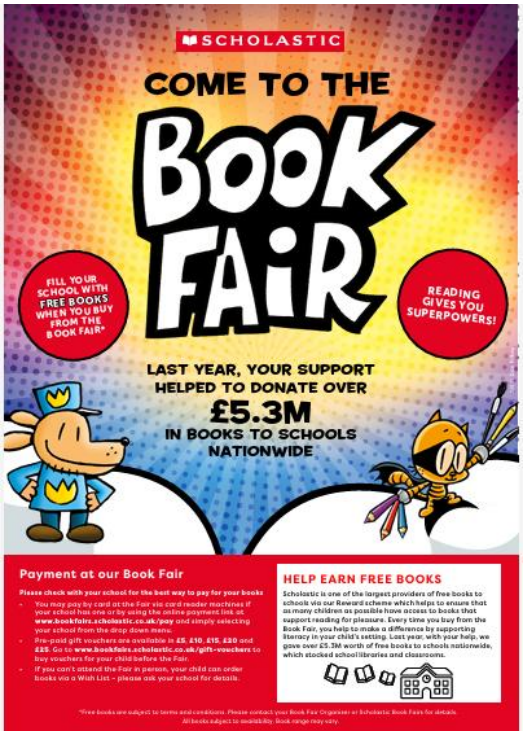
What governors do? The governing board provides strategic leadership and accountability in schools. It has three key functions:

- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent
- Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction

Great Massingham & Harpley Federated Schools are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all. All Governors will be required to undertake an enhanced DBS clearance and will be required to complete training to support the role.

If you would like to find out more please contact Mrs Hilary Myhill, Headteacher 01485 520362 or 01485 520274.





Dear Ms Myhill,

I'm writing regarding the attached information about the Great Massingham Short Story Competition. We'll be launching the competition in the Mallard and on local websites at the **end of October**, and I'd be grateful if you could circulate the details to pupils and their families ahead of the half term holidays.

Key points for parents:

- **Who can enter:** children aged **5–11** who live in Great Massingham or attend a primary school here.
- **Story length:** up to **500 words**; original work only.
- **Deadline: Friday 19 December 2025**.
- **How to submit:** by email to themallardeditor@gmail.com or by post to **6 Abbeyfields, Abbey Road, Great Massingham, PE32 2JE**.

- **Parental consent:** a signed **Parental Consent Form** must accompany each entry (attached). Entries are handled in line with **UK GDPR**; only the child's first name, age and story may be published if they win, with parental consent.
- **Prize & timeline:** the winner receives a **£25 Amazon Gift Voucher**; the winner will be contacted by **28 February 2026** and may be published in a future issue of *The Mallard*.
- **Enquiries:** Sarah Harvey (Editor, *The Mallard*) – themallardeditor@gmail.com, **01328 823391**.

I've attached the **Parental Consent Form** and the **Terms & Conditions** for easy sharing with parents and carers.

Many thanks for your help in spreading the word.

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Kind regards,

Sarah

Sarah Harvey (Miss)
Clerk, Great Massingham Parish Council

Short Story Competition Terms &

Short Story Competition Parenta

Good Morning,

ICS Coaching - Would it be possible to please share the following opportunities with your parents for their children?

1. Dodgeball Tournament

- **When:** End of October
- **Who:** Years 4, 5 & 6
- **Details:** Last year we had over 15 teams enter, and we would love for a team from your school to participate!
- **Note:** This competition takes place outside of school hours. Parents are responsible for taking their children; no staff supervision is required.
- **Sign Up:** Dodgeball Registration Form

2. Young Leaders Program

- **Details:** An opportunity for children to develop leadership skills that they can bring back to school. For Year 4,5 & 6.
- **Sign Up:** Young Leaders Registration Form

We will ensure that children are photographed during activities (with permission) so we can celebrate their successes.

We would greatly appreciate your help in forwarding this information to parents.

Kind regards,
Matt

ICS Coaching - 07765601690