Charlton Horethorne CE Primary School

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Learning together in friendship and faith gives us 'life in all its fullness'



NEWSLETTER – September 2026



Welcome back to school and to the Autumn Term. The summer holidays and all the sunny weather are a distant memory and there are lots of exciting things ahead.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SCHOOL?

NEW CHILDREN

We are incredibly excited to welcome our **6 new** reception children and their families to school this term. They are all doing brilliantly and have adapted to school routines very quickly.

Welcome to **Jasper, Gracie, Vinnie, Wynn, Noah and Tiger**

CHANGES

Mrs Minney will now be Bee Class teacher on Mondays and will teach Dragonfly Class on Wednesday afternoons.

Mrs Free will continue to work Tuesday to Friday in Bee Class.

Mrs Marston will still be your point of contact when Mrs Watkins is not in school.

Miss Spring will now be in school teaching Dragonfly Class for some afternoons of the week as well as each morning.

Mrs Hughes will join Ladybird Class on Mondays to support Mrs Marston.

Miss Robins has joined us as our Midday Supervisor.

Mrs Watkins will work in Charlton Horethorne on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each week. She will no longer work in Bradford Abbas.



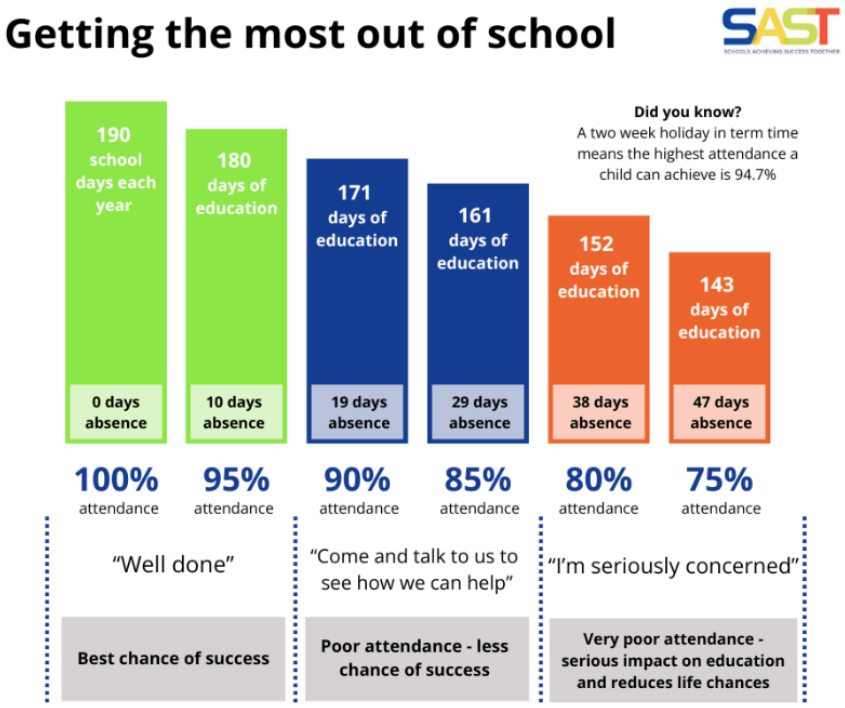
OUR VALUE this half term is THANKFULNESS "Always be thankful." (Thessalonians 5.16)

This half term we are introducing a new value and will be focusing on Thankfulness in our Collective Worship.
We will look at what this means to the children, and how they can think about being thankful in their lives in and out of school.

Wrap Around Care

Our wrap around care continues from Monday to Friday mornings and Monday to Thursday after school, and provides both before and after school care for your children. (7:45 - 8:45 and 3:15 - 5:30) For a programme of activities please see Class Dojo.
There is a Sports Club with our PE coach on Fridays. (3.15 - 4:30)
Please see Mrs Vaughan in the office if you wish to book children in.

SAST Attendance Requirements - a reminder for parents: the same message as last year.
Please be aware that any holiday in term time is unauthorised and may be subject to a fine.



Last academic year we were below the national average for our attendance: 91.9% compared to the national average of 94.7%. This year we hope to be in line or above.

Leave of absence request

- Parents are required to complete a Term Time Leave of Absence Request Form in advance of planned absence taking place.
- We ask that this is at least four weeks before the required absence, where possible, to enable the school to consider and respond to the request.
- Parents must detail and evidence the exceptional circumstance of the request.
- In accordance with The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 and subsequent Amendments, SAST Schools are unable to authorise any period of absence unless it is for exceptional circumstances.
- If leave is not authorised and the parent proceeds to take their child out of school, the absence will be marked as unauthorised. Although such absence may be unauthorised, it is better that the school knows where the child is, and that they are safe rather than missing.
- SAST and LA policy states: Parents may be issued with a penalty notice or be subject to prosecution by the local authority for unauthorised leaves of absence.
- School may inform you by letter if your child's attendance falls below the expected range.

- As a rule a penalty notice consideration threshold is met if there are 10+ unauthorised absences in 10 rolling school weeks. (1 day =2 absences)

Please be advised: a holiday in term time is generally not considered exceptional circumstances

IMPORTANT: All school absences MUST be reported to the school office by email or telephone. Please DO NOT use CLASS DOJO to report absences.

PARENT SHARING MORNINGS and LEAF VALUE WORSHIP

Parent Sharing will happen once every half term and will give your children the opportunity to share their learning with you in their classroom. We will try to vary the days and times to accommodate as many parents as possible.
Leaf Value Worship will be once every half term on a Thursday afternoon at 2.50 and we will gather together to celebrate the achievements of our pupils.

Dates for your diary: Autumn Term

Friday 25th September: am – Parent Sharing
Thursday 22nd October – Leaf Value Worship
Wednesday 18th November: pm – Parent Sharing
Thursday 10th December – Leaf Value Worship

HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENT

Look out for the Home School Agreement that your child will bring home. Please could you spend some time talking this through with your child, and then sign and return to school.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Our Harvest Festival will this year be on **Thursday 1st October at 2.15 in the church**. All are welcome. We will be supporting the Wincanton Food Bank again this year.
Any dry/tinned foods are very welcome. Please **do not** bring fresh fruit/vegetables. The food bank particularly needs: tinned vegetables, tinned fruit, tinned meat, tinned fish, biscuits, long-life milk, pasta, jars of sauces, peanut butter.
Other items such as toiletries: toothpaste, shower gel, shampoo and deodorant are very welcome.
Please make sure the food donations have a reasonable use by/sell by date

CAR PARK

Please be advised that the car park is for staff only at all times. This is to ensure the safety of children and parents at drop off and pick up. We appreciate your consideration when parking on the roads outside school.
The little approach road between Cowpath Lane and the school gate is for accessible parking only. We do have families who need this facility so please refrain from parking along this short stretch of road.

FSA

Our Friends of the School Association (FSA) welcome you to a new school year, with a reminder that, having children at the school, you all automatically become members. As we are a small school, this invitation is extended to other family and friends. Any involvement big or small is welcomed and all the funds raised go to supporting every child in the school to enhance and enrich their education. **OUR FSA NEEDS YOU!!! We need new active members. Please help us to keep this valuable resource alive!**
AGM: Friday 25th September 3.20pm in the library.
Please see the flyer forwarded to you by email.

NEW ROUTINES

A HUGE thank you to all parents and children for quickly adapting to the new routines at school drop off and pick up. Your children have been amazing: growing independence and resilience and it is lovely to see them confidently make their way into school each morning. This all means that the classrooms are settled quickly and learning is starting immediately, all benefitting the children.

NEW HOUSES FOR THIS YEAR

Red House, Blue House and Yellow House Teams for this year.

Reception Tiger Vinnie Year 1 Rupert Florence Greyson Year 2 Luna Ronnie Esther Year 3 Roman Redemption Year 4 Brewis Clementine Year 5 Cassia Charlie Rex Year 6 Izzy Olivia	Reception Noah Wynn Year 1 Bertie Emilie George Year 2 Wilfie Olivia Year 3 Oliver Barney Arthur Year 4 Harry Finn Dolly Year 5 Betsy Pria Pippa Year 6 Billie-Mae Ottilie Freddy	Reception Gracie Jasper Year 1 Michael Roman Rosemary Year 2 Willow Jasper Georgia George Year 3 Chester Sienna Addie Year 4 Connie Joseph Arthur Year 5 Aria Billie Year 6 Alfred

IMAGE CONSENT FORM

In the next few days Mrs Vaughan will be sending out a link for this year's IMAGE CONSENT FORM. This is an online permission form that needs to be completed by ALL families ANNUALLY to make sure all the information is up to date.

UNIFORM REMINDER

Our policy on school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform:

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school.
- Promotes a sense of community and belonging towards the school.
- Is practical and smart.
- Identifies the children with the school.
- Makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance.
- Is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money (non badged options acceptable)
- Is designed with health and safety in mind.
- All clothing should be clearly labelled with the child's name. This is especially important, as uniform items look similar and can easily be confused for another child's. The school cannot accept responsibility for any lost items.

UNIFORM	PE KIT
• Polo shirt/blouse/shirt – white (white branded polo shirts are available from Schoolwear and More, although not compulsory) • Pinafore dress/skirt/trousers – grey • Summer dress (red & white check) can be worn in appropriate weather • Trousers or shorts – dark grey • Sweatshirts/cardigan – red (available from Schoolwear and More, branded with school logo preferable) • Socks – grey or white • Tights – grey • Shoes – black school shoes, no boots or coloured trainers (black acceptable) • Hair tie – plain or red/red & white check: hair should be tied back wherever possible, especially for PE, Art and DT	• Plimsolls or trainers • PE t-shirt – red (available from Schoolwear and More, branded with school logo preferable) • PE shorts – black • Tracksuit bottoms or leggings – black • School jumper – red (for outdoor PE sessions or colder weather)

AUTUMN TERM 2026 KEY EVENTS			
SEPTEMBER			
INSET DAYS	Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd,	All Day	*Staff only*
School starts	Thursday 3rd	All Day	*Whole School*
Flu Vaccinations	Wednesday 16th	9am	*Please sign up!*
Governors Meeting	Tuesday 22nd	4:30pm	*LGB only*
KA Open evening	Thursday 24th	4:30 -7:00pm	*Years 5 and 6*
Parent Sharing	Friday 25th	8:45 - 9am	*Classes*
Reception Parents Phonics Talk	Tuesday 29th	3:20	*Reception Parents*
OCTOBER			
Harvest Festival	Thursday 1st	2:15pm	*Whole School and all welcome: in the church*
School Open Morning	Thursday 15th	9.30am	*Prospective parents*
LEAF Value Award Worship	Thursday 22nd	2.50pm	*All welcome*
INSET DAY	Friday 23rd	All day	*Whole School*
Half Term begins	Monday 26th		*Whole School*
NOVEMBER			
Back to school	Monday 2nd	All Day	*Whole School*
Odd Socks Day: Anti Bullying	Monday 9th		*Whole School*
Parents Evening	Monday 9th	3:20 onwards	*Please book*
Parents Evening	Wednesday 11th	3:20 onwards	*Please book*
Tempest School Photographs	Wednesday 11th	9am	*Individuals and family groups*
Odd Socks Day	Monday 10th	All Day	*Donation for anti bullying charity*
Armistice Day	Wednesday 11th		*Service in School tbc*
Children in Need	Friday 13th	All Day	*Fundraising activities in school*
Parent Sharing	Wednesday 18th	3:00 - 3:15pm	*Classes*
DECEMBER			
Treehouse Theatre	Thursday 3rd	10.00am	*School Hall*
Christmas Movie Night	Friday 4th	3.15 - 5:15pm	*In classes*
Dress Rehearsal and Christmas Production 1	Monday 7th	2.00pm and 6:00pm	*Whole School*
Christmas Production 2	Wednesday 9th	6:00pm	*Whole School*
Christmas Jumper Day	Thursday 10th	All Day	*Whole School*
LEAF Value Award Worship	Thursday 11th	2.50pm	*All welcome*
Christmas Lunch and Party	Tuesday 15th		*Whole School*
Christmas Service/last day	Thursday 17th	1.45pm	*Church*
INSET DAY	Friday 18th	All Day	*No children*
JANUARY 4th BACK TO SCHOOL for SPRING TERM			