



Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new academic year! It has been wonderful to see the children return to school happily. I have been very impressed with the new Reception children who are learning and playing cheerfully and quickly embracing the school routines.

Newsletter

As a busy parent myself, I understand how important it is to have all the information about school events in an easily accessible way. This is why we try our best to put as much information in the newsletter as possible so parents only have one place to go, to find out what is happening. Please do look at the newsletter for reference. This year we will be sending the newsletter out fortnightly. You will receive a text with a link to the newsletter, which is on our website. You can always go back to the website at any time to read the newsletter. It will also be emailed to parents who have requested to be emailed, and will be shared via our Facebook page.

Class Pages on the Website

Please take a look at your child's Class Page on the website. Their teacher has shared information about the curriculum, learning, routines and timetables.

<https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/halwill-primary-school/children/class-pages/>

Communication



It's important to us that you can raise questions or share information with us easily and we do our best to respond as promptly as possible. The school office is the main point of communication for any queries or information you need to share with us. Please do call, email or see us in person. The administrators are checking emails and taking calls daily so will pass your questions to the teachers or myself. If the call is unanswered, please leave a voice message, as these are always checked.

Please don't use Class Dojo to communicate important information as it can be missed. Quite rightly, teachers are busy with the children and not checking devices in the school day. Class Dojo communication is primarily for home learning and sharing general class information.



Clubs

Clubs information is now on our website:

<https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/halwill-primary-school/about-us/before-after-school-clubs/>

Monday	Club: Board Games Teacher: Elisha Brown Max number: 15	Class 2	16 th Sept to 21 st Oct 3.30-4.30pm £12 (6 weeks)
Tuesday	Club: Netball Teacher: Scott Hayler Max number: 20	Class 3 & 4	17 th Sept to 22 nd Oct 3.30-4.30pm £12 (6 weeks)
Thursday	Club: Performance Poetry Teacher: Alix Rothery & Sarah Matthews Max number: 20	Class 3 & 4	19 th Sept to 24 th Oct 3.30-4.30pm £12 (6 weeks)

Appledore Book Festival

As part of the Appledore Book Festival, author Tanya Landman will be visiting the school on Wednesday 25th September. Tanya Landman has written more than 40 children's books and is winner of the prestigious Carnegie Medal. <https://tanyalandman.com/>



Harvest Festival Assembly – Friday 4th October 2:45 pm

We warmly welcome parents and carers to join our Harvest Festival Assembly. The children will be sharing their learning about Harvest with you. Please also send in non-perishable foods and toiletries ahead of the assembly. These will be sent to the food bank.



Parent Consultation

This is an important opportunity to meet with your child's teacher so they can share their academic and social progress with you. This term the meetings will be on

Tuesday 12th November. 1:45 – 6:00 pm

We will let you know when you are able to book your ten minute slot, nearer the time. The meetings will take place in school but we can also offer a virtual meeting.





Christmas

Yes! We are already thinking about Christmas!

Christmas is an incredibly busy time for children, staff and parents and sometimes, the activities we focus on, can take away from the true meaning of Christmas. Although we are not a church school, Christmas is a Christian festival and it is important that celebrations in school reflect this, regardless of the individual faiths we hold.

We have reflected and thought carefully about how Christmas will be celebrated in the Federation and this is our plan moving forward.

The Church service will have a much greater importance and will be led by Class 4 (Year 5 & 6), There will be far more opportunities for Class 4 to deliver readings and talk to the congregation. Class 1 (Reception) will perform their nativity within the church. Therefore, Class 1 and Class 4 will not perform a separate play.

In total, there will be three church services. The first, will be for the school children only and second two, will be for parents and carers of Class 1 and Class 4. Please understand that we have had to restrict to parents of Class 1 and 4 for space reasons, as we will continue to be in the Halwill Baptist Chapel. Information about ticketing will be shared nearer the time.

The dates are as follows:

Monday 16th December, 10:00 am – Church service for all Halwill school children (parents are unable to attend this).

Tuesday 17th December, 9.30 am - Church service for Class 1 & Class 4 parents

Tuesday 17th December, 5.00 pm - Church service for Class 1 & Class 4 parents

Class 2 and Class 3 will continue to perform a Christmas play which parents and carers are invited to.

Tuesday 10th December, 9:15 am – Class 2 Christmas play for parents

Tuesday 10th December, 10:15 am – Class 3 Christmas play for parents

Wednesday 11th December, 5:00 pm – Class 2 Christmas play for parents

Wednesday 11th December, 6:00 pm – Class 3 Christmas play for parents



Year 6 Parents - Applying for a Secondary School Place

Has your child recently started in Year 6 and due to join secondary school in September 2025? If so please remember that applications must be submitted by the **31st October 2024**.

Applications received after this date will be classed as late and they will be considered after all those who applied on time.

You can apply online by visiting:

https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAR2fkBEZQk8ku_4djGvFF1o66dNAQtvie1_yNrdPpLMH9Y8BqXb7msI3tso_aem_0ZynRI9C17JgOI7NgZ6huA

We understand Okehampton College and Holsworthy College will have an Open Evening on 25th September. The timing for Holsworthy College will be 3.45pm – 6.45pm and the timing for Okehampton College will be 4pm – 5.30pm. We will let you know once we receive any further information.

Uniform

It has been lovely to see the children looking so smart in their uniform and supporting the expectation that long hair is tied up. If you require any more uniform, please contact the school office.

Wild Tribe

Wild Tribe is on Tuesday afternoons. The plan for the year is as follows:

Autumn i	Class 3
Autumn ii	Class 1 & 2
Spring i	Class 4
Spring ii	Class 3
Summer i	Class 1 & 2
Summer ii	Class 4



On Wild Tribe days, please can children bring in waterproofs to wear over school clothes and wellington boots. If they don't have waterproofs then some other long clothing to cover arms and legs (not jeans) should be sent in.

Federation Trip to Mary Poppins; Theatre Royal Plymouth

Following the success of the trip to see Aladdin, we have organised a whole Federation trip to see the stage show of Disney's Mary Poppins the Musical on Wednesday 26th March 2025. Again, we have managed to secure exceptionally reasonably priced tickets. Further information will follow nearer the time.

Mrs Ruh Alford
Executive Headteacher



Celebration Assembly Awards

The Carey Qualities



Relationships by being **Resilient, Resourceful, Reflective** and **Respectful**

Each week children are awarded certificates in our Celebration Assembly for making a significant effort to develop one of our Carey Qualities. The following children were awarded certificates. Well done to them all.

For building Relationships	For being Resilient	For being Resourceful	For being Reflective	For being Respectful
Hazel Class 1 Thomas Class 2 Finley Class 3 Zeejay Class 4	Ellis Class 2 Archie Class 3 Millie-May Class 4	Body Class 2 Ted Class 3	HB Class 1 Scarlett Class 2 Reidy Class 3 Dexter Class 4	Elodie Class 2

Safeguarding at Halwill

The Safeguarding Team

Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs R Alford

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs A Rothery

Miss J Miners

Mrs R Cawsey—SENDCo

Attendance Officer:

Mrs C Brooker

Safeguarding Governor:

Mrs A Clark

Safeguarding

Remember if you have any issues regarding Safeguarding that you wish to raise, please email

safeguarding@halwill.devon.sch.uk

These will come directly to a safeguarding lead

This week we have been reminding children about good hand hygiene as well as the concept of Catch It, Bin It, Kill It.



September 2024

- 23rd KS2 Cross Country
25th Appledore Book Festival visit with Tanya Landman



October 2024

- 4th Harvest Festival—2:45pm
25th Kents Cavern Class 3 trip
28th to 1st Nov Half term

November 2024

- 4th Non-pupil day
12th Parent Consultation 1:45pm—6:00pm

December 2024

- 10th Christmas Play Class 2—9:15am—10:15am
10th Christmas Play Class 3—10:15am— 11:15am
11th Christmas Play Class 2—5pm — 6pm
11th Christmas Play Class 3—6pm— 7pm
16th Church Christmas Service for all children—10am—11am
17th Christmas Church Service Class 1 and 4—09:30am—10:30am
19th End of term

January 2025

- 6th Start of term

February 2025

- 17th to 21st Half term
24th Non-pupil day



**TERM
DATES**

March 2025

- 26th Mary Poppin's whole school trip

Term dates: <https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/halwill-primary-school/parents/term-dates/>

Friends of Halwill Primary School

“The Friends of Halwill school” are parents who work together to help enrich the experiences of school, for example supplying craft and snacks at the Christmas Party! We are always looking for help and support, whether it’s offering ideas, help at events etc we would love to have you on board.

Other ways to support Friends is to sign up to easy fundraising, your shopping online can mean a donation to the school.

Or buying name labels from My Nametags, by using the school ID 28989 the school can get a donation from the sale and school uniform is more likely to get reunited with its owner!

We also have Facebook pages for Friends “Friends of Halwill Primary School” and “Halwill Primary School’s 2nd hand uniform” where for a small donation you can find some good quality used uniform.

Thank you
Friends of Halwill Primary School

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/assets/blt2159bb3d91e9d580/easyfundraising-poster-a4.pdf>

<https://www.mynametags.com/>



Turn your online shopping
into everyday magic for

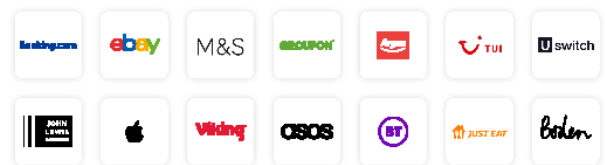
Friends of Halwill Primary School

with easyfundraising

You shop, brands donate to us.
It won't cost you any extra!

How to sign up

- 1 Visit the link below or scan the QR code
www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause
- 2 Search for us
- 3 Your favourite brands donate whenever you spend with them



Download the
easyfundraising App



Excellent 3,945 reviews on Trustpilot

Friends of Halwill Primary School will be holding our
AGM on Tuesday 2nd October at 9:00 am. You are
all welcome to join us.

Thank you

Friends Of Halwill School

Holiday Requests

Please see the following message which we have been asked to share with you by Devon County Council:

We believe that in order for a pupil to fully benefit from their education, good attendance is crucial.

As of September 2013, an amendment to the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 came in to force and greater clarity was introduced to the issue of schools authorising absence requests. These changes reinforced the Government's view that every minute of every school day is vital and that pupils should only be granted authorised absences by the school in 'exceptional circumstances'.

A family holiday is not normally considered by the Government to be an 'exceptional circumstance' and therefore will not be authorised by the school.

Should you choose to take your child out of school without the authorisation of the school, then Parental Responsibility Measures could be instigated. This could mean receiving any of the following;

- *A Penalty Notice*
- *A summons to the Magistrate Court which could result in a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a term of imprisonment for up to 3 months.*

Schools are required to notify the Local Authority if a pupil has a number of unauthorised absences. Unauthorised absences can be acquired when;

- 1) Leave has been requested, but the circumstances are such that the school is unable to authorise the leave and it is taken anyway.*
- 2) Leave is not requested and/or the school has grounds to believe that the child has been taken out of school for an avoidable reason (example – a family holiday). Only the Head teacher can authorise an absence. This year there have been occasions when schools have been notified that the pupil is sick, but the school later discovers and reasonably believes that the reason given for the absence is not genuine.*
- 3) A child continually arrives late after the registration period has closed.*

Schools need to notify the Local Authority in all of the circumstances listed above.

Should a Penalty Notice be issued as a result of unauthorised absence then one notice will be issued to each parent/carer for each child involved. Currently, each Penalty Notice is for £120, which is reduced to £60 if paid within the first 21 days. If a Penalty Notice goes unpaid after 28 days, then court proceedings will be initiated.

We understand the disappointment that the refusal of a leave request may cause, but as you can appreciate this policy represents the school's responsibility and commitment towards providing your child's education and supporting their future life opportunities.

COULD YOUR CHILD BE ENTITLED TO A SUBSIDY TOWARDS THE COST OF RESIDENTIAL OR DAY TRIPS, SPORTING EVENTS, SCHOOL UNIFORM, EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, BREAKFAST CLUB, AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS AS WELL AS FREE SCHOOL MEALS IN KS2?

If you are in receipt of any of the following, your child could be entitled to a subsidy towards the cost of the above:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).
- Income Support (IS).
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA).
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (IRESA).
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income that does not exceed £16,190).

Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment you get for a further 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit).

Please apply even if your child is in Foundation, Year 1 or Year 2 and receives a meal under the Universal Infant Free School Meals Scheme. As well as financially benefiting as described above, your child may receive additional learning support where appropriate because of the additional funding that school receives from Government for known free school meals pupils.

How to apply

Through the Citizen Portal (https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fCCSCitizenPortal_live) which is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in you getting an instant decision.

Parents and carers can also ring the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019.



Halwill Churches Together
**HARVEST SUPPER
& QUIZ**

13TH SEPTEMBER 2024

7PM

HALWILL PARISH HALL

All Ages Welcome

Come as a team
or join others when you arrive

Money Donations for Holsworthy
Foodbank if desired

Free Buffet Supper

