



Newsletter

07.11.25

Dear Parents and Carers,

Good morning, I hope that you are all well and that you enjoyed a lovely half term. After a week back at school, it feels a bit like a distant memory, especially with the darker evenings!

This week we are pleased to be welcoming Miss Harris back from maternity leave. Miss Harris will be resuming her role as SENDCo, and we have been able to slightly increase the time that she has available for this role. I will also remain involved within this area and, alongside Mrs MacDonald, we will be working as a team focusing on SEND and vulnerable pupils.

Miss Harris will also be teaching in Dormouse class on a Friday for the remainder of the term, this will be a fantastic opportunity for her to work with our youngest pupils to ensure they get the best start.

Staffing can at times be a bit like trying to fit together the pieces of a complex jigsaw. I am so happy to lead such a professional and dedicated team. The strengths of our school are increasingly being recognised within the local authority and beyond. As a result of this a number of us are helping other schools with their development and taking part in training for national accreditation within maths.

I am aware of the need to ensure that children have a degree of consistency and that we do not overstretch ourselves. I observe that all classes are calm, happy with a focus upon progress and learning at this time.

Have a super weekend,

Mrs Newbold

Attendance

I regularly remind the school community of the importance of strong attendance and arriving on time for the start of the school day.

These two factors hugely influence academic success and emotional wellbeing.

Children hate arriving late, missing out on initial settling in activities and key aspects of learning. Days off can interrupt the learning process and lead to significant gaps in knowledge and understanding. It is often hard for them to catch up. This in turn can impact their enjoyment of school. Which in turn can lead to reluctance to come to school.

Parents often underestimate the impact of days off and late arrival. However, you can see how this becomes a vicious cycle.

Of course, it can at times be necessary for children to have time off. But, please, please keep these times to the absolutely necessary.

It is right that we encourage strong attendance. We are looking for at least 96% attendance. Across the school last term, we had an average of 94.4%. Unfortunately, slightly below target.

Thankfully most children attend amazingly well. However, some children have stubbornly weaker attendance. This places them at a disadvantage both academically and socially. It can be hard to close a gap when it opens, so please, please only take time away from school when it is absolutely necessary!

This term we will introduce attendance certificates and a prize draw for children with 97% attendance or above as a means of promoting and rewarding those with strong attendance.

Odd Socks Day

Monday 10th November is Odd Socks Day. Please encourage children to wear odd socks to school on this day.

We will be wearing odd socks to recognise the start of Anti-bullying week.

We will be wearing them to celebrate the fact that we are all the same but different. It raises awareness of bullying and promotes acceptance.

Cross Country

Yesterday children from across Key Stage 2 took part in the annual Weald Schools' cross country event. I have been told that the children did amazingly well, with many bettering their positions from last year. I have also been told that the children, and indeed the parents were hugely supportive and encouraging to each other. Our school value to community and inclusivity in action. This is wonderful to hear and well done to everyone who took part!

Half term sponsored Nature Activity fundraiser

Many thanks to Mrs Coxon for organising this event. It has proved a huge success, and I hope you all found it enjoyable too!

If you have participated, but have not returned your forms yet, we have extended the return deadline to Monday, so there is still time to take part if you haven't had the chance yet.

Thank you for your support with this.

As a reminder we will be hosting a get together for those interested in next steps for a PTA in the hall at 1.45pm on Wednesday 12th November.

It would be great to see lots of you and to hear thoughts regarding next steps forward!

Threadworms

We have had a case of threadworms in school. Please check your child and treat as appropriate.

Coats

Please ensure your child brings a coat to school every day.

Bringing history and science to life in year 6.

Our work towards the arts mark strongly supports the use of creativity to promote learning.

Here we have music and drama supporting the writing process and modelling being used to support children learn key scientific knowledge.



In Otter Class this week we were exploring balances in gymnastics.



Dates

November

Monday 10th – Odd Socks Day for anti-bullying

Wednesday 12th – Open day for 2026 Reception children 9.15am
- PTA afternoon Tea 1.45-2.45pm

Thursday 13th – Open day for 2026 Reception children 2.15pm

Friday 14th – Dormouse and Hedgehog Drop and Read 8.45-9.15am

Tuesday 18th – Fox Class trip – Brighton Take Shelter

Wednesday 19th – KS1 Multiskills Festival at The Weald

Thursday 20th – Stay and play session for 2026 Reception children 3.30-4.30pm

Tuesday 25th – Hedgehog and Dormouse trip to Stanmer Park

Wednesday 26th - Stay and play session for 2026 Reception children 3.30-4.30pm

Thursday 27th – Otter class assembly 2.45pm (parents/carers invited)

Friday 28th – Otter and Squirrel trip to Butser Ancient Farm
- Dormouse and Hedgehog Drop and Read 8.45-9.15am

December

Friday 12th - Dormouse and Hedgehog Drop and Read 8.45-9.15am

Thursday 18th – Chartwells Christmas lunch

Friday 19th – Break up for Christmas holidays at 1.30pm

January

Monday 5th – Children back in school