

School Newsletter

Spring 1 2026

Together we Nurture, Grow
and Flourish



SURREY HILLS ALL SAINTS
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear families,

This half-term has been full of enriching experiences for the children, from Otter's trip to Winchester Science Museum, an assembly led by Marisa Heath (Cabinet Secretary for the Environment at Surrey County Council) to participation in the RSPB's birdwatching initiative, facilitated by the Surrey Wildlife Trust.

Each half-term, I am focusing on a fundamental British value and an aspect of safeguarding through our programme of assemblies. This half-term, we have learnt about the concept of democracy and Emmeline Pankhurst, as an example of an inspiring individual linked to this value. We marked Safer Internet Day this week, looking at the importance of critical thinking when accessing artificial intelligence. Today, as part of children's mental health week, we welcomed a practitioner from EIKON who empowered the children to understand the importance of resilience and practical strategies to develop this.

Last week, I enjoyed a hot chocolate with a small group of children to celebrate why they are a valued member of the school community. It was the highlight of my week and I am looking forward to doing this regularly; everyone will receive a handwritten invitation before the end of the year.

I have been so proud of the children's burgeoning leadership skills this half-term:

- Our Eco-Heroes have initiated a project to raise awareness of how small actions can make a difference and to support biodiversity on our school site. After half-term, they will join me to lead an assembly, based on a presentation they have co-produced. To support their project, we would like to invite all children to wear mufti on Friday, 27th February in return for an optional £1 donation, a packet of seeds or a bedding plant. They will also be holding a cake sale for the school community after school on Thursday, 26th which we hope you will support too.



- I would also like to celebrate a group of Otters who presented their idea and rationale for a calm corner in their classroom. Their suggestion was so compelling that we are going to replicate this in each class for all children to access. They have kindly said they will help me in rolling-out the initiative across the school, for example, developing a shared understanding of how to use the area appropriately. This week, they helped me compile a list of potential resources they think would be beneficial. If you have any surplus cushions or blankets, we would welcome your donations please. Thank you for your support, as ever.

We are saying a sad farewell to Dawn, our wonderful cook for the past 12 years. We are incredibly grateful for the significant contribution she has made to the children's experience; I was in awe of the Christmas lunch on offer! We thank you for always going 'above and beyond' and we wish her every happiness as she takes on a fresh challenge.

I wish all of our families and staff a restful half-term, filled with pancakes! I have my fingers crossed it might stop raining or the sun might shine and I look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday, 24th February.

Thank you for your support and with best wishes

Miss Frost

Reception Bees Class

Bees in their PSHE lessons have been learning the importance of sharing and working as a team. They were asked to build a den where they could all fit in. Here are some pictures of them hard at work.



Here is the den finished and one very happy team.



Reception Bees Class

This half term Bees topic has been learning all about 'under the sea'. We were very lucky to welcome Elliot's mummy (Mrs Tillotson) into our classroom to talk to us about her job as a marine biologist. She brought some very exciting equipment into show the children including what she wears to dive deep into the sea and to keep her safe.



Year 1-2 Butterflies

Forest School

We have been looking at habitats and shelters in our Forest school sessions and worked hard to make different habitats in different areas and identify some of the living things we might find there.



Year 1-2 Butterflies

Butterflies have been really excited about our DT topic this half term. We learnt how to make stable structures, understanding how a wide base and added weight keeps a structure stable. We made basketball hoops from straws and pipe cleaners to test this theory. We then designed and made pencil pots, choosing the shape of our base carefully. We are so proud of these and they now have pride of place in our homes!



Year 3 Hedgehogs Class

Hedgehogs have been looking at all things Stone Age! In art, we looked at how people in Stone Age would have created art and designed our own cave paintings based on the techniques they would have used. We practised drawing with charcoal and then made our textured background for our cave wall. Hedgehogs showed excellent resilience even when it was challenging to create their masterpieces on a bumpy surface!



“It was very hard, crumbly and it kept breaking a lot!” - Edgar

“It was bumpy, hard because you had to press hard otherwise it wouldn't show up. I prefer drawing on paper because it is easier to draw” – Lily

Year 3, 4 & 5 Hedgehogs and Otters



Year 3, 4 and 5 have been busy developing their visions for nature to help increase the diversity of wildlife at our school. They started the morning taking part in the RSPB Big Schools Bird Watch where they spotted how many different bird varieties they could see and hear. They then went onto make bird feeders which we have placed around the school for the birds to feast on! We were also extremely fortunate enough to receive 10 handmade bird boxes which we are so excited to see what birds this brings to our school! The children then thought carefully about the best places for these bird boxes to go around the school and added this onto their vision maps.



Year 4 & 5 Otters Class

Otters trip to Winchester Science Museum

To kick off our new space unit, Otters went on a trip to Winchester Science Museum. We explored the Milky Way galaxy through a planetarium show, took part in different activities to do with light as well as had a chance to experience some exhibits which we could scream into. How fun!





We are busy behind the scenes preparing for our biggest fundraiser of the year, the 43rd Teddy Bears' Picnic on Friday 15th May. We will be holding non-uniform days for donations for the event and asking for prizes for the raffle. We will need adverts for our TBP programme, and the children will be able to enter the Teddy colouring competition. We cannot run this event without the support of the whole school community, and we will be asking for people to sign up to help on the day after half term. Please put the date in your diaries for this wonderful family event.



Important dates next term:

Friday 27th February – Preloved uniform sale

Friday 20th March – KS2 Cake Sale

Friday 27th March – Easter Egg Hunt

Have a lovely half term break,

F@SH

Diary Dates 2025/26

16th-20th February	Half Term
23rd February	GST Inset Day
24th February	Year 6 Junior Citizen Event
27th February	Preloved Uniform Sale
March 2026	
12th March	Year 3 Trip to Butser Farm
20th March	KS2 Cake Sale
24th March	Easter Pause Day and Church Service at 1.45pm
24th March	Parents Evening 3.30-6pm
26th March	Parents Evening 3.30-6pm
27th March	Easter Egg Hunt
27th March	End of Term KS1-1.05pm/KS2– 1.10pm Finish
30th March-10th April	Easter Holidays

Diary Dates 2025/26

April 2026	
13th April	Children return to school
13th—24th April	Year 6 Bikeability
17th April	Preloved Uniform Sale
May 2026	
1st May	Non Uniform Day—Donations for Teddy Bears Picnic
4th May	Bank Holiday
11th-14th May	Year 6 SATs Week
15th May	Teddy Bears Picnic
25th-29th May	Bank Holiday/Half Term
June 2026	
4th June	Class Photos
5th June	Preloved Uniform Sale
13th June	Abinger Medieval Fair
9th June	Yr R-2 British Wildlife Centre Trip
July 2026	
10th July	Preloved Uniform Sale
10th July	KS1 Cake Sale
17th July	End of Term KS1-1.05pm/1.10pm Finish
20th-22nd July	Inset Days
23rd July-31st August	Summer Holidays

Dear Parent/Carer

If you consider that there are exceptional circumstances relating to your request, please let the school have full details. Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis.

Penalty Notices to Address Poor Attendance at School

A Penalty Notice may be issued as an alternative to the prosecution of a parent/ carer for their child's unauthorised absence from school (absence without the agreement of the school or not covered by a medical note) and will be used by Surrey County Council in the following circumstances :-

1. Pupils identified by police and Attendance Advice Officers (formerly Inclusion Officers) engaged on Truancy Patrols and who have incurred unauthorised absences.
2. Leave of absence in term time (5 days or 10 sessions or more).

Please be aware that the School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024

state that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

They may request that Surrey County Council issue Penalty Notices when the absence is not authorised.

Warnings will not be given where it can be shown that parents have been notified that such absences will not be authorised.

3. Finally, the issuing of a Penalty Notice will also be considered where it is judged that a parent is failing to ensure their child's regular school attendance. This will be considered when a pupil has incurred 10 or more unauthorised sessions in the previous 10 school weeks, which may include a pupil arriving late after close of registration.

If you believe at any stage that your child's absence from school may leave you liable to receive a Penalty Notice, it is extremely important that you act without delay to secure their regular attendance.

If you have any questions or require further support to achieve an improvement in your child's attendance, please contact your child's school or the Attendance Advice Officer.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

Advice and support is available from an Attendance Advice Officer by contacting Surrey

Attendance Service as follows :-

North West - Tel: 01483 518130 South West - Tel: 01483 517874

North East - Tel: 01372 833588 South East - Tel: 01737 737777

Penalty Notice relating to Exclusions

If a child is excluded from school, Section 103 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 places a duty on parents/carers to ensure that their child is not in a public place without justifiable cause during school hours.

This duty applies to the ***first five days of each exclusion***. *Failure to do so will render the parent/carer liable to a Penalty Notice. (Alternative education provision will be made available from the sixth day of any exclusion.)*

Amount Payable for a Penalty Notice and Consequences for repeat unauthorised absences

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children [in a rolling 3 year period](#) since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, **per parent/carer per child**, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, **per parent/carer per child**, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in The Magistrates Court.
3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice –Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, **per parent/carer per child**, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

We are recruiting



Looking to balance family life and work? Caterlink have the role for you! We are recruiting for a variety of roles across the business.

We are looking for a **Chef Manager** to work at **Surrey Hills and All Saints**.

- Hours **25** per week
- Rate of Pay **£14.50** an hour

caterlink

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, all successful applicants will be required to complete an enhanced DBS application, provide 2 references and have right to work in the UK. If you're interested, please contact Chrwilliams@caterlinkltd.co.uk.