

# Halton Community Combined School

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Positivity :: Respect :: Honesty :: Perseverance :: Loyalty :: Courage

## The Heads Up

SUMMER TERM

ISSUE 16

Friday 24th April 2026

I hope that this letter finds you well and that you have all had a good week. It has been another brilliant week in school with lots of different activities taking place to celebrate The Month of the Military Child, a national initiative that aims to highlight the impact of military life on the children whose parents are part of the armed forces. We have also used this week as a great opportunity to come together as a community, with the whole school taking part in a wide variety of military themed activities, very kindly hosted by many of our service parents. As I said last week, our school has a long-standing relationship with the military, having taught a significant number of service children since it first opened, and this week has been a chance for us all to think about the impact of service life on all of the children in our school. I would like to thank all of the parents who gave up their time this week to come into school and lead activities and to Matt Tope, our service governor, who has spent a lot of time organising such a successful week for us.

Mr Horsfield



The children this week have had the opportunity to take part in a lot of military themed activities. Years 5 and 6 were taught how to march (and were very loud at shouting commands!). Years 3 and 4 designed and fired their own rockets, one of which even landed in the car park! The RAF Police visited our Early Years and Key Stage 1 classes who also got the chance to take part in some PT activities. The teachers even had their staff meeting up at the Trenchard Museum! Everyone loved having an ice cream from the BFBS camouflaged ice cream van.

### Key dates for this term

**w/c Monday 11th May**—Year 6 SATs week

**w/c Monday 25th May**—Half term holiday, school closed

**Wednesday 10th June**—Sports Day (*more info to follow*)

**Friday 19th June**—‘Community Day’ event after school

**Monday 29th June**—School closed for inset day

**Friday 17th July**—iRock concert

**Wednesday 22nd July**—School closes for summer holiday



### Inset days for the next academic year

Tuesday 1st September 2026

Wednesday 2nd September 2026

Monday 2nd November 2026

Monday 12th April 2027

Monday 28th June 2027

Please use [this link](#) to see the term dates for academic year 2026/27.

### Visiting author

The author-illustrator Nancy Leschnikoff visited school today and read her new book *Ug Want Hug* to our Key Stage One and Early Years classes. She told us all about her life as a creator, how she brings her characters to life and she showed us how she draws Ug! There was a real buzz of excitement and the children asked lots of brilliant questions. Some children had purchased the book had their copy signed by Nancy and an individual chat with her. We were really impressed that so many of the children were able to read the book for themselves already!

### Internet safety—screen time

The term ‘screen time’ generally refers to the amount of time that someone spends using a screen. This includes television, phone and tablets.

However, research has found that how children use devices is often more important than how much time is spent with devices. As such, there isn’t any official guidance when it comes to screen time limits.

Internet Matters have produced the following guidance to help parents navigate this complicated issue.

[Screen time guidance](#)

### Service Family website page

This year we have created a website page with information regarding our support for service families. Don’t forget, you must inform us if you are being deployed or else we will not know.

[Service family website page](#)

### Safeguarding

Keeping your children safe is our number one priority and we just wanted to remind you that whilst all of the staff are fully trained regarding safeguarding, we do have three specific people who oversee the management of safeguarding at Halton School. As Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL’s), Mr Horsfield, Mrs Allen and Mrs Dawkins are your go to people if you have any concerns that you wish to raise. We will always handle your concerns sensitively and without judgement. In school, we regularly remind the children of our roles but also that anyone wearing a blue “staff” lanyard can be spoken to if they are worried about anything either in school or online.

Our governor with responsibility for safeguarding is Mrs Sue Harratt and she can be contacted via [governor@haltoncc.school](mailto:governor@haltoncc.school).



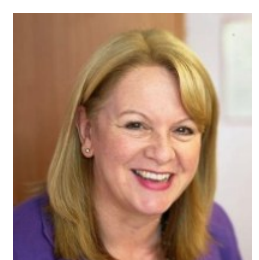
**Mr Horsfield**



**Mrs Dawkins**



**Mrs Allen**



**Mrs Harratt**

# Halton Pre-School



We offer a warm and nurturing learning environment for 3 & 4 year olds. Our well-equipped building and outdoor provision is set within the grounds of Halton School where our passionate teachers promote a love for learning.



Offering 15 hour and 30 hour funded spaces



Rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted



[www.halton.bucks.sch.uk/preschool](http://www.halton.bucks.sch.uk/preschool)  
[preschool@haltoncc.school](mailto:preschool@haltoncc.school)

## Halton Preschool—September 2026

Our Preschool has always been one of our prized assets and I have lost count of all of the lovely comments and amazing feedback that we get from parents who choose to send their children there. It is an outstanding setting and I know that Mrs Dawkins, our Reception teacher, always comments that In September when she meets her new class, you can always tell the children who went to our Preschool as they are so much more ready for school.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP

At the moment, our numbers for September are a little lower than usual and actually, as it is a year with a low birth rate, all of the settings in the local area are finding it harder than normal to fill their spaces.

### HOW CAN YOU HELP?

**Spread the word!** We have children in every class of main school who have spent time in our Pre-school and these families know us really well. If you hear of anyone looking for a Preschool for **September**, or earlier, send them our way. We are more than happy to host tours and parents can apply now for a September place, they do not have to wait.

You can also help us with our **online presence**. Mrs Bowden is working tirelessly on social media however our audience is still quite small.

- Follow us on **Instagram** and **Facebook** where you can like and share our posts. The posts are great and not only show life in our Preschool but have lots of handy hints and top tips for parents with preschool-aged children.

- Leave a **Google Review** (we don't have many and most of these are several years old).

- Help us advertise. If you work in the local area and are able to put up a poster for us, please come and speak to the office or to Mrs Bowden and we would be really grateful for your support.

If you have any queries about Preschool or if you have any ideas of how you can help us, please come and speak to us as we really need your help.

## < halton\_preschool



Halton Preschool

31  
posts

31  
followers

55  
following

Halton Preschool, Bucks. This page is for promotion, education and parent partnership and is not monitored daily or for direct staff contact.

### Halton Preschool Instagram

If you didn't know already, our Preschool have their own Instagram page, which is jam-packed with content, ranging from the activities the children have been doing during the day, to lots of helpful advice and tips. You can even keep up with the adventures of Trevor the travelling monkey, who has recently 'visited' France!



# Christopher Pallet

Professional advice since 1973

*Proudly sponsoring*



Friends of Halton School

Christopher Pallet, Wendover's longest established independent estate agent are proud to be sponsoring Friends of Halton School.

As part of our sponsorship we will be donating £100 to the school when any parent/guardian or teacher successfully Sells or Lets a property through Christopher Pallet Estate Agents

## Residential Sales & Lettings

Mortgages | Surveys | Conveyancing | Land & New Homes | Professional Advice



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or call 01296 625000

# COMMUNITY DAY

AYLESBURY UNITED



FOOTBALL CLUB

A 21CD INITIATIVE

A CELEBRATION FOR  
THE WHOLE FAMILY!

WHEN:

**SATURDAY  
25th APRIL**

ENTRY FROM: 2pm

KICK OFF: 3pm

## FREE ENTRY

**FREE ENTRY condition:**  
Register and donate an  
item to Youth Concern

**at the gate.**

Suggested £3 Donation  
to Youth Concern



**REGISTER ONLINE AT:**  
[AYLESBURYUNITEDFC.COM/EVENTS](http://AYLESBURYUNITEDFC.COM/EVENTS)

**MATCHDAY FIXTURE:**  
AYLESBURY UNITED FC vs. HERTFORD TOWN  
(AT HOME: THE MEADOW, CHESHAM)  
- **DON'T MISS IT!**

## MATCHDAY

**KIDS' PAPER  
AEROPLANE  
COMPETITION  
BEFOREHAND**

**50:50 DRAW:  
WIN HALF  
THE POT!**

**AUFC Pan Disability  
team cake sale:  
DELICIOUS  
TREATS!**

**& MORE: STALLS,  
FACE PAINTING  
FUN FOR ALL!**

**FUN PRIZES  
TO WIN!**

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## SEND Peer Support

### Drop-ins for parent/carers

Buckinghamshire Council in partnership with YC2 Young Carers, Forever Colours Children's Hospice and The White Hart are offering a drop-in session for parents and carers of children with SEND. The sessions will provide the opportunity to meet informally and build support networks.

Professionals will be on hand to provide information and signposting support. Children are welcome to attend with parents/carers.



The White Hart,  
Market Square,  
Buckingham



Third Tuesday of  
every month



10:00am to 12:00  
midday

Please note we cannot comment on individual EHC Plan queries or outcomes.



Buckinghamshire  
Council

Proud to be part of  
**Family Hub Network**  
Buckinghamshire



# St George's Day

WOMEN IN HISTORY FAYRE

**Sunday 26 April**

**UNIFORMED PARADE**

Market Square  
4-5pm

**FAMILY FUN**

Friars Square  
12-4pm

**QUIZ, TALKS**

**& DEMOS**  
King's Head  
12-4pm



**AYLESBURY**  
TOWN COUNCIL



## Free Parenting Programmes

Our parenting programmes will help you develop new and existing parenting skills, offer advice and build your confidence as a parent.

Proud to be part of

**Family Hub  
Network**  
Buckinghamshire



Scan me

### LITTLE TALKERS

**18 months to 3 years old**

- Focuses on children's speech, language and communication skills and how parents can promote them
- Designed by Buckinghamshire Speech and Language Therapy

### PARENT PUZZLE

**0 to 5 years old**

- Understand challenges and how to address them
- How to support your child's growth for calmer parenting

### TALKING TEENS

**11 to 18 years old**

- Focuses on relationships within the family, communication, negotiating, decision-making and strategies to reduce conflict
- Learn more about teenagers and their needs

### THE NURTURING PROGRAMME

**3 to 11 years old**

- Help deal with the challenges that come with parenting
- Think about what we do, why we do it and how it makes us feel

### BALANCEABILITY

**2.5 to 5 years old**

- Accredited learn to cycle programme
- Develops confidence, spatial awareness, dynamic balance, and how to ride without stabilisers

### KEEPING YOUR CHILD IN MIND

**All ages**

- Work together in ways that support growing children and a calmer family life
- Explore the conflict between parents/carers both in a current or previous relationship

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familyinfo@buckinghamshire.gov.uk