



Newsletter—Friday 17th October 2025

Next week—W/C Monday 20th October 2025	
Monday:	
Tuesday:	Class Three PE Class Four Trip—Exeter Racecourse
Wednesday:	Class One Outdoor Learning (Please remember appropriate footwear) Book and a Biscuit
Thursday:	Class Two PE
Friday:	Class Four PE 3.00 Celebration Collective Worship PTA Cake Sale KS2 Sports Club

Dear Parents and Carers,

**This week**

**Book and a Biscuit - quality work**

I have seen some fabulous work across the four classes this week. It is wonderful to see children so engaged in their learning and to witness the progress that is being made. Books are beginning to fill up now that we are well into the term, and these invariably are of high quality too. Our first BaaB will take place next Wednesday, so please do come in with your child(ren) and let them guide you through what they have been up to.

**'Flu' Vaccines**

We had an incredible uptake for the flu vaccines this year. Well done to all of you who were so brave about having them - I hope you will be well protected as we go into the winter months when coughs, colds and 'flu' can be more prevalent. As always, I would say that it is better for children to be in with a slight snuffle or cough that not - as long as the child is not feeling terrible.

**Class One Maths Stay & Play**

I hope parents enjoyed the Maths event put on by Mr Northmore and the EYFS team yesterday. We think it is really important for parents of children in Reception to know how we teach phonics and maths, so that you can support learning at home. Early number work in particular provides a vital building block on which all other maths learning is founded. If you have any questions about maths learning for your child at any stage of their primary schooling, please do arrange to meet their teacher to discuss this.

**Next Week**

Tuesday: Class Four trip to Exeter Racecourse

Wednesday: BaaB (3:35-4:30pm). Just drop in and out as it suits you

Friday: PTA Cake Sale (see poster later in the newsletter)

**Unwanted visitors!**

Please check your child's hair over the weekend as we have had a large number of cases of head lice in school. At the moment, parents are treating when they find them but as not everyone is checking at the same time, children are being reinfected. If the whole school checks and treats this weekend, hopefully we can put the problem to bed. Thank you.

**High Bickington's Curriculum Drivers**

At HB Academy, everything we do is shaped by our four Curriculum Drivers. They guide how we teach, what we learn, and the kind of values we want our children to take with them as they grow ...

**Building Community:** We're proud of our caring school community. Children learn the importance of kindness, friendship and helping others both in school and in our wider community. **Building Self-Esteem & Wellbeing:** We understand that we are a school of little

(and not so little) individuals and work hard to support every child. We know every child brings their own talents and that all have the capacity to make great strides. We want them all to believe in themselves. Through encouragement, celebration and support, pupils grow in confidence and learn that mistakes are just steps towards success. We also want to help children to maintain or regain positive mental health and we are in the process of brokering professional help with this. **Building Futures:** We want children to dream big! Our curriculum opens their eyes to the wider world and helps them see the many possibilities their future can hold. **Building Learning Power:** We teach children to be curious, independent and resilient learners who enjoy a challenge and take pride in their progress.

Together, these drivers make learning at HB exciting, meaningful and full of opportunity, enabling every child to 'Let Your Light Shine'.

Have a lovely weekend.

Rob Norton  
Head of School

## Notices

### **Flu Vaccines**

If any parents missed the consenting process, but would now like their child to receive the vaccination, please call the school age immunisation team on 01392 342678 who can take consent and arrange a booking for a community clinic.

Parents of nursery aged children should contact their GP.

If your child has a flu vaccination outside of school, please inform the school office. We have a family in our community with vulnerable family members, who need to be aware if a child in the school has recently received the vaccine.

### **Church Notice**

On Halloween, 31st October (All Hallows Eve), the church will be open from 6.00-8.00pm for trick or treaters, with hot chocolate/juice and gift bags for children.

### **Class Four Trip—Exeter Racecourse**

If you have not yet given consent on Arbor/made payment for this trip, please remember to do so by the end of the weekend. Thank you,

## School Calendar

### **October**

Tue 21st: Class 4 trip to Exeter race course

Wed 22nd: Book and a Biscuit from 3:30pm

Fri 24th: Last day of the half term

W/C Monday 27th: Half Term

### **November**

Mon 3rd: School restarts

Mon 3rd: DT week begins

Thu 13th: Class 4 Big Event. Trip to Tiverton Museum

Wed 19th: After School Church Club

Fri 21st: Children in Need Day - non-uniform

**\*NEW\* Fri 28th: PTA Non-Uniform Day—bring a bottle for the Christmas Fair Tombola**

## **December**

Tue 9th: Book and a Biscuit from 3:30pm

Wed 17th: School Christmas dinner

Thu 18th: School Christmas production (TBC)

Fri 19th: Carol Collective Worship in the church at 2:45pm

Fri 19th: Last day of term

## **January 2026**

Tue 6th: School restarts

## **February**

Tue 3rd: London Residential (Y5) departs

Fri 6th: London Residential returns

Mon 9th: Book and a Biscuit from 3:30pm

Fri 13th: Last day of the half term

W/C Mon 16th: Half Term

Mon 23rd: School restarts

Mon 23rd: DT week begins

## **March**

Wed 11th: SGH Residential (Y3/4) departs

Fri 13th: SGH Residential returns

Fri 21st: Red Nose Day - non-uniform

Tue 31st: Book and a Biscuit from 3:30pm

## **April**

Thu 2nd: Easter Service in the church at 2:30pm

Thu 2nd: Last day of term

Mon 20th: School restarts

## **May**

Mon 4th: Bank Holiday - no school

Mon 11th: Y6 SPaG SAT

Tue 12th: Y6 Reading SAT

Wed 13th: Y6 Arithmetic and Maths 1 SAT

Thu 14th: Y6 Maths 2 SAT

Sun 17th: Bude Residential (Y6) departs

Fri 22nd: Bude Residential returns

Fri 22nd: Last day of the half term

W/C Mon 25th: Half Term

## **June**

Mon 1st: Non-Pupil Day

Tue 2nd: Y4 Multiplication Tables Check

Thu 18th: Vision Day

## **July**

Wed 15th: Book and a Biscuit from 3:30pm

Mon 20th: School Sports Morning

Tue 21st: Leavers' Service at 2:00pm

Tue 21st: Last day of the school year

## Home Activities and Homework Tasks

### **Class One:**

Please spend time reading with your child and practising their new phonic sounds.



### **Class Two:**

Please aim to read with an adult for 15 minutes each day and **record in reading records.**

### **Class Three:**

Reading log book, multiplication tables and spellings.

### **Class Four:**

Read for 60 minutes at least (Y6) and 45 minutes at least (Y5). Maths homework to be returned on Tuesday please.

## **What happened at school this week?**

These questions are about what has been happening in each class this week and are designed as 'conversation starters' for you to use with your child. We hope that they will provide a useful prompt to encourage conversations about school - talking for just three minutes each day about school has been shown to have a great impact on children's learning!

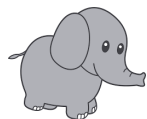


### Learning Lions (Class One)

Can you recognise and show a number to 5?

Can you think of and write any words that have the 'th' and 'sh' sound in?

What animal lives in a hole in a tree?



### Exploring elephants (Class Two)

Can you draw a suitcase containing some of Mary Anning's belongings?

Can you find number bonds for each number up to 9?

Can you write about a special place where you like to go to reflect, breathe or be quiet?

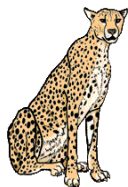


### Inventive Impalas (Class Three)

Can you round 3.428 to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000?

Can you remember what some of the different parts of a school were called in French?

Can you explain how a computer network works?



### Challenging Cheetahs (Class Four)

What was so great about the Great Exhibition of 1851?

Can you explain how to use 'grid method' of multiplication?

What have you learnt about your rights and responsibilities in school?

## **Next Week's Menu—W/C Monday 20th October 2025**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Cheese and tomato pasta bake</b> Seasonal Veg  Apple Cake	<b>Minced Beef Cottage Pie</b> V – Quorn cottage pie Sweetcorn  Fruit Jelly	<b>Roast of the Day Chicken</b> V – Quorn roast Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Veg  Fruit salad	<b>Chicken Curry</b> V - Quorn Curry Rice, mixed veg  Lemon drizzle cake	<b>Oven Baked Fish</b> V – Quorn Nuggets Golden Fries and Seasonal Veg  Homemade Cookie (various flavours)



### Class One

We have had another very busy week in Class 1. In maths, we have been continuing to recognise and create repeating shape, sound and colour patterns. We have also been representing and counting different amounts up to 5. In phonics, we have started to learn some trickier sounds including; special friends 'sh' and 'th' as well as continuing our work on sounding out in order to build simple words. In topic, we have started to learn about animal habits and even created pictures of different habitats using a range of art resources. We have been busy creating a class scarecrow to display at Quince Honey Farm's pumpkin patch which is running over the half term week, please pop along and say hello to 'Hayley Bayley' if you get the chance! Finally, a big

thankyou to everybody that joined us on Wednesday for our maths stay and play session. A big well done to the children as well for being so engaged in all of our maths activities.

### Class Two

We made an exciting discovery this week during our topic lesson, Mrs Laurence shared an old suitcase with us. Some of us had the chance to open the suitcase and take an item out. We thought carefully as a group about what the item might be, who it might belong to and what it's purpose might be. We noticed that there were some old photos and we decoded that they were images of Lyme Regis. We also saw some old belongings including a dress, jewellery, a collection of stones, rocks, buttons and sea glass. We also found a trowel and gloves for digging. After lots of discussion and finding a newspaper clip, we found out that the items belonged to Mary Anning. We then read some books, watched a video and learnt some facts all about Mary Anning and her life. We are looking forward to finding out even more next week!

### Class Three

In English, Class 3 have been working hard on their persuasive letters to the witch, giving some very convincing arguments as to why she should return the stolen happy endings. In Maths we have continued to look at rounding and have been challenging ourselves to round to the nearest 10,100 and 1000. We have enjoyed designing our posters representing the Holy Trinity in RW and learning about what school is like in France. Class 3 have now finished their Science topic about classifying animals and plants and this week began their new topic on 'States of Matter'. They compared balloons with ice, water and air inside them. They transferred water between containers of different sizes and shapes. Did you know that a liquid will maintain the same volume, but will change shape to mould to the container?

## Class Four

Wow! Fantastic Class Four have had an extremely busy week. We have been learning about how the Crystal Palace has had such an amazing history. Did you know, this was the largest building in the world at the time and it only took 190 days to complete! This wonder of the Industrial Revolution was a colossal 564m long and 100m wide, with 8 miles-worth of exhibition routes! There were even enormous trees inside that the building was constructed around. It has been fascinating to learn about the Great Exhibition that was held in the Crystal Palace. In other news, we have started writing our formal reports. We have to imagine that we are Dr Watson, writing a letter to Sherlock Holmes telling him what suspicious happenings have been afoot in Baskerville Hall. In our marvellous maths, we have been learning how to use SWM and grid method to multiply numbers with several digits. Mr Norton says, we all need to learn and rehearse our x table facts so that we can recall them quickly: we all agree with him. With Mrs Rowden, we have continued our spectacular Space project. We have found out about the planets in our Solar System. Niah particularly likes Saturn, "because of the rings around it." We have been reminded that it is a good idea to have mid-morning snack and that this need to be healthy ... After all, we do work extra hard each morning!

### Stars of the Week!

Class One— Marnie for her positive attitude towards all of her learning.

Class Two— Riley-Rae for having a focused learning attitude and for always doing her best with her work.

Class Three— Mason for enthusiasm in all his work, especially at home.

Class Four— Frank for excellent focus and really good vocabulary knowledge this week!



### Reading Stars

Class One— Finn for working hard in beginning to recognising his new special friends 'th' and 'sh.'

Class Two— Leo for making links between our Roald Dahl books shared at school and his Roald Dahl book at home.

Class Three— Ezra for fantastic reading of his persuasive speech and excellent reading record.

Class Four— Francesca for excellent reading aloud in class.





# CALLING ALL BAKERS



**HIGH BICK PTA is hosting a  
HALLOWEEN / AUTUMN-THEMED**

# CAKE SALE

**NEXT FRIDAY**

**TO CELEBRATE THE END OF  
HALF TERM**



**DONATIONS WELCOME TO THE SCHOOL ARCH  
CAKE SALE IN THE CHURCH HALL  
FRIDAY 24TH OCT AT 3:30**





**CHILDREN  
IN NEED**

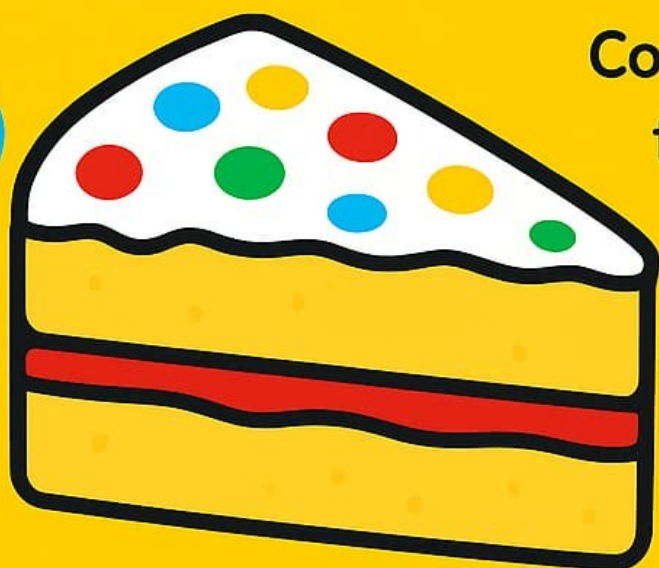
# **CAKE SALE**

**Sunday 26th October**

**2:00 pm – 4:15 pm**

**High Bickington Church Hall**

Join us for an afternoon filled with delicious cakes and community spirit – all in support of BBC Children in Need!



Come along, bring your friends & family, and help us raise money for a fantastic cause.

# TEAM Multi-Academy Trust Vacancies



Working in partnership with  
 WETHERIDGE  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
PRIMARY ACADEMY

*Life, Love and Learning to the Full*



Part of TEAM MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST

APPLY NOW DIRECT WITH 

For more information and how to apply directly with My New Term please visit our website

<https://www.teamacademytrust.com/vacancies>

We currently have 3 vacancies available at Team Multi-Academy Trust:

Specialist SEND Teaching Assistant at Beaford Community Primary & Nursery School

1.1 SEND Teaching Assistant at Horwood and Newton Tracey Community Primary School

Cover Supervisor at Witheridge Church of England Primary Academy



Any articles which appear in the school newsletter, that have not been organised by or on behalf of the school, have not been verified by TEAM Multi-Academy Trust as to the suitability for children. The news items are for parent information only.

# Light Party

Umberleigh Christian Fellowship,  
EX37 9AR  
31<sup>st</sup> Oct  
16:30 – 18:30

**Sweets**

**Games**

**Fire**

**Hot dogs**



Booking Link: [Umberleigh light party Tickets, Fri 31 Oct 2025 at 16:30 | Eventbrite](#)