



Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Dear Parents,

It was great to see many of our Class 1 parents join us over a cuppa, to find out more about how we teach phonics and maths. I hope you found the meeting helpful. Please do ask if you have any further questions or if you weren't able to attend and would like information.

Thank you to parents and carers for joining our Harvest Assembly last Friday; it was great to have a full house! Weren't the children wonderful! I was so impressed with their outstanding singing and public speaking; even our youngest children showed so much confidence. They delivered a strong message about the importance of buying British and of valuing our farmers, many of whom are families within our school.



Dr Revd. Paul Fitzpatrick captured the children's attention brilliantly and also spoke of the important role of our agricultural community. He was also very impressed with the children. Well done to the staff for teaching the children so well. Thank you for your generous donations which will be sent to the food bank.



School Council

Thank you to the outgoing representatives of School Council for their valuable contributions.

Congratulations to the following children who have been elected to the new School Council for 2024/25. The School Council is a great opportunity to support children's understanding of the British Value of Democracy. It is also a great vehicle for us to hear the pupil voice.

Year 1—Aiden and LH

Year 2—Thomas and Ivy

Year 3—Sidney and Belle

Year 4—Evelyn and Finley

Year 5—TL and Henry

Year 6—Hadley and Emily B



The children will have come home with their artwork and a leaflet explaining how to order.

Once you have placed an order, please return your children's artwork to school by

Monday 21st October !!

Activity Passport

Carey Curriculum Activities

'In the Carey Federation, we are aspirational learners who build

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

In the Carey Federation we believe that our "Aim High Curriculum" enables all pupils to have the skills to be resourceful, independent, motivated and resilient learners in preparation for the next stage of their education.

We extend a breadth and depth in our curriculum by giving the children the opportunity to try new things and develop new skills. We know that this will help children to grow in confidence, expand their understanding of the world around them, or introduce a hobby or passion that could last for years to come. The impact of trying new activities is so positive.

A list of ten exciting activities will be shared during the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms. The list of activities are inspired by our Carey Qualities and are relevant to the curriculum, foster collaboration and build an understanding the benefits of trying new things.

We want to encourage a genuine interest and zest for the exciting world, both locally, nationally and even internationally, in which we live.

We hope your child will have a fantastic time working through the activity list, both in school and at home with you, as a family.

When the children complete an activity, they can share their thoughts on a post it note and add to our Federation display. We would also love the children to share photographs on Class Dojo!

THE CAREY FEDERATION



We extend a breadth and depth of our curriculum by giving the children the opportunity to try new things and develop new skills.

Tell a friend about different faiths.



Try something new.



How do our Carey Qualities reflect the British Values?

Wrap a Christmas present.



How are you resilient in school? Can you give examples from this week?



Play a board or card game.

Lay the table ready for a family meal.

Explore your family history. Think about the questions you could ask.

Catch a falling leaf and make a wish.



Find out about Christmas celebrations around the World.

Say something kind.



Explain how the SMART rules help to keep us safe on the Internet.



How do you keep safe in the countryside?

What would you like to do in the future?

Applying for a Primary School Place – Reception 2025

If your child was born between **1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021** they are due to start primary school in September 2025.

Applications for starting primary school in September 2025 open on 15 November 2024 and close on 15 January 2025.

The date that all allocations of school places are announced in England is known as **'Offer day'**. For September 2025 primary school starters this will be on **16 April 2025**.

For more information: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-primary-school-place/>

Every Day is Open Day

If you or someone you know is looking for a September 2025 primary school place or to join at another point, please do contact the office and arrange a visit. We would love to show you all the wonderful things we do. We don't have a particular open day as we love you to see the school in action on a regular day. We offer personalised tours that give you the opportunity to ask questions and meet our fantastic staff and children.



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=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR2fKBEZQk8ku_4djGvFF1o66dNAQtvie1_yNrdPpLMH9Y8BqXb7mSl3tso_aem_0ZynRI9C17JgOI7NgZ6huA

Okehampton College have an Open Day. Please book your place using the QR code below. **Please also complete an S2 Absence form so we know your child will be attending.**



You are warmly invited to

Okehampton College Open Morning on

Thursday 24th October 2024

Join us at 9.15am for a welcome followed by a guided tour
(booking is essential).

Please use the QR code to secure a place at this event.

- Tel: 01837 650910
- email: admin@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk

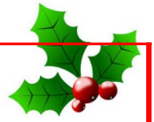


The Oke Way

We care - We challenge - We thrive

For more information please contact:
01837 650910 or
admin@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk

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

Tuesday 17th December 5:00pm – 6:00pm



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
Mila—Class 1 (27th Sept) Mathilde—Class 3 Emily—Class 4 (20th Sept)	SBH—Class 1 Charlie—Class 3 Jack S—Class 4 (27th Sept)	Millie—Class 2 (27th Sept)	Louis—Class 2 Chloe—Class 2 Harry—Class 3 Dylan—Class 3 Oskar—Class 4 (27th Sept)	Reggie—Class 3 (20th Sept) Chloe—Class 4 (27th Sept)

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

This week we have been reminding children about safe adults. In school, staff wear blue lanyards and visitors wear red lanyards or visitor stickers. This shows us that we know these adults are allowed to be in school.

We have also been talking about how to keep safe when walking or travelling alone or if they get lost when out with parents. It's important for children to know which adults are safe to approach for help.

Some Basic Things to Teach Your Child to Do if They Get Lost

STOP! Stand as tall as possible.

If you're outside, get to the nearest, safe spot. E.g. go to the nearest pavement, shop or stall.

If in the woods – teach your child to STOP and try to stay in an open area.

Look for a police officer or someone in uniform

When there isn't a police officer or other uniformed person in sight, teach them to look for a parent with children.

Plan a Meeting Place – especially when in a larger location, such as a shopping centre, amusement park, sports arena or country fair. Be proactive and plan an easy to get to location to meet in case everyone gets separated.

It's Okay to Yell!! – Teach your child that shouting, even in libraries, or other quiet places, is okay if they're lost or even if they simply can't see you.

Teach them Your Real Name and Phone Number – When a lost child can tell an adult that her Mummy's name is Jessica and not just Mummy, this will help locate you quicker.

Reassure them they are not in trouble. Some children believe that they're going to be in trouble because it's their fault they are 'lost' and they then might hide in fear. Reassure them how grateful and not cross you're going to be when you are reunited.

Whoever they ask for help, teach your child to insist on staying in the same building or area, rather than going with someone somewhere else, unless there is a large emergency that makes it unsafe to stay in that location. A child might think they can walk home and that only compounds the problem because emergency personnel will be looking for the child in the area they were last seen.

Medical Conditions

At the start of each academic year, we want to review and check our records of medical conditions. Please complete this form, even if you have already told us about your child's medical condition as well as anything that is new. Please include allergies, asthma and anything else we need to know.

<https://forms.gle/MTterkYtJSb55hBz8>



Attendance

We want your child to thrive in The Carey Federation, every day. We build strong and enduring relationships because we believe this is the foundation pupils need to fully engage in our community, to feel a sense of belonging and succeed.

Every child has a right to access education, and everyone is responsible for supporting and promoting excellent school attendance and punctuality. The Carey Federation are committed to providing the highest quality of education to our pupils and we recognise the clear link between attendance and the attainment of our pupils.

Thank you for supporting this. Our attendance is good because you make every effort to send your child to school, unless they are not well enough to be here.

Whilst we understand holidays can be beneficial; this has to be weighed up against the loss of learning. In addition, children can be adversely affected emotionally when they return to school having missed fun activities their peers are discussing, feel confused or unsure when faced with lessons that follow on from those they have missed and find that friendship groups have changed in their absence. For these reasons, we will not authorise holidays unless for compassionate or extenuating circumstances. If unauthorised holidays are taken, Devon County Council is likely to fine you.

We have updated our Attendance Policy, based on the latest DfE guidance, which you can read on our website: <https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/halwill-primary-school/parents/attendance/>

Here are some key points from it:

Absence for illness must be reported by phone, voicemail, email or in person to the school office by 9:00 am

Absence requests for medical / dental appointments, religious / cultural observances and exceptional circumstances, must be requested by completing an S2 form and submitting it to the office with as much notice as practically possible.

An unauthorised absence is defined as one where we are not satisfied with the reasons given.

Reasons may include:

- Parents keeping children from attending unnecessarily or without reason
- Missing sessions before or during the school day
- Absences which have never been properly explained
- Arrival after the register has closed
- Day trips and holidays in term time that have not been agreed
- Leaving our school without authorisation during the day

Persistent Absence is defined as: 10% or more of sessions missed (based on each pupil's possible sessions). Absences may be authorised or unauthorised.

Persistent lateness is defined as pupils who have five or more late marks recorded in a single half-term.

On the following page is information shared by Devon County Council.

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. It is the policy of our school to celebrate achievement and full attendance is a critical factor to a productive and successful school career.

In 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. In addition on 19 August 2024, an amendment to the Education (Penalty Notices) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2024 came into force and set out a new National Framework for issuing penalty notices. 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 this school.

I must take this opportunity to remind you, that 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.

This school will be notifying 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. In addition to natural parents and any person with parental responsibility, any person considered to have day to day care and control of a young person is deemed to be a parent in matters relating to education and school nonattendance (s576 Education Act 1996).

From 19th August 2024, following changes to secondary legislation, the amount charged in a penalty notice was increased.

The first penalty notice issued will be charged at £160 if paid within 28 days. This is reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.

The second penalty notice issued will be charged at a flat rate of £160 if paid within 28 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 and we apologise, but as you can appreciate this policy represents the schools responsibility and commitment towards providing your child's education and supporting their future life opportunities. We hope you will support us by ensuring that your son/daughter obtains the maximum benefit from their time at school by attending punctually for the 190 days each year that the law requires (unless prevented from doing so by an unavoidable circumstances).

October 2024

18th KS2 Cross Country
21st Xmas4Schools artwork to be returned
22nd Tempest Photography—08:30 Family photos
25th Kents Cavern Class 3 trip
28th to 1st Nov Half term



November 2024

4th Non-pupil day
12th Flu Immunisations
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



March 2025

26th Mary Poppin's whole school trip

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

Thinking about Extra^{*} Curricular Activities?!

Established in 2004 FOOTsteps offers a range of dance, movement and performing arts classes for ages 2yrs+ in Okehampton.

Styles include ISTD Tap, Ballet, and Modern Dance as well as Acrobatics Arts, Ballroom and Latin and Musical Theatre.

Classes follow the school terms and are great way to build confidence, keep active and make new friends.

Get in touch today to
book a place!



footstepsschoolofdance.com



missmandyfootsteps@sky.com



facebook.com/footstepsdevon



Taster periods
offered with 3
weeks for the
price of 2!



FOOTsteps
School of Dance



LJD COACHING LIMITED



FOOTBALL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Come and enjoy fun games,
matches, penalty shoot outs
and much more!

4 YEAR OLDS TO 11 YEAR OLDS

**WEDNESDAY 30TH OCTOBER
9:00AM - 3:00PM
BUDE FOOTBALL CLUB**

£15

Bring a packed lunch and drink

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

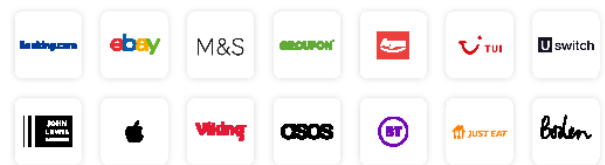
Friends of Halwill Primary School

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

Friends had their AGM on 2nd of October and we really wanted to have a clear vision on what the purpose of fundraising would be this year. We have worked with the school and selected 3 main areas.

The first goal is to help school purchase the Devon Library Service to enhance the library's selection of books and really help encourage children to find enjoyment in reading. The Devon Library Service is a great way to do this as they stock, replenish and organise all the books for the library and classrooms, and can provide books that are appropriate and exciting for the children. And of course, they won't get bored with the selection as they will change each term for the topics they are learning about.

The second is to contribute towards more trips and experiences for the children. We feel that helping children make memories with their friends is an important part of their time at school. The children already have a theatre trip planned in March and friends would like to help with this.

And the third is picking some items from the children's wish list. We have asked school to talk to the children and create a list of things they would like to see more of or be better at school. We haven't seen this yet, but now the new school council has been selected, we look forward to seeing what the children suggest.

We have had some ideas for what fundraising will take place this term such as a Christmas disco, non-school uniform, Christmas cards etc. We are still finalising some details so please look out for these dates in the newsletter or Class Dojo.

We would love more support on our plan to deliver this, so please come along to our next meeting on Tuesday 5th November to help plan and get involved in other fundraising ideas for the year.

Many thanks

Friends

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.