



12th September 2025

HARCOURT PRIMARY SCHOOL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 1 2025-26

Dear Families,

At the time of writing this newsletter the children have been in school nearly eight days. We have been delighted to see how well the children have returned to school. Walking around the classrooms it has been wonderful to see the children settling to their work, behaving well and developing those all important relationships with the adults and their peers.

I have been so pleased to see that nearly every pupil has quickly remembered our behavioural expectations and are working really hard to demonstrate the school's values of BELIEVE, ACHIEVE AND RESEPECT!

The start of the new year has been incredibly busy with us only being able to access the site on the training days. Thankfully all of this year's work has now been completed and the classrooms are looking great.

Non-Uniform Day – Cancer Research – Friday 19th September

Next weekend Mr Yates will be walking the Shine Night Walk London Marathon in London for Cancer Research. Sadly, this charity means a great deal to many of our school community so we wanted to support Mr Yates on his walk. On Friday 19th September we will holding a sporting themed non-uniform day. Children can come into school in sports clothes. The children will take part in some sporting events throughout the day. We will have buckets on the gate in the morning for those that wish to make a donation or alternatively on his Giving Page https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/kevins-giving-page-1117?urn=718500291&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mcmp&utm_campaign=n25nagp5e5&utm_content=n25nagp5e5002&utm_term=shine_inseries_25_email_july_4wtg_londonregional_n25nagp5e5

Kooth App - <https://www.kooth.com/>

Early this week our Year 6 pupil undertook an online session with the children's mental health charity Kooth. In this session they focussed on the impact of social media and online safety. They looked at issues such as friendships, online bullying, social media and families. The children were shown how to access the Kooth app where they can receive support from trained counsellors if they need someone to speak to.

Difficulties with Bromcom

As you will know we have recently moved over to the My Child at Home app which links to our school system called Bromcom. This transition has been tricky in a number of ways, not least the fact that Bromcom has not been accessible nationally for large periods of time and due to Mrs Haynes enforced absence from work. I want to thank all parents for their support and understanding as we unpick the many issues currently impacting on you. We are working really hard to resolve these, please bear with us – we are nearly there. In the mean time please remember not to try and pay any money on to the ParentMail app.

Class Newsletters and Knowledge Organisers

Earlier this week we sent out to parents, class newsletters and knowledge organisers. These are an important way of explaining to you what your children are learning in school and the different expectations teachers have. If you need these printing out please pop into the office and we will arrange this for you. If you have any questions around the content of what is being taught please do arrange to speak to the classroom staff who will be happy to talk you through the curriculum.

Communication

One of the biggest issues that comes up when speaking with parents is communication in school and so I thought it might be useful to set out our approach to this and what you should do if you have a concern. As you know, we are moving completely to the MCAS app for all of our communication. Thankfully we now have nearly all

parents registered on the system with just a couple of issues to sort out. Once these are resolved we will not be using ParentMail. In the meantime I am trying to reach as many of you as possible by sharing information in the following ways:

1. The official Harcourt School Facebook Account
2. ParentMail for those still accessing this app
3. My Child at School app.

In addition to this Senior Members of staff can be found on the gates at the start of the day and end of the day and class teachers are on the playground at collection time.

Please could I remind all parents that if you have a concern these should be addressed in a calm and respectful way. All school staff try hard to provide the best possible education for your children and genuinely want to work with you to get the best outcomes for your children. School Leaders are very aware that each Year Group have active groups where information is discussed about what is happening in school. Most of this is well meaning (I am a member of these for my own children) but unfortunately some of the comments on these do go way beyond what is acceptable. I am often shown these and the school will take all necessary steps to intervene to support the well-being of the school community. Thank you for supporting us with this.

Provisional Dates for the Diary

Friday 19 th September	Non-uniform day for Cancer Research
Tuesday 7 th October 9am and 2.30pm	Year R phonics workshop to parents
Wednesday 8 th October	SEND coffee afternoon
Thursday 9 th October	Wear something yellow for Young Minds
Thursday 9 th October	Flu jabs
Friday 10 th October	Harvest festival
Tuesday 14 th October	School photos
Tuesday 14 th October 3.30-6pm	Parent consultations
Thursday 16 th October 3.30-6.30pm	Parent consultations
Thursday 16 th October	Re-start a heart (bring a teddy)
Monday 20 th – Friday 24 th October	Half term
Monday 27 th October	INSET Day

Change to Term 3 Start Date

As you may be aware from my communication last term we have been given an extra training day by the Local Authority due to the works taking part during the summer. This will now be on Monday 5th January with children returning to school on Tuesday 6th January 2025.

Please look in the school diary on our website for provision events that are planned for later in the school year.

Thank you for your continued support.

Anthony

Headteacher



HARCOURT PRIMARY SCHOOL

TERM DATES 2025-2026

Term 1	
Monday 1 st September 2025	Staff Development Day 1
Tuesday 2 nd September 2025	Staff Development Day 2
Wednesday 3 rd September 2025	First Day of School for Year 1 to Year 6
Thursday 4 th September 2025	First Day of School for New Reception – Staggered Start – Please see Reception Handbook.
Friday 5 th September 2025	Second Day of School for New Reception – Staggered Start – Please see Reception Handbook.
Friday 17 th October 2025	Last Day of Term 1

Term 2	
Monday 27 th October 2025	Staff Development Day 3
Tuesday 28 th October 2025	Start of Term 2
Friday 19 th December 2025	Last Day of Term 2

Term 3	
Monday 5 th January 2026	Staff Development Day 4
Tuesday 6 th January 2026	First Day of Term 3
Thursday 12 th February 2026	Last Day of Term 3
Friday 13 th February 2026	Staff Development Day 4

Term 4	
Monday 23 rd February 2026	First Day of Term 4
Thursday 2 nd April 2026	Last Day of Term 4

Term 5	
Monday 20 th April 2026	First Day of Term 5
Monday 4 th May 2026	School Closed – Bank Holiday
Friday 22 nd May 2026	Last Day of Term 5

Term 6	
Monday 1 st June 2026	First Day of Term 6
Monday 22 nd June 2026	Staff Development Day 5
Tuesday 21 st July 2026	Last Day of Term 6

One additional INSET day to be determined.

Please note that schools are not able to authorise any term time absence unless parents and carers are able to evidence that this is for an exception reason. Any term time leave is likely to result in the Local Authority issuing a Penalty Notice.