



2025-26

In this week's newsletter:

- Pancake Races
- Celebrating KS1
- This Is My Place
- Pizza Express (Y3)
- Great Fire Of London (Y2)
- Science Fair 2026
- Fundraising
- World Book Day
- Trustee Vacancy
- Diary dates



Pancake Races

Today, children across the school had great fun taking part in our pancake races.

We are very grateful to our wonderful PTA helpers who gave their time to make it all possible.



Celebrating Key Stage 1

In Key Stage 1 assembly today, we were delighted to celebrate the many children who have achieved a certificate this half term for demonstrating our school value of **Responsible**.

We talked about how being responsible helps make our school such a special place where everyone feels safe, respected and proud to say:

We make this place!



We Make This Place



We Make This Place



This Is My Place

As part of Children's Mental Health Week 2026, themed around **"This Is My Place,"** our Key Stage 2 pupils came together in assembly to reflect on how we can all help make our school a safe, welcoming and positive place for everyone.

Confident

I can speak up about my feelings.
I can ask for help when I need it.
I can try new things in my place.



The children shared thoughtful ideas about kindness, respect and belonging, and how small actions can make a big difference to others.

Optimism

Things can get better.
I believe I belong.
I can help make my place a happy one.



A special thank you to the **Year 6 pupils from Maple Class** for leading such a confident and meaningful assembly.

Responsibility

I help keep my school safe.
My choices affect others.
I help create a good place for everyone.



**THIS IS
MY PLACE**

Pizza Express visits (Year 3)

Over the past couple of weeks, Year 3 have thoroughly enjoyed their visits to Pizza Express, where they learned all about how pizzas are made and had the chance to create their own.



‘The walk to Pizza Express was long but worth it’ (Arlo)

‘The pizzas smelt so tasty, I kept putting my fingers in the sauce.’ (Zach)

‘Even though my pizza was a weird shape, I had fun.’ (Skye)

‘I liked making the pizza—my favourite part was stretching the dough.’ (Georgia L)

Pizza Express visits (Year 3)



Pizza Express visits (Year 3)



Enjoying pizza back at school...!

Great Fire of London (Year 2)

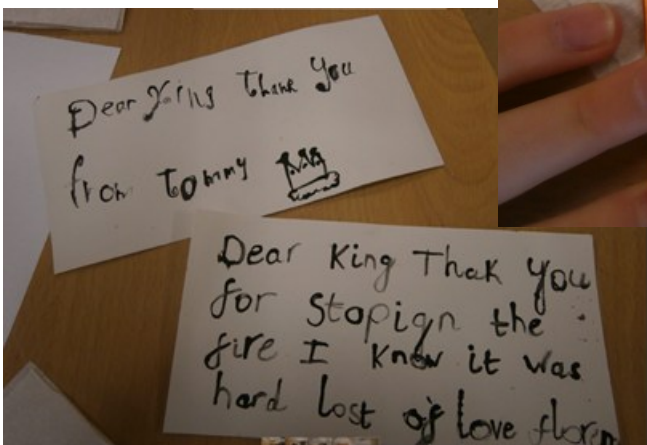


Year 2 enjoyed a day this week going back in time to 1666 - the time of the Great Fire of London. They were tasked with helping the people who had lost everything in the fire.



They completed a range of tasks - weaving, making a scent bag, making a candle holder, creating a plaque to show that the building had insurance and they even had a go at writing a letter to the King using a quill and ink!

Great Fire of London (Year 2)



Great Fire of London (Year 2)



Science Fair 11th March

In Monday's assembly, our Science Ambassadors excitedly launched our upcoming Science Fair, which will take place on Wednesday 11th March.

The theme is “**Curiosity: What Is Your Question?**” — encouraging pupils to think like scientists by researching, investigating and exploring any area of science that sparks their interest, before presenting their findings or models at the fair.

Children might choose to explore questions such as: *How do bees help flowers? What is a back garden ecosystem? What would be the best vehicle to drive on the moon? How do boats float? What is the best design for a paper aeroplane?* or even *Does butter always land buttered side down?*



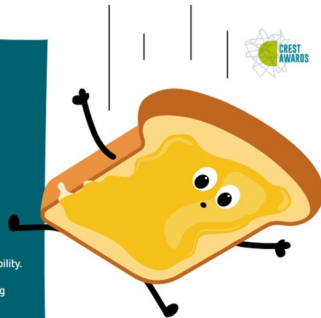
We can't wait to see the wonderful ideas, investigations and creative projects our pupils will share!

Science Fair: What's your question?



DOES TOAST ALWAYS LAND BUTTER-SIDE DOWN?

This activity is designed to get you thinking about probability. Murphy's Law says falling toast always lands butter-side down, but is this true? You'll be flipping toast and keeping a record of how it lands – what are the chances?!



HOW CAN WE RECYCLE AND REUSE PAPER?

This activity is designed to get you thinking about why recycling paper is important. You'll take old paper and make new paper of your own. Creating brand new materials uses lots of energy – reusing what we already have can help protect the planet.

⌚ 45 minutes plus a day to dry



HOW DO BIRDS BUILD THEIR NESTS?

This activity is designed to get you thinking about birds' nests and how they are made – can you build a strong one? You'll design and build a nest, then test it against wet and windy weather. Make sure it's cosy for its feathered family!



WHAT'S THE BEST DESIGN FOR A PAPER AEROPLANE?

A paper aeroplane, glider or helicopter falls to the ground much more slowly and gracefully than a crumpled-up piece of paper. This is because of the forces generated by air pressing on and moving over the surface of the paper. You will discover this by creating your own paper aeroplane, glider and helicopter, sending them on a journey and seeing how they fly!

⌚ 30-45 minutes



SCIENCE
MUSEUM
GROUP



HOW DO BOATS FLOAT?

This activity will get you designing and making a raft that floats. You'll test different models using water to see which can hold a crew of marbles.



WHAT SORT OF VEHICLE WOULD BE BEST ON THE MOON?

In this activity, you will design a space rover that would be able to zoom around the Moon! A rover's wheels are very important and you will need to think carefully about this when designing yours. The Juno rover, designed by the Canadian Space Agency, can use many different types of wheels (rubber, metal or iRings), or a set of metal tracks.



Miss Reed Is Fundraising

We are delighted to celebrate the fantastic efforts of **Miss Reed** (Early Years teacher), who is raising money through taking part in the **Brighton Half Marathon** — we are incredibly proud of her commitment and wish her every success.



RAISING MONEY FOR AMAZE

Amaze is a charity that gives information, advice and support to families of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in Brighton & Hove and Sussex.

I'm supporting Amaze because they have helped support my sister with and nephew, who has autism, as well as many families in and around Sussex with support such as; support groups, providing guidance and SEND information/ rights, resources for transitions and many more.

I'll be lacing up my running shoes and running the 21k dressed as Shrek if I reach my money target of £300 so please donate as it is going to an extremely amazing charity and you can all laugh at me whilst I run around Brighton on the 1st March!

Thank you for taking the time to read this and thank you in advance for donating :) x

https://www.justgiving.com/page/lois-reed-1?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL



2026
Brighton
Half Marathon



World Book Day—Friday, 6 March



We will be celebrating World Book Day on Friday, 6 March (which avoids Year 4 Hawthorn being out at swimming on the “official” day).

Children and staff are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character.

Please make sure that costumes are suitable for wearing in school, and warm enough for the children to go out at playtime.

Don't forget to use your World Book Day tokens, which have been distributed this week. They are valid from 12 February until 15 March.

Trustee Vacancy

The Trustees are looking to appoint a new Trustee to join our Board and welcome applications from the wider community as well as from among our school families. We are keen to hear from volunteers who have a genuine interest in supporting our team's ambitious agenda and representing the school's increasingly diverse and EAL community. Previous experience in education is not essential.

Information about Harlands and about the role of a Trustee is available on our website ([Harlands Primary School - Vacancies](#)). Currently we would like to appoint someone interested in joining our School Improvement committee, but all Trustees contribute across the full range of our responsibilities, including finance, budgets and resources as well as audit and risk.

We can also arrange an informal conversation with our Chair to provide more detail: please contact us on the email below if you would like to arrange this.

If you are interested in playing a part in our continuing progress, please complete the short application form (also available on the website) and forward this: fao our Chair, Michael Swiggs c/o clerktogovernors@harlandsedtrust.org.uk
Applications close on **Tuesday 24th February 2026**

Half-term reminders

Please could we ask parents/carers to check for the following:

- Uniform/other clothing that does not belong to your child (please return to school office, no questions asked!)
- Please check for nits—we have been advised of several incidences of these in the last couple of weeks

Diary Dates / Reminders

Friday, 13 February

Monday, 16-Friday, 20 February

Monday, 23 February

Wednesday, 4 March

Thursday, 5 March

Friday, 6 March

Tuesday, 17 March

Wednesday, 18 March

Thursday, 19 March

Friday, 20th March

Monday, 23 March

Tuesday, 24 March

Monday, 23 March

Tuesday, 24 March

Friday, 27 March

Monday, 30 March-Friday, 10 April

Monday, 13 April

Monday, 4 May

Monday, 11-Friday 15 May

Monday, 25 May-Friday, 29 May

Monday, 1 June

Monday, 8 June-Friday 12 June

Wednesday, 17 June

Friday, 19 June

Thursday, 25 June

Wednesday, 22 July

mer Term

INSET Day

Half-term break

INSET Day

5.30pm—Y5 Performance (1)

5.30pm—Y5 Performance (2)

Celebration of World Book Day

5.30pm—Y4 Performance, *Go for Gold*

Last swimming for Chestnut

Last swimming for Hawthorn

Most clubs finish except

Final session for Monday clubs

Final session for Engineering & Art Clubs only

Y4 Greek Workshop

9.15am—EYFS/KS1 Spring Performance

(this event will be weather dependent)

Last day of Easter term

Easter Holidays

Children return to school

Bank Holiday

KS2 SATS

Half-term

INSET Day

Y6 Residential to Barton Hall

Open Day

Leavers and Class photos

Sports Day

Last day of Sum-

Payment/paperwork reminders:

Y4 Greek Workshop—payment due by 2 March

Y6 ongoing instalments for residential trip

Our School Values

