



THE HAWTHORNS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of what has been a jam-packed half term, I want to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful learning, experiences and community spirit that have filled our school over the past few weeks.

The children have thrown themselves into their learning with enthusiasm and curiosity and it has been a joy to see their confidence and creativity grow. Alongside our classroom learning, we've had a wealth of exciting opportunities - from themed days and enrichment activities to visits and visitors that have really brought our curriculum to life.

A particular highlight has been our Diwali celebrations. Thank you to all the parents who came in to speak with the children and share activities to help them learn more about this vibrant festival of light. It was a truly special occasion that reflected the richness and diversity of our school community.

We were also delighted by the turnout at our recent Parent Consultation Evenings; it was wonderful to see so many of you engaging with teachers and supporting your children's progress.

I would, however, like to offer my apologies for the food tasting event organised by Culinera, which we know did not meet expectations. We have shared your feedback with the catering company and are working closely with them to ensure future events better reflect the quality and range of food they have on offer for our children.

Looking ahead, there is so much to look forward to next half term - including exciting curriculum projects, festive events and more opportunities for parents to get involved in school life.

Finally, I would like to inform you that, in response to the concerns and dissatisfaction expressed regarding JAG, our current wrap-around care provider, we have given notice to end their service at the end of the Spring Term. I am pleased to confirm that a new provider will be taking over from the start of the Summer Term. Further details about this transition, including booking arrangements and provision details, will be shared with you in due course.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. It is the partnership between home and school that makes our community so special and we are grateful for all you do to support your children's learning and wellbeing.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable half term break.

With best wishes

Ms Razeghi



HALF TERM MONDAY 27 OCTOBER TO MONDAY 3 NOVEMBER
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AGAIN ON TUESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER



PLEASE BRING YOUR MONEY
AND PERMISSION SLIP TO THE
DISCO.

CASH AND CARD ACCEPTED

A poster for a disco event. It features a woman with a afro hairstyle, sunglasses, and a purple jacket, holding a glowing disco ball. The text includes:

HAWTHORNS PTA
Disco
FRIDAY 24TH OCTOBER
£5 PER CHILD
INCLUDES CRISPS AND
A DRINK
RECEPTION - 4:30-5:15
YRS 1 & 2 - 5:30-6:30
YRS 3 & 4 - 6:45-7:45
YRS 5 & 6 - 8:00-9:00

YEAR 6



The deadline for secondary
school place applications
is 31 October



GOV.UK

culinera

feeding the future

A reminder that your cut-off time in the mornings to order your child/ren's lunch is 8:00am.

If your child is off school unwell, please can you ensure lunches are also cancelled before this time, or contact the school office.

Thank you



Halloween is a holiday celebrated on October 31st that blends ancient Celtic traditions with Christian observances and modern festivities.

Its origins are rooted in the pagan festival of Samhain, which marked the end of the harvest and the beginning of winter, a time when Celts believed the boundary between the worlds of the living and the dead blurred.

The modern holiday combines this, Christian holidays like All Hallows' Eve (the night before All Saints' Day on November 1st), and secular traditions like costumes, trick-or-treating, and pumpkin carving.



During the early hours of this coming Sunday, 26th October, the clocks go back one hour, rewarding some of us an extra hour in bed and making it a bit lighter when we wake up. But it will cause it to be darker earlier in the evening, possibly whilst still travelling home from work or college, so please take extra care!



Congratulations to James who came 3rd in a Go-Karting competition last weekend!



Parents Forum Meeting

The Parents Forum is due to meet on Thursday 20th November. Please contact your year group representative with your questions, feedback, ideas for improvement and issues for discussion.



The current representatives for each year group are named below with the forum email address for correspondence.

<u>Current Year group</u>	<u>Email address</u>	<u>Forum Representatives</u>
<u>Foundation Stage</u>	parentsforumcedargroup@hawthorns.wokingham.sch.uk	
<u>Year 1</u>	parentsforumlarchgroup@hawthorns.wokingham.sch.uk	Anna Leslie Siobhain Tinney
<u>Year 2</u>	parentsforummaplegroup@hawthorns.wokingham.sch.uk	Frankie Cohen Lucy Granger
<u>Year 3</u>	parentsforumelmgroup@hawthorns.wokingham.sch.uk	Sophie Wood Kate McNaughton
<u>Year 4</u>	parentsforumashgroup@hawthorns.wokingham.sch.uk	Jasneet Malia
<u>Year 5</u>	parentsforumwillowgroup@hawthorns.wokingham.sch.uk	Michael Wharrie Shankar Balaji
<u>Year 6</u>	parentsforumhollygroup@hawthorns.wokingham.sch.uk	Karen Kennedy

We currently have vacancies for reps in Foundation Stage and Years 1, 2, 4 and 6, please contact the office if you are interested in finding out more about the role.



Our Armed Forces risk everything to protect our way of life. Your poppy shows you care and helps them continue their vital work. Your donations provide vital support to serving and ex-serving personnel and their families, offering expert guidance and assistance with recovery and civilian life transitions all year round.

After half term, the Year 6 children will make their way around the school selling poppies from, Tuesday 4th and will continue till Friday 7th November. If your child would like to buy a poppy, please arrange for them to bring in a minimum donation of £1.00.

There will also be the option to purchase additional items, such as snap bands, wrist bands, zip pulls and reflectors, each item is a minimum donation of £1.00.



We have been made aware that some of our parents have been parking in the designated Chestnuts Car Park making it difficult for their staff to find parking when they arrive for work.

Please can we ask you to avoid parking in those spaces and to use Northway road. Thank you

GREEN DEFENDERS!

Join the Green Defenders in a Cut your Carbon Challenge this November!

Today, your child will bring home a challenge sheet. Tick off any of the challenges that you complete and return the sheet to Mrs Graham or Mrs Clark so that we can calculate the amount of carbon we have saved as a whole school over November.

November is Cut Your Carbon month!

Eco-Schools is calling on young people across the UK to tackle carbon emissions, one simple action at a time. Complete these 6 challenges at home with family and friends to raise awareness and spark change. At the end of the month, we'll count how many of you joined in, add up the estimated carbon saved, and celebrate your amazing efforts!

★ **Stick this checklist on your fridge – and start cutting carbon today!**

- **Make three evening meals plant-based across the month**
Meat production is responsible for around 14% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions, so make three evening meals plant-based and discover how delicious cutting carbon can be!
- **Make any three journeys 'active' across the month**
Transport creates nearly a quarter of the UK's carbon emissions. Active travel - such as walking, scooting, wheeling, or cycling - doesn't emit anything! So, get active and ditch the drive!
- **Meal plan to reduce food waste for one week**
Research suggests that the average person wastes 95kg of food per year! At each stage of the life-cycle of wasted food, from production to rotting at landfill, carbon is produced. Plan your meals, shop smart, and waste less – it's good for the planet and your wallet!
- **Lower your washing machine temperature to 30°C for three washes across the month**
Washing machines are energy-hungry! Drop the temperature to 30°C for three washes this month and cut carbon without sacrificing clean clothes. Cool it to care!
- **Have a device-free day**
Electricity makes up about 25% of your home's carbon footprint. Power down non-essential devices for one day – no gaming, no streaming – and rediscover the joy of offline fun!
- **Turn down the heating by 1°C for a week**
Heating is the top source of home carbon emissions in the UK. Turn it down by just 1°C for a week, layer up, and show your love for the planet – one cosy jumper at a time!



Make 3 evening meals plant-based across the month.



Make 3 journeys active across the month.



Meal plan to reduce food waste for one week.



Lower your washing machine temperature to 30°C for three washes across the month.



Have a 'device-free' day.



Drop your heating by 1°C for a week.

GRAPES

If you are providing your child with grapes (or any small fruit) for a snack during school time, PLEASE can you ensure these are cut lengthways for Health and Safety purposes!

Thank you





SAVE THE DATE!

OCTOBER 2025

Friday 24th PTA School Disco
Monday 27th to Friday 31st HALF TERM

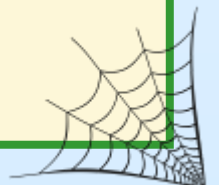
NOVEMBER 2025

Monday 3rd INSET DAY
Tuesday 4th PTA Little Recyclers (details to follow)
Wednesday 5th Y1 ZooLab Workshop
Thursday 6th Prospective Parents Open Morning 9:15am
Thursday 6th Lightwater Cross Country (selected pupils)
Monday 10th School Flu Immunisations
Wednesday 12th Prospective Parents Open Afternoon 1:30pm
Friday 14th Individual Photos
Friday 14th PTA Donation Day (NEW)
Thursday 20th Parent Forum
Thursday 20th Cantley Park Cross Country (selected pupils)
Monday 24th Y6 Mathematics Event (selected)
Tuesday 25th Y6 School Nurse Height & Weight Measurements
Saturday 29th PTA Christmas Craft Fair 11:00am to 3:00pm

DECEMBER 2025

Monday 1st Rock Steady Contact for Parents (NEW)
Monday 8th INSET DAY
Thursday 11th Y6 Hampton Court Trip (NEW)
Friday 12th School Christmas Panto to children (details to follow)
Friday 12th PTA Elfridges Event (NEW)
Tuesday 16th Y1&2 Nativity Play in the Church at 2:00pm (NEW)
Wednesday 17th Doves Christmas Show 9:15am
Wednesday 17th Y1&2 Nativity Play in the Church at 2:00pm (NEW)
Thursday 18th Robins Christmas Show 9:15am
Friday 19th LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM – 2:00PM FINISH

<https://www.hawthorns.wokingham.sch.uk/page/?title=Term+Dates&pid=20>



Diwali October 20th.

This week in school we have been learning about Diwali and celebrating it in our school assemblies. This is a festival many members of our school community have been celebrating, including some of our staff. Diwali is the Hindu festival of lights, with variations celebrated in other Indian religions such as Jainism and Sikhism. It symbolises the spiritual victory of Dharma over Adharma, light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance.



Parents have visited some year groups to teach us and tell us how they are celebrating in their families. In EYFS we loved hearing what our friends are doing and seeing them in their special clothes. The children were very busy with the Diwali craft activities our friends brought for us



Bonfire Night Safety

As Bonfire Night approaches, Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service would like to share some important safety guidance to help ensure children and families stay safe during these celebrations.



Bonfire & Firework Safety Tips for Families

1. Attend Organised Events

- The safest way to enjoy fireworks is at a professionally organised display.
- These events are managed by trained staff and follow strict safety regulations.

2. Firework Safety at Home

- Only buy fireworks marked with the CE or UKCA safety mark.
- Store fireworks in a closed box and use them one at a time.
- Always follow the instructions on each firework.
- Keep a bucket of water nearby for emergencies.
- Never return to a lit firework - even if it hasn't gone off.

3. Bonfire Safety

- Build bonfires well away from buildings, trees, fences, and play areas.
- Never use petrol or paraffin to start a fire.
- Keep children and pets at a safe distance.
- Always supervise the bonfire and extinguish it fully before leaving.

4. Sparklers

- Sparklers can reach temperatures five times hotter than cooking oil.
- Children under 5 should not use sparklers.
- Always wear gloves and hold sparklers at arm's length.
- Have a bucket of cold water to put used sparklers in immediately.

5. Respect the Community

- Be mindful of neighbours, pets, and those who may be sensitive to loud noises.
- Avoid setting off fireworks late at night.

Legal Reminders

- Fireworks must not be sold to anyone under 18.
- It is illegal to set off fireworks in public places (e.g., streets, parks).
- Fireworks must not be used between 11pm and 7am, except on Bonfire Night (midnight), New Year's Eve, Diwali,



*****WE NEED YOUR HELP*****

Do you own or work for a business that may be able to help your PTA?

Donate a Raffle Prize: Your generosity can help fill our raffle with exciting prizes, making it a highlight of the fair and we will make sure everyone knows about it!

Sponsor a Stall: Gain fantastic advertising exposure among our school families and the broader community by sponsoring a school run stall. Your business details will be prominently displayed, highlighting your support.

If you think you can help, please contact pta.hawthorns.wokingham@gmail.com

SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

More clothes - more funds for your organisation
1 kg = £0.45

YOUR COLLECTION IS ARRANGED ON:

4 November
TUESDAY

FILL ANY BAGS WITH CLOTHING AND BRING THEM TO SCHOOL/ORGANISATION WE WILL COLLECT AND WEIGH THEM

✓ WE ACCEPT

- Good quality clean clothing (adult's, children's, baby)
- Shoes (paired)
- Bags
- Hats & scarves
- Belts
- Fashion accessories
- Swimwear, lingerie
- Jewellery
- Perfumes

✗ WE DON'T ACCEPT

- Uniforms
- Dirty, wet, ripped, damaged clothing
- Traditional clothing
- Duets & pillows
- Single shoes
- Toys, stationery
- Bric-a-brac & electrical items
- Books, CDs, DVDs
- VVorkwear
- Carpets, rugs, mats, curtains
- Hygiene items, dapers
- Lintin & towels

PLEASE NO UNIFORMS & DUVETS!

RAISE MONEY FOR YOUR SCHOOL BY GIVING AWAY YOUR UNWANTED CLOTHES

hello@thelittlerecyclers.co.uk • 0330 043 0550 • thelittlerecyclers.co.uk



OUR MAIN 2024-2025 FUNDRAISING EVENTS AND WHAT WE HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE SCHOOL

- CHRISTMAS: £100
- DISCOS: +313.50
- MOTHER'S DAY: +57.30
- FATHERS DAY: +106.82
- FROZEN: +100.00
- SUMMER CIRCUS: +180.00
- BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY: £100
- TR & BOWLING TRIP: £20
- NEW GARDEN: +12,000
- 7 ROOM SOVER: +20
- SCHOOL TRIPS: £700

PROSPECT
PROSPECT.CO.UK

Help Prospect donate £100 to the Hawthorns PTA.

Prospect Estate Agency, Wokingham's local property experts, have partnered with The Hawthorns School PTA to help raise funds for our school! Sell or let your property with Prospect, and mention 'Hawthorns School' at the free property valuation and Prospect will donate £100 to the PTA upon completion.

HAWTHORNS PTA

CHAIR		VICE CHAIR		TREASURER		SECRETARY	
Keith Brindley	Helen Eastwood	Sarah Walker	Jess Prout	Maria Dymock	Tabitha Ridden	Maxine Featherbe-Knott	Keri Devonport
				Rajesh Chandrasekaran	Terri Holloway		



Let's get moving this WALKTOBER!

Walktober is an active travel challenge held each October to celebrate International Walk to School Month.

Together with the Wokingham My Journey team, we are encouraging pupils, families and staff to 'Get Moving' by travelling actively and sustainably as often as possible, starting on Monday 6th October!

Each week, there is a challenge for you to try or if you have an idea for your own weekly challenge write it in the 'My challenge' space. Record your challenge activity each week by writing, drawing or adding a photo in the space provided.

Week 1: swap a car journey

Week 2: Explore what you have most enjoyed on your active journey

Week 3: Can you travel a mile or more actively?

Week 4: Take a walk, wheel, scoot or cycle with family or friends.

Collect a challenge card from your class teacher, or visit www.myjourneywokingham.com/walktober



Parent Information



REME Freedom of Wokingham Parade

Celebrating the Freedom of Wokingham granted to the Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers

Sunday 26th October 2025
10.30am to 1.30pm
(Parade 11am to 12:15pm)

The day includes: Military Band, Parade, Inspection, Military Vehicles, REME engagement team and more.

www.wokingham-tc.gov.uk/council_events

Wokingham Town Council



Bracknell Music Centre HAVE A GO

Come and try an instrument for free and learn about lessons at our music centres, schools and other opportunities we offer!

BRACKNELL MUSIC CENTRE

Ranelagh School, Ranelagh Drive, Bracknell RG12 9DA

Saturday 18 October

Oboe/Bassoon 10.00-10.45am | 10.45-11.15am

Monday 20 October

Voice 5.45-6.15pm | 6.15-6.45pm

Thursday 6 November

Brass 5.00-5.30pm | 5.30-6.00pm



CLICK HERE OR
SCAN TO BOOK

www.berksmusictrust.org.uk

0118 901 2370

admissions@berksmusictrust.org.uk

Myshellartstudio!

HALLOWEEN HOLIDAY CLUB!

OCTOBER HALF TERM

WEDS 29TH OCT & THURS 30TH OCT

Yoga! In the morning, Starting the day calm and relaxed with yoga.

Arts & craft in the morning sessions!
Halloween themed Arts & craft, plenty to choose from and take home.

Music! In the afternoon session!
Learning some basic beats and notes and help you make your own spooky song!!

EARLY DAY MORNING	HALF DAY AFTERNOON	FULL DAY
8.30AM - 12PM	3PM - 4.30PM	8.30AM - 4.30PM
£20	£20	£32

ST PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
OXFORD RD, WOKINGHAM
RG41 2YN

Fruit snack and squash provided for each session

To book please email us your choice to be sent the booking form:
Myshellartstudio22@gmail.com



To report absences, please email absence@hawthorns.wokingham.sch.uk

All other enquiries, please email office@hawthorns.wokingham.sch.uk

<https://www.hawthorns.wokingham.sch.uk/>

[Facebook](#)