

# NORTH HEATH COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL ERICA WAY HORSHAM WEST SUSSEX RH12 5XL





NEWSLETTER 5

March 2026


Dear Parents and Carers,



It already seems quite a long time since half term even though it's only just over a week! Schools are busy places and we have moved apace since we returned last Monday! Thank-you for your support in our parents' consultation meetings – we all know that home and school working together is the best way to ensure pupils are happy, healthy and making good progress but this does take commitment and prioritising on your behalf so we are always delighted to see so many families attend.

This is a very short half term so we always have to squeeze everything in which means it flies past! We have many events planned and are looking forward to seeing parents and carers in school for assemblies, for reading sessions, supporting swimming, Australia Day, sewing, cooking and many other things – thank-you all for your support and engagement.


 **Value Focus Weeks** 

We had a successful set of three weeks celebrating the school's new values. We are so grateful to parents for keeping an eye out for examples of kindness, creativity and courage at home as this meant we were able to celebrate so many of your children. Virtually every child was mentioned in Honour Book assemblies as having shown one value or other and amazingly, almost 2/3 of the school demonstrated all three values at home! Brilliant!



 **Tesco Tokens** 

Friends of North Heath's Tesco Token donation box is still available in Tesco but we are running into its last few weeks. It has looked very positive in comparison with the other choices on my trips to Tesco but if you do get a chance, please do put a few more tokens in the box so that we have a greater chance of winning the greatest possible prize from the store. Thank you, in advance, for making the trip to Tesco so that pupils and parents can vote for this! Fingers crossed, we will be successful and will be able to extend our offerings at playtimes!

**Uniform** 

Thank-you to all parents for helping us keep our children appropriately dressed and smart in school. In a recent assembly, the pupils all told me that the uniform is one of the things that helps them recognise other pupils from North Heath and, when in PE kit, their colour houses. They stated that the uniform makes them feel like they belong to the school and their house and that is so important for our pupils. Just as a reminder, there are branded items available through:

- RJ Osbourne Ltd [click here](#) for a link to the online shop or contact them on 01403 731770
- Broadbridges – [Click here](#) for the online shop; visit 3 Piries Place, Horsham, RH12 1EH; or contact on 01403 259620

I would like to stress that we are happy for pupils to wear unbranded school uniform but this should consist of **grey** trousers, shorts, skirts or pinafores and yellow polo shirts with grey sweatshirts. In the current weather, we would advise all pupils to wear full length trousers (or **grey/black** tracksuit trousers on PE days) rather than shorts. Pupils can wear grey tights or plain grey leggings under dresses or skirts. Black leggings are not part of day to day school uniform and should only be worn on PE days. PE uniform consists of house-coloured T-shirts, and black or grey jogging bottoms or leggings and a plain black hoodie.

For both uniform and PE kits, we ask for **black shoes** or **trainers**. To make 'active learning' easier for the pupils (and your budgets!) we are happy for pupils to wear plain black trainers with their normal uniform as well as on PE days.

As ever, thank-you for your support with this.

*Be Kind, Be Creative, Be Courageous*

## Holiday Clubs

We are pleased to say that Sports Stars will be offering their holiday club over the Easter holiday. It will run on Mon, Tues, Weds and Thurs the first week (30/3/26-2/4/26) and on Tues-Thurs in the second week (7/4/26-9/4/26).

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April Vicki Mead is running another dance-based holiday club from 9am-3pm. There will be further information about the day on her flyer (Parentmailed on Thursday). You can also contact info@vmadance.co.uk

**RED  
NOSE  
DAY**

**Red Nose Day!**



Comic Relief is fast approaching and as well as selling red noses, our School Council have been working to decide how the school will celebrate this year.

Currently, there are plans for pupils to dress in red (for a family donation), a cake sale after school and an in-school obstacle course. Look out for further details to follow.

## School Logo



We have been working, behind the scenes, to develop our school logo. This is partly in preparation for the launch of our new website but also because we felt that we wanted an updated version of our tree design. We wanted to incorporate the yellow and grey of the school uniform as well as being more similar to our house emblems.

There are no plans to update logos on clothing currently – don't panic – but you will see this logo more and more on school communications.



## Year 5 Theatre Trip - Oliver!

On Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, Year 5 were invited to watch a performance of Oliver Twist at Bohunt. Arriving at 9:00am, some people walked, some people drove and every person was ecstatic to go on a trip to see the play! When we got into the theatre, there was a massive stage with lots of equipment and exciting-looking scenery. Before the show began, there were actors moving big walls around to get the set ready. Then, the show started!

### Act 1

The theatre went dark, creepy music was playing and made the show more scary and dramatic. We saw people in an orphanage. They got bowls of porridge for a meal and a boy called Oliver said he wanted some more food. The orphanage owner played his part very well. He was cross with Oliver and put him up for adoption. Finally, they found a person who wanted him. It was so sad.



### Act 2

He got adopted by Fagin, leader of thieves, who lived in a small, dusty alley. Oliver was so grateful for the bacon Fagin gave him that he became a pickpocket. The play was so exciting and we all loved watching it. There was a mixture of scariness, sadness and happiness throughout the story and the actors were brilliant. It was such a good experience.

By Henry E and Percy R

## Phone Free School



As mentioned in a previous newsletter, we have been looking into going 'Smart Phone Free' as a school. Research we have carried out tells of many benefits to younger children being 'freed up' from the world of smart phones, electronic devices and the constant need to be in electronic contact with friends and other people. It has been lovely to hear how many of you would support this proposal and interesting that the government is also now saying that schools should be phone-free zones.

We are anticipating being a smart phone free school from September 2026 but have a few surveys and probably a meeting to have with staff and also with parents and carers before we get to that point. However, as mentioned previously, we would recommend that you postpone any purchasing of smart phones for your children and look, instead, into 'brick phones' that would provide connectivity with parents/carers without the social-media elements that are so prevalent on modern smart-phones.

As always, we thank-you for your support with this initiative.



## Keeping Safe Online

The NSPCC have sent links to their online quiz and advice for keeping children safe online. Please click the link below to check whether or not you could do more to protect yourselves and your children. There is a quiz for different age groups, all linked to children protecting themselves from scams online. NSPCC quiz link:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/2025-sid-quiz>



## Horsham Dance Festival

Last Tuesday, 25 children from KS1 & KS2 took part in The Horsham Dance Festival at The Hawth, Crawley. Under the bright lights and to a full house, KS2's dance to The Mario Theme Tune was rewarded with a huge round of applause and cheers. KS1 followed, shaking and moving to a song that 'really got stuck in our heads!' They received an equally colossal clap! Despite some nerves, everyone found the experience incredibly fun and came away wanting more of the spotlight in the future. *Emma H Year 6*



## The Olive Tree Cancer Support Group

The Olive Tree Cancer Support Group are holding an Easter Egg Hunt at Warnham Deer Park this Easter. See below for details:

**EASTER**  
**Egg hunt eggtravaganza!**

Join us for a fun filled day out for all the family!

Entrance/ registration for the hunt £5.00  
Car parking £3.50

No pre-booking needed just come on the day!

Date 12<sup>th</sup> April  
Times 11am to 2pm  
Venue Warnham Deer Park,  
Warnham, Horsham  
RH12 3RS

## School Values



I was delighted to see one of our youngest pupils displaying the school values on their bookbag courtesy of a home-made attachment. How carefully she has cut, stuck and written to create this values heart! A definite show of creativity in this excellent piece of work – Well done Bodhi!



## Places to go

West Sussex have produced a digital-only version of the West Sussex Family Grapevine magazine, as the decision has been taken not to produce a printed version for spring 2026 for environmental reasons. Here is a link so that you will still be able to access the information on upcoming local events, Places to Go with your children, competitions and local clubs & societies.

<https://thefamilygrapevine.co.uk/west-sussex/magazine/spring-2026/>

## Staffing

As we come towards the end of the term, I would like to let our community know that unfortunately Miss Sowton (a teacher at North Heath for over 20 years) will be leaving us at Easter. We are truly sorry to see her leave the school as her professionalism, expertise and dry sense of humour will be sorely missed - we can't really begrudge her retirement as she has worked for many years to earn it!

We will also, sadly, be saying goodbye to Mrs Goodridge who has been a teaching assistant with us for ten years – her quiet dedication to the pupils at North Heath is unquestionable and we all hope she knows how much she will be missed.

As we continue for the last three weeks of term, we have many things to look forward to – not least the brightening skies and longer days of Spring and Summer! We had a hint of better weather to come last week and we are all hoping that it picks up again soon.

I want to extend a big thank-you to all of those who came for our Stay and Read sessions in Reception, Y1&2, Y3 and Y4. It was lovely to see the children all enjoying books and sharing the enjoyment of stories together with you.

We have upcoming football and netball tournaments to look forward to, a Tag Rugby Festival and a Cross Country Event - we are all hoping that the school continues to perform well in all of these as well as continuing to showcase our excellent sportsmanship. Thank-you as ever to all the parents who transport children to and from these events and support our amazing teams and staff.

Best wishes,

*Nicky Chesshire*

### Dates for 2025-2026

<b>MARCH 2026</b>			
Friday	13	Reception Year Group Assembly (Hedgehog & Rabbit)	Reception parents
Monday	16	2:00pm Y3 Robin – sewing in the hall	Y3 Robin parents
Tuesday	17	Y1/2 Australia Day	Y1/2 + volunteer parents
	17	12pm-3pm – Y6 Tag Rugby Festival at HRFC	Y6 team + parents
Wednesday	18	10am-1:00pm Y4 Indoor Athletics at The Bridge	Y4 Athletics team (TBC)
	18	2:00pm Y3 Starling – sewing in the hall	Y3 Starling parents
Thursday	19	Y4 Red Kite Class Assembly	Y4 Red Kite Class parents
	19	4:00-5:30 Y6 Netball tournament at The Bridge	Y6 team + parents
Friday	20	Red Nose Day – Wear Red! End-of-Day Cake Sale	All pupils
	20	Y4 Football Cup at Tanbridge	Y4 Team
Monday	23	10:30am Rocksteady Concert	Rocksteady pupils + parents
	23	AM – Reception – Healthy Child Screening	Reception pupils
Tuesday	24	12:15–3:00pm Y6 Tag Rugby at HRFC	Y6 Rugby Team
	24	AM – Reception – Healthy Child Screening	Reception pupils
	24	2pm-3pm – Y5 Fox – Egyptian Museum Event	Y5 Fox pupils and parents
Wednesday	25	AM – Reception – Healthy Child Screening	Reception pupils
	25	10:00-2:45 – Y3 local trip	Y3 pupils & parent volunteers
Thursday	26	Y4 Kestrel Class Assembly	Y4 Kestrel Class parents
	26	2pm-3pm – Y5 Badger – Egyptian Museum Event	Y5 Badger pupils and parents
	26	3:15pm – FoNH – pop-up Wonka Bar sale	Everyone welcome
	26	4:00-5:30pm – Y5 Netball tournament at The Bridge	Y5 team + parents
Friday	27	3:15pm End of Term – HAPPY EASTER!	All pupils and parents
<b>APRIL 2026</b>			
Monday	13	All pupils back to school	All pupils
Wednesday	29	Y5 Fox School trip	Y5 Fox + parent volunteers
Thursday	30	9:00am Y3 Starling Class Assembly	Y3 Starling Class parents
	30	Y5 Badger School trip	Y5 Badger + parent volunteers
<b>MAY 2026</b>			
Thursday	7	9:00am Y3 Robin Class Assembly	Y3 Robin Class parents

*Be Kind, Be Creative, Be Courageous*

Monday	11	SATs Week for Year 6	Y6 pupils
Tuesday	19	Filming for new school video (to go on our website)	All pupils (with permission)
Wednesday	20	Class Photos	
Friday	22	3:15pm End of Half Term	
<b>JUNE 2026</b>			
Monday	1	INSET day	No pupils on site
Thursday	11	9:00am Y5 Fox Class Assembly	Y5 Fox Class parents
Tuesday	16	6:30pm – Meeting for YR Sept 2026 parents	YR 2026 parents
Thursday	18	9:00am Reception Assembly – Hedgehogs and Rabbits	Reception parents
	18	12pm-4pm – Girls Cricket Tournament	Y5/6 team + parents
Wednesday	24	Key Stage 1 Sports Day	All Reception and KS1 parents
Friday	26	District Sports all day	KS2 athletics team + volunteers
<b>JULY 2026</b>			
Wednesday	1	Secondary School Transition Day	Y6 + all pupils
Friday	3	KS2 Sports Day (details to follow)	Y3/4 am Y5/6 pm
Sunday	5	Horsham Children's Parade	Y3 pupils
Thursday	9	9:00 Year 1 year group assembly	Year 1 parents
Friday	10	PM – School's 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration	TBC
	10	3:15pm Records of Achievement sent to parents	All pupils + parents
Sunday	12	Friends of North Heath Summer Festival	All Welcome!
Wednesday	22	3:15pm End of Term – Happy Holidays!	All pupils
<b>SEPTEMBER 2026</b>			
Tuesday	1	INSET Day for Teachers	No pupils on site
Wednesday	2	INSET Day for Teachers	No pupils on site
Thursday	3	First Day for pupils	Y1-Y6 return to school