

2025-26



In this week's newsletter:

- Welcome!
- Rugby Year 6
- Building an amazing school
- What's new
- Maths Challenge (KS2)
- Mud Larking
- Admin matters
- Diary Dates
- PTA Update



Welcome!

We are delighted to welcome our new children and families to the school – our Early Years pupils have arrived and settled in wonderfully, and we also extend a warm welcome to those who have joined us in other year groups at the start of this academic year.

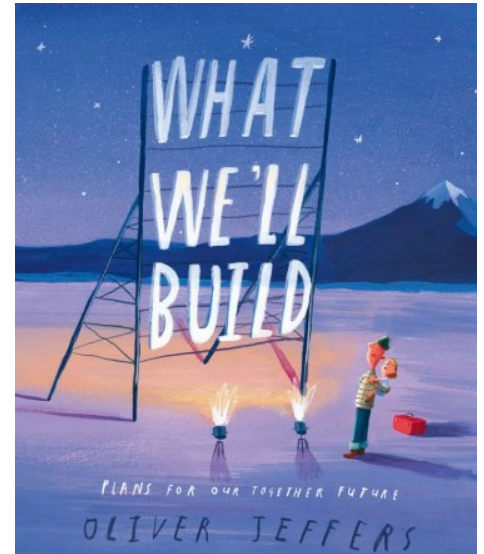


Rugby Year 6



Year 6 children had a great first rugby coaching session yesterday. They were off to a flying start too!

Building an amazing school



In this week's Infant Assembly, Mr McKeown-Webster shared the inspiring story *What We'll Build* by Oliver Jeffers, encouraging everyone to think about how we can work together to build an amazing school community.

The story helped us reflect on how following our school rules and living by our school values can make our school a happy, safe, and exciting place to learn.

We also celebrated how some children are already helping to build this positive environment—they've earned house points and were proudly awarded certificates in recognition of their fantastic efforts.

WHAT'S NEW

Over the summer break, several fantastic improvements have been made across the school to enhance both learning and play for our children.



Thanks to the generous support of the PTA, we now have brand-new play equipment on the field, which the children are very excited about using.

WHAT'S NEW



"Incredible!"

"Thank you PTA."

"What a great idea."



"We love the challenge."



A former cloakroom area next to Year 3 has also been transformed into a bright and welcoming new learning room, providing a flexible space for group work and quiet study.





We've also installed new coat and bag lockers outside some classrooms, giving pupils a more organised place to store their belongings.



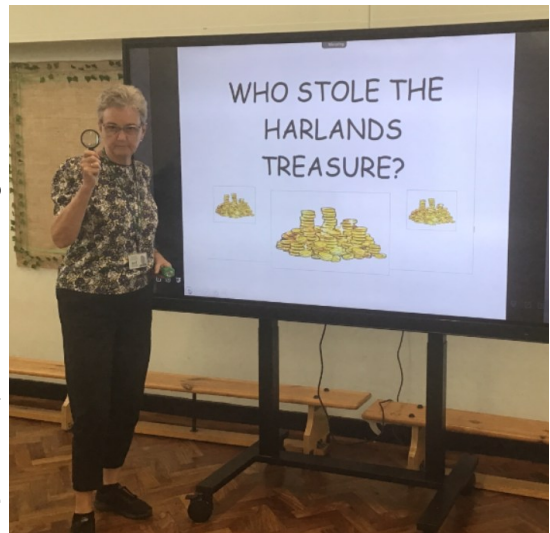
In addition, the amphitheatre seating has been upgraded, making it more comfortable for children to use at breaktimes and for outdoor learning sessions.

We are very excited for the year ahead and know these improvements will make a positive difference for everyone in our school community.

Maths Challenge (KS2)

Over the last two years, pupils in key stage two have enjoyed the weekly maths challenges.

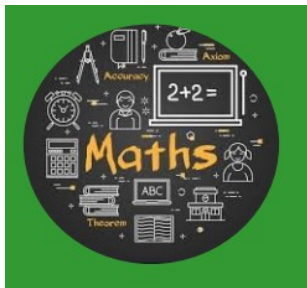
This Autumn, there is a bit of a twist to the challenge. It all revolves around 'Who stole the Harlands Treasure?'



Pupils (detectives) who want to take part will be given a list of suspects. Each week a challenge will be set which, when solved crosses off one of the suspects. In the last week before Christmas, there will be only one suspect left and a final challenge will reveal the whereabouts of the treasure.

Pupils may take part on their own, in small groups and it would even be great for those at home to support/become involved too.

All challenge answers must be saved and given in with the final criminal name and treasure location.



Thank you to Mrs Reader who is leading this exciting challenge for the children.

Maths Challenge (KS2) - example



Challenge example:

(very easy)

$$\begin{array}{r} 41\Box \\ 2\Box7 + \\ \hline 651 \end{array}$$

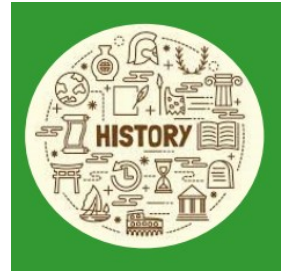
CODE SHEET

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	

Add together the two digits which make the sum correct.

Find the total of the two numbers on the code sheet.
Cross off the suspect whose last name starts with this letter.

Mud-larking



Mrs Harding amazed the Year 5 children this week by bringing in an artefact which she found on the banks of the River Thames. It is possibly a Roman tile.

The intriguing part is an animal paw print on it—possibly imprinted whilst the tile was drying when it was made. Who knows?

Ruairi: What type of building would it have gone on? How did it get smashed and end up in the river?



Iris: What animal made the footprint? What animals were around in Roman times?



Admin Matters

Change of Pick up—please can we remind you that any changes to pick-up arrangements should ideally be notified to the school office before 2.00pm—at which point we share this, and the Pioneer information, with the class teachers.

Change of address— whilst it is possible for parents/carers to update some information within Arbor, the one thing that we must do in school (so that we capture all members of the household) is make a change of address. So if you move house, please could you e-mail the office with the details, rather than trying to update your address yourself.

Please also note that when you try to update certain things in Arbor, the school has to approve the request before it goes into the system; this is an important safeguard as it ensures that we take note of eg important medical information, though we would always encourage parents to e-mail the office with information first about any significant developments.

Free School Meals—with the current strained financial situation, if you think you may be eligible for free school meals, please do apply via WSCC using this online link <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals/west-sussex> It is only possible now to apply directly online, paper applications will not be accepted.

If you are in receipt of Universal Credit, in some circumstances you may still be eligible for free school meals, so do please check.

If you are successful, it means that the school will receive an extra sum of money (Pupil Premium) which can be used to help offset the cost of your child's school trips, as well as providing other more individual support, including access to free school holiday activities.

Secondary Transfer—parents of children in Year 6 should already have received information that the secondary transfer application round is now open.

Applications need to be made by **31 October 2025** in order to have the best chance of being allocated your preferred option.

Wet Weather—please can you ensure that your child(ren) have a suitable coat/jacket with them at all times, as they will be going out to play, even if it is wet. We only keep them inside if the rain is torrential or there is a thunderstorm.

Lunches—please could we remind you that, for the safety of all our children, we do not allow nuts or nut products in school (this includes items such as Nutella, and even pesto if it includes nuts).

Please could we also request that if you are supplying grapes for younger children, these should be cut in half lengthways—whole grapes are a big potential choking hazard.



Diary Dates

Wednesday, 17 September

Thursday, 18 September

Friday, 19 September

Monday, 22 September onwards

Thursday, 2 October

Friday, 3 October

Friday, 10 October

Monday, 13 October

Wk beg Monday, 20 October

Elm swimming starts

Hazel swimming starts

PTA AGM, drinks at 7.30pm, meeting at 8.15pm

Oathall Open Evening 4.00-7.30pm

Friday clubs start

All other clubs start

Y4 Haywards Heath parks trip

8.30-10.00 PTA Coffee morning for EYFS parents

Flu vaccinations—whole school

Harvest Festival

Parent Consultations

Friday, 24 October

Monday, 27 –Friday, 31 October

Monday, 3 November

INSET Day

Half term

INSET Day

Wednesday, 26 November

School Photographer (individual & family groups)

Friday, 19 December

Monday, 22 December— Friday, 2 January

Monday, 5 January

INSET Day

Christmas Holiday

INSET Day

PTA NEWS



Welcome to the new school year! We hope you all had a wonderful summer!

Harlands PTA AGM - Thursday 18 September, 7.30 pm for 8.15 pm

Join the PTA for the Annual General Meeting, which is a great opportunity to get to know Harlands community and catch up over a drink, before chatting about 2025/26 fundraising plans and events.

There are several key roles that will be up for election, including:

Chair - oversees the calendar of events for the school year and liaises with the school. They chair meetings and the board of trustees, and hold a casting vote in a tiebreak.

Vice Chair - deputises for the chair, sharing these responsibilities.

Secretary - looks after the PTA inbox, keeps track of the calendar, minutes meetings and sends cake sale reminders.

Treasurer - looks after PTA accounts, sets up cash floats, and prepares updated accounts for the charity commission.

Communications Officer - drafts and sends out messages on behalf of the PTA to the charity membership (the whole school community) and looks after social media.

Community Officers - are focused on engagement with the PTA membership and help to plan activity and recruit event leads for the school year.

Event Leads - volunteer to lead an event this school year, such as the Easter Trail, Love Our School Day or anything else fun you'd like to see happen!

Register your interest to attend here, or if you can't make the AGM but would still like to get involved in the PTA, please email HarlandsPTA@Gmail.com

Link to register: [Register your interest in the AGM: 18 September](#)