



HANDFORD HALL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter — April 2025

57, Gatacre Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 2LQ
 Headteacher: Mrs K Blake BA (Hons)
 tel: 01473 251 603 website: www.handfordhall.omat.org.uk

Headteacher Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are in our last week of Spring Term and are getting closer to our Easter break. Last week we completed our assessments and will be sharing their outcomes with you at our Parent Consultation evenings on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Over the Easter Holidays, year 6 students will have 4 additional learning sessions during the holidays (Easter Master Classes) that will be led by their class teachers. Thank you to Mrs Pearl and Mr Harraway for giving up their own time during the holidays.

Saying Goodbye to Mrs Atherton and Mrs Rudd.

Mrs Atherton will be leaving us at the end of this term as she is relocating up North to be close to her family. I would like to thank Mrs Atherton for all her hard work and support and wish her all the best in her future endeavours. Good luck Mrs Atherton, we will miss you.

We are also saying goodbye to Mrs Rudd who is retiring at the end of this term. Mrs Rudd supported our pupils, staff and the school community for over 20 years and has been very valuable member of our team. We would like to thank Mrs Rudd for her dedication and service to our schools and community. For her devotion and hard work Mrs Rudd deserves the best retirement ever. All the best, Mrs Rudd—enjoy this new journey of life.

Have a lovely Easter break and see you back on [Tuesday 22nd April](#).

Yours sincerely,
 Mrs Blake
 Headteacher

March 2025 Attendance figures

RC 98%	RB 94%	1L 92%
1M 97%	2B 97%	2SM 95%
3A 93%	3B 93%	4S 98%
4W 98%	5B 97%	5G 95%
6H 95%	6P 98%	School end of year target 97%



Spring Term Parent Consultation Evening

Tuesday 1st April—4.00-7.00
 Wednesday 2nd April—4.00-6.00

End of Spring Term Celebration Assembly

Friday 4th April 2025 at 10am

March 2025



Geography at HH

Learning about different biomes in the world.



Colchester Zoo trip (Year 1)



World Book Day at Handford Hall



TERM DATES

2024-2025

September 24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October 24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November 24						
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December 24						
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29	30	31				

January 25						
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 25						
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March 25						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
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April 25						
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
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May 25						
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June 25						
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July 25						
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August 25						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

 School holiday closures
 PD days

Term dates for 2024/25

Spring Term 2025

Friday 4th April—Last day of term

Easter break - 7.04-18.04.2025

Summer term 2025

Tuesday 22nd April - school starts

Half term - 26.05-30.05.2025

Friday 18th July - last day of school (end of term)

TERM DATES 2025-2026

September 25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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October 25						
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November 25						
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December 25						
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January 26						
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February 26						
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March 26						
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29	30	31				


April 26						
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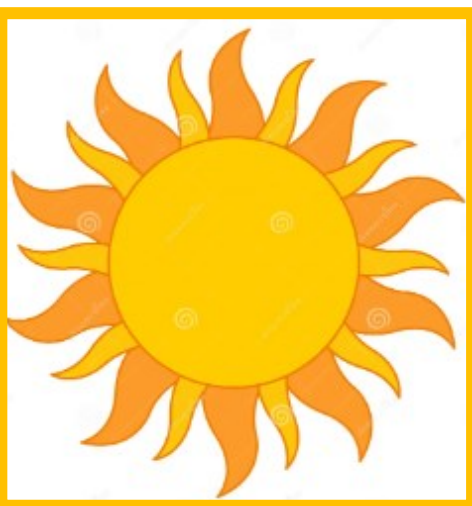
May 26						
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June 26						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
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30	31					

 School holiday and PD days - no school for children



Planning ahead to avoid fixed term penalties

This academic year, we are finishing school on **Friday 18th July 2025 (18.07.2025)**.

In the academic year 2025/26 school starts on **Wednesday 3rd September 2025 (3.09.2025)**, therefore parent will have **6 weeks and 2 days (47 days)** of the summer holidays.

If you are planning to travel abroad, please start planning now to avoid paying high prices for your flight tickets and return to school on time in September.

Working together in securing the best possible attendance

Pupil absences/term time holidays/visiting relatives abroad/renewing passports abroad

At Orwell Multi Academy Trust, we expect all children to be in school every day, unless they are too ill to attend.

Following government attendance guidelines, term time holidays, visiting relatives abroad during term time, renewing passports abroad during term time will not be authorised and will result in a fine. Unauthorised absences will also result in legal intervention.


Every school in the Trust has staff who can support you with your child's attendance, so we ask that you work with us to ensure that your child is in school, on time, every day.

ATTENDANCE WHAT THE NEW RULES MEAN FOR ME

1 I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week.

Your holiday will not be authorised and you must talk to the school before you book anything. Because your child will miss 5 school days you will be given a penalty notice fine. The fine is £160 but if you pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to £80.

£160



2 FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN.

4 children & **1** parent = **£640**
Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE

10 IN 10


If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised. The school will consider prosecution.

1 Day = **2** Sessions

3 FOR A FAMILY OF TWO PARENTS

+£160 +£160 +£160 +£160

4 children & **2** parents = **£1280**
Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days



4 If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance...


2ND TIME

2 parents and 1 child = £320
2 children = 640
3 children = 960
4 children = 1280
No discount for early payment

3RD TIME

A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court. A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child

1 parent & **4** children = **£10,000**
2 parents & **4** children = **£20,000**



Handford Hall School Uniform

Please ensure children do not wear PE kit on their PE days, thank you

Uniform

Children should wear:

- Black/dark blue trousers or skirt
- A white shirt or polo shirt
- A navy cardigan or a jumper with the school logo (this can be purchased from [PMG Schoolwear](#), Westgate Street)
- Black shoes

Please label EVERYTHING.

(Jewellery should not be worn)



2024/25	HH protocols
Start time	School gates open 8.30 School gates close 8.40
End time	School gates open 3.30 (Mon– Thurs) School gates close 3.45 (Mon– Thurs) School gates open 1.00 (Fri) School gates close 1.15 (Fri)
School office opening hours for parents	8.30-9.30 (Mon—Fri) 3.00-4.00 (Mon—Thurs) 1.00-2.00 (Fri)
Lunches for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 (Universal Free School Meals)	From September 2023 pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will have school dinners or school packed lunches. No home packed lunches.
Pupils' mobile phones	Pupils' mobile phones will not be allowed on school premises.
Bringing/collecting pupils to/from school	Only parents and identified by the families adults (18 years +) will be allowed to bring and collect children to and from school. No under-age siblings/under-age family members are permitted to bring/collect pupils to/from school.
Pupils walking to school/walking home on their own	Year 6 pupils can apply for permission to walk to school/home on their own. Please request forms at the school office, thank you.

What to bring to school



HH School book bag

Bottle of water



HH PE kit in PE bag



Packed lunch if required (KS2 only)



What not to bring to school



No rucksacks if possible please



No fizzy drinks or sweets please



No bikes/scooters /home toys please



No pencils cases please

