



## Upcoming Events

Thursday 2nd April 2026

# Halwill Primary School

*Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other*

Newsletter No. 22 Spring Term

Dear Families,

As we reach the final day before the Easter holiday, it has been great to see the children continue to challenge themselves in the classroom and in sporting activities.

On Tuesday, Matt Hewlett from DigitAll Charity came in to deliver a coding session for Class 4. Matt used to be a secondary computing teacher and now delivers sessions to primary schools through the DigitAll charity <https://www.digitall.charity>



### Cross Country

A number of KS2 children also attended Monkleigh School for Cross Country. The Halwill children aimed high and showed great resilience. Well done to all who took part and a special well done to Ada who came 2nd in her group, Freddie W who came 2nd in his group and well done to Evelyn (4th place) and Matilde (5th place) in their group. Thank you to Mrs Skinner and Mrs Rose for accompanying the children



### **April 2**

SATs afterschool club

Last day of term

### **April 20**

Term starts

### **April 21**

Wild Tribe – KS1

After school club – Athletics

KS1

After school club – Cheerleading

KS2

### **April 22**

After school club – Board games –  
Class 1-4

### **April 24**

SATs afterschool club

### **April 27**

Bikeability Yr5

### **May 1**

SATs afterschool club

### **May 4**

Bank Holiday

### **May 8**

SATs afterschool club

### **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

### Mini Football Festival, Thursday 26th March

Last Thursday, Halwill School hosted the Mini Football Festival between Ashwater, Halwill and St Giles. Well done to all the Halwill children that participated. They showed an excellent Aim High attitude and Resilience. Thank you also to the Friends who provided very welcome refreshments. Also, thank you to Mr Alford who organised and refereed the Festival. It was a lovely occasion.



### After School Clubs Summer 1st Half 2026

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

### Wild Tribe Summer 1st Half 2026

Class 1 and 2 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.

**SATs afterschool club** started on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March, the first of 7. Please note the **2<sup>nd</sup> April** is a **Thursday** as it's the last day of term.

### Class 3

I am pleased to tell you that Mrs Rothery will be returning as Class 3's teacher after Easter. Mr Alford and Mrs Bootheer will support with her phased return. We are really looking forward to welcoming Mrs Rothery back and a huge thanks to Mr Alford and Mrs Bootheer for their commitment in supporting the children over the last two terms.

### Bikeability - Year 5' only - Monday 27th April - Friday 1st May 2026

Bikeability is a Department for Transport scheme and is a way of helping children to ride safely on the roads and is aimed at children who already know how to ride a bike. It is delivered by a trained Bikeability instructor. If you haven't already done so, please give your consent via the following link <https://consent.bikeability.org.uk/yes-guard-part>

### Swimming

We are delighted to continue to offer swimming lessons in our Summer term. Please see the table below displaying the dates and year groups. In previous years, we have not charged for this, however, as costs are rising, this year we will be looking for a contribution of £5 per child for swimming and the coach.

Year Groups	Dates
Y 3/4	23/04, 30/04, 07/05, 21/05
Y 5/6	04/06, 11/06, 18/06
Y R/1/2	25/06, 02/07, 09/07, 16/07

### Useful Links

### School Contact

### Details

**Tel:** 01409 221476

**Email:**  
[admin@halwill.devon.sch.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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/>

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

As you will have seen from the letter sent to you today, governors of both boards have voted to federate with St Giles. Therefore, from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2026, The Carey Federation will comprise, Ashwater School, Halwill School and St Giles-on-the-Heath Primary School. We are delighted with this decision and feel confident it will strengthen the Federation further and provide even more opportunities for the children. Please see the attached letter on our website: <https://www.thecarey federation.co.uk/halwill-primary-school/parents/letters/>

### Safeguarding

Glycerol is often used to create the slush effect. But in high quantities, especially to small children, glycerol can cause shock, hypoglycaemia (low blood sugar) and loss of consciousness.

That's why slushies containing glycerol are not recommended for children under seven. And, older children should be limited to just one slush a day.

#ChildSafety #ChildHealth

# Why are slushies dangerous?



### Term Dates 26/27

Please see a link to the term dates for 2026/27. <https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/halwill-primary-school/parents/term-dates/> You will notice that there is a non-pupil day on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

### 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 <b>Relationships</b>	For being <b>Resilient</b>	For being <b>Resourceful</b>	For being <b>Reflective</b>	For being <b>Respectful</b>
Luna – Class 1 Hazel – Class 2 Belle – Class 3	Amber – Class 1 Brody – Class 2 Chloe – Class 3 Bella – Class 4	Mila – Class 2 Emily – Class 4	Ivy – Class 3 Ellie – Class 4	

### **Moving Catering Providers**

Please see our new menu on our website which are now on MICAS to book for next term. <https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/school-dinner-menus/>

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.

## Friends

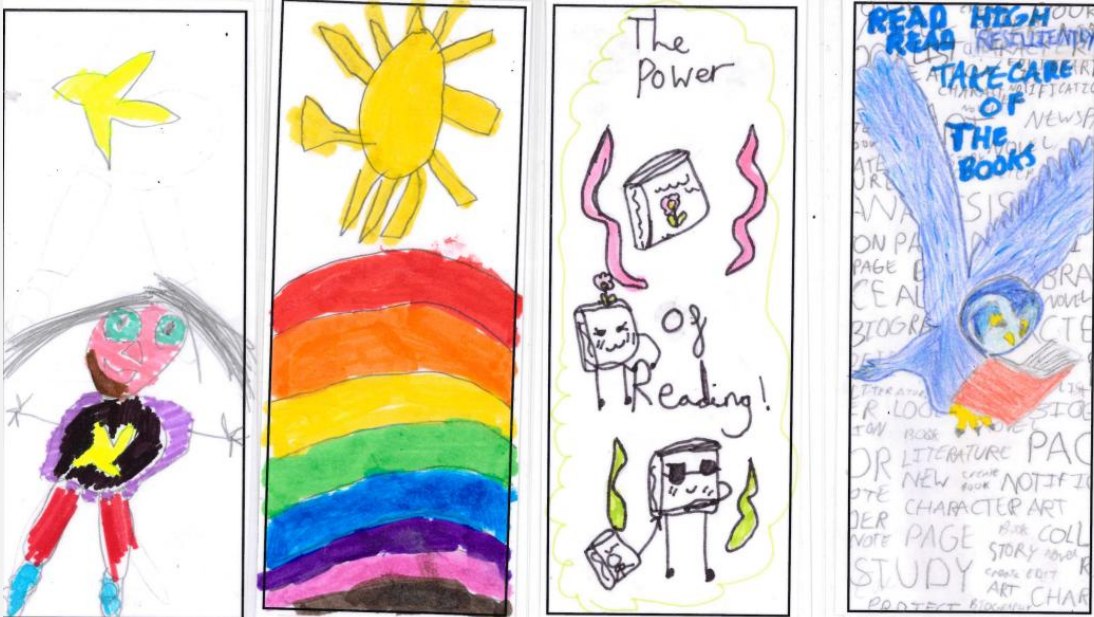
A big thank you to Friends for the Easter Eggs for all the children, they enjoyed an Easter Egg Hunt this afternoon!



## Bookmark competition

As part of World Book Day, a number of children took part in a competition to design a bookmark. Well done to everyone who participated. There were some fantastic designs.

Winners: Hazel and Ava KS1 and Chloe and Megan KS2, were chosen by the Librarians. Very well done to the winners! Their book marks will be made up into professional bookmarks.



In addition the teachers selected children for Teacher Awards: Felicity KS1 and Ethan, Ellie and Ryan KS2 were selected for these awards. Very well done to these children too.



### Holidays

Thank you parents and carers for all your support this term. I hope the children have a wonderful Easter break. The last day of term is Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April.

Mrs Ruh Alford  
Executive Headteacher

Hop on over for our




# EASTER

**Holiday Programme**  
**Bikeability**

**Stratton Primary School**



**Book online here:**

April - Monday 13<sup>th</sup> 10-12pm (Learn 2 Ride all ages)  
<https://consent.bikeability.org.uk/easy-final-boat>



Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> 10-12pm (Learn 2 ride all ages)  
<https://consent.bikeability.org.uk/pie-aba-train>



Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> 9am-2pm Level 2 (year 5 -year 8)  
 URL: <https://consent.bikeability.org.uk/watch-gold-rod>



Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> 9am-2pm Level 2 (year 5 -year 8)  
<https://consent.bikeability.org.uk/jumps-front-ant>



**\*\*please bring your own road worthy bike and helmet limited bikes & helmets available to borrow\*\***

**Book onto our T2M holiday programme**  
**£30.00**  
**£10 if you live/ go to school in Bude or Stratton.**  
**FREE for Free School Meals - [Claim voucher here](#)**




<https://tinyurl.com/323nh3fa>

## Friends of Halwill School

### EASYFUNDRAISING

- Start your online shop on the [Easyfundraising](#) 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.



### **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



## **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](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.