

Halton Community Combined School

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Headteacher: Mr. Colin Horsfield



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

The Heads Up

AUTUMN TERM

ISSUE 4

Friday 16th October 2026

I hope that this letter finds you well and that you have all had a good week. In school, it continues to be really positive and in our assemblies we have been really thinking about how we can all have a positive impact on each other. As a result, we've really noticed how much the children are looking out for each other, showing kindness and making sure that everyone in their friendship groups and their classes are ok. It's one thing to listen in assembly, it's another to then act and put those messages into practice. Well done everybody for another very positive week in school.

Mr Horsfield



October half term

A reminder that next Friday is the last day of this half term and the classes will all finish at their usual times. School, Preschool and Kids Kapers will all be closed **w/c Monday 26th October** and we will reopen on **Tuesday 3rd November**.

No nuts

Whilst this is not a new message, I would like to remind everyone that we have a strict 'no nuts' policy for snacks and packed lunches.



Outdoor Learning

One of the new features for this academic year is the outdoor learning that is taking place every Friday which all classes will be taking part in across the school year. Run by Miss Lambie, so far Year 6 have made some giant board games, Year 4 have made bug hotels and Years 1 and 5 have just started their new projects too. I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone for their very generous donations of resources which have kitted out our outdoor area so well. It is also the money raised over the past few years by our PTA events which has paid for all of the playground renovations and the upgrade to our outdoor learning area. This is already making a real difference in school and I am excited to say that the work on the playground is very nearly finished. Thank you again for all of your support and to Miss Lambie for her planning of this very ambitious project.

Break time snack

All of the children in school are allowed to have a fruit or vegetable snack at break time. This could be a piece of fruit, a tub of berries, carrot sticks etc. Early Years and KS1 are provided with one however KS2 need to bring in their own. Please can we ask that you encourage the children to bring their tubs home as we already have quite a collection in school.



Parent Survey Feedback—Homework

A few weeks ago, I started to share some of the feedback that we received in our last parent survey and explained what we have done in response to that feedback. In some cases we have changed our practice, in other cases we can see that some further explanation may be needed to address some misconceptions.

Homework is always a contentious topic and it is one where unfortunately we can never please everybody. For some there is not enough, for others too much. Some people like the homework online, others do not. Homework will never be used by us for new learning, it is used for consolidation and for regular practice of key skills.

Some of the feedback regarding Seesaw:

"Seesaw for homework is pretty poor, we don't find it that engaging and the links to websites never work meaning you have to type the very long web address without making the slightest mistake. Can be quite frustrating."

"Paper homework option needs to be available too."

Seesaw initially was brought in during the Covid school closures and it remains our online platform should we ever need to close, such as last term during the heatwave. Whilst we will be keeping Seesaw for these 'extreme'

occasions, we have made changes to homework for this year.

Homework tasks will be set on Seesaw however you will not need to complete them online as the children have a homework book as well.

Every week the children will have 3x tasks:

1. Read every day
2. Complete at least 10 minutes of "Numbots" (KS1) or TT Rockstars (KS2)
All children have logins for these
3. Practice spellings given by the teacher

New this year, the teachers will give out a selection of tasks which you can choose to do if you wish, all linked to the class topic for that term. You do not have to do these however they are there if the children would like to find out more about what they have been learning. If they do complete one of these tasks, this will be in their homework book. You may wish to upload a photograph on to Seesaw for the class teacher to see.

We are hoping that this makes homework easier for you and the children as well as reducing the amount of screen time.

The first set of 'extra tasks' will be uploaded on to Seesaw after half term.

CRAZY HAIR DAY
FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER | LAST DAY OF TERM

LET'S SUPPORT HANNAH
All donations will go towards helping Hannah, daughter of our wonderful Mrs Jaggers, who urgently needs spinal surgery.

DONATE
MINIMUM DONATION £1 OR WHATEVER YOU CAN
Bring your cash donation to school on the morning of Friday 23 October.

GO WILD WITH YOUR HAIR!
Crazy colours, wacky styles & fun accessories!

**LET'S GET CREATIVE
GET CRAZY
AND SHOW YOU CARE**

PLEASE NOTE: School uniform must still be worn.

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 **£175!** Your support is very much appreciated.



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.

Internet safety—parental controls

Get step-by-step guidance and instant help setting up parental controls for your family's devices by clicking on the following link from Internet Matters, a brilliant website with lots of advice on a wide range of different topics related to internet safety.

[Parental Controls guide](#)

If you have any queries regarding Internet Safety then do get in touch.

Key dates for this term

Friday 23rd October—PTA Crazy Hair Day (school uniform to be worn)

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

Wednesday 9th December—Fresh Start 'Christmas Lunch'

Tuesday 15th December—Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas play, 2.00pm

Wednesday 16th December—Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas play, 10.00am
KS2 Carol Service at St George's Church, 2.00pm

Thursday 17th December—Christmas Jumper Day

PTA Christmas Disco, 6.00pm

Friday 18th December—School closes for Christmas holidays

Monday 4th January—School and Kids Kapers reopens

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

Who to contact

We are a very open school and we welcome parents to come and talk to us, particularly if you may be concerned about something. Who you speak to is really important and on p4 I have reattached a guide so that you can see who is the best person to contact depending on your query. Your child's teacher would usually be your first point of contact and they can direct you to other staff if necessary.



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

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or call 01296 625000

Running Joke Theatre Company
PRESENTS

THE CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED, AWARD-WINNING PLAY

WONDER BOY

BY ROSS WILLIS



BOOK TICKETS HERE

FRIDAY 16TH OCTOBER 7.30PM
SATURDAY 17TH OCTOBER 2.30 AND 7.30PM
QUEEN'S PARK ARTS CENTRE, AYLESBURY
RUNNINGJOKE.CO.UK

"What use is a boy who can't say his own name?"

Wonder Boy tells the uplifting story of Sonny, a 12-year-old boy trapped in a failing education system. Hiding in silence behind a debilitating stammer with only Captain Chatter - a superhero who exists only in Sonny's mind - to help, Sonny is struggling to navigate his way through secondary school, when to his horror, he is cast in the school production of Hamlet. With rehearsals underway and the pressure mounting, Sonny joins forces with his inspirational teacher Wainwright and hilarious new friend Roshi. Together, the trio embark on a journey of discovery and acceptance, as Sonny's new friends help him unlock the power of his own voice.

Running Joke are delighted to bring Ross Willis' critically acclaimed, award winning play **WONDER BOY** to the stage.

"Audaciously inventive, sparky yet sensitive" Guardian
"Boundingly imaginative" The Times
"Heartwarming... heartbreaking" British Theatre Guide
"Should be on the school curriculum tomorrow" WhatsOnStage

RUNNINGJOKE
THEATRE COMPANY

Please do go and see this amazing play! Starring Max from Year 5 and Mrs Clayman. Tickets available now!

Premier Education



OCTOBER HOLIDAY CLUBS

Loads of activities. Tonnes of fun.
For children aged 4-12.

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★★★★★
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YOUR NEAREST HOLIDAY CLUB...

TRING SPORTS CENTRE, TRING, HP23 5JU	JOHN HAMPDEN, WENDOVER, HP22 6HF	WENDOVER JNR, WENDOVER, HP22 6HF
TIMES: 9:00 - 3:30pm 8:30 - 5:30pm	TIMES: 8:30 - 3:30pm 8:30 - 6:00pm	TIMES: 8:30 - 3:30pm 8:30 - 6:00pm
AGES: Reception - Year 7	AGES: Reception - Year 2	AGES: Year 3 - 7
DATES: 26 th - 30 th Oct	DATES: 26 th - 30 th Oct	DATES: 26 th - 30 th Oct

Looking for something exciting this October half-term? Our multi-activity holiday clubs are packed with fun, energy, and variety for children of all ages!

Each day brings something new - from archery and fencing to dodgeball, cricket, and loads more. With a mix of sports, team games, and seasonal crafts, there's never a dull moment.

Book now for a half-term full of fun!

office-11@premier-education.com

Download the Premier app

Book and change your child's clubs, manage your account - all in one place!



App Store | Google Play

From £39.00
£31.20 before 4th October!!

QUID-A-KID RETURNS



HALF-TERM FOOTBALL

31.10.26 ADAMS PARK 3PM

sky bet LEAGUE ONE EFL

FREE 100% MONEY BACK



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

QR code: [QR code]

Instagram: [icon] Facebook: [icon]

Wendover Squash Club.

1/2 TERM SQUASH CAMPS

Monday 26th and Wednesday 28th October

£30 per day or £50 for both.

9.30am-1.30pm

All equipment supplied

Bring a packed lunch!

All children welcome aged 7-13.

It will be an active session - so if your children have a lot of energy this will be ideal.

Coaches Katie and Tricia will be running the sessions.

To book a space or to find out more email
tmalliff@yahoo.co.uk
Or message Tricia on **07920786003**

Limited spaces

OCTOBER HALF TERM SWIMMING COURSE

The Wendover Pool, HP22 6HF




DATES AND TIMES

MONDAY 26 TH OCT	09:30 TO 11:00 AM
TUESDAY 27 TH OCT	09:30 TO 11:00 AM
WEDNESDAY 28 TH OCT	09:30 TO 11:00 AM
THURSDAY 29 TH OCT	09:30 TO 11:00 AM



MORE INFO!

- 30 minute lessons
- £56 for 4 day course
- Limited to 6 children per class
- Beginner through to advanced lessons

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