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

NEWSLETTER 2 **30 September 2026**

Dear Parent/s and Carer/s,

What a great start we have had to the term. Everyone has returned and settled brilliantly into their new classroom routines so thank-you for all you do at home to prepare the children for changes and the new school year.

We had quite a few families at our year group welcome meetings, which was lovely to see so thank-you for making the time to attend. These meetings are so important for us being able to share the expectations, routines and learning for the year ahead so that we can work as a team to support your children and our pupils. It's also useful for putting names to faces and matching parents with children at the start of the year. I also have to thank the staff who put them together and then stay at school to meet with you all - it's very different talking to a room of adults than a room of children so I think they do brilliantly!

Ambassadors

With a new school year, comes new responsibilities. Theses children have been identified as excellent representatives of our school as they are polite, consistently hard-working and regularly demonstrate our school values. They have been selected by the school staff and we have every confidence that they will fulfil their duties and live up to the standards of our outstanding ambassadors of the last two years. Congratulations to:

Beatrice B
Fern B
Emily C
Finnley C-G
Henry E
Isabel A
Harry B
Rosa C
Thomas H
Benjamin L

Reminder

In our attempt to make our school uniform more practical and comfortable, we agreed pupils could wear black trainers in place of school shoes. However, we are seeing a wide range of colours coming into school. All pupils should be wearing **black** school shoes or trainers every day. Shops stock plenty of predominantly black styles so we do not expect to see other colours in school. Thank-you for helping us maintain this uniform standard.

Harvest Festival

Our harvest festival this year will be on Friday 23rd October. We look forward to your usual generous donations and we will continue to support Horsham Foodbank (Horsham Matters) this year.



Thank-you!

Year 6 Prefects

Our prefects carry out important jobs in school and are relied upon daily. All pupils in Year 6 have the opportunity to be a prefect and they support with assemblies, organising equipment and many other elements of the school day. This term, our prefects are:

Isabel A
Harry B
Emily C
Charlie H
Leo H
Tristan P
Matthew R
Frederick S
Rosie T
Luey T
Danny A
Arianna B
Beatrice B
Jacob B
Finnley C-G
Lottie D
Evelyn G
James K
Barkley P
Willow T

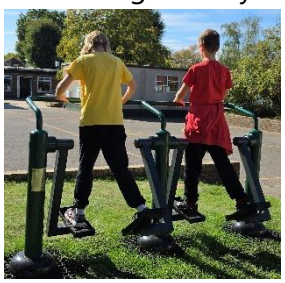
Website Update

Now that the new format for our website has been launched, we are working hard behind the scenes to update each section of it.

Look out for some more information coming soon as we are hoping to set up our Parent Portal. This will allow us to include more photos of the children both in school and on trips, without them being visible to any unauthorised website visitors.

Playground Equipment

Our junior pupils are really enjoying the new gym equipment so we must say another big thank-you to FONH!





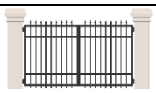
I would like to remind everyone in the community that this equipment is only for supervised use by our pupils during the school day. It should not be used before 8:50am or after 3:15pm. Thank-you

Y6 Fairthorne Manor Residential

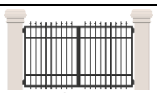
Our Year 6 pupils have had a brilliant time away on their residential at YMCA Fairthorne Manor. The staff were delighted by their positive attitudes and willingness to try lots of different activities, taste food that they wouldn't necessarily choose at home and by their efforts to keep their rooms neat and organised. Well done Year 6!

A huge thank-you to all members of staff that accompanied the children on this experience. It is a huge responsibility to look after your children for 4 days (three nights) and they, as ever, worked for the benefit of the pupils with good humour and amazing patience!

We are incredibly proud of the children for all their achievements during the week. They put their all into every activity. It is Year 5's turn at Sayers Croft next and they have a lot to live up to! We wish them all the best.



School Gates



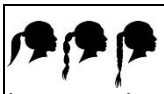
As you know, the school gates are open early for access to school in good time for the doors opening at 8:40am. As the morning register is taken at 8:45am, we are going to start locking the gates (Goose Green & the side gate on Erica Way) at 8:55am. The front (main) gate will still be accessible until 9:00am. This ensures our children are as safe as possible.

For similar reasons, we will not be opening the gates in the afternoon until 3:10pm at the earliest. This still gives time to access all classrooms by the end of the school day (3:15pm)

Lunches



Thank-you for bearing with us while we settle in the new lunchtime provision from ISS. This was a big change and ISS staff, our own TAs, lunch supervisors and teachers have worked hard to help it run smoothly. There have been a few teething issues due to the different style of cooking and delivery but we have adjusted lunch times to reduce queuing and make sure the children get as much play time as possible. We have been very pleased with the improved quality of the new school meals so hopefully your children are happy too!



Hair and Jewellery

While most of our pupils abide by our school rules brilliantly, there are a small minority who push the boundaries! We appreciate your help with reminding children that no bracelets or necklaces should be worn at school, with the exception of a small religious pendant on a thin necklace chain. Friendship and other 'string' based bracelets are included within this. Earrings must be small studs or sleepers and these should, ideally, removed for PE. Any pupils with shoulder-length hair or longer should have it tied up or held back off their face for school.

These rules are for safety as well as appearance. Thank-you for helping us maintain these standards.

Congratulations

At North Heath, we have an Honour Book Assembly every Friday where we congratulate pupils on achievements in and out of school. If your child has earned a medal, certificate or something else at home, please feel free to send it in to their class teacher by Thursday so they can be recognised in assembly. Reception pupils will join this assembly after Christmas.

Phones and Toys

We continue to ask that pupils <u>do not</u> bring smart phones to school. They should also not wear watches that send and receive messages or record. We also ask that any camera or recording devices (particular brands of trackers have this ability) are not brought to school.

We also have an increasing number of toys coming in to school. Unless they have been requested by the class teacher for a lesson, children should leave toys and other personal possessions at home. Thank-you

It has been lovely seeing how quickly our new Reception pupils have settled into school life as well as a few new pupils in other year groups. If any of you would like to get more involved in school life, we are always looking for regular 'readers' to support our pupils, just ask your class teacher if you are interested.

Be Kind, Be Creative, Be Courageous

Friends of North Heath will always welcome more support as well, for as little or much time as you have to spare – they are an invaluable support to the school and are always happy to have new members.
As autumn settles in and the weather changes, it is harder to catch up with everyone on the playgrounds but members of the senior leadership team are present at the school gates most days and are always available if you have a query or want to pass on a message.
Thank-you, once again, for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely *Nicky Chesshire* (Headteacher)

Dates for 2026-2027 (blue = new dates added)

OCTOBER			(Black History Month activities this month)
Thursday	8	Y4 educational visit	5:30pm-7pm – Showcase evening + all teachers
Friday	9	4pm Y5/6 football at Tanbridge astro pitches (Invite only)	
Monday	12	2:15pm KS1 (Ladybird) Big Bear Draw	
Wednesday	14	Y5 to Sayers Croft for 3 day residential trip 2:15pm KS1 (Butterfly) Big Bear Draw	
Thursday	15	2:15pm KS1 (Dragonfly) Big Bear Draw	
Friday	16	AM – Y6 Healthy Child Survey 2:30pm Y5 return from Sayers Croft (Siblings can be collected on Y5 arrival) 4pm Y4 football at Tanbridge astro pitches (Invite only)	
Tuesday	20	AM – Individual photos	3:40pm-6:20pm – Parents Evening 1
Thursday	22		4:00pm-6:50pm – Parents Evening 2
Friday	23	10am – Harvest Assembly (Donations to the hall, please) pm END of AUTUMN ONE	
NOVEMBER			
Friday	6	Y5 Bikeability	AM – KS1 Autumn Walks (details to follow) PM – Y6 Computing workshop (led by Millais)
Monday	9	Y6 Bikeability	PM – KS1 Visit – the History of Teddy Bears
Tuesday	10	Y6 Bikeability	2:30pm – Volunteer Safeguarding training
Wednesday	11	Y6 Bikeability	11am – 2 mins silence
Thursday	12	Y6 Bikeability	
Friday	13	Y6 Bikeability	PM – Y5 Computing workshop (led by Millais)
Wednesday	18	8:50am – Volunteer Safeguarding training	
Thursday	19	9:10am – Y5 Sayers Croft Assembly for parents and siblings	
Friday	20	PM – Y6 Computing workshop (led by Millais)	
Thursday	26	2:30pm – Volunteer Safeguarding Training	
Friday	27	PM – Y5 Computing workshop (led by Millais)	
Monday	30	10am – RockSteady Concert for parents and siblings	
DECEMBER			
Wednesday	2	9:30am – YR Christmas performance to grandparents	
Thursday	3	9:30am – YR Christmas performance to parents	
Monday	7	2:15pm – KS1 Christmas performance to grandparents	
Tuesday	8	9:30am – KS1 Christmas performance for parents	

Wednesday	9	9:30am – KS1 Christmas performance for parents
Monday	14	2pm – Y3/4 Christmas performance to grandparents and siblings
Tuesday	15	9:30am – Y3/4 Christmas performance to parents (Robin + Kestrel)
Wednesday	16	9:30am – Y3/4 Christmas performance to parents (Starling + Red Kite) 1:30pm – Y5/6 Christmas performance at St Marks to grandparents
Thursday	17	1pm-3pm – Christmas parties 6:30pm – Y5/6 Carol Concert for parents and the community
Friday	18	END OF TERM
JANUARY		
Monday	4	INSET
Tuesday	5	Pupils return
Thursday	14	8:50am – Volunteer Safeguarding Training
Friday	15	AM - KS1 Winter Walks