



23rd February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Term 4! Please do take time to have a look at what is happening this term as it's very busy!

First, a quick staffing update! We welcomed Miss Emily Bright and Mrs Kasia Grochowina to Team Halling this week. Emily is working across the school as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant. Kasia has joined our Teaching Assistant team and is working across our EYFS. Miss Rachel Cunningham has now stepped into the role of Pastoral Lead (Maternity Cover). Ms Jackson, Ms Fielden and Mrs Gardner have changed year groups this term and you can see the overview on the Staff Team page of our website: [Meet our Staff Team at Halling Primary School](#)

The Term 4 year group newsletters are now available on our website and can be accessed [here](#) by clicking on your child's class and then scrolling down to 'Terms/Topics Information'.

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: Term 4

Day:	Event:	Additional Information:
Monday 19th February	First Day of Term 4	
Tuesday 27th February	Parent and Carer Consultation Meetings	• 3:30pm until 6:00pm
Wednesday 28th February	Great Fire of London Workshops	• Years 1 and 2
Thursday 29th February	Parent and Carer Consultation Meetings	• 3:30pm until 7:00pm
Friday 1st March	Non-Uniform Day - School Bus Fundraiser	• £1 donation (see p.7 of newsletter)
Monday 4th March	Mother's Day Cream Tea	• 2:30pm in the school hall
Tuesday 5th March	Mother's Day Cream Tea	• 2:30pm in the school hall
Tuesday 5th March	Flamingos - Class Assembly	• Please arrive by 9:00am via the school hall doors
Wednesday 6th March	Mother's Day Cream Tea	• 2:30pm in the school hall
Thursday 7th March	World Book Day	• See Mrs Nicholls' letter
Thursday 7th March	PTA Wonka Bars	• Details to follow from the PTA
Friday 8th March	PTA Mother's Day Gift Shop	• During the school day
Tuesday 12th March	Trust Staff Development Day	• <b>NO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL!</b>
Friday 15th March	Red Nose Day	• Details to follow from Mrs Nott
Tuesday 19th March	Gharials - Class Assembly	• Please arrive by 9:00am via the school hall doors
Wednesday 20th March	AAT Trust Basketball	• Years 5 and 6 (details to follow)
Tuesday 26th March	Orangutans - Class Assembly	• Please arrive by 9:00am via the school hall doors
Tuesday 26th March	Trust (AAT) Choir Concert - Woodville Halls	• Tickets will be on sale soon!

Day:	Event:	Additional Information:
Wednesday 27th March	PTA Easter Egg Hunt	• Details to follow from the PTA
Wednesday 27th March	PTA Fundraising: Disco	• Details to follow from the PTA
Wednesday 27th March	Last Day of Term 4	
Thursday 28th March	Staff Development Day	• NO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL!
Monday 15th April	First Day of Term 5	



Thank you for the two recent and very generous anonymous donations from one of our families.

One of these donations will go towards Halling's Double Decker Bus - see p.7 of newsletter.

The other donation will go towards future curriculum projects to enhance the children's learning opportunities.



In Term 4, the following classes will be sharing their learning in a class assembly: Flamingos (5th March), Gharials (19th March) and Orangutans (26th March).

These 'Tuesday' class assemblies will all start at **9:05am** in the **school hall**.

Entry will be through the hall doors, just after 9:00am.

Younger children and grandparents are all welcome too!

All other classes will share their learning in an assembly during either Term 5 or Term 6. Dates to follow.

Why not follow us on Twitter (X) for regular updates?

@HallingSch



@AletheiaAT



@HallingPta



Mid Kent  
Motorcycle Training  
01622 720774

# Holocaust Memorial Day

On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January, four children from Year 5 took part in a Holocaust Memorial Day event which is nationally recognised every year on 27<sup>th</sup> January. This year, Medway Council's event was held at Chatham Memorial Synagogue. In preparation, our four children wrote their own version of Elie Wiesel's, 'Never Shall I Forget'. They titled it, 'Our Hope Is':

## Our Hope Is

Never shall we ever forget the pain that everyone went through.  
Our hope is no-one should experience that type of pain again.  
Never shall we ever forget the hunger and thirst of so many.  
Our hope is everyone shares their plentiful crops with those in need.  
Never shall we ever forget the destruction caused to so many buildings.  
Our hope is never hearing booms and bangs again.  
Never shall we ever forget the lonely, numb, cold feeling of losing loved ones.  
Our hope is that everyone experiences a loving and warm family.  
Never shall we ever forget all the innocent sacrificed; soldiers, children, animals.  
Our hope is they stay in our memories forever.  
**Never shall we ever forget the freedoms taken away from so many.**  
**We hope everyone is free.**

On the night, all four children were fantastic ambassadors for Halling. They showed all of our Core Values and performed well in front of other schools in our Trust, schools from elsewhere in Medway and many distinguished guests including: the CEO of our Trust, the Lady Mayor of Medway, The Medway Youth Council, Leader of Medway Council and the District Commander of Medway Police. The children's performance was filmed and added to our school social media (@HallingSch on Twitter (X)) if you would like to see it.

In addition to the poem, our children had the opportunity to create some art work based on this year's theme of: The Fragility of Freedom. We looked at different work that had been created by survivors of concentration camps during WW2 and other wars around the world since then.





# NSPCC Number Day!



Year 1 celebrating #NSPCCNumberDay with their wonderful costumes! @Miss\_Gunner\_ @MissMarsh2022



2024 It's #NumberDay2024 at Halling for @NSPCC and here are some of our best dressed winners! 2024 @AletheiaAT @TTRockStars @numbots



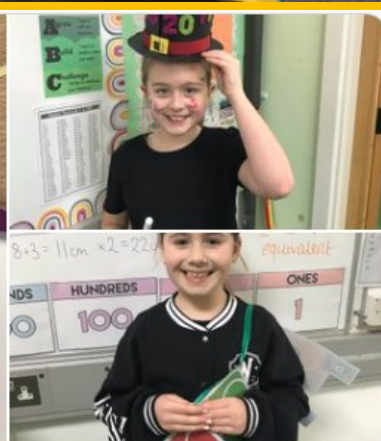
**Well done and thank you, everyone!**

**Together we raised £224.96 for the NSPCC on Number Day.**

**Number Day 2024**

**February 2024**

**Halling Primary School**







# YOUNG VOICES



On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January, we took a choir of 40 Key Stage 2 children to the O2 in London for the annual Young Voices concert. We spent the whole day there learning and practising the songs with the live band and the other schools in preparation for the concert in the evening. Lots of schools from our Trust were there too. The children were spectacularly behaved and showed all of Halling's Core Values throughout the whole day. We had immense fun and can't wait to do it all again next year!



# Booster Cushion Theatre Company

Halling Primary School @HallingSch · 1h

Year R and Year One have been very lucky this morning and have had a super performance of "Old MacDonald's Farm and the Three Little Pigs" from @BoosterCushion 🐷🐷🐷 Thank you!



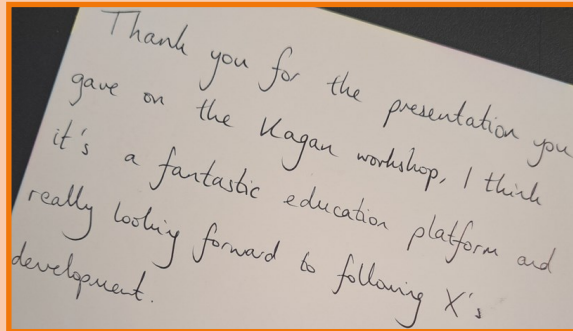
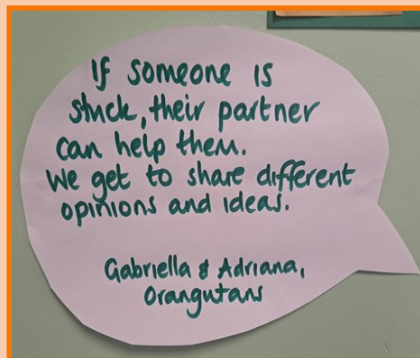
# What have we been up to?

On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January, parents and carers joined Mrs Nott and Mrs Reid for a workshop where they were introduced to all things 'Kagan' and how it is used at Halling. Kagan is a cooperative learning approach for the classroom and is used in lessons as well as in other areas of the school, such as assemblies and on the playground. All adults have been trained in the approach, with Mrs Nott and Mrs Reid taking the lead in driving forward its implementation at Halling. They are our, 'Kagan Ambassadors'.

Within lessons, there are a number of core Kagan Structures that are used and that all children are familiar with. Staff have a large bank of alternative structures that can be used.

'Praise' forms a large part of Kagan: children are encouraged to share theirs, and others, successes. With this in mind, each week staff vote on what they want as the 'Cheer of the Week'. This is shared with the children at the start of the following week and is used in classes and for assemblies. Our cheer of the week is also shared on our social media channel @HallingSch on Twitter (X).

You can find more information on the Kagan website [What is Kagan? \(kaganonline.com\)](http://kaganonline.com). The presentation that was given to parents is available on our [school website](#). We are also hoping to host another workshop later this academic year.



**Kagan develops  
and shares revolutionary  
instructional strategies  
proven to boost  
engagement and  
achievement.**



On our non-uniform day last term, collectively, you donated **£345.52** towards new playground equipment for the children at Halling!



# School Bus Project

**We have some exciting news coming to Halling Primary School...**

Ms Jackson and her amazing team are leading a project that will bring an extra learning space that all children and staff will be able to use throughout the school day, in the form of a double decker bus! The bus will be used for children's interventions, play and lunch time activities and so much more...

Ms Jackson has been working hard 'behind the scenes' on this project for a few months now and we are intending to purchase a double decker bus that will be located on Halling's playground. The bus will be separated into zones, both upstairs and downstairs, to cover a variety of learning areas.

The bus will come with the engine, gearbox and seats removed and will be securely put in place to ensure that it is safe for the children to use. The bus may come in a different colour to the photo below and, in time, we would like to decorate it and allow the children to put their own stamp on it.

The recent £2,500 donation and a recent additional anonymous donation of £150 will both be used to give us a head start to our end goal...to purchase the bus and get it towed to Halling Primary School! This alone will cost in the region of £3,000.

Then, we will continue to raise additional funds to support in getting Halling's bus equipped with flooring, electrics, storage units and much more to make it an exciting and inviting place for the children to learn and have fun!

With this in mind, on **Friday 1st March**, we will be holding a **non-uniform day** in return for a **£1 donation** towards this exciting project.

We hope you are all as excited as we are to get this project up and running and appreciate all of your support, as always!

**Thank you!**

♥ ♦ ♦ HUGE thanks and a massive well done to two of our pupils who have been busy fundraising for all the children at Halling. They presented their cheque in assembly this morning. Watch this space for exciting news as to what will be happening with the £2,500! ♦ ♥ @AletheiaAT



# NON-UNIFORM DAY

## SCHOOL BUS



# Computing Update

In Term 3, Year 4 looked at using code to create repeating patterns with Mr French. Think digital Spirograph if you are old enough to remember! This was a simple lesson but a fun, entertaining one.

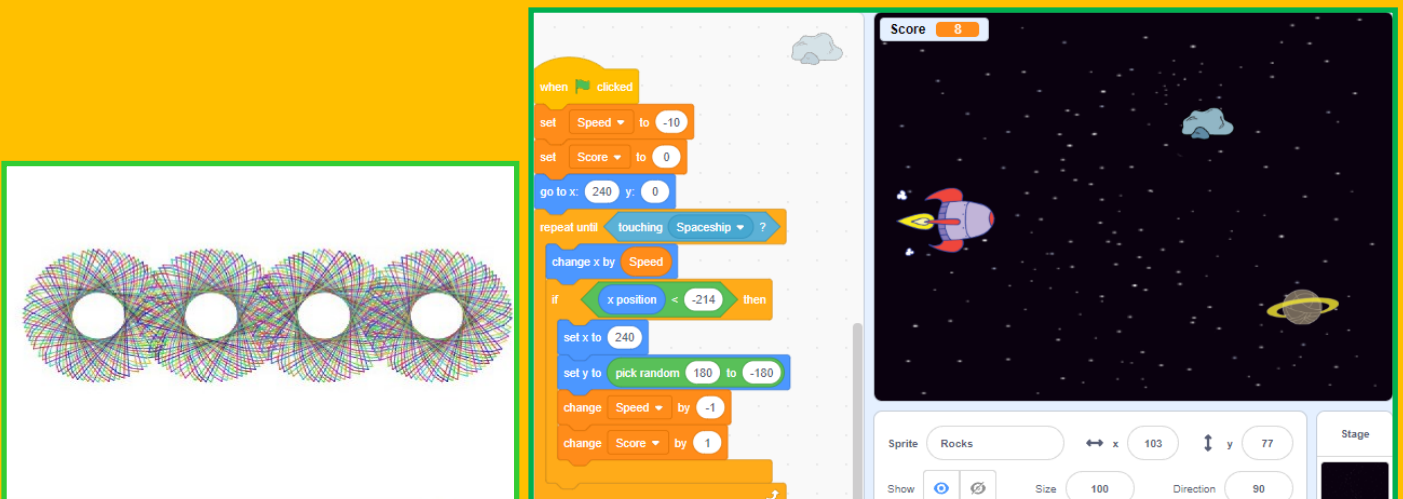
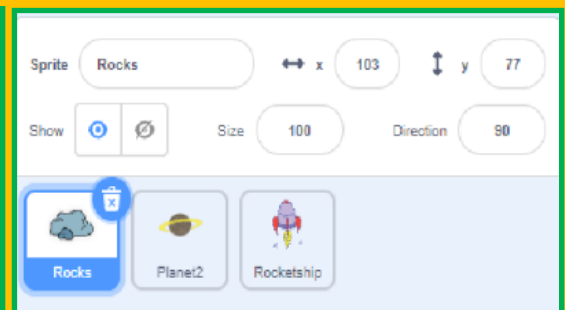
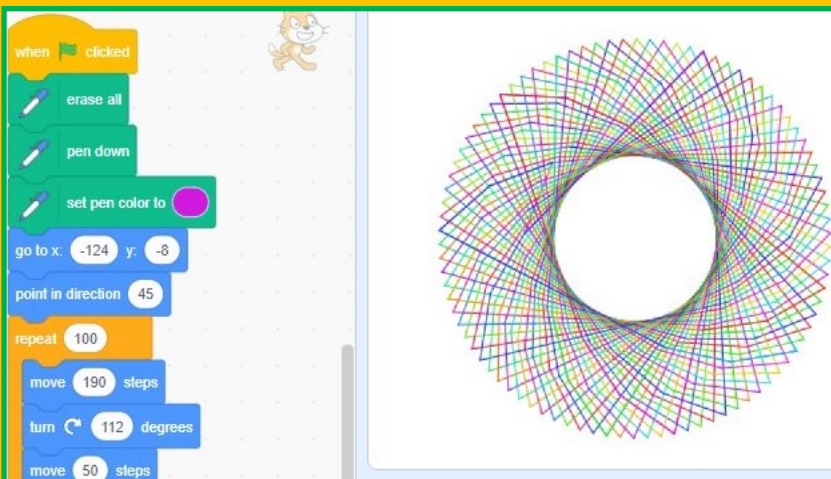
Starting with a simple code with just two movements repeating, the children played with the values to see what happened. They then added more movements and turns and changed the values to see what patterns could be made.

Then it was time to go wild and explore what they could do! They added blocks to change the colour as it created the patterns and then lifted the pen and moved it across before drawing again. The main rule in the Computing Suite when coding is, 'You break it, you fix it!' Sure enough, most of the children did manage to figure out where they had gone wrong when experimenting.

Year 6 left their superhero identities behind and moved on to a bit of coding and looking at how variables work in coding. They started with how a variable is like a jar that they could put numbers or text into. The example code used was a rocket game where the children control the up and down movements of the rocket with the mouse. A rock and planet then move across the screen from right to left and you must move the rocket ship to avoid them. If one of them touches the rocket ship, then the game ends!

The challenge set to all of the children was to change the code so that the rock and planet speeds were not the same and so did not travel across the screen together. There were two ways to achieve this by changing just one value. Most of the children did manage to work this out. Some were given the harder challenge of changing the code to turn the game around in completely the opposite direction.

One of them came really close to completing this before the lesson time ran out. Well done everyone!





## Attendance and Punctuality


In order to reduce the number of children arriving late for school in the morning, we thought it would be another good opportunity to remind you of the following points:

- Pupils must arrive in school by **08:50** on each school day.
- The register for the first session will be taken from 08:45 and will be kept open until 08:50.
- A pupil who arrives late via the office (after the register has closed at 08:50) but before 09:00, will be marked as late, using the L code.
- A pupil who arrives after 09:00 will be marked as late or absent, using the U code (unauthorised).

Please do read our Attendance Policy on our website: [New-AAT-Attendance-Policy-Nov-2023-Halling.pdf](#)



Thank  
you  
so  
much!



Please may we take this opportunity to kindly request that all scooters and bikes continue to be '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!

Thank you to all those who do 'walk' them!



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.



**HALLING Primary School**

## The Safeguarding Team

Halling Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. We require all staff, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment.

If you are concerned about the safety of any child in our school, or a member of staff or volunteer, **YOU MUST** report it to one of our Designated Safeguarding Team.

### The Designated Safeguarding Team are:

 <b>Miss Shona Eakins</b> HEADTEACHER & DSL	 <b>Miss Rachel Cunningham</b> NATIONAL LEAD SENIORITY COORDINATOR & DSL	 <b>Julie Rottensbury</b> CHAIR OF GOVERNORS
 <b>Miss Lisa Taylor</b> HEADTEACHER & DSL	 <b>Miss Courtney Martin</b> SENIORITY HEADTEACHER & DSL	 <b>Mrs Claire Coleman</b> EARLY YEARS LEAD & DSL

Disclosures from pupils are referred to the designated adult responsible for Safeguarding. All cause for concerns must be made via Halling's online reporting system; CPOMs. If you believe that a child is at risk of immediate significant harm, please contact the DSL or DDSLs directly. An acknowledgment will be made.

Please note: all referrals must initially go through **Miss Shona Eakins** or **Miss Rachel Cunningham** (in Miss Eakins' absence). The Senior Leadership Team and Inclusion Team will have responsibilities regarding children under Social Services or with Child Protection issues.

February 2024



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

[safeguarding@halling.medway.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@halling.medway.sch.uk)

This email account is monitored daily by the DSL, Ms Shona Eakins and the DDSLs, Miss Rachel Cunningham 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.







Please may we take this opportunity to kindly remind you that if you are driving onto the school site, the speed limit is 5mph at all times.

Thank you!

### 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 25p.**



This will continue to run as long as there is demand!

We are trialling the new price following Pupil Voice to see if we break even!



Unfortunately, we continue to receive complaints from residents in the local community who live in the roads closest to our school.

We also regularly receive complaints from parents and carers who continue to be 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 (see examples below). 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!**

Car idling has also been a recent concern - please switch off you engines whist waiting in your cars.

**Medway Council have an advert out for a School Crossing Patrol, please share the following link far and wide so that we can, hopefully, get someone in place ASAP!**

<https://ats-medway.jgp.co.uk/vacancies/268686>



Quite simply, Halling Primary School needs new members to continue and develop all the great things that our current PTA have started to develop.

Thank you to those parents who have stepped forward and already got themselves involved - your support is very much appreciated by all!

Halling's PTA continue to seek new members and, essentially, a new chair/co-chairs who they would like to transition into the role under careful support and guidance.



If you are interested in joining, and want to find out more, please don't hesitate to contact the PTA directly via email:

[PTA@halling.medway.sch.uk](mailto:PTA@halling.medway.sch.uk)

We continue 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), Mrs Coleman (EYFS Lead) 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





In the event that we should need to flip to remote learning due to a school closure, for example, a snow day, please note that

**Years 1 to 6** will use **Google Classroom**.

Seesaw is now no longer operational at Halling.

Please follow the link here to an **online guide**:

[Parent/Carer Guide to Google Classroom](#)

To login to your child's Google Classroom account, you will need your child's school email address and password.

These can be found inside your child's contact book.

**Year R** will continue to use **Tapestry**.



## PE/Sports Newsletter

Mr Harrison, along with the help of our Year 6 pupils, has launched a PE/Sports Newsletter to showcase all of the amazing sporting achievements across the school.



The Newsletters are on our website and can be accessed by visiting: [Newsletters of Halling Primary School](https://www.hallingprimaryschool.co.uk/newsletters)



Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will be aware, we are always looking to further improve our curriculum offering for all pupils.

On this occasion, we particularly need **your** help please! We know that we have a wealth of parents/carers who have something really worthwhile to share with the pupils at Halling.

Our aim is to make a 'directory' of sorts that lists parents/carers and their jobs or hobbies that teachers may refer to when planning related topics or specific learning opportunities. We would also really like parents/carers to come forward if they are willing to share about their faith. In the past, this has worked well, as children love to hear from those who have first-hand experience of specific festivals and celebrations.

If you are happy to volunteer any of the above information and then be contacted on an ad-hoc basis to see if you are available to come into school to meet with a group of children, then please contact the Office Team at [office@halling.medway.sch.uk](mailto:office@halling.medway.sch.uk)

With thanks in advance,

Mrs Ellie Nott



# Halling Primary School

## Need a space for your club or event?

### Availability

**School hall available weekdays from 6pm.**

**On weekends, the hall is available all day.**

**At Halling Primary School, our school hall is available for parties at just £60 for 4 hours.**

**If clubs wish to hire the hall, this is at a cost of £16 per hour.**

**We also have the field available for £10 per hour.**



**For more information, or to hire our facilities, please contact :**

**[finance@halling.medway.sch.uk](mailto:finance@halling.medway.sch.uk)**

# 2024-2025 Term Dates



## TERM DATES: 2024 - 2025

Term 1	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September – Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2024
Break	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2024
Term 2	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2024
Break	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December 2024 – Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025
Term 3	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January – Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
Break	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2025
Term 4	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
Break	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> April – Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2025 Good Friday – 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2025, Easter Monday – 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2025
Term 5	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April – Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2025 Bank Holiday – Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
Break	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
Term 6	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June – Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2025

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

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024  
 Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2024  
 Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025  
 Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025  
 Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2025