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

NEWSLETTER 7 **July 2026**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Goodness, it's been hot! It's hard to believe that we are already at the end of term, where has July gone? I hope you all have a lovely summer planned and will be able to enjoy some time with your children. Staff here have been impressed by their positive attitude and hard work this year, as well as their regular modelling of our school values.

We are really sad to say good-bye to several members of staff this term – Mrs Webb leaves us after many years of organising pupils starting school, helping to order and organise lunches, and supporting with attendance matters. Mrs Tasquier leaves us after 2 successful terms where she stepped into the breach to ensure that all teachers had their time out of class and pupils were supported in Y5, Y6 and Y3. Then, we are losing Mrs Pyzer from our Teaching Assistant Team. Mrs Pyzer has been a consistently positive support for teachers and pupils since joining North Heath around 10 years ago. Ms Davies is moving on to a new career, working with the police force in Brighton where I'm sure her enthusiasm, multi-tasking and general positivity will be equally appreciated! Finally, Ms Roden is retiring as Inclusion Lead and will be spending more time with family and trying to get used to not having 100 different things on her mind at once! They will all be missed and we wish them all the very best for their next adventure.

Similarly, our Year 6 pupils leave us today. Many have been here for their whole school lives and they will all be missed. They have worked hard and have achieved brilliantly, making really good progress during their time at North Heath – they should be delighted with their results and I'm sure all parents/carers are incredibly proud of the kind, creative and courageous young people they are turning into. Good luck Year 6!

50th Celebrations



We had a variety of events in school for our 50th celebrations. Most were reasonably low-key but the children came together for a picnic lunch and play. Last week, they performed "Songs from the Decades" with each year group giving a short performance from 1970's – 2020's. They were magnificent!





Thank-you for your engagement with our 50th anniversary activities on the playground. The 50's are up around school now and will be a great piece of memorabilia! We have been delighted to see so many pupils proudly wearing their 50th anniversary badges!

Fabulous Friends of North Heath





Friends of North Heath worked hard behind (and in front of) the scenes to make arrangements for our Summer Festival. To celebrate **50 years of North Heath**, they held a fantastic event with music acts for extra entertainment.

It was a lovely afternoon and it was great to see so many of our community there supporting and enjoying the stalls, the music and the other activities. A huge thank-you to FoNH who did an amazing job and created a summer fair to remember. Funds will be used to support some new outdoor equipment for KS2.

Uniform



Thank-you for helping us keep our children appropriately dressed and smart in school.
I would just like to remind everyone that all uniforms (summer, winter and PE) require **black shoes**. We have relaxed the rules slightly and are happy for pupils to wear trainers or trainer type shoes with any uniform but they must be black please. Although we overlooked some changes in the interests of comfort during the hotter weather, from September, they need to be appropriate for pupils' busy, active time at school.

We have tried to be flexible in this approach to uniform to support all pupils and all families. However, we are noticing some clothing that does not fit with school policy which is disappointing. From September, we will expect all children have the right clothes and black shoes for school.



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

Be Kind, Be Creative, Be Courageous

Smart Phone Free School



Following our consultations with staff, pupils and parents, we have decided to become Smart Phone Free from September 2026. Although some families may be disappointed, the vast majority of parents voted for this. It also ties in with the recent government Social Media ban.

There is a policy to come but it is important that all parents and carers know that pupils **may not bring smart phones** to school in September. This would also include smart watches that have the ability to receive messages and make phone calls, as well as any digital devices that could be used for recording at school. There are other devices available that allow pupils to text and call without the smart phone elements; these would be allowed for Y5 & Y6 pupils who are developing independence and walking home.

Again, we thank you, in advance, for your support with this.

Sports Days

Despite the best efforts of the British Summertime weather, we managed to hold all 3 sports day events this year.

The children performed brilliantly and the support and sportsmanship for each event was brilliant. The results are:

KS1

3rd Place: **St Leonards** 2nd place: **Owlbeech**

1st Place: **Ashdown**

Lower KS2

3rd Place: **Ashdown** 2nd place: **Owlbeech**

1st Place: **Tilgate**

Upper KS2

3rd Place: **Tilgate** 2nd place: **Owlbeech**

1st Place: **Ashdown**

Book Nook Book Fair





An exciting buzz filled the school hall on Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th June as The Book Nook Book Fair brought our school community together in a celebration of reading. It was fantastic to see the children so inspired by the wide range of books on offer, eagerly sharing their love of reading and chatting about different authors and genres. All pupils enjoyed discovering new books while also finding new authors linked to stories they already love.

Thank you to everyone who came along after school – there was a real sense of excitement in the hall, with so many eager purchases reflecting the joy that reading brings. A special thank you to The Book Nook for providing such a wonderful selection of books and helping to make the event so enjoyable.

Through your purchases made, the school will receive funds to invest in new books, helping to refresh our class libraries for all pupils to enjoy.



Thank you again for your support and keep reading, everyone!

Horsham Foodbank

The joint Horsham Charities - Horsham Matters, Love it again, Horsham District Foodbank – are very concerned that some families in the community will struggle over the summer. As a result, we are asking families to try to support with a food donation before the summer holidays.

In their words:

We are seeing supplies drop to critical levels. With demand rising, we urgently need your support. Summer is always a particularly challenging time for many of the families we support. With children no longer in school, access to free school meals is lost, and this year families are expected to be especially impacted due to the withdrawal of holiday voucher provision.

To support the foodbank, and the families of Horsham, they have asked for donations of the following items:

Custard	Fruit Juice	Biscuits
Rice Pudding	Ketchup/Mayo	Crisps
Long Life Milk	Tinned meat/fish	Soup
Coffee	Tinned meals	Rice
Tinned fruit	Tinned vegetables	Baked beans

Thank-you for your help in supporting those families who are currently facing challenges.

We will organise our normal collection for Harvest in the first half of the Autumn Term to support further.

FOODBANK SCHEDULE

HorshamMatters Meeting Needs and Improving Lives

Horsham District Foodbank Together with Trussell

FOODBANK SCHEDULE 2026

MONDAY	
10:00 - 11:00	Hub On The Move, Billingshurst Library Car Park RH14 9JZ
11:30 - 12:30	Hub On the Move, Broadbridge Heath Parish Council Office car park, Sargent Way RH12 3TS
14:00 - 15:30	Hub On The Move, Storrington Library car park, RH20 4NZ
14:30 -16:30	Horsham United Reformed Church,Springfield Road RH12 2RG
16:30 - 17:30	Pulborough, Sports Pavilion Rectory Close RH20 2AJ
TUESDAY	
10:00 - 12:00	Horsham Matters, Redkiln Close, RH13 5QL
17:30 - 18:30	Horsham LifeSpring Church, Drill Hall, Denne Road, RH12 1JF
WEDNESDAY	
10:00 - 12:00	Horsham Matters, Redkiln Close, RH13 5QL
12:30 - 13:30	Southwater, The Church Room, Holy innocents, Church Lane, RH13 9BT
14:00 -15:30	Hub On The Move, Storrington Library car park, RH20 4NZ
THURSDAY	
11:30 -12:30	Hub On The Move, Henfield, Library car park, BN5 9HN
13:00 - 15:00	Horsham Kingdom Faith Church, Foundry Close, RH13 5PX
15:00 - 17:00	Horsham Matters, Redkiln Close, RH13 5QL
FRIDAY	
10:00 - 12:00	Horsham Matters, Redkiln Close, RH13 5QL
SATURDAY	
10:00 - 12:00	Horsham LifeSpring Church, Drill Hall, Denne Road, RH12 1JF

Please contact us to obtain a foodbank voucher before visiting a foodbank.
Either call or WhatsApp: **0300 124 0204**
Or email **support@horsham-matters.org.uk**

Date issued: 18/02/2026 Charity number: 1116253

SUPPORT ON THE MOVE

HorshamMatters Meeting Needs and Improving Lives

SUPPORT ON THE MOVE

Our specialist vehicle brings face-to-face support directly into communities across the Horsham District.

What support we offer:
-Benefits
-Housing
-Budgeting
-Employment
-Signposting

Scan here to see the monthly schedule:



Charity number: 1116253
0300 124 0204
support@horsham-matters.org.uk

House News

Congratulations to **St Leonards** for winning this year's House Competition with Tilgate as a very close Runner up!

We are delighted to introduce our new House Captains for 2026-2027 following a highly competitive election.

Ashdown
Savanna U and Percy R

Owlbeech
Emily C and Reece R

St. Leonards
Sophia H and Barkley P

Tilgate
Alice S and Fletcher V

North Heath PARKRUN Success!

Pupils and families of North Heath are amazing! On Sunday 14th June, North Heath staged the biggest school takeover event at Horsham Junior Parkrun! Over 90 pupils and family members took part on the day and the staff who were there to watch were incredibly proud of how hard all the children tried.

If you couldn't make it, don't worry, we will repeat the experience before too long.

In the meantime, it is free to register and run each Sunday morning.

www.parkrun.org.uk/register

Well done North Heath!!



Music Opportunity

Ms Chan has provided piano tuition at North Heath for many years and, as several Y6 pupils moved onto secondary schools this summer, there is some lesson availability from September. In addition to piano tuition, DMS hopes to offer violin and brass tuition from next term if there is sufficient interest.

For children who would like to explore the world of percussion music with others, there may be the opportunity to explore percussion, boomwhackers and african drums through Beat 'em Crazy music workshops.

For more information about these taster workshops and instrumental tuition next term please scan the QR, complete this short online form or email info@dynamicmusicservices.co.uk.to find out more and/or book a place.

Staffing

We are delighted to welcome our new teachers : Mr Moss, Miss Somers and Miss Knight to the school in September. As you know, they have already met their new classes and are keen to settle in as class teachers in the new academic year. At the same time, Mrs Brazier-Maine will be joining us as our new Inclusion Lead. I know she has met a few parents already but she will be here from the first day in September and is keen to put faces to names and start building up relationships with pupils and families.

We are also welcoming Miss Valentine as our new attendance and admissions lead. She will be based in the office and will, I'm sure, meet you all before too long. Mrs Mitchell will also be joining the team as a new teaching assistant.

Horsham Council

The Grapevine organisation have released the online magazine with plenty of ideas of places to go or things to do.

To find out more, please follow this link:

https://thefamilygrapevine.co.uk/west-sussex/magazine/summer-2026/

Also, Love Parks Week is returning this summer holidays, offering a range of free and low-cost activities for children.

Love Parks Week, is a celebration of our wonderful parks and green spaces.

From **Monday 27 July to Friday 31 July**, we'll be hosting an exciting programme of activities, including:

- Theatre
- Sports
- Arts and crafts
- And much more!

https://www.horsham.gov.uk/parks-and.../love-parks-week

Governors Message

On behalf of the Governing Board, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all our staff, pupils and parents for their hard work, commitment and support throughout another wonderful year at North Heath Community Primary School. Together, you have made this a year to remember, filled with exciting learning opportunities, school performances, sporting events, educational visits, fundraising activities and community celebrations that have brought us together and enriched the lives of our children. This year has been particularly special as we celebrated North Heath's 50th birthday, giving us the chance to reflect with pride on our school's rich history while looking ahead with confidence to its future. Thank you to everyone who has played a part in making our school such a caring, vibrant and successful community. We wish all our families a happy, safe and restful summer break, and look forward to another successful year ahead.

WOW Walk to School Scheme

North Heath families and pupils have excelled themselves this year when taking part in the WOW walk to school scheme. Pupils have been tracking their journeys every day since October and we were proud to come second in the county for the summer term. Back in October, we surveyed the pupils and found that active travel accounted for 59% of journeys to school. By June this year, this had risen to a staggering 89% of journeys, increasing the fitness and wellbeing of our pupils as well as reducing congestion and pollution around the school. Well done North Heath! We have been lucky enough to secure funding to help us continue the scheme next year, where pupils will need to actively travel three times a week for a whole month to gain a badge. Good luck for September!

Year Group Welcome Meetings

As in the previous couple of years, we have planned to hold welcome meetings in September. These will contain useful pieces of information about timetables, homework expectations, how you can help at home and all about the curriculum for your new year group. Even if you have had children go through the school before, there are changes each year and it would be helpful if everyone could hear the same messages at the start of the year.

They are booked for:

Year One - 4:45-5:15pm Thursday 10th September
Year Two – 5:15-5:30pm Thursday 10th September
Year Three - 4:45-5:15pm Monday 7th September
Year Four – 5:15-5:30pm Tuesday 8th September
Year Five - 4:45-5:15pm Tuseday 8th September
Year Six – 5:15-5:30 Wednesday 9 September

DFE Information - Great British Summer Savings

Rising prices can make life's little treats harder to afford, especially during the school holidays when costs build up for families. This Government is determined to help, and that is why last month the Chancellor announced the *Great British Summer Savings* scheme.

From 25 June to 1 September 2026, the Government is temporarily cutting VAT from 20% to 5% on children's meals in restaurants, children and family tickets to cinemas, theatres, concerts and exhibitions, and admission to a wide range of attractions. Combined with free bus travel during August for children aged 5 to 15 in England, families and young people will be able to enjoy experiences that make summer special, including visits to the kinds of cultural and educational attractions that enrich children's lives outside the classroom.

The public are ready to get behind the scheme and are keen to take advantage of the discounts available. As trusted pillars of their communities, schools play a vital role in connecting families with important information.

We need you to help spread the word. So please share details of the *Great British Summer Savings* scheme through your newsletters, school apps, and other communications to parents and carers, so that the families in your school community know about the experiences they can enjoy this summer for less.

This forms part of a broader effort by the Government to ease financial pressures on families. From ending the two-child limit and expanding free school meals, to rolling out free breakfast clubs and delivering 30 hours of free childcare, this Government is taking action to put more money back into parents' pockets and give every child the best possible start in life.

As part of this campaign, we have launched an **attraction finder** website which allows families to type in their postcode and find participating venues near them to make the most of summer savings. To use the attraction finder, please visit https://summersavings.gov.uk

All that remains is to thank you all, as a community for your support over the past year. We hold our families and pupils in extremely high regard and would like to thank you all for dedication to wanting the very best for your children. Have a wonderful summer holiday and I am looking to seeing you all back here in September.

Warm regards, Nicky Chesshire (Headteacher)

Dates for 2025-2026

SEPTEMBER 2026			
Tues/Weds	1,2	INSET Days for Teachers	No pupils on site
Monday	7	Sign up for Parents Consultation Evenings	All parents
Thursday	3	First Day for pupils	Y1-Y6 return to school
Tuesday	15	Fairthorne Manor Residential + Y6	Y6 pupils
OCTOBER 2026			
Wednesday	14	Sayers Croft Residential + Y5	Y 5 pupils
Tuesday	20	Parents Consultation Evening 3:40-6:20	All parents
Thursday	22	Parents Consultation Evening 4:00-6:50	All parents
Monday	26	Half Term – No pupils on site	

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NOVEMBER 2026			
Monday	2	Pupils return to school	All pupils
Friday	6	Year 5 Bikeability	Y5 pupils
Monday	9	Year 6 Bikeability	Y6 pupils
DECEMBER 2026			
Wednesday	2	9:30am - YR perform Nativity to grandparents	YR + Grandparents
Thursday	3	9:30am – YR perform Nativity to parents	YR + Parents
Monday	7	2:15pm – Y1&2 perform to grandparents	Y1/2 + Grandparents
Tuesday	8	9:30pm – Y1&2 perform to parents	Y1/2 + Parents
Wednesday	9	9:30pm – Y1&2 perform to parents	Y1/2 + Parents
Monday	14	2pm – Y3 &4 perform to grandparents	Y3/4 + Grandparents
Tuesday	15	9:30pm – Y1&2 perform to parents (Robin + Kestrel)	Y1/2 + Parents (R+K)
Wednesday	16	9:30pm – Y1&2 perform to parents (Starling + Red Kite)	Y1/2 + Parents (S + RK)
	16	1:30pm – Y5&6 perform to grandparents at St. Marks	Y5/6 + Grandparents
Thursday	17	6:30 – Y5/6 to perform to parents at St .Marks (Time TBC)	Y5/6 + Parents
Friday	18	Last day of term	All pupils
INSET – Monday 4th January 2027			
INSET – Thursday 27th + Friday 28th May 2027			

2027-2028 – Inset Days			
Wednesday	1	September 2027	
Thursday	2	September 2027	
Friday	3	September 2027	
Friday	31	March 2028	
Monday	5	June 2028	