



---

Tuesday 07 October 2025

Headteacher's Newsletter No 2

Dear Parent/Carer



As we move into the colourful month of October, it's wonderful to see how much our children have already achieved this term. From exciting school trips, learning about our new Butterfly Curriculum and working on their Courageous Advocacy Projects to creative learning in the classroom, the enthusiasm and hard work across the school have been fantastic. We are so proud of the way everyone has settled into routines and shown our school values of Compassion, Respect, and Thankfulness in all that they do.

As we look ahead to the rest of the term, there is still plenty to look forward to — from autumn celebrations to new learning adventures. Thank you for your continued support in helping make our school such a happy and caring community.

### **Harvest Festival**

Wycombe Food Hub

Thank you to everyone who attended our Harvest Festival.

This year we looked to support the Wycombe Food Hub and this is part of Year 3's Courageous Advocacy Project. They will be collecting donations throughout the Harvest period, and taking it to the warehouse. If you can, we would appreciate any donations of food and toiletries for them. Year 3 will be collecting these the week of 20th October 2025 - please give donations to your class teacher or alternatively place in the box at the gate of the KS2 playground.

### **Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO)**

Mr Smith is our SENCO and he will be working with staff and local agencies to ensure the individual needs of children in the school are met. However, your first port of call should always be the class teacher as they know your child best and he/she will discuss any concerns shared with the SENCO.

If you need to speak to Mr Smith with regard to Special Educational Needs (SEN) then please contact him via his SEN email [senco@highwycombecombined.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:senco@highwycombecombined.bucks.sch.uk)



If you are unsure as to how the process works regarding talking to the school about your child's specific needs then please visit the school website and read the 'SEN Information' which details the schools processes. (<https://www.hwce.co.uk/send/>)

## 'Christian Values for Living'

As a church school, our Christian Vision "Be Strong and Courageous" (Joshua 1:9) shapes everything we do. Rooted in God's promise to Joshua – "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go" – this vision inspires our pupils to face challenges with confidence, knowing they are valued and supported.



We have developed our own set of 'Christian Values for Living' that flow from this vision and underpin all aspects of school life. Our 6 Christian values are displayed in all classrooms and key areas throughout the school, serving as daily reminders of how we are called to live.

Even though Christian values are spiritual in nature, the evidence of these values comes through deeds and actions. Being "strong and courageous" means showing these values in all we do and say – whether that's trying something new in our learning, standing up for what is right, supporting a friend in need, or persevering when work is challenging.

Each half term we choose a Christian Value as our whole school focus. These are shared through whole school collective worship and woven throughout the curriculum, giving children opportunities to understand how living with strength and courage, guided by our Christian values, has a positive impact on their lives, their learning, and those around them. Through this approach, we equip our pupils to face the opportunities and challenges of life with the confidence that comes from knowing God is with them.

## Our half term value is 'Hope'



### What is Hope?

Hope is believing and trusting that good things will happen, even when times are difficult. It's like a light that shines in the darkness, helping us to keep going and never give up.

### Hope in the Bible

The Bible teaches us that hope is one of three precious gifts we should treasure in life, alongside love and faith (trust). In Psalm 33:20, we read: *"We put our hope in the Lord. He is our help and our shield."*

This reminds us that when we feel worried or uncertain, we can find strength and comfort in God's love and care for us.

### What Does Hope Look Like?

Hope helps us to:

- Keep trying when something feels hard
- Believe in ourselves and others
- Look forward to tomorrow with a positive attitude
- Support our friends when they're feeling down
- Trust that challenges can be overcome



## Living with Hope

This half term, let's think about how we can show hope in our daily lives. We can encourage each other, celebrate small successes, and remember that every new day brings new possibilities.

## Behaviours for Learning

At HWCE, we teach our children about six key learning behaviours that we believe are essential for helping them reach their full potential. Through clear teaching, discussion, and example, we help children understand what each learning behaviour means and how it looks in action. Our aim is to show children the importance of these behaviours and to inspire them to be '*strong and courageous*' learners, guided by our Christian Vision — "*Be Strong and Courageous*" (Joshua 1:9).

Each half term, a new learning behaviour is introduced during class collective worship and explored throughout the curriculum. This gives children meaningful opportunities to reflect on how these behaviours can positively impact their learning and personal growth.

To support understanding, we have created *Vision Characters* that bring each learning behaviour to life in a child-friendly way. Each behaviour is also linked to one of our six Christian Values, helping children make clear connections between how they learn and how they live out our school values every day.

Our Behaviour for Learning is: '**Motivated**' and our Vision Character is: '**Motivated Meerkat**'



Motivated Meerkat reminds us to stay hopeful, keep trying even when things feel tricky, and take pride in giving our best effort in everything we do.

## Parent Prayer Group

We are delighted to share that **Mrs Horne** (Year 5 Parent) is re-establishing our **School Prayer Group** on Friday mornings. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents and staff to come together as a community to pray for the life and work of our school.

The group will meet **under the KS2 Shelter from 8.40 to 9.00am**. Whether you have joined before or are coming for the first time, everyone is warmly welcome to attend.

Thank you for supporting this special part of our school community.

## Class Teacher Release Time

During the school year there will be times when your class teacher will not be teaching your children, there are a number of reasons for this and I thought it might be helpful to explain these to you.



## Planning Preparation and Assessment - PPA

As a school we provide a minimum of 10% guaranteed Planning Preparation and Assessment time (PPA) for all teachers. The purpose of guaranteed PPA time is to enable teachers to raise standards through a combination of individual or collaborative professional activity. It is also intended to improve teacher's work/life balance. As a school we have built this cover in using existing staff in the school, therefore this will always be the same teacher for each year group.

## Courses

From time to time staff will need to attend courses related to their Year Group, Key Stage or perhaps their Curriculum Specialism and as a school we will need to cover the class, in an ideal world we would like to choose someone known to the children and school but sometimes this is not possible. We will always try the staff known to us first but unfortunately, we do not have the guarantee they will always be available.

## Staff illness

If a member of staff is unwell again we will follow the above-mentioned procedure.

## Godly Play

Last year, we sadly said goodbye to **Jacky Bromley**, a former teacher and longstanding Godly Play Lead at HWCE. Jacky was deeply passionate about Godly Play, and she will be greatly missed by the whole school community.



We are therefore delighted to share that **Robyn Connelly** has now taken on the role of Godly Play Lead and brings the same dedication and enthusiasm to supporting our children's spiritual growth.

This term, all children will have the opportunity to take part in a Godly Play session with their class.

Godly Play is a child-centred approach to RE that encourages children to wonder, explore, and reflect on Bible stories in a meaningful way. Using beautifully crafted resources, stories are told to inspire curiosity and deepen understanding of faith. Children are then invited to respond creatively, expressing their thoughts and ideas through art and play.

Please visit our school website to see photographs and find out more about what the children have been learning.

## Class Assemblies

Each class will be putting on an assembly on a Friday afternoon at (2.45 – 3.10) during the year to which parents will be invited. Invitations are sent out by each class prior to their turn. The planned dates for this academic year are on the school calendar and detailed below:

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
17 October Year 5	30 January – Year 3	1 May - Year 4
	06 March - Year 1	8 May – Year 2
		19 June – Year R

I hope you will be able to join us as class assemblies make for very special occasions and an audience certainly adds to the atmosphere.



## Schools use of Social media

Follow us on our social media platforms to see highlights of school life, we are excited to share all the latest news, events, and achievements from HWCE on our social media platforms!



Whether you prefer Facebook, or X/Twitter, there's a way for everyone to stay connected and see what's happening in school. Don't worry if you don't use social media - all the same updates are also available on our school website.

## School Council

Each Year we hold elections for School Council Representatives, Year 2 children are nominated by the class teacher and KS2 children are elected

CLASS	SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE 1	SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE 2
Y2 - SWALLOWS	SHILOH	GABRYZIA
Y3 - KITES	OLIVER	AVAANI
Y4 - HAWKS	AADHARSH	EVIE
Y5 - EAGLES	ANNA	JONAH
Y6 - OWLS	ELSPETH	DAVI-LUCCA

## Pupil Worship Leaders

We have 2 children from each year group (Year 1-Year 6) on our Pupil Worship Team. Each week they lead our Class Collective Worship Sessions and have helped contribute to some of the activities and challenges posed in these sessions. They also take a lead in our services at All Saints Church throughout the year.

CLASS	WORSHIP LEADER 1	WORSHIP LEADER 2
YEAR 1 - ROBINS	MICAH	MARLIE
YEAR 2 - SWALLOWS	SONNY	CHRISTA
YEAR 3 - KITES	JUDE	MIA
YEAR 4 - HAWKS	DANIEL	OLANNA
YEAR 5 - EAGLES	ARTHUR	THEA
YEAR 6 - OWLS	PETER	ESTHER

## Sports Leaders

We are delighted to announce the **Year 6 pupils** who will be our **Sports Leaders** for this academic year. Each of them submitted excellent applications, demonstrating maturity, enthusiasm, and a strong sense of responsibility - qualities we know they will bring to the role. They will take on additional responsibilities in leading their houses and inspiring their teammates to strive for success, teamwork, and fair play. We are confident they will be excellent role models for their peers and proud ambassadors for our school.



HOUSE	SPORTS LEADER 1	SPORTS LEADER 2
RIDERS	ESHAAL	KAEDON
SKATERS	AMARA	JONATHAN
SURFERS	LUCY	JOEL
BIKERS	LOIS	WILLIAM

### Nut Free School

I would like to **remind all families** that we are a **nut-free school**. It is absolutely essential that snacks and packed lunches **do not contain nuts in any form**, as we have children with nut allergies for whom exposure can be very serious. This includes, but is not limited to, **hazelnut chocolate spreads (such as Nutella), Kinder Bueno, cashew nuts, peanuts, and peanut butter**. We greatly appreciate your support in keeping our school safe for all children.

### Lost Property

Please ensure that all uniform, PE Kit, coats, shoes, bags and items which come into school are **CLEARLY NAMED**. We have an increasing pile of lost property and if not named it is impossible to return to the correct owner.

### Second Hand Uniform

Please be reminded that we have a small stock of pre-loved uniform and are very happy to try and provide for your uniform requirements. It is really helpful if you email/contact the office in advance with your requests/sizing . Second -Hand Uniform is available from the basement on a Wednesday between 3 and 3.30pm.

### A few date reminders

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| • Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> October    | Transfer Test Results                           |
| • Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> October    | Wear Yellow for Mental Health Day               |
| • Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October | Open Morning for Prospective Parents            |
| • Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> October    | Year 5 Class Assembly                           |
| • Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> October    | Year 6 Assessment Week                          |
| • Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October    | Big Noise Music Event                           |
| • Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October    | Break Up for Half Term 3.15pm                   |
| • Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November    | School Opens Autumn 2                           |
| • Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November | Cake Sale YR,3 and 5                            |
| • Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November | YR1 Zoolab Visit                                |
| • Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> November    | Friends Quiz Night                              |
| • Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> November  | Y5 Willen Lake 2026 and PGL 2027 Parent Meeting |
| • Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> November   | Children In Need                                |



OXFORD DIOCESAN  
BOARD OF EDUCATION



Thank you for taking the time to read our October newsletter — we hope you enjoy seeing all the exciting learning and activities happening across the school this month.

Yours sincerely,



Celine Hawkins  
Headteacher



OXFORD DIOCESAN  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

