



Harlands Primary School

Striving for excellence, valuing everyone & our world

Newsletter No 10

harlandsprimaryschool.org

Friday, 21st November 2025

2025-26



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This week's PTA update will come as a separate document



Cycling Stars

This week, our Year 6 children took part in their **Bikeability cycling** and **road-safety training**, building confidence and essential skills for travelling safely on the road.



Bikeability

'It was really good being out on the real roads. It made me feel more aware of what is around me.' (Megan)

'I enjoyed discovering new skills. I can see how this will help me in the future when driving.' (Lily-Rose)

'With the instructors I felt really confident. To the instructors I want to say thank you for your encouragement and support.' (Eloise)



The **Bikeability instructors** shared some wonderful feedback, praising the children for their resilience in the cold and snow, their excellent behaviour, and their fantastic focus and listening skills. They were also impressed by how supportive and encouraging the children were towards one another.

We are incredibly proud of the way they represented our school.

Thanks to **Mrs Glew** for her wonderful organisation and preparation, which helped the whole week run so smoothly.

Bikeability and snow

On Wednesday's brief flurry of snow, the children thoroughly enjoyed the wintry surprise, and our brave Year 6 cyclists—alongside their instructors—kept going with smiles as they continued their training.



Roman Road



Following on from last week's visit to Fishbourne Roman Palace, the children in Year 5 have been learning how to make a Roman road, whilst also making sure that everything is ship-shape for the forthcoming PTA winter 'Light Trail'.



Roman Road



‘Working as a team, we shovelled the gravel, carried heavy buckets and then took turns to spread it out along the path.’ (Maryam)

‘Doing it was hard work. It helped me image how hard it would have been for the Roman road builders.’ (Archie)

‘I felt good about myself helping prepare for the PTA event.’ (Millie)



Earthshot 2025

This week in assembly, the children learned all about the **Earthshot Prize** – a global environmental award that supports exciting and innovative ideas to help protect and restore our planet by 2030. The pupils were fascinated to hear how people and communities around the world are working together to create a cleaner, greener future.



We explored some inspiring recent initiatives, including the amazing work happening in **Bogotá, Colombia**. The children discovered how the city is



working hard to reduce pollution by investing in **electric buses**, building more **cycle lanes**, and creating **extra green spaces**.

These changes are already making a real difference, helping to clean the air and improve the lives of people living there.

The children were full of thoughtful questions and brilliant ideas of their own. It was wonderful to see how inspired they were by the real-life examples of positive environmental action happening across the globe.





Active Sports

An energetic group of Year 5s enjoyed the opportunity to try out a whole plethora of new sports at the Dolphin this week as part of Mid Sussex Active.

They enjoyed dance, gymnastics, squash, cricket, martial arts and skateboarding!





Christmas Matters

With only four weeks to go until the start of the Christmas holidays, rehearsals are in full swing for all the forthcoming performances. The arrangements for attendance by parents/carers are as follows:

Tuesday, 9 December @ 9.30am—EYFS Nativity, maximum of two guests per child, *no need to book*, but guests will be checked into school.

Wednesday, 10 December @ 9.30am—Year 1 Nativity, maximum of two guests per child, *no need to book*, but guests will be checked into school.

Thursday and Friday, 11 & 12 December @ 9.30am—Year 2 Nativities, maximum of two guests per child for one performance only. *Arrangements to book for a specific day will be shared next week, using Arbor.*

Monday, 15 December @ 1.30pm at St Wilfrids' Church—KS2 Carol Service—a letter will be coming home next week with detailed arrangements, with a response required by e-mail.

Please note that, especially for the EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 performances, it would be helpful if any younger siblings could be looked after elsewhere.

This year the **Christmas Post Box** will be out on the playground every morning from **Monday 8th—Friday 12th December**, with a final opportunity on Monday, 15th December if you would like to send Christmas cards to others within the school.

Please make sure the cards are addressed with the child's first and surname and their class. It would also help the Christmas Elves who sort the post if you could put cards for the same class in a rubber band! The cards will be distributed within school on Tuesday, 17th December.

School Photographer

J P Photographic will be in school on **Wednesday, 26 November**, to take family and individual photographs.

If you have younger/older siblings who are not at Harlands, they would be most welcome to come to Harlands ready for 8.30. Families should line up together.

If all your children are at Harlands, they should go to their classes as normal for registration; we then arrange to collect families for their group photograph.

For children in year 3 Hazel who are due to be swimming, they should go to the Dolphin Leisure Centre as normal, but you may like to ensure they have a comb with them to tidy up their hair afterwards. Unfortunately, it will only be possible to do family groups with these children if their siblings are at Harlands.

All children will have their photograph taken individually regardless and we will update you with information about proofs and how to order afterwards.

Emergency Closure Procedure—reminder

Given the snow on Wednesday, it is timely to remind everyone of our emergency closure procedure, as snow is one of the most likely triggers.

Staff will attempt to arrive at school suitably early to make an inspection to ascertain whether the site is safe. Consideration will also need to be taken of any difficulties staff may have in respect of getting to school, whether walking or coming from further afield.

Once it is clearer what the situation is, we would endeavour to **notify parents by 8.00am if school is going to be closed**, or there is to be a delayed opening. This will be notified by a **message on the home page of the school website** first, followed up by a message via Arbor (which may take some time to get through if lots of schools are having to send closure messages through Arbor, due to system capacity).

We may then also need to adjust closing hours to suit weather conditions and the safety of everyone throughout the day.

In the event of closure, work will be placed on Google Classroom for the children to complete.

Parent Trustee Vacancy

Further to a communication sent on 10th November, this is a reminder that we are currently looking for a Parent Trustee. Nominations close on Monday, 24th November and should be handed to the Governance Professional (Mrs Michael) care of the School Office, who can also provide further information.

Diary Dates

Tuesday, 25 November	Y3 visit to Brighton Museum
Wednesday, 26 November	School Photographer (individual & family groups)
Friday, 28 November	Y6 Life in Ancient Egypt Day
Wednesday, 3 December	Y4 to Preston Manor
Tuesday, 9 December	9.30am—EYFS Nativity
Wednesday, 10 December	9.30am—Year 1 Nativity
Thursday, 11 December	9.30am—Year 2 Nativity (first performance)
Friday, 12 December	9.30am—Year 2 Nativity (second performance)
Monday, 15 December	KS2 Carol Service—1.30pm at St Wilfrids Church
Friday, 19 December	INSET Day
Monday, 22 Dec— Friday, 2 January	Christmas Holiday
Monday, 5 January	INSET Day

Payment reminders:

Y6 ongoing instalments for residential trip

This week's **PTA update** is attached as a separate document.