

FRIDAY 10 OCTOBER 2025



THE HAWTHORNS PRIMARY SCHOOL



FOR WEEK COMMENCING 13 OCTOBER

THEME: HARVEST

AIM: TO HELP CHILDREN LEARN ABOUT THE JEWISH FESTIVAL OF SUKKOT AND THINK ABOUT THANKFULNESS

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had a productive and exciting week at school, with a particular highlight being our Phonics Showcase for EYFS and Year 1 families. Thank you to all who were able to join us on Wednesday morning. We hope you found the session informative and enjoyable. I was incredibly proud of our youngest learners: their enthusiasm, engagement and excellent behaviour were truly impressive!

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind all families of the importance of daily attendance. Even a single day away from school can create gaps in learning, particularly in areas like phonics, where each lesson builds on the last. While we work hard to help children catch up if they've been absent due to illness, regular attendance gives them the best chance to succeed. Please continue to support your child by ensuring they attend school every day and arrive on time.

Today, we recognised **World Mental Health Day** by wearing yellow and having thoughtful conversations about emotional wellbeing. We want all our children to understand that it's okay to have difficult feelings and that they are never alone. Many people are also fundraising today for **YoungMinds**, a charity that provides vital support for young people's mental health.

Some of you may be aware of the initial teething problems with our new catering provider, Culinera. We really appreciate your patience and understanding as they adjust to our school's systems, settle in with a new chef, new ordering system and get to know our children's needs. The meals being served are fresh, nutritious and well-received by the children. Culinera staff are very responsive and welcome your feedback. They will be hosting a **Food Tasting Afternoon** on Tuesday 21st October from 3:30pm. This will be a great opportunity to sample the food and ask any questions. Look out for more details coming soon from Culinera.

Next week, we are looking forward to our Harvest Festival Celebration Assemblies on Thursday 16th October. As part of this, we are collecting donations for the local Foodbank. Your generosity is always appreciated - please refer to the list of essential items provided by the Foodbank, and thank you in advance for your support.

Wishing you all a restful and happy weekend.

Warm regards,

Ms Razeghi

Year 2 Woodland Walk



Yesterday afternoon, Year 2 went for a sunny woodland walk.

We spotted many different types of mushrooms and enjoyed climbing trees. It was lovely linking our science learning on habitats with real life experience.

Thank you to all the parent helpers who came along.



Congratulations!



ACTIVE TRAVEL NEWS

Congratulations Hawthorns! We have won £200 for taking part in a 'hands up' survey on how we usually travel to school!

While talking about travel... don't forget to complete your WALKTOBER challenges this month! Get your competition forms from your teacher (or see Mrs Graham) to be in with a chance to win a prize from the My Journey team.

If you have a job (paid or voluntary) and live or work in the Wokingham borough, take part in a survey to have a chance to win one of 3 x £100 gift vouchers.

[Project: Your work travel habits | Wokingham Borough Council](#)

Thanks to Gary from Dr Bike for all the bike repairs carried out this week in preparation for our Year 6 Bikeability next week.





What is Black History Month?

Black History Month is celebrated each year in October to remember moments in history, achievements and contributions that black people have made in the United Kingdom.

It helps children understand and respect different cultures and people, fostering empathy and a broader understanding of the world.

The theme for Black History Month 2025 is "Standing Firm in Power and Pride," a message of resilience, strength, and commitment to progress within the Black community.



The online shop shuts this Sunday.



<https://www.leavershoodies.com/the-hawthorns-primary-school-year-6-2026-leavers>



We would like to remind parents and carers to not park in front the fire gates to the front playground.

This space is to be kept clear at all times.

Thank you



Congratulations to Tia for winning the new anti-idling banner design! Spot it on our railings as you come in to school.





Harvest Festival is a traditional British celebration originating in pagan times, now celebrated in churches and schools throughout the country.

We are kindly asking for a donation of one item per child to be brought to the Harvest collection on Thursday 16th October. Items will then be delivered to Wokingham Foodbank.

The Foodbank will have been in operation within Wokingham borough for eleven years this autumn and will continue to help those individuals and families who are struggling to make ends meet, worrying over how to keep a roof over their heads and facing food insecurity.

To celebrate in school, the children will be taking part in a Harvest Assembly, and the Year 5 children will have the pleasure of taking produce to the residents of Kennet Court in Woosehill on Friday 17th October.



We would be grateful of any shoe boxes you may have to help with the donation boxes for Kennet court.

This week we are thinking about a festival being celebrated by some families in our community. It is called Sukkot and it began on the evening of 6 October.



Sukkot is one of the festivals of celebrated by Jews around the world each year, including in the UK. The festival lasts for 1 week. A key part of Sukkot is the sukkah - a temporary dwelling which each family constructs and in which they will spend time during the festival. The sukkah is a reminder of the Exodus and the dwellings made by Moses and his people during 40 years in the wilderness. During the festival meals are taken inside the sukkah and many people choose to sleep there as well.

Another important custom associated with Sukkot is the Four species. The four species are a fruit called an etrog and sticks of myrtle, palm and willow, called a *lulav* when bound together.

Because the festival of Sukkot also remembers the way God provided food and water for the people in the desert, it is also a time to thank God for each year's harvest. It is a harvest festival.



The Hawthorns School will be joining thousands of schools across the UK and taking part in 'Hello Yellow' in support of Young Minds on Friday 10th October (World Mental Health Day), where we'll be asking everyone to wear something yellow (e.g yellow socks, or a yellow hairband etc) with their normal school uniform.

Our suggested donation is £2 (which is voluntary) and can be donated on their website, please click below: [Donate | Help Young People Get Mental Health Support | YoungMinds](https://www.youngminds.org.uk/help-young-people-get-mental-health-support)



**DATES TO
REMEMBER**

24 October - PTA Disco

4 November - PTA Little Recyclers

29 November - PTA Christmas Craft Fair

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

The poster features a stylized illustration of a woman with a large afro hairstyle, wearing a purple shirt and an orange skirt, holding a colorful disco ball. A boombox is visible at the bottom right. The background is dark with colorful geometric shapes and musical notes.

HAWTHORNS PTA



SAVE THE DATE!

OCTOBER 2025

Monday 13th to Friday 24th Y6 Bikeability

Thursday 16th Harvest Assembly (for children only)

Friday 17th Y5 Visit to Kennet Court with Harvest Donations

Monday 20th Y1&2 School Games Multiskills Event (selected)

Tuesday 21st Parents Evening (16:00-19:00)

Thursday 23rd Parents Evening (16:00-19:00)

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

Thursday 6th Lightwater Cross Country (selected pupils)

Monday 10th School Flu Immunisations

Wednesday 12th Prospective Parents Open Afternoon

Friday 14th Individual Photos

Thursday 20th Parent Forum

Thursday 20th Cantley Park Cross Country (selected pupils)

Tuesday 25th Y6 School Nurse Height & Weight Measurements

Saturday 29th PTA Christmas Craft Fair

DECEMBER 2025

Monday 8th INSET DAY

Friday 12th School Christmas Panto to children (details to follow)

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



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



Just Play Sports: Half Term Camps
Monday 27th - Friday 31st October

Banish holiday boredom with our jam-packed sessions for children aged 4-12.

Discover a new sport or game
 Kids'll experience a winning combo of awesome games, competitions and matches across:

- Football • Multi-skills • Nerf • Capture the Flag
- Cricket • Tennis • Rounders • Dodgeball • Arts and crafts

Savings to suit every pocket
Save:
 10% when you book the whole week
 10% for siblings

Where you'll find the fun
 St Paul's Junior School, Wokingham
 Evendons Primary School, Wokingham

Flexibility to suit you
 Standard day: 10.00am - 3.30pm
 Extended day: 8.30am - 5.30pm
 School Day: 8.30am - 3.30pm (Evendons Only!)
 4-year-olds: 10.00am - 2.00pm

Use your childcare vouchers or pay with tax-free childcare.

FIRST



FIRST

Who we are:

The aim of FIRST is to provide information, workshops and training around sleep (including anxiety), and distressed & dysregulated behaviour. The team comprises of Sleep Practitioners, Therapeutic Thinking and Foundations for Attachment Practitioners and a Family Support Worker. The team can offer parents / carers who reside in the Wokingham Borough and have a child aged 3-18 with a disability, autism or are on the pathway for an autism assessment, an opportunity to explore different ways of thinking about sleep, anxiety and distressed and dysregulated behaviour. We can provide strategies and resources to support your child. When capacity allows, we can also offer spaces on some of our workshops and courses to parents / carers whose child does not have a disability.

Coffee Morning



Date: Thursday 16th October 25

Time: 9.30 – 11.30am

Venue: Woodley Airfield Centre
Hurricane Way
RG5 4UX

1:1 session with one of the team are available to book if you would like to discuss any sleep or distressed & dysregulated behaviour issues you are currently experiencing.

For further information or to book a 20-minute session, please contact us on:
first@wokingham.gov.uk

Link to the [FIRST](#) webpage on WBC directory

REM 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, REM engagement team and more

www.wokingham-tc.gov.uk/council_events

Wokingham Town Council

Zoom Update on the Ordinarily Available Provision

Monday 20th October 7.00 – 8.00pm

Parents please join us for a Zoom session on the updated Ordinarily Available Provision with Helen Jackson-Brench (WBC Area SENCO)

Ordinarily Available Provision is the inclusive provision and support available to all learners in mainstream schools.

For the Zoom link please email:
info@sendvoiceswokingham.org.uk

See our website: www.sendvoiceswokingham.org.uk for details of all our events



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/>

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