

Newsletter HWIS 27th February 2026



Message from Mrs Boorman

What a busy week in school! The children have returned well and settled back in and are working hard.

I have had an email from HWJS asking me to remind parents that when they are collecting their older children, their younger siblings should not be accessing the playground and play equipment. There are no staff to supervise the children and HWJS are concerned that an accident may happen.

Reminder we have our School Book Fair next week in the school hall on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 3:25 - 4pm CASH ONLY, we look forward to seeing you there.

Have a lovely weekend and hopefully Spring will spring into action on Monday.

Year R

Welcome back to another busy term. We have started our traditional tales topic this week focusing on Rapunzel. We imagined what the witch might look like and thought about how the prince could climb the tower without Rapunzel's long hair. Our drawing club words are ascend, tower, venomous, clamber and despair. In math's we have been looking at number bonds to 10 and linking them to our number bonds to 5 that we already know. See if your child can tell you any number bonds facts off by heart. It was Bumblebee's turn at the fire today and they had a great time. Please see the weekly mailing to find out about our special visitor who is coming to school in the next couple of weeks.

Year 1

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely week off. This week we have introduced our new book called George and the Dragon. The children have been writing speech bubbles to show what the characters are saying and have thought of amazing adjectives to describe the dragon's appearance and character. In Maths, we have been looking at fact families and then solving missing number problems. In Science, the children have been learning about how different animals adapt to their environment. Can your child tell you what they learnt about polar bears, camels, spider monkeys and snow leopards? Please remember that it is World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. The children do not need their PE kits on that day and can dress up as a book character for the day instead. Have a lovely weekend!

Year 2

Welcome back to another busy term. The children have come back in great spirits, they have been working very hard. In maths they have been learning about division, grouping and sharing different amounts. In English we have started a new learning journey on Little Red Riding Hood, the children have been thinking about the characters. In science the children have been thinking about the suitability of materials.

Mother's Day gift sale 13th March



Mothers' Day Sale

Friday 13th March

Children (during the school day) will be invited to select a brand new special gift for their mum, mums or other special ladies in their lives.

£3.50 per gift (multiples can be ordered)

Payment via the Arbor school shop

By **Wednesday 11th March**

Easter Egg Hunt



Wildlife Gardening Event May 16 am

On 16th May we have an event open to residents at Hatch Warren Community Centre to promote wildlife gardening as well as to promote volunteering in a light way for Hatch Warren Nature Group.

Steve Bolton of HIWWT will make a presentation on ideas for people to take action in their gardens and provide small pots with compost and seed to encourage people to take something away to grow. The idea is to engage more people in nature activities in the community without them feeling under pressure to join HWNG - but if anyone wants to then we should welcome them!. The session will ask people to make their own suggestions for gardening for wildlife and to come forward with ideas they can post on a map of Hatch Warren using Post-Its. We need to capture contact details of people who are interested in joining us as volunteers.

Natural Basingstoke is helping with posters, social media and providing some display boards that we need to mount pictures on. We need both St Marks Primary and Hatch Warren Infants

and Junior Schools to be made aware. Including in the Rabbits might help if there is time. Help with making cakes, setting up, making tea and clearing up, capturing names, taking photos and generally supporting this event would be appreciated. Please let me know if you can help?

The event is running from 10-1, in Hatch Warren Community Centre (The Lounge Room). The rough programme for the day is as follows:

- 10 - Set-up
- 10-30-10.45 – Welcome and refreshments
- 10.45-11.30 – Wildlife Gardening Presentation by Steve Bolton (HIWWT)
 - 11.30-13.00 – Drop-in activities (inc seed sowing and discussion about nature activities in the area)
- 14.00 - Pollinator Survey Training Event - see below.

POLLINATOR SURVEY TRAINING MAY 16 PM

In the afternoon there will be a meeting starting outside the Community Centre after lunch with a restricted event (to about 20 people) with Hampshire Pollinator Network to receive Pollinator Survey Training on St Marks Meadow. The afternoon session will be led by Karima Smith of the Hampshire County Council Pollinator Network. The invite goes to nature conservation groups in Natural Basingstoke but there are only about 7 places left. You can register here¹.

POLLINATOR NETWORK VISIT to ST MARKS MEADOW JUNE 20TH am

This visit is on the initiative of HWNG for members of the Pollinator Network which is sponsored by Hampshire County Council. Members are conservation groups from across the County and is an expanding body sharing experiences and learning new skills for restoring pollinator diversity and abundance. There is also a desire for groups to work together more closely so as to have a bigger voice in the restoration of nature. HWNG will be explaining how and what has been achieved by the group and some of the challenges faced. Precise details have not been finalised but we will meet in the morning probably around 10.00 and the session will last for 2 - 3 hours with opportunities for questions and discussion, including at the end possibly over teas, coffees and sandwiches. We may need some helpers for this too please?

¹<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/pollinator-survey-training-tickets-1980198051678>

Caterlink Art Competition



We're excited to announce a fantastic competition for your pupils! We need their help to design some vibrant foodie wall art for Caterlink.

We invite pupils to let their imaginations run wild and create an **A4 page of colourful, foodie-inspired landscapes**. Think **broccoli trees**, **baguette fences**, or even **carrot chimneys** – the more creative, the better!

What's in it for you?

- Winning artwork will feature in Caterlink's primary marketing.
- The winning school will receive a **completed art wall**, or **£200 for the school**, and a **£20 book voucher for the pupil whose design wins**.

How to enter:

- Artwork can be posted to **Caterlink Competition, Hop House, Lower Green Road, Pembury, Kent, TN2 4HS** or scanned and emailed to info@caterlinkltd.co.uk². (please keep the original artwork as this may be needed if you are selected a winner)
- Ensure you include the **pupils name, age and school on the back of the artwork**, or as the title of the picture file. We will also require the full **school's name**, address, and contact so that we can contact winning entries.
- Entries must be received by 5pm on **31st March 2026**.
- Winning entries will be notified by the end of May 2026.

Letters home

Letters Home (<https://www.hwis.hants.sch.uk/letters-home/>):

Whole School:

Easter Egg Hunt poster

Year R:

Year R Newsletter Spring 2 2026

Year R Important Information Letter

Year R Openbox Letter 2026

Year 1:

Year 1 Spring 2 Newsletter

Year 2:

Year 2 Spring 2 Newsletter

²<mailto:info@caterlinkltd.co.uk>

Diary Dates



3.3.26 Book fair 3.25 - 4pm in the school hall

4.3.26 Book Fair 3.25-4pm in the school hall

5.3.26 Book Fair 3.25 - 4pm in the school hall

5.3.26 World Book Day - children can come to school dressed as their favorite book character

12.3.26 Year R Openbox - A Day of Fairytale Adventure (payment open on Arbor)

13.3.26 Mother's Day gift sale (children pick gift in school)

24.3.26 Parents/Carers Evening - more details to follow nearer the time

26.3.26 Parents/Carers Evening - more details to follow nearer the time

27.3.26 Easter Egg Hunt - in school

17.6.26 Year 1 Farm Trip (payment open on Arbor and more details to follow)

8.7.26 Year 2 Beach Trip (payment open on Arbor and more details to follow nearer the time)

Inset Days



Inset Days for 2025-2026

13th February 2026

22nd May 2026

6th July 2026

General Reminders



- **Allergies - Please remember we are a nut and shellfish free school. Please ensure items containing these are not sent in to school in your child's lunchbox.**
- **Punctuality** - A reminder that the classroom doors open between 8.45 – 9am to enable a staggered drop off. We have noticed an increase in lateness in some children. This impacts hugely on their learning so please ensure your child is in school on time. If punctuality continues to be a concern, schools have a responsibility to follow this up with possible legal action.
- Please do not play or kick balls or ride scooters on the playground during school drop off or pick up.
- *If your child has a medical appointment and is going to be late in to school you will need to order their lunch in advance. Please let the office know which lunch option they would like at the same time you advise of the appointment (or check with the office the lunch options that day if you need to).*
- *The play equipment **must not** be used before or after school – our insurance is not valid. **Children have been told that if they are caught using the play equipment before or after school, they will lose dojo points.***
- We are looking for some volunteers that may be able to commit to helping in school on a regular basis. This may be to get experience of working in school before completing childcare training or just because you have some spare time on your hands and would like to be involved in school life. You could help with the library, gardening, run small groups or help hear those children that don't read at home. If you are interested in this, please email parent.mail@hwis.hants.sch.uk³. We would need to initiate a DBS (safeguarding check).

³<mailto:parent.mail@hwis.hants.sch.uk>