Issue 7: Friday 16th October

Great Horwood CE School

NEWSLETTER

Updates

Non Uniform Day

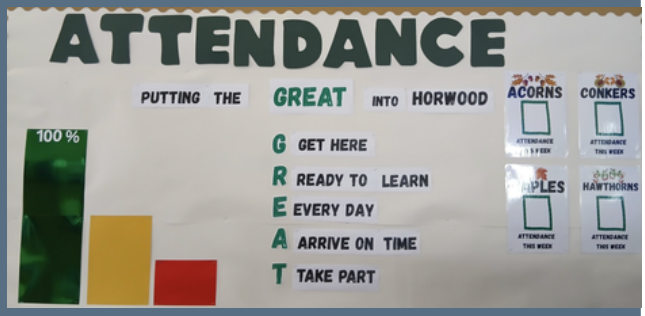
Thank you so much to everyone who brought in a donation for Non-Uniform day. These will go towards the Tombola at the School Christmas Fete in December.



Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club will start on November 2nd.
Book via MCAS.
Drop off at Seedlings door
7.30am - 8.30am

Attendance data for Autumn 1:



Every week we celebrate our attendance and collectively it is really making a difference to our aim - which is to reach and then maintain 96% attendance across the school.
We have already managed to go from 92.5% in our first week in September to 95.4% this week!





Highlights this week

Well, we made it! The first half term DONE!

I wanted to take a moment to say a heartfelt thank you for the warm welcome I have received since joining Great Horwood. It has been a real pleasure getting to know our wonderful children, staff and families.
I am incredibly grateful for your patience, understanding and encouragement as we have navigated this first term with a new structure. Change can take time, and your support, feedback and willingness to work alongside us have made a huge difference.
In a very short space of time, I already feel proud to be part of the Great Horwood community and excited about what we can achieve together.
I hope you all have a happy, restful and safe Autumn break. I am looking forward to welcoming everyone back next term and, of course, celebrating my very first Christmas at Great Horwood, which I am sure will be a very special one.

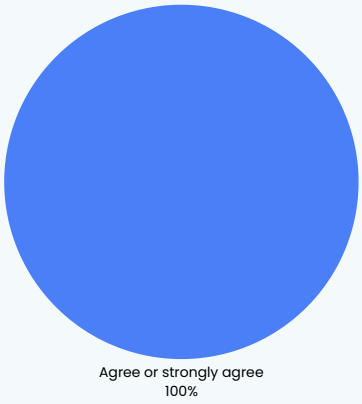
Thank you once again for your kindness and support. Have a wonderful break, and I look forward to seeing you all next half term.
Warmest wishes,

Sally Carson

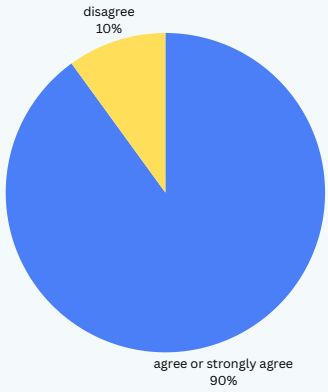
Parent FEEDBACK

Thank you to the parents and carers who took the time to complete our recent questionnaire. While the number of responses was relatively small, we hope this reflects your confidence in the school and the positive experiences your children are having. We always value your feedback and appreciate those who shared their thoughts with us.

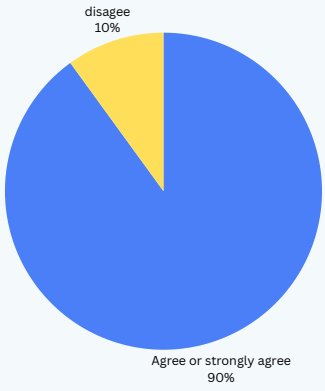
My child feels safe at school



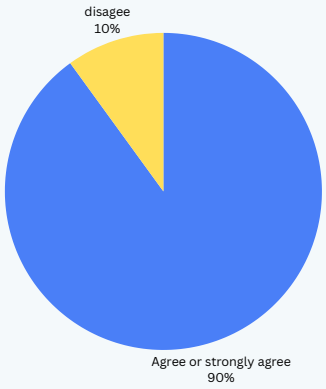
My child knows who to talk to if they feel unhappy



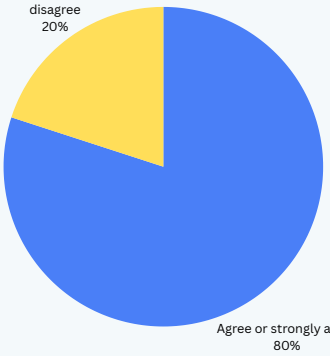
My child enjoys being at school most days



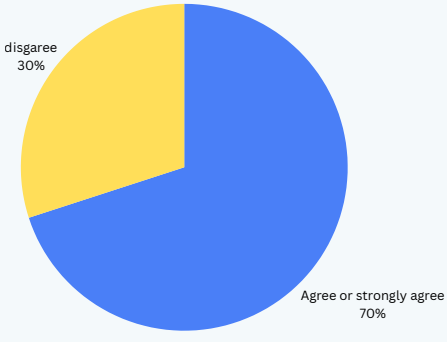
I would recommend our school to other parents



The school helps my child build confidence & independence



My child is appropriately challenged and supported in learning



The school promotes positive behaviours in pupils



Parent FEEDBACK

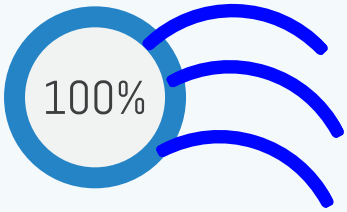
Here are some of the positive feedback aspects shared. It is great to see the PTFA getting well deserved recognition. Hopefully, valuing, this will inspire more people to get involved in the PTFA events this year.

- The staff are so caring
- The school is a loving community which supports children through kindness
- The PTFA are very good.
- Positive relationships between children in different year groups
- Teacher to pupil ratio
- The PTFA events
- Everything!
- Friendly, welcoming place.
- Excellent progress being made in phonics and EYFS development
- Values built on Christian ethos

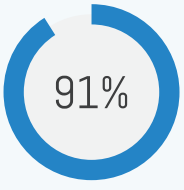
Pupil FEEDBACK

Things we would like for the school:

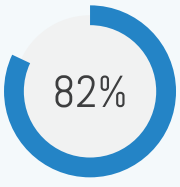




Know who to talk to if they feel upset
Feel safe and well cared for at school
Would recommend our school to someone else



Feel that most chldren meet behaviour expectations in school



Feel that adults listen & respond when they raise issues

Parent FEEDBACK

Suggestions for improvements

More trips & off site activities/ More opportunities for sports & games	***This is absolutely a priority for us. We want to build our enrichment offer for all pupils, including after school opportunities for sports and games. We hope in Spring term, to have these opportunities set up & ready to go.***
Lockers	***This was discussed with KS2 pupils who seemed keen - We will look into costings for this as an option.***
Better comms across school	***This is absolutely something we can work to improve. Mrs Whatley has taken on additional roles and responsibilities as the trust have restructured the staffing in the office. This has sometimes meant that there hasn't been clarity over who is responsible for some aspects of the school comms - for that we apologise and hope to keep parents better informed next term.***
All children reach potential, & not all school efforts put into pupils with behaviour issues.	***While I recognise that parents and carers see only part of the school's work, it is important to consider the wider picture. Our outcomes remain consistently strong, indicating that pupils are well supported to achieve. We are an inclusive school and have a responsibility to meet the needs of all pupils, including those with more complex needs, reflecting the picture across mainstream education. As a small rural school, Great Horwood benefits from small class sizes, a strong staff-to-pupil ratio, and relatively few pupils requiring significant behavioural or emotional regulation support.***
A Lollipop lady for road safety	***I have looked into the criteria for a crossing patrol and it is highly unlikely we would qualify as our pupil to vehicle ratio isn't high enough. I also looked into whether we could have a volunteer crossing patrol, but unfortunatley this is not permitted.***
Children to come to school in uniform every day as part of building their independence & personal responsibility.	***Wearing PE kit to school has proved to be a popular change, with positive feedback from both pupils and parents. However, children in Early Years will continue to bring their PE kits to school and change independently, as this is an important part of developing their independence and personal skills.***

MEET THE PTFA TEAM:

Introducing your 2026-2027 PTFA Committee

Rosanna Edmans
Chair



Mummy of Pia (Y5) & Haydon (Y3). Works full-time as a Specialist Nurse. Volunteers as a rugby 1st Aider and likes gardening.

Ben Jones
Treasurer



Daddy of Sophia (Y4) & Oscar (Y1). Works full-time as a financial Controller. Enjoys playing sports & running.

Leigh Thornton
Secretary



Mummy Of Ophelia (Y5) & Demelza (Y2). Retired forces officer & volunteers as St Nicholas church secretary. Enjoys outdoor sports & immersing in nature.

Laura Askew
Committee member



Mummy of Jack (Y3). Runs a cyber-security firm full-time. Likes pottering in the garden & is a Trustee for SSNAP

Jade Jones
Committee member



Mummy of Sophia (Y4) & Oscar (Y1). Works full-time as a local government officer and volunteers to run Brownies & Guides

Suzanne Pemberton
Committee member



Mummy of Imy (Y2) & Ava (Y1). Works part-time as a Learning Tech Consultant. Enjoys tea & pretending she has it all under control!

Alison Atkinson
Committee member



Mummy of Seb (Y1) & Hattie (Seedlings). Works part-time as a teacher. Enjoys going on long walks in the countryside.

OUR NEXT EVENTS! IN DECEMBER...



&



PLEASE SUPPORT US!

Last week, you received a letter regarding the appointment of a Parent Governor to our Local Governing Committee. Nominations are now being taken.



The closing date for nominations is 5pm on Friday 23rd October!

We had our first Open morning for potential Reception Parents on Wednesday. There are 2 more after half term. If you know someone who has a child due to start school in September, please let them know!



CAN YOU HELP?

During November and December, Seedlings will be exploring our topic 'People Who Help Us', and we'd love to welcome some visitors into the nursery!

If you, a family member or someone you know works as a police officer, firefighter, doctor, nurse, vet, dentist, postal worker, hairdresser or in another role that helps our community, we'd love to hear from you!



Looking for
SOMETHING TO DO?

WYCOMBE MUSEUM

Half Term Events

Sun 11th Oct - Sun 1st Nov



Pumpkin Hunt Trail

Hunt our gardens for pumpkins to win a prize!
Best for age 3 - 11. Pre-book or drop in. £3.15 per child.
Please note museum is closed Mondays & Saturdays.

Sun 25th Oct



Halloween Ghost Hunt

Come dressed up and ready to scare in this after-dark Halloween experience. With spooky crafts, biscuit decorating and ghoulish games.
Best for age 4 - 11. Pre-book. £7 per child.

Tue 27th & Wed 28th Oct



Discover & Make: Nature's Wind Chimes

Craft a natural wind chime using pine cones, feathers, twigs and twine. Best for age 4 - 11.
Pre-book. £4.50 per child.

Book at wycombemuseum.org.uk

01494 957210 info@wycombemuseum.org www.wycombemuseum.org.uk

Holiday

CLUB

Autumn themed with SPOOKY ACTIVITIES

19TH - 23RD & 26TH - 30TH

£35 DAY

8.30AM TIL 3.30PM

OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN

BOOK THROUGH MCAS



Autumn term diary dates. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you need clarity on any of these events.

Date	Event
Monday 2nd November	Autumn 2 Term begins
Wednesday 11th November	Remembrance Worship 10.40am
Friday 13th November	Children in Need & GHS Talent Final
Friday 20th November	Flu vaccines Nursery to Y6
3rd December	Dressing of the tree, 2pm School Hall
4th December	School Christmas Fete
8th December	Acorns & Conkers Nativity Performance 10am
9th December	Acorns & Conkers Nativity Performance 2pm
10th December	Chartwells Christmas Lunch & Jumper Day!
11th December	PTFA: Elfridges!
17th December	Christmas Carols 2pm, School Hall
17th December	End of Autumn Term

Christmas Lunch

MAINS

Roast Turkey or Cauliflower & Broccoli Cheese Bake (V) or Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

SIDES

Roast Potatoes, Pig in a Pud (Pork Bite /Veggie Bite in a Yorkshire Pudding), Carrots, Peas and Gravy

DESSERTS

Christmas Victoria Sponge

*Menus may be subject to change

Chartwells