



HANDFORD HALL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter – November 2024

57, Gatacre Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 2LQ
Headteacher: Mrs K Blake BA (Hons)
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Headteacher Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reflect on the vibrant activities that have recently taken place at our school, I'm delighted to share some of the highlights that have enriched our pupils' learning experiences.

October saw our school buzzing with excitement during our RE Day, a wonderful opportunity for our children to delve deeper into their understanding of different faiths. We welcomed representatives from All Saint's Church, who started the day with an inspiring assembly that set the tone for our explorations.

Throughout the day, each year group embarked on a unique journey of discovery, tackling thought-provoking questions tailored to their age and understanding. Our youngest learners in Reception pondered the significance of the word 'God' to Christians, while Year 1 explored the importance of belonging to God and the church family. Year 2 ventured into Judaism, discussing the concept of repentance during New Year celebrations.

As we moved up the school, the questions became more complex. Year 3 considered how Christians demonstrate the importance of reconciliation, while Year 4 examined how the belief in Jesus as a saviour inspires Christians to serve others. Our older pupils in Years 5 and 6 grappled with more abstract concepts, such as the meaning of the gospel and the belief in Jesus as God incarnate.

These discussions not only broadened our pupils' knowledge but also fostered an atmosphere of respect and understanding for diverse beliefs and practises.

In a complete change of pace, our school was transformed into a ballroom for our PE Enrichment Day. The halls echoed with lively music as our children participated in exhilarating dance workshops focusing on Latin and Ballroom styles. It was truly heartening to see the sheer joy and enthusiasm radiating from our pupils as they twirled, stepped, and swayed to the rhythms.

The workshops were a fantastic opportunity for our children to explore new forms of physical expression, improve their coordination, and boost their confidence. The energy was infectious, and I wouldn't be surprised if we've inspired some future Strictly Come Dancing stars!

These events exemplify our commitment to providing a rich, varied curriculum that nurtures not just the mind, but the body and spirit as well. Whether it's through thoughtful discussions about faith or the joy of movement, we're dedicated to helping our pupils grow into well-rounded, empathetic, and confident individuals.

As always, I'm immensely proud of our pupils' engagement and enthusiasm, and grateful for the hard work of our staff in making these experiences possible. Here's to many more exciting learning adventures at Handford Hall!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Blake
Headteacher

CLASS	End of Half Term HEADTEACHER'S AWARD
RC	Suzie has made a fantastic start to school. She is a kind, polite member of the class who always makes good choices. Well done, Suzie, we are very lucky to have you in RC.
RB	Miruna - what a great start to the school year. You have settled into school life really quickly and are growing in confidence every day. You are a kind friend and have amazing manners.
1M	This term, Pavneet has demonstrated excellent resilience in Year 1. She started this term only knowing her numbers to 10, and now can add and subtract numbers to 20. Pavneet has also already moved up 2 groups in Read Write Inc because she has been focused and determined every day. Well done, Pavneet, 1M are so proud of you!
1L	Amanee is a hardworking member of the class who is making great progress this term. Her behaviour for learning is outstanding and she can always be relied upon to be a positive role model for the other children. Well done, Amanee! I can't wait to see what you achieve in Year 1 next term!
2B	Iosif listens carefully and is quick to follow instructions. He is focused, curious and always ready to share his ideas. Iosif tries hard to succeed at tasks independently but also supports others a kindly manner. He is kind and friendly and can always be found following school rules. An excellent behaviour for learning role model. Well done
2SM	Cattleya is focused and resilient every day. She tries her best in every lesson and works hard. She is curious about new topics and asks interesting questions. Well done, Cattleya.
3B	Maria is an absolute super star! She has started Year 3 with a fantastic attitude and ready to learn. She has already made fantastic progress, and this is due to her amazing behaviour for learning. Maria is always one of the first to have her hand up to answer a question, one of the first to support her friends and also help with jobs. She is a role model to other students at school. Keep it up, Maria. You are amazing!
3A	Luca has been a star this term and has been trying his best in every subject. He shows great focus and resilience especially in Maths where he is able to challenge himself further. He is beginning to add great ideas to our discussions and has been showing his curiosity in the learning logs he completes. Well done Luca - you are a star!
4W	Hamnah has made a fantastic start to year 4. She is keen to share her learning with others and always chooses to challenge herself. Her behaviour for learning is exemplary and is a role model for others. Keep up the fantastic work Hamnah!
4S	Andreea has had a full half term of committed learning: not one lesson goes by where she does not show full focus as well as resilience, particularly in Maths which she does not find as easy at times. She will ask for help or use the tools around her to support her learning. She is a great role model to others around her. Fantastic learning Andreea, well done.
5B	Temidayo has shown fantastic behaviour for learning all. He works incredibly hard in every lesson and is always very focused. He is keen to make progress and listens carefully to advice given, to help him make progress. Temidayo is a pleasure to teach and should be incredibly proud of his efforts so far in Year 5. Keep up your hard work!
5G	Sofia - for having outstanding behaviour for learning over this half term. Well done for always being curious and engaged in all of your work. You always try your best even when you find something challenging. Congratulations on a fantastic start to the year!
6H	Erin has been selected by her teacher, and a great many of her peers in class. Erin has shown high levels of focus, effort and attainment in her own work consistently. She has also been an excellent work partner to others in class. Her attitude and effort across the entire 8 weeks have been exemplary.
6P	Abdulla has worked throughout the half-term with great consistency. He has shown great focus and resilience across all areas of the curriculum and shown that with hard work anything can be achieved. We are now starting to hear his voice more and more; showing his developing oracy skills and curiosity.

October 2024 Attendance figures

RC 97%	RB 96%	1L 97%
1M 98%	2B 93%	2SM 95%
3A 97%	3B 96%	4S 97%
4W 98%	5B 96%	5G 95%
6H 98%	6P 97%	School end of year target 97%

Handford Hall weekly updates What happens at school?

Visit us on Social media platform:

<https://twitter.com/HandfordHallPS> Or scan
this QR code on your phone



Handford Hall poppies
At the Buttermarket,
Ipswich.

To commemorate the
110th anniversary of
World War I, HH
children participate in
the Poppy Project.

Go and visit the dis-
play at the Butter-
market from the 1st
November - 11th No-
vember.



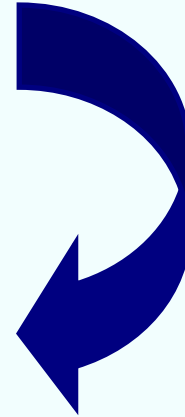
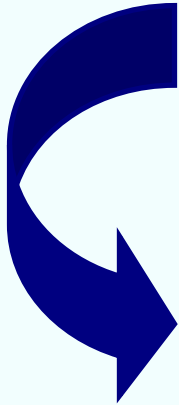
HH Children's Book Show for Parents

Day, time and place	Year groups:	What to expect
Tuesday 12th November 3.10-3.30 (Dome)	Year 3 (3A, 3B)	HH Book Show for Y3 parents
Wednesday 13th November 3.10-3.30 (Dome)	Year 2 (2B, 2SM)	HH Book Show for Y2 parents
Thursday 14th November 3.10-3.30 (Dome)	Year 1(1M, 1L)	HH Book Show for Y1 parents
Tuesday 19th November 3.10-3.30 (Dome)	Year 4 (4A and 4W)	HH Book Show for Y4 parents
Wednesday 20th November 3.10-3.30 (Dome)	Year 5 (5B and 5G)	HH Book Show for Y5 parents
Thursday 21st November 3.10-3.30 (Dome)	Year 6 (6H and 6P)	HH Book Show for Y6 parents

Upcoming events this term:

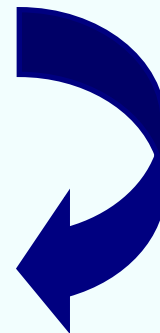
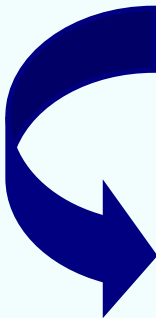
November 2024

- ◆ **Monday 4th November - PD day (no school for children)**
- ◆ Tuesday 12th November - 9.15am Reception open mornings (new intake 2025)
- ◆ Wednesday 13th November - 9.15am Reception open afternoon (new intake 2024)



- ◆ Tuesday 12th November - Cinema trip for Y1
- ◆ Wednesday 13th November - Cinema trip for Years 2, 5 and 6
- ◆ Wednesday 20th November - Cinema trip for Year 4
- ◆ **Tuesday 26th November- 4S Attendance Reward (Cinema trip)**
- ◆ Wednesday 27th November - Cinema trip for Y3

HH PE Enrichment days — fencing



- ◆ Tuesday 19th November
- ◆ Wednesday 20th November
- ◆ Thursday 21st November
- ◆ Friday 22nd November

December 2024

Tuesday 10th December - Diwali workshops
Wednesday 11th December - Diwali workshops

Panto

Wednesday 11th December and Thursday 12th December

Thursday 12th December—**RE day**

Monday 16th December - Christmas production 2.30 for Y2 parents
Tuesday 17th December – Christmas production 2.30 for Y1 parents

Friday 20th December – Celebration assembly 10.00 (all parents invited)
Friday 20th December – Christmas lunch

CHRISTMAS BREAK (21.12– 5.01.2025)

Punctuality - benefits of your child arriving on time each day and ways you can help.

Why is it important to be on time every day?

- Every moment a child is late = missed learning.
- Children that are on time start the day settled, relaxed and ready to learn. Children that arrive late are often stressed and embarrassed and take a while to settle into their day.
- Late arrivals cause disruption within the class which has an effect on everyone.

To help make mornings run smoothly and ensure punctuality:

- Be positive about going to school.
- It is a good idea to prep and lay out uniform, shoes, lunches and water bottles the night before.
- Have a list your children can see, of tasks they need to complete in a morning such as get dressed, shoes on, water bottle filled, teeth brushed etc so they know what they need to do to be ready to leave on time.
- Set an alarm in your phone or on Alexa when there are 10 minutes left to leave the house so your children have a reminder that it is almost time to go.
- Turn off TV and screens during breakfast and get ready time.
- Whether you drive your children to school or walk with them make sure that you leave the house in good time to arrive for 8.30am
- If your child walks to school alone, ensure they are out of the house in good time to get themselves to school.

Handford Hall School Uniform



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.

Handford Hall Primary School
(Jewellery should not be worn)



Concerns

As always, we are fully committed to the well-being of all children in our care. If you have any concerns about your child, please speak to **their class teacher** at your first opportunity. Appointments can be made by speaking to the teacher on the playground at the end of the school day. We ask parents to avoid speaking with class teachers at the start of the day as this takes them away from looking after the children. Please ask senior leaders on duty every morning on the playground to pass on a message if necessary. Thank you.

'HH is paperless'

- ◆ Our **monthly newsletters** will be emailed to our parents (link to our newsletter will also be texted to you). Paper copies will be provided by request.
- ◆ **End of Year reports (July)** will be emailed to our parents (paper copies will be provided by request).
- ◆ **Parent surveys** - Google Forms (paper copies will be provided by request).
- ◆ **Parent Consultations appointments** (via App) - more information will follow. Paper copies will be provided by request.
- ◆ **School trips**—permission slips. Paper copies will be provided by request.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Support for Parents:

family lives

Home Advice How we can help Get involved Forum

Live chat: online Email: open Helpline: open

If you need to talk, we're here to listen. Call us free on 0808 800 2222

See more

Filter by Age

Secondary Teenager Primary Toddler Baby Grandparent

Filter by Topic

Parenting Health and wellbeing Behaviour Mental health Bullying School Separation Divorce Relationships Development Online

Filter by Type

Advice article Video Online group Befriending Individual support Parenting group Leaflet Poster

FAMILY LIVES WEBSITE (<https://www.familylives.org.uk>)

If you are looking for general advice on any of the topics below, please take a look at the Family Lives website:

- Learning and school
- Health and development
- Behaviour
- Support for parents
- Relationship issues
- Safety online

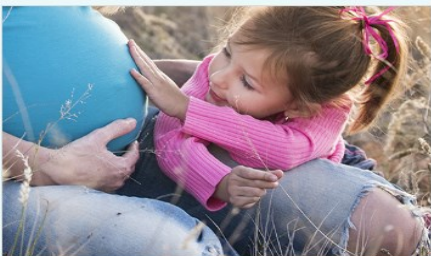
Emotional health and wellbeing (<https://inourplace.co.uk/>)

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD



The Solihull Approach series

Antenatal



Postnatal (0 - 6 months)



Children and Young People



Ipswich Branch Services (Open to all communities)

5 Coachman's Court, Old cattle market, Ipswich IP4 1DX



BME Suffolk Food Bank

Food bank runs on Monday | Wednesday | Friday 9:30 - 3PM

Self referral or organisation referral accepted



Monthly Gathering

Runs Saturdays

Open monthly meetings to address Isolation and Loneliness, and bring the Community together



BSSG Drop In

Runs Monday to Friday 9:30 - 3PM

Support and advice on
Employment
Housing
Benefits
Immigration
Mental Health / Wellbeing Support



Youth Forum

Primary school & Secondary school sessions :
Every other Thursday 5:00-6:30PM

Projects include events, outdoor, sports, and online activities



Community Cafe

Monday - Saturday
9:30 - 3PM

Cold drinks, Hot drinks, Snacks, Music, and Games



Library with Diverse books

Monday - Saturday
9:30 - 3PM

Printing, Scanning, Photocopies services Available at low costs

The Parent Hub

A single place for Suffolk parents or carers to find parenting advice and support to help their child's development.



Parenting programmes overview

Find out about parenting support programmes in Suffolk, and how to book a place on a course.

Local support for parents and carers

Local services and advice in Suffolk covering childcare, schools, child mental health services and staying in learning until a child is 18 years old.

Children's health and children's centre services

Information about our children's centres and our children's health services which includes health visiting, school nursing and other specialist services.

National organisations providing support to parents and carers

List of websites and organisations offering support to parents and carers in healthy living, dealing with behaviour and protecting a child from abuse.

Suffolk Family Information Service

Offering free and impartial advice to parents about finding childcare, the funded early education entitlement and other family services for 0-19 year olds.

Schools

Applying for a primary or secondary school place, school term dates, schools in Suffolk, school attendance, meals, trip and home to school travel.

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						
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27	28	29	30	31		

November 24						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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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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23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 25						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



April 25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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27	28	29	30			

May 25						
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July 25						
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	31		

August 25						
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
31						

 School holiday closures
 PD days

Term dates for 2024/25

Autumn Term 2024

Monday 2nd September—PD day (no school for children)

Tuesday 3rd September—PD day (no school for children)

Wednesday 4th September - school starts

Wednesday 9th October - PD Day (Parent Consultations)

Half term - 28.10-1.11.2024

Monday 4th November—PD day (Trust PD day)

Friday 20th December 2024—Last day of autumn term

Christmas break - 23.12-3.01.2025

Spring Term 2025

Monday 6th January - school starts

Half term - 17.02-21.02. 2025

Monday 24th February—OMAT PD day (additional)

Monday 17th March - PD day

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)

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

What not to bring to school

HH School book bag

No rucksacks if possible please



Bottle of water



No fizzy drinks or sweets please



HH PE kit in PE bag



No bikes/scooters /home toys please



Packed lunch if required (KS2 only)



No pencils cases please

