



Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have returned to school smiling and, as always, keen to learn. After last week's exceptionally hot weather, we are hoping it will cool down a bit this week! The Autum Term is already looking very busy so please do take time to have a look at all that is happening at Halling across Terms 1 and 2.

Thank you if you have been able to get to our parent and carer year group 'Welcome' meetings. It has been great to see so many of you! If you have been unable to attend, the PowerPoints will be added to the website by the Media Team and can be found at the top of each <u>class page</u>. Don't forget that each year group's newsletter is also at the bottom of this page.

Finally, a HUGE thank you to you, if you made one of our three anonymous donations. It is truly appreciated! These monetary donations will go towards supporting the mental health and wellbeing of Halling's children.

As always, if you have any questions please do catch me, Miss Eakins or Miss Martin at the gate.

Best wishes, Ms Lisa Taylor

Headteacher



#### Halling Primary School Diary Dates: Terms 1 & 2

Day:	Event:	Additional Information:	
Tuesday 12th September & Wednesday 13th September	Medway Test	•	Year 6 Registered Pupils
Tuesday 12th September	Year 6 Parent and Carer Welcome Meeting	•	2:45pm in Hall
Wednesday 13th September	Year 4 Parent and Carer Welcome Meeting	•	2:45pm in Hall
Saturday 16th September	National Teaching Assistants' Day	•	Thank you to all our TAs and HLTAs!
Friday 22nd September	PTA Fundraising: Christmas Card Design Afternoon	•	Helpers required so please email to sign up: PTA@halling.medway.sch.uk
Monday 25th September	Year 6 Head Pupil Presentations and Democratic Election Day	•	Whole School
Tuesday 26th September	PTA Annual General Meeting (AGM)	•	2:00pm in the Meeting Room
Thursday 28th September	Coffee/Tea and Bake-Off for Macmillan Cancer	•	2:00pm in the Hall
		•	See page 13 of newsletter
Thursday 28th September	AAT Netball Tournament	•	Year 5 and Year 6 - details to follow
Friday 29th September	Staff Development Day	•	Children DO NOT attend!
The Month of October	Black History Month		
Monday 2nd October	Harvest Festival	•	Halling are supporting Caring Hands
		•	Children and staff only
		•	Letter to follow from Miss Edwards
Thursday 5th October	National Poetry Day		
Thursday 5th October	World Teachers Day	•	Thank you to all our teachers!
Thursday 5th October	Census Day	•	Look out for Donna's special themed menu!

Day:	Event:	Additional Information:
Thursday 5th October	Open Classroom for all Year Groups	• 3:20pm - 4:00pm
Friday 6th October	PTA Fundraising: Non-Uniform Day in exchange for chocolate/sweet donations!	Letter to follow from the PTA
Tuesday 10th October	World Mental Health Day	Author Visit
		Letter to follow from Mrs Nicholls
Wednesday 11th October	"Have Your Say!" Parent and Carer Meeting	• 9:00am
		Letter to follow from Ms Taylor
Wednesday 11th October	AAT Tag Rugby Tournament	Year 3 and Year 4 - details to follow
Thursday 12th October	Flu Immunisations Day at Halling	Whole School
Thursday 12th October	Mini Youth Games (MYG) Hockey Tournament	Year 5 and Year 6 - details to follow
Friday 13th October	NEFL: ASC and ADHD Parent/Carer Workshops	See pages 10-12 of newsletter
Friday 13th October	PTA Fundraising: Quiz/Bingo/Race Night	Letter to follow from the PTA
Wednesday 18th October	PTA Fundraising: Disco	Letter to follow from the PTA
Thursday 19th October	Show Racism the Red Card Day	Letter to follow from Ms Taylor
Thursday 19th October	Last Day of Term 1	
Saturday 28th October	PTA Fundraising: Christmas Photo Shoot at Halling	Letter to follow from the PTA
Tuesday 31st October	Staff Development Day	Children DO NOT Attend
Wednesday 1st November	First Day of Term 2	
Wednesday 1st November	AAT Netball Tournament	Details to follow
Monday 6th November	UK Parliament Week	Details to follow from Mrs Nott
Tuesday 7th November	Individual School Photographs	No PE Kits to be worn this day - bring PE kit in a bag please if it's a PE day!
		Dress smartly (full school uniform) and remember to smile please!
Thursday 9th November	MYG Basketball festival	Year 5 and Year 6 - details to follow
Friday 10th November	Remembrance Assembly	Children and staff only
Saturday 11th November	Halling Firework Display	Letter to follow from Ms Taylor
wb: 13th November	Anti-Bullying Week	
Monday 13th November	Odd Socks Day	Letter to follow from Ms Taylor
Tuesday 14th November	Parent & Carer Consultation Meetings	• 3:30pm until 7:00pm
		Letter to follow from Ms Taylor
Thursday 16th November	Year 1 Trip to Detling Trenches	Letter to follow from Year 1
Thursday 16th November	Parent & Carer Consultation Meetings	• 3:30pm until 6:00pm
		Letter to follow from Ms Taylor
Friday 17th November	BBC Children in Need Charity Fundraising Day	Letter to follow from Mrs Nott and     Halling's Communications Team
wb: 20th November	Halling's Road Safety Week	
Wednesday 22nd November	AAT Dodgeball Tournament	Details to follow

Day:	Event:	Additional Information:
Thursday 30th November	MYG Badminton Festival	Year 5 and Year 6 (details to follow)
Friday 8th December	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day	Letter to follow from Ms Taylor
Friday 8th December	PTA Fundraising: Christmas Fair	2:30pm until 5:00pm in the School Hall
		Letter to follow from the PTA
Monday 11th December	KS2 (Years 3-6) Christmas Celebration (Provisional)	• 2:00pm @ St. John's Church - ticketed event
		Letter to follow from Miss Martin
Tuesday 12th December	KS2 (Years 3-6) Christmas Celebration (Provisional)	• 10:00am @ St. John's Church - ticketed event
		Letter to follow from Miss Martin
Tuesday 12th December	EYFS Christmas Performance	2:00pm @ School Hal - ticketed event
		Letter to follow from Mrs Coleman
Wednesday 13th December	Year 1 Christmas Performance	2:00pm @ School Hall - ticketed event
		Letter to follow from Ms Eakins
Thursday 14th December	Whole School Pantomime Trip part funded by the PTA, thank you!	Letter to follow from Ms Taylor
Friday 15th December	Year 2 Christmas Performance	2:00pm @ School Hall - ticketed event
		Letter to follow from Ms Eakins
Monday 18th December	Christmas Talent Show	Children and staff only
Tuesday 19th December	Christmas Dinner Day	Wear your Christmas Jumper!
Tuesday 19th December	PTA Fundraising: Christmas Disco	Letter to follow from PTA
Wednesday 20th December	Christmas Parties for all Children	Wear your Christmas Party clothes to school
		Letter to follow from Miss Martin and
		Ms Eakins
Wednesday 20th December	Last Day of Term 2	Early pick up from 1:30pm (optional)
Friday 22nd December	PTA Fundraising: Sleigh Run	Letter to follow from PTA
Friday 5th January	Staff Development Day	Children DO NOT Attend
Monday 8th January	First Day of Term 3	

X

Why not follow us on Twitter



for regular updates?



@HallingSch 💟 @AletheiaAT 💟 @HallingPta



@HallingSchICT



#### **Have Your Say Parent and Carer Meeting**



Our first Have Your Say Meeting of the academic year is on **Wednesday 11th October** at **09:00**. We will be sending a letter out nearer the time with further details.

We look forward to welcoming you!

Here's a link to our website.

Click on the image below to explore!



In Term 1, Open Classroom is on Thursday 5th October from 3:20pm until 4:00pm.



This is an opportunity for your child to show you their classroom, their displays and perhaps some of the work they have been completing in their books.

Please note that your child's class teacher will be present, but this is not a formal meeting!



We have an email account that has been set up specifically for safeguarding emails:

safeguarding@halling.medway.sch.uk

This email account is monitored daily by the DSL, Ms Shona Eakins and the DDSLs, Mrs Debbie Tyler and Ms Lisa Taylor.



Please remember that we are a nut and seed-free school, thank you!



#### **Medicines and Creams**

If your child needs to take **any form of medication** (including the application of creams/gels) whilst in school, a **form must be completed**.

Please pop into the office to complete this with Miss Bradley, Mrs Beeching or Mrs Carr-Taylor, so that we can ensure the medication is safely stored and administered/recorded/logged correctly.



#### **KS2 Fruit Trolley!**

A pupil voice 'Action Team' set up a healthy eating fruit and vegetable tuck shop for the children in Key Stage 2 - Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.

If your child is in one of these year groups and would like to buy a piece of fruit at morning break time, all items cost 30p.



This has been running since the beginning of last week and it will continue as long as there is demand!

PTA Christmas Card Afternoon
Friday 22nd September from 1:30pm
Can you help support the children in classes?



If you can help out please email: PTA@halling.medway.sch.uk



Unfortunately, we have already had a number of complaints from residents in the local community who live in the roads closest to our school.

We have also received a number of complaints from parents and carers who are, once again, highly concerned about the safety of Halling's children.

The school run is such a busy time and the roads closest to school always become heavily congested.

The complaints have been in respect of parents and carers parking inconsiderately on the kerb, grass verges and/or blocking driveways. This has, in turn, forced pedestrians to walk on the road and there have already been a few near misses.

The last thing we want is for anyone to get hurt!

Please be respectful of our neighbours and school community and ensure that we are all working together to keep everyone safe.

Medway Council are currently advertising for a School Crossing Patrol which still remains unsuccessfully filled:

https://ats-medway.jgp.co.uk/vacancies/235315

If you know anyone who would be interested, please pass on the details!

Thank you!



#### **School Ties!**

School ties are available to purchase throughout the year via the 'Shop' in the Arbor App.



Please may we take this opportunity to kindly request that all scooters and bikes are 'walked' when on the school site.

This ensures that everyone is kept as safe as can possibly be during our busy drop-off and pick-up times!



# Our Colden Rules At Halling: We are kind and helpful We listen to everyone We are honest We work hard We look after property We keep safe

#### **Playground Equipment**

One of our Golden Rules at Halling is: We look after property.

At the beginning and end of the school day please can we kindly request that if younger children are playing with the playground equipment, such as the chess pieces and large connect four sets, that they look after them by putting the pieces back when they have finished!

Last academic year, we invested a large sum of money into the purchase of this new equipment for the children and we want to ensure that pieces do not get lost, damaged or broken.

Please note that the gym equipment is not to be used by any children either before or after school!

Thank you all for respecting our Golden Rule!



# HALL FOR HIRE!

Did you know that our hall is available for hire for children's parties, quiz nights, charity events and more?

If you are interested, please get in touch for information on our competitive prices by emailing Jodie Simpson, Senior Finance Officer: finance@halling.medway.sch.uk



#### TERM DATES: 2023 - 2024

Term 1	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> September – Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	
Break	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October – Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2023	
Term 2	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November – Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	
Break	Thursday 21st December 2023 - Friday 5th January 2024	
Term 3	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January – Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	
Break	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	
Term 4	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February – Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	
Break	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2024 Good Friday – 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2024, Easter Monday – 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2024	
Term 5	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April – Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2024 Bank Holiday – Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	
Break	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2024	
Term 6	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June – Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	

# STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS & TRUST DAYS (CHILDREN DO NOT ATTEND)

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2023 Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023 Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023 Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023 Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024 Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024 Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024



School drop-off and pick-up times are always exceptionally busy which is one of the reasons why we have members of staff stationed at the gates. Please do keep a close eye on toddlers who can easily get lost in the sea of parents and carers, as we cannot always guarantee that a member of staff will be on the main car park gate.







Please look out in your emails for a letter detailing

information about this year's MacMillian Cancer Support Bring and Buy Parent/Carer Bake Sale! This year, we are challenging the adults in the school community to take part and come together to raise money for this important charity.

To attend you must sign up in the office so please read the letter (sent last week) for more details.

We would love to see lots of you take part so please do not hesitate to come and speak to Mrs Tyler at the gate at the end of the school day to find out more!

Any help on the day too would be very much appreciated.

Last academic year, we continued to make great strides in working together with you all as parents and carers at Halling Primary School to make positive changes for everyone.

'Your Voice Matters' to us and we can only continue to make these changes if we know about them so thank you for your comments, suggestions and possible solutions when you feel we haven't quite got things right!

Thank you also for your positivity when we do get things right - it means a lot!

If you should have any worries or concerns, your child's class teacher should be your first port of call. Should you then wish to speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team please email the office to make an appointment with either Miss Martin (Assistant Headteacher for KS2), Miss Eakins (Assistant Headteacher for KS1 & SENDCo) or Ms Taylor (Headteacher). You can, of course catch us on the gate too!

Our Complaints Policy can be found here.





### It's good to talk



During the school day, children have many opportunities to talk to adults if and when they need to. When talking may not be possible, we have two in-class initiatives that are followed across the school: 'Bubble Time' and 'Think Boxes'. For Bubble Time, your child can move their peg onto the 'talk bubble' to indicate that they would like to speak with an adult regarding an incident or problem. Similarly, the Think Box is for children to share their thoughts or ask a question by writing it down and posting it into the box. All children should be aware that any adult that is seen with a rainbow lanyard is a safe and approachable adult, equipped to deal with any concerns they have.



Vision: Learning for Life

Values: Compassion – Integrity – Thankfulness – Respect – Resilience

Drivers: Curiosity – Aspiration – Diversity – Independence

# Halling Primary School NEW INTAKE TOURS 2024

# Day Time Tours - 09:45

#### Two adults and the new starter (no siblings please)

Thursday 5th October 2023 Thursday 12th October 2023 Thursday 15th October 2023 Thursday 2nd November 2023 Thursday 9th November 2023 Thursday 16th November 2023 Thursday 23rd November 2023 Thursday 30th November 2023

# Evening Tours - 17:00

#### Two Adults and the new starter (no siblings please)

Wednesday 6th December 2023 Wednesday 10th January 2024



## Story Time Sessions - 14:45 - 15:00

#### One adult and the new started (no siblings please)

Friday 6th October 2023 Friday 13th October 2023 Thursday 19th October 2023 Friday 3rd November 2023 Friday 10th November 2023 Friday 17th November 2023 Friday 24th November 2023 Friday 1st December 2023 Friday 8th December 2023 Friday 12th January 2024

To book a tour, please contact the office on:

01634 240 258 or

office@halling.medway.sch.uk







The Emotional Wellbeing Team will be coming to Halling on Friday 13th October to deliver the following parent/carer workshops (times tbc):

- Introduction to Autism Spectrum Condition
  - Understanding ADHD in Children

Further details can be found on pages 11 and 12 of this newsletter!

We anticipate a good turn out, so to secure a place please ensure you physically sign up to either/both workshop on the signing in sheet which can be found in the Office.

We will look to provide a time as soon as possible, once we know numbers. The signing in sheet will be in the office until Friday the 29th of September.

#### Who are the EWT/EST



- We are a team of Emotional Wellbeing Practitioners (EWPs) who work in primary and secondary schools to support children and young people with their emotional wellbeing
- In primary schools we also work directly with parents
- We are known as the Emotional Wellbeing Team in Kent and the Emotional Support Team in Medway – our names were chosen by young people
- We work closely with your school's Senior Mental Health Lead to deliver a whole school approach to emotional wellbeing

Best care by the best people





# Parent Workshop

Aimed at parents of children in primary school



# INTRODUCTION to Autism Spectrum Condition

Friday 13th October [Time TBC due to uptake)

Do you have questions about Autism Spectrum Condition?

Maybe your child has received a diagnosis. Would you like to come and meet with other parents and carers and learn about ways to support your child?

You are invited to a workshop about understanding ASC in children. We also discuss strengths and challenges of Autism, helpful strategies that you can use at home to help support your child, and how to access further support.

This workshop will be held at Halling Primary School. If you have any questions please speak to the school's Mental Health Lead.

We look forward to meeting you.



If you would like to attend, please sign up on the sheet in Main Reception!



# Parent Workshop

Aimed at parents of children in primary school



#### Understanding ADHD in Children

Friday 13th October [Time TBC due to uptake]

Do you have questions about ADHD? Maybe your child has received a diagnosis. Would you like to come and meet with other parents and carers and learn about ways to support your child?

You are invited to a workshop about understanding symptoms of ADHD. We also discuss helpful strategies that you can use at home to help support your child.

This workshop will be held at Halling Primary School. If you have any questions please speak to the school's Mental Health Lead

We look forward to meeting you.





If you would like to attend, please sign up on the sheet in Main Reception!

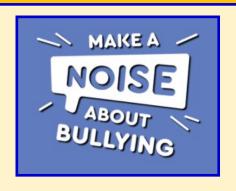






If you have not yet signed into Arbor to give your permissions for this academic year, then this is a gentle reminder to please do so!

The staff at school are particularly keen to start tweeting pictures of the children and give you all a 'window' into their day-to-day learning!



This year, we are excited to have been chosen again to participate in the www.thestaysafeinitiative.org.uk video for National Anti-Bullying Week in November 2023!

One child from each year group will be filming with Ms Taylor and the Media Team on Wednesday afternoon this week so...

WATCH THIS SPACE!





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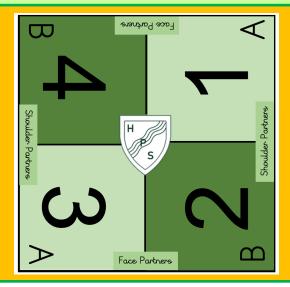
Drivers: Curiosity – Aspiration – Diversity – Independence

#### Our improvement priorities in Halling's 180 Day Plan for Terms 1-3 are as follows:

#### **2023-2024** Priorities:

- 1. Improving Outcomes, including Greater Depth and Narrowing the Disadvantaged Gap
- 2. Embedding and Developing AAT Core Curriculum Principles and 'Pedagogy' Principles
- 3. Developing and Strengthening Leadership at all Levels, including Governance
- 4. Early Years: Strengthening Provision and Outcomes
- 5. Strengthening the Curriculum across the School, including Wider Opportunities

We will continue to develop and embed 'Kagan Structures' this academic year. Your child may have come home and talked about: Rally Robin, Round Robin and Think Pair Share! These are just some of the strategies we are now using in our lessons to enable the children to have a more active role in collaboration with their class mates. Research shows that this approach to teaching and learning helps with long term memory retention and, of course, it goes hand in hand with our Chris Quigley curriculum which is also designed around long term memory retention. You could ask your child if they have used the Kagan Mat below - can they explain it to you?



Aspiration

Our pupils will learn the importance of aiming high. It will allow them to recognise and explore all opportunities to them both now and in the future. In order to achieve their goals, our children will need to become resilient, reflective and persevering individuals in all that they do.

Curiosity

Our curriculum will inspire pupils to have the confidence to explore, investigate and immerse themselves in their creativity and learning.

Independence

At Halling, we want our pupils to be lifelong learners; independence is key for them to be able to reach this end goal. We aim to promote independence and perseverance for children to become confident citizens in the future.

Diversity

Our pupils will learn about their own identity and locality whilst becoming global citizens by exposing them to communities, cultures and ways of thinking which may different to their own. Thus, allowing our pupils to be empathetic to the experience of others.

# **Positive Recognition Boards**



#### Halling Primary School @HallingSch · Sep 5

● So, what is a Recognition Board? Why not ask your child(ren) and see if they can explain! If they need a prompt to help them to explain, try prompting them with: class focus or class marble jar! ● @pauldixtweets @TheAdultsChange @AletheiaAT @JennyMosleyQCT





# #teamhalling





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