



Halwill Primary School

Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Newsletter No. 19 Spring Term

Dear Families,

It was good to see many of you at Parent Consultation last week. Thank you for all the support you give your children, by working together it really does help the children progress.

We had a fantastic World Book Day on Thursday. Thank you so much for supporting the children with their costumes. They all looked great!

Class 1



Class 2



Upcoming Events

March 10

Wild Tribe – Class 3

After school club – Tennis

Class 3 & 4

After school club – Dance club

Class 3 & 4

March 11

After school club –Board games and

Lego Class 1 – 4

March 12

Exeter Museum and Synagogue

Class 3

March 19

National Child Measurement

Programme

March 24

Bags2Schools

March 30

Sats meeting for Yr6 parents and

children 3:45pm

April 2

Last day of term

April 20

Term starts

April 27

Bikeability Yr5

May 4

Bank Holiday

June 5

Non pupil day

June 19

Tempest Leavers photos

June 26

YR,1 & 2 The Gruffalo, Theatre Trip

July 22

Last day of term

Class 3



Class 4



During the day, the children undertook a number of reading related activities which really helped further develop their love of reading.

Term Dates 26/27

Please see a link to the term dates for 2026/27. <https://www.thecarey federation.co.uk/halwill-primary-school/parents/term-dates/> You will notice that there is a non-pupil day on Friday 11th June 2027. This was chosen as it is the Friday of The Royal Cornwall Show. We know we have a number of farming families who would like to attend. We greatly value our farming families but as you know, we cannot authorise an absence for children to go to this on a school day, so instead we have allocated a non-pupil day to enable families to attend.

You will have seen that July 5th 2026 is also a non-pupil day which we have planned to coincide with The Royal Cornwall Show. Moving forward, the plan is to have a non-pupil day on the Friday of The Royal Cornwall Show each year.

Useful Links

School Contact

Details

Tel: 01409 221476

Email:

admin@halwill.devon.sch.uk

Website: [Halwill Primary School – Halwill and Ashwater Primary Schools](#)

Safeguarding: If you have any concerns about a child, please speak to one of the safeguarding team or email

safeguarding@halwill.devon.sch.uk

Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Ruh Alford

Deputy Safeguarding Leads

Miss Jayne Miners

Mrs Rosie Cawsey

Attendance Officer

Mrs Ceren Brooker

Term Dates 2025 - 2026

These are on our website:

<https://www.thecarey federation.co.uk/ashwater-primary-school/parents/term-dates/>

Exeter Museum and Synagogue – Thursday 12th March

Class 2 Ashwater and Class 3 Halwill will be visiting Exeter Museum and Exeter Synagogue on Thursday 12th March. A further letter about this was sent on Friday via MICAS.

Consultation to Federate with St Giles-on-the Heath School

Please find a link here <https://www.thecarey federation.co.uk/halwill-primary-school/parents/letters/> to the consultation letter which was sent to you on 9th February. We value your views in relation to this potential development and would encourage you to post your thoughts via the dedicated email: consultation@halwill.devon.sch.uk or via the post box in the school office.

Safeguarding



Child Accident Prevention Trust
11h · 🌐

Mini eggs of all colours and brands are lining the supermarket shelves. But, did you know that they are the perfect size to block a small child's airway and choke them? And, their hard shell can make it difficult to dislodge with standard first aid techniques.

That's why they carry a safety warning that they aren't recommended for children under 4.

So, when you're stocking up for the Easter Bunny please stay safe and choose another treat for your little one.

Visit our choking hub to learn more about common choking hazards and what you should do in an emergency: <https://capt.org.uk/choking-prevention/>

#ChildSafety #Easter2026



Have you spotted the safety warning on mini eggs?



Moving Catering Providers



I am delighted to be able to update you that as from 1st April 2026 we will be bringing the catering team in house, when we TUPE the kitchen staff over to join the Carey Federation family. We will be leaving our current provider of Norse and moving to Educatering. Educatering are Exeter based and working with many schools across Devon, they provide fresh, good quality and where possible, local produce for us to prepare from scratch for the children to enjoy.

We are offering taster sessions with the first one being at Ashwater on the 18th March during the parents evening, Educatering staff will be there serving tasters of the food that the children will enjoy. The Halwill one will be after school early in the Summer term.

Another advantage is we can have a bespoke menu for our children and can adapt and change if it is less popular with the children.

Alison Horn

Wild Tribe Spring 2nd Half 2026

Class 3 will have Wild Tribe on Tuesday afternoons. On Wild Tribe days, children need wellies and waterproof trousers and coats to wear over their uniform. Long hair needs to be tied up.

After School Clubs Spring 2nd Half 2026

Please see After School Clubs on our website and remember to book through the new MICAS app. <https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/halwill-primary-school/about-us/before-after-school-clubs/>

Please note, once you have collected your child from after school club, ensure you leave the school grounds swiftly.

Mrs Ruh Alford
Executive Headteacher

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
Ava – Class 1 Ivy – Class 3	NC – Class 1 Obie – Class 4		Mia – Class 1 Frankie – Class 2 Elsie – Class 3 Henry – Class 4	Millie – Class 2 Aiden – Class 2 Chloe – Class 4

Friends of Halwill School

EASYFUNDRAISING

- Start your online shop on the [Easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.com) website/App.
- We get a little money from the retailer when you shop.
- Scan, sign up and choose Halwill Primary.



PLEASE SIGN



For help setting up speak to the Friends: Guy Becky or Laura.
*Stand a chance to win £250 for the school this month.



Family Hub Advice & Guidance Line, 0800 5385458
Mon-Fri 10am—4pm

'Connecting Moments' - Digital SEND Support for Families

Are you a parent or carer of a child with **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)**? Join us for **Connecting Moments** – a friendly online space designed just for you.

What's it all about?

- Connect with other families in a small, welcoming group
- Share experiences and ideas
- Build a peer support network

Please join us on the **12th December at 10am, for a 1 hour session** – email childsc.familyhub-mailbox@devon.gov.uk to book a space, places are limited and the session will be run via Teams.

If you would like support from the Devon family hub, please scan this QR code and complete our request for support form





Halwill Primary School

**Please leave your donations, in the bike shed
Tuesday 24th March 2026 between 09.30am to 3.00pm**

(Bag 2 School collecting Wednesday 25th March 2026 at 9am)

BAG 2 SCHOOL is free fundraising, that specialises in the reuse and recycling of good quality second hand clothing. All the bags will be weighed, and we will be paid for the total weight collected.

Please use your own bags and there is no limit to the number of bags you wish to donate. Just ensure the items are in the "we collect" list.

Help us raise money for Halwill Primary School while you have a good clear out!

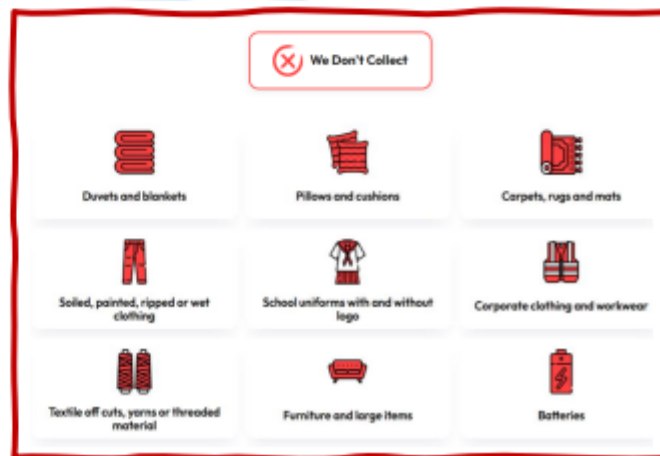
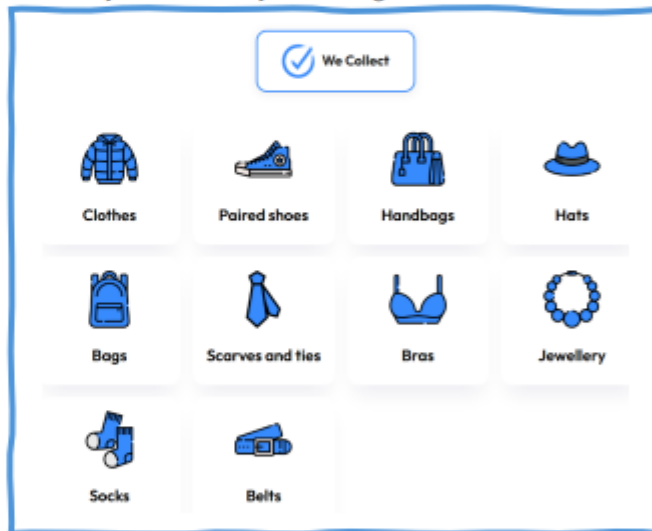
If you have several bags to donate, please do **NOT** drive into school at drop off and pick up times.

This will cause congestion and block access for people who have prior permission to drive down to school, during this time.

If you need to drive down, with your donations please stick to the times above.

Many thanks

Friends of Halwill Primary School





FREE SCHOOL MEALS – Are you entitled to apply?

Even though your child is entitled to universal infant free school meals in reception, year 1 and year 2, if you are eligible for free school meals it is important that you register as soon as possible as this attracts income for the school and will also allow you to benefit from:-

- **A full set of school uniform**
- **Free attendance at Breakfast and After School Clubs**
- **2/3 reduction in residential fees**

CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Your child may also get free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

To apply please use the following link

https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fCCSCitizenPortal_live

If you require any assistance, then please do not hesitate to contact the school offices.



Unauthorised Holiday/Leave Request

As you will be aware, Government Guidance advises that schools should not authorise requests for term time absence unless the school has received suitable evidence of exceptional circumstances. The Government does not consider a family holiday to be an exceptional circumstance.

In the absence of suitable evidence of exceptional circumstances, on this occasion the school cannot authorise your request for a Term Time Absence. We believe that if students are to benefit from education, good attendance is crucial. It is the policy of our school to celebrate achievement, and full attendance is a critical factor to a productive and successful school career.

I must take this opportunity to remind you, that should you still choose to take your child out of school unauthorised, then the school must refer the absence to the Local Authority for the consideration of initiating Parental Responsibility Measures. If you have Parental Responsibility, this could mean receiving any of the following.

- A Penalty Notice. Should a Penalty Notice be issued, one notice will be issued to each parent/carer for each child involved. Currently, each Penalty Notice is for £160, which is reduced to £80 if paid within the first 21 days. If a Penalty Notice goes unpaid after 28 days, then court proceedings will be initiated. If a previous Penalty Notice has been issued within the past 2 years, then the Local Authority will proceed straight to Court.
- A Magistrates Summons that could lead to a criminal record, a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a term of imprisonment for up to 3 months.

We understand the disappointment that a refusal may cause, but as you can appreciate, this policy represents the school's responsibility and commitment towards ensuring your child's full and efficient education.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Ruh Alford

Executive Headteacher