

Halton Community Combined School

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Website: www.halton.bucks.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr. Colin Horsfield



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

The Heads Up

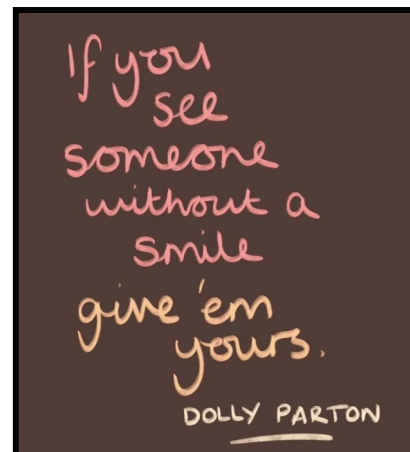
AUTUMN TERM

ISSUE 2

Thursday 17th September 2026

I hope that this letter finds you well and that you have all had a good week. It has continued to be a really **positive** start to our new school year, particularly now that we have all of our classes in full time and that so many parts of our usual working week are all up and running again. It really is like we've never been away! Our value for this half term is '**positivity**', with a focus for the first few weeks on how a **positive attitude** can not only impact on our own mood and performance, but also how it can influence those around us. In assembly we have looked at various examples of this, including the late Dolly Parton. It has been our mission this week to try and share our **positivity**, even if that is with something as simple as a smile! Parents and carers, you are more than welcome to join in our mission with us, whether this is at drop off, pick up, or if you're working (any hours, not just 9 to 5). I look forward to another **positive** week next week, with hard work, **positivity** and lots of smiles!

Take care, Mr Horsfield.



PTA meeting—25.9.26

You will remember that we have been on a recruitment drive recently to form a new PTA committee to help with fundraising initiatives and events and to follow on from the amazing work done by the previous committee. I am pleased to say that we have had lots of interest, thank you to those of you who have put yourselves forward. There will be a meeting next week, on **Friday 25th September** at 8.00am in school, for anyone interested. Please come to the main entrance and we will direct you to the meeting. Children of those attending the meeting will be allowed to attend Kids Kapers for the duration of the meeting. Please see class reps for more info.



Dear All,

Your birthday wishes were much appreciated.
Many thanks for your kind thoughts.

With best wishes,

Camilla

© Chris Jackson

We received a letter last week with a very unique post mark, that of Buckingham Palace! Inside was a card from Queen Camilla, to say 'thank you' for a birthday card that the school sent her before the summer holidays. The children were very excited to receive this and it was shared in assembly on Friday. Thank you to last year's School Council for making Queen Camilla's birthday card and to Mrs Allen for helping them. I'd also like to thank Mrs Jenkins for organising this opportunity for us.

School website

The technical problems with our school website have now been sorted and you are now able to access all of the content. Thank you for your patience with this.

[Halton School website](#)



Kids Kapers timings

Kids Kapers opens at 7.30 and we will supervise the children until their class start times. Breakfast is served from 7.30-8.15. Any children arriving after 8.15 will not be able to have breakfast that day.

We would also like to remind you that Kids Kapers closes at 6.00pm every day. If you are running late as a result of traffic etc, please call them directly on **01296 623635** to let them know. A late pick up fee will also be issued.

End of the day

Children in Years 4, 5 and 6 are allowed to walk home if we have received permission from their parents or carers.

If your child does not have permission to walk home, or if they are in Preschool to Year 3, they must be collected by an adult notified to us. **Older siblings can only collect Halton pupils if they are 16 or over.**

If there is ever a change to who is collecting your child, even if it's a one-off, you must let the office know or else we won't let the child leave with them.

Headlice

Please be aware that we have had cases of headlice this week. Please can we ask that long hair is tied back. A link to the NHS guidance on headlice can be found below:

[NHS Headlice guidance](#)

Timings of the day

Bluebells: 8.50am—3.15pm

Years 2, 4, 6: 8.40am—3.20pm

Years 1, 3, 5: 8.45am—3.25pm

Please make sure that your children arrive in time for registration. Any child arriving after their class have gone into school must be signed in by their parent or carer using the electronic sign-in system. If any children who walk to school by themselves are late, we will sign them in and will contact parents to let them know. Any child arriving after their class have gone into school will be recorded as late.

PE

A reminder that children can come to school wearing their PE kit if their class has PE that day or if they are attending a sports club. The classes have PE on the following days:

Monday: Year 1,

Tuesday: Year 3

Wednesday: Year 4

Thursday: Year 6

Friday: Bluebells, Year 2, Year 5



Uniform

Our uniform can be purchased online from PL Schoolwear using the following link:

[PL Schoolwear Uniform Suppliers](#)

We also have a lot of second hand uniform in school. If you would like anything, please see the office and we can let you know what sizes we have in stock.

A Roman Settlement Revealed: Life, Death and Surprises at Wendover

presented by Jo Barker, Sarah Wyles and Frankie Wildmun

14th October • 7 pm
webinar • zoom
free online admission



Mrs Dawkins



Mrs Allen

SAFEGUARDING

Keeping your children safe is paramount to us and that includes times when they are not in our care, for example when they are at home or online.

The Designated Safeguarding Leads at our school are **Mr Horsfield, Mrs Dawkins and Mrs Allen** (above). We are always available to help you and your children and we can be contacted at any point if you have a safeguarding concern.

Your concerns will always be taken seriously and will be treated sensitively.

Smart watches

A reminder that children are **not** to wear Smart watches in school. This is not only a school rule, but is also in line with government legislation as well.

History on our doorstep

You will probably know that during the excavation work for the new cricket club, next to the vets, the remains of a Roman settlement was found. A webinar is taking place on **14th October** for anyone interested in finding out more about it. There is no cost, simply book your using the details on the advert (*left*).

Key dates for this term

Tuesday 22nd September – individual and sibling photographs (day 1)
Wednesday 23rd September – individual and sibling photographs (day 2)
Wednesday 30th September - Phonics workshop for Rec, Y1, Y2, 9.00am
w/c Monday 26th October – School closed for half term
Monday 2nd November—Inset day, school closed
Tuesday 3rd November—School and Kids Kapers reopen
Wednesday 11th November - Remembrance assembly, 9.15am
Thursday 12th November—Cinderella pantomime in school for all classes
Monday 23rd November – Parent Consultation Evening, 3.50pm-7.00pm
Wednesday 25th November – Parent Consultation Evening, 3.50pm-6.30pm
Wednesday 9th December – Preschool and Bluebells Christmas play, 10.00am
Tuesday 15th December – Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas play, 2.00pm
Wednesday 16th December – Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas play, 10.00am
Thursday 17th December – Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 18th December – School closes for Christmas holidays
Monday 4th January – School and Kids Kapers reopens

Still to confirm dates for KS2 Christmas Carols, Fresh Start Christmas lunch and any PTA events.

Other key dates for this academic year

w/c Monday 15th February - school closed for half term
Monday 15th March – Parent Consultation Evening, 3.50pm-7.00pm
Wednesday 17th March – Parent Consultation Evening, 3.50pm-6.30pm
Friday 25th March – School closes for Easter holidays
Tuesday 13th April—School and Kids Kapers reopen
Thursday 29th April—Military Day
w/c Monday 10th May - Y6 SATs Week
Wednesday 19th May—Sports Day (EYFS, KS1 am / KS2 pm)
Wednesday 26th-Friday 28th May—Y6 residential to Woodrow High House
w/c Monday 31st May - School closed for half term
Monday 7th June – School and Kids Kapers reopens
Wednesday 9th June —Back up date for Sports Day
Monday 28th June —Inset day, school closed
Friday 9th July—End of year reports sent home
Wednesday 21st July—School closes for summer holidays

Hiring our school hall

Our large hall is available to hire at weekends as well as evenings throughout the week. We can accommodate one-off events or regular bookings, depending on availability.

£25 per hour

If you would like to check for availability, or you have any further queries, please contact our school office via office@haltoncc.school or 01296 622264

You said, we did

Last February, we sent out our annual parent survey. As always, the feedback was extremely positive and we were very pleased to read a whole array of very lovely comments. There will always be areas which will be seen as development points, either by individuals or by multiple responses. Over the next few weeks I would like to share with you how we have responded to the points raised on the survey and how we have used your feedback to shape the way we do things here at Halton. I will also aim to address any misconceptions which also came up in the survey to help alleviate any concerns over certain aspects of school life. All of the responses have been collated and can be seen on our school website:

Parent Survey 2026

How learning is planned:

The following comments came up on the survey in relation to the pitch of learning:

"I'm concerned my children are not pushed academically. I understand that huge amounts of time and effort are devoted to caring for SEN children, which is impressive, but I worry that there isn't then time to develop bright children to their potential."

"There is much more focus on bringing the least able students up to the expected level than on enabling the most able students to thrive. Both are important - i.e. there should be equal focus on making sure all students reach their potential."

In every year group and in every lesson, the learning is planned for very carefully so that **all** of the children are working at a level which is suitable for their ability. The content of the lesson is planned for in line with the age-related expectations of the curriculum. There will be some children who are working beyond these expectations already and they will be challenged accordingly when they come to their independent learning. Likewise, there will be some children working below the expectations and they will have planned support to enable them to meet those age-related expectations or to meet the success criteria of the work they are completing. Therefore, we can confidently say that **all children** are pushed to achieve. As a parent myself, I know that children can often come home and say that the work was "too easy", or that they "didn't get any help" or often they don't want to discuss their day at all. Please be reassured that all of staff are highly skilled at pitching the work appropriately to enable all children to achieve their potential. The senior leadership team conduct regular learning walks to observe lessons and to look at the work in books. Staff meetings are also used for teachers to plan together and to moderate work together, to ensure that there are consistencies across all year groups.

School website:

Over the next few weeks, we are going to be redesigning our class website pages so that they can be used to see the content of your child's learning as I know that this was another area that was brought up in the survey. The "curriculum" page on the website has also been updated by Ms Bates and Mrs Powell to show the content of each subject for each year group, again, to show the progression through the school.

Feedback on learning:

We have moved our autumn parent consultations to the end of November so that teachers can discuss more accurately the attainment and targets for your child for this term. The spring dates are also later in the term for the same reason, so that you are kept up to date with attainment and targets. Your child's end of year report will show their summer attainment.

gofundme™



Help to make our school cool...

You will know that we are in the process of sourcing quotes for air conditioning units, to mitigate the risk of any future extreme weather. Our Go Fund Me page is one way that we will be raising money for this project, with the QR code above and the link below. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

[Our school Go Fund Me page](#)

Thank you to everyone for their donations so far. Currently we have raised £100! Your support is very much appreciated.





Who do I contact

Who do I contact to discuss... Reporting an absent child Lunches Change of address or contact number Parent Pay Medication Leave of absence requests Uniform After school clubs	➔	The Office Team Mrs Rainbow (Mon, Tue, Wed, Thurs am) Mrs Parsons (Thurs, Fri) Mrs Vylgina (Tue, Wed, Fri) office@haltoncc.school 01296 622264
Who do I contact to discuss... Safeguarding or child protection concerns Confidential information	➔	Designated Safeguarding Leads: Mr Horsfield Mrs Dawkins Mrs Allen
Who do I contact to discuss... Family support Attendance Service Family contact	➔	Mrs Allen (Family Support Coordinator) callen@haltoncc.school
Who do I contact to discuss... SEND enquiries Educational Healthcare Plans	➔	Lucy Barker SENCO@haltoncc.school
Who do I contact to discuss... Speaking to a governor	➔	Lindsay Ablitt (Chair of Governors) governor@haltoncc.school or office@haltoncc.school
Who do I contact to discuss... Pre-school	➔	Vicki Bowden (manager) preschool@haltoncc.school Krystyna Vylgina (invoices) payments@haltoncc.school
Who do I contact to discuss... Kids Kapers (breakfast and after school club)	➔	Krystyna Vylgina (bookings and invoices) payments@haltoncc.school Julie Frier (Manager) office@haltoncc.school 01296 623635
Who do I contact to discuss... Questions about learning My child's reading book Personal wellbeing Behaviour concerns Friendship concerns	➔	Class teacher Please arrange a convenient time to meet or speak on the telephone. <i>*Seesaw is only for homework related queries or for submitting work</i>
Please make your child's class teacher your first point of contact however our Senior Leadership Team are also available to offer support if necessary. Mr Horsfield – Headteacher Mrs Dawkins – Deputy Headteacher Mrs Allen – Family Support Coordinator Miss Barker – SENDCO Ms Bates – Lead Teacher Mrs Powell – Lead Teacher They can be contacted via office@haltoncc.school or on 01296 622264		

We will always aim to respond to you as quickly as possible. Please be mindful that the majority of staff do have a teaching commitment and therefore the most convenient time to meet would be after school.



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For all your property requirements contact
wendover@christopherpallet.com
or call 01296 625000



Donation Guide

- Tinned meat (e.g bolognese, meatballs)
- Tinned fish (e.g tuna, salmon, sardines)
- Tinned soup (e.g meat, veg and tomato)
- Rice (dry) and microwave rice
- Pasta and instant noodles
- Tinned tomatoes
- Tinned veg (e.g peas, carrots, sweetcorn)
- Tinned pulses (e.g beans, chickpeas)
- Tinned fruit
- Custard/ tinned desserts (e.g. rice pudding)
- Biscuits
- Teabags and coffee
- Spreads (e.g. jam)
- Pasta/cooking sauce (e.g tomato, curry, chilli)
- Cereal
- UHT milk (whole, semi skimmed, skimmed)

aylesbury **vineyard**
STOREHOUSE



FREE
TASTER SESSION



**DRAMA
HUB**

DRAMA & Musical Theatre



*Help your child grow confidence,
be creative and have fun!*

Taught by qualified teachers & theatre professionals
Tessa Churchard and Suzy Mannering

- Our classes support literacy, speaking and listening and develop empathy and teamwork
- Saturday mornings at the Wendover Youth Centre
- Classes for ages 4-7, 8-9, 10-12
- From £7 per hour

"Tess is such a kind, nurturing teacher, I couldn't recommend her highly enough" Leona W



Call or email Tess to book or chat about what we do
+44 7386 903922 dramahubwendover@gmail.com www.drama-hub.co.uk



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TRY A NEW SPORT!

**NEW UNDER 11s
SQUASH SESSION**

**STARTS
7TH SEPTEMBER**



**EVERY MONDAY
AT 3:50PM**



**WENDOVER
SQUASH CLUB**



**FINISHES
AT 4:30PM**



*Come along and
give squash a go!*

A fun, active session for
children **under 11** – perfect
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**ALL YOU NEED:
CLEAN INDOOR TRAINERS**



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tmalliff@yahoo.co.uk

**GET ACTIVE,
HAVE FUN,
MAKE FRIENDS!**



**FIRST
SESSION
FREE!**