

Friday 16th October 2026

Halwill Primary School

Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Newsletter No. 4 Autumn Term

Dear Families,

As we approach our final week of the half term, I am so pleased with how children have settled into the new academic year. It's wonderful to see the children so positively engaged in their learning and play.

A number of KS2 children have attended the Stephen Shields Cross Country Competition today. This is a challenging competition, and I am sure the children will 'aim high' and 'be resilient'. This is a Federation trip so the Halwill children will have an opportunity to spend time with the Ashwater and St Giles staff and children. I wish all the children good luck!

We look forward welcoming you to our Harvest Assembly on Tuesday 20th October at 2:30 pm. This will be followed by our Open Class 3:00 – 3:45 pm for Class 1, 3 & 4.

Class 2 will have their Open Class on Monday 19th October at 3.00 pm. Please note the new date, we appreciate that the change in date means some parents may not be able to attend. If this affects you, please let us know and we'll endeavor to create another opportunity.

We are finalising our Parent Consultation and Christmas dates and these will go out in our newsletter next week.

Flu Vaccinations – Monday 19th October

If you did miss the deadline for the flu vaccinations this Monday, you can still give your consent to the NHS Flu Immunisation Team by calling 01392 342678 and they can arrange this for you.

Pupil Attendance

Last week we met with our school's Devon County Council Inclusion Partner with a focus on our school overall attendance as well as looking at patterns of absence from individual children. The good news is overall attendance is good at Halwill, as you will see later in the newsletter. Thank you for supporting your child to attend school when they are well enough to be here. Sometimes, as parents, we aren't sure whether our child is well enough into school. This video gives useful clarity and guidance. Remember that we can administer Calpol or other medicines, providing you complete a Medicines Form.

https://youtu.be/_i5KxggkPTw?is=4iR_oPhRxhM5TKie

A common question which we asked our Inclusion Partner, was remaining off school after sickness. She has advised that if a child is not sick due to a stomach bug e.g., they bring up phlegm in a coughing fit, then we do not need to enforce the 48 hour rule. I appreciate it can be a confusing situation so please speak to the office if you are unsure and we will do our best to guide you.

Please also remember that we are unable to authorise holiday absence requests, please see the letter at the end of the newsletter. Thank you for your continued support.

THE CAREY FEDERATION



Upcoming Events

October 16

Cross Country Torrington

October 19

Flu Vaccinations

Open Class 3:00 – 3:45 pm
Class 2

October 20

Harvest Assembly 2:30 pm
Open Class 3:00 – 3:45 pm for
Class 1, 3 & 4.

October 21

Tempest Photos -Individual
08:30-9.00 Families

November 2

Non Pupil Day

November 3

Term starts

December 18

Term ends

Harvest Festival

Harvest Festival is an extremely important festival for us as it celebrates our agricultural community and what our farming families contribute to our society. We warmly welcome parents and carers to attend our **Harvest Festival Assembly on Tuesday 20th October at 2:30 pm**. We will be collecting for the Food Bank so please donate non-perishable foods and hygiene products in the last week before half-term.

After the Harvest Assembly, we will be having open class sessions for each class, where you will be able to come into the classroom, have a look at your child's books and the work they have done so far and say hello to their class teacher.

The Open Class will be from **3:00 – 3:45 pm on Tuesday 20th October**.

Piano teacher

I am delighted to tell you that we have secured a new piano teacher Mrs Constance (Connie) Wade. Mrs Wade will be teaching on Tuesday afternoons.

Mr Alex Rogozynski is still teaching guitar, ukelele and piano but we are aware he has a waiting list.

If you are interested in private, paid for, piano lessons, please contact Mrs Wade directly on dotplayspiano@gmail.com and find out more information from her website: www.dotplayspiano@gmail.com



Don't forget to return your children's Christmas drawings to the school office deadline is Monday 19th October!

Devon County Council SEND Inspection

Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) are carrying out an inspection of services and support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in Devon.

As part of the inspection, inspectors want to hear directly from children and young people with SEND, parents and carers, and practitioners. They use this feedback to help them understand people's experiences of SEND services and support across the local area.

Complete the survey here: <https://ofsted.smartsurvey.co.uk/p/AreaSend/10420455>

The surveys will remain open until 9am on Tuesday 13th October.

Your responses will be treated confidentially by the inspection team.

Please take the opportunity to share your experiences and views with inspectors.

Librarians Wanted for our School Library



We are looking for pupils in Year 4 to 6 who would like to be pupil librarians at school.

The pupils we are looking for:

- like talking about books with other people and finding out what they like to read;
- enjoy reading all sorts of books;
- would enjoy tidying and organising and know how to look after books;
- are able to work on their own or as part of a team.

The job will involve:

- helping Mrs Rothery with sorting and tidying the books;
- thinking of ideas that inspire other people in the school to want to read;
- helping to run book clubs and assemblies promoting a love of reading;
- Being responsible for choosing new books for the library.



If you are interested, please write a letter to Mrs Rothery explaining why you would be good at this job by Monday 5th October. There will be an interview with Mrs Rothery and current librarians. We look forward to having you on the library team!

Medical Information

In order to have the latest medical information about the children, including allergies, we ask all parents to complete this form. Even if you have already told us about your child's medical condition or if your child doesn't have one, please complete the form

[2026/27 Update of Health Care Needs for your child – Fill in form](#)

After School Clubs

We are running a programme of After School Clubs. All clubs can be booked via your MCAS app.

We are also opening up Board Games Club to KS2. Please book via MiCAS if you would like to book your child.

Monday	Club: Art and Sketching Teacher: Mrs Waters Max number: 20	Year R - 6	14 th September to 19 th October 2026 3.30-4.30pm £22.80/£6 (6 weeks) £3.80 per session/ £1.00 for Pupil Premium Eligible Students
Wednesday	Club: STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Teacher: Mrs Neale Max number: 20	Year R - 6	16 th September to 21 st October 2026 3.30-4.30pm £22.80/£6 (6 weeks) £3.80 per session/ £1.00 for Pupil Premium Eligible Students
Thursday	Club: Football Teacher: Sophie Dart Max number: 20	Year 3 - 6	17 th September to 22 nd October 2026 3.30-4.30pm £22.80/£6 (6 weeks) £3.80 per session/ £1.00 for Pupil Premium Eligible Students
Thursday	Club: Board Games Teacher: Miss Dannan Max number: 20	Year R - 6	17 th September to 22 nd October 2026 3.30-4.30pm £22.80/£6 (6 weeks) £3.80 per session/ £1.00 for Pupil Premium Eligible Students

Mrs Ruh Alford
Executive Headteacher

Safeguarding



What colour is your child's coat?

And what does it mean for their safety?



<  **Child Accident Prevention Trust** 15h · 🌐

Did you know a bright coat could make a difference to your child's safety?

Before we know it the clocks will change and our children will be heading to and from school in the dark. Wearing a brighter coloured coat can help them be seen more easily by drivers as the nights draw in.

If your child or their school insists on a darker colour you can add reflective strips to increase visibility.

More tips on staying safe this autumn: <https://capt.org.uk/autumn-safety/>

#AutumnSafety #ChildSafety #RoadSafety #BeSafeBeSeen

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
Millie – Class 1 Mia G – Class 2 Daisy – Class 3 (7 th Oct) Luna – Class 2 (14 th Oct)	<u>Margoux</u> – Class 1 Rex – Class 2 All Class 3 (7 th Oct)		Albie – Class 2 (14 th Oct)	Millie – Class 3 (7 th Oct) Niamh – Class 4 (16 th Oct)

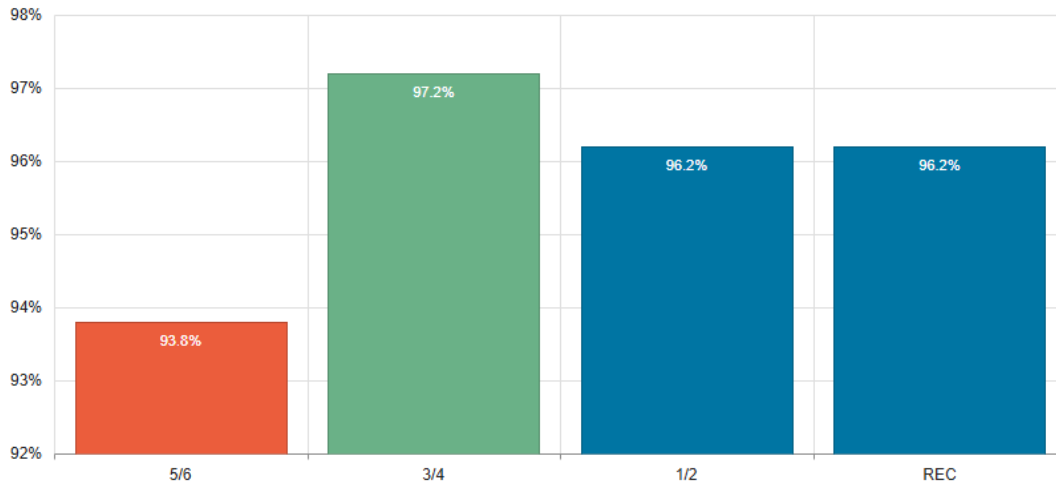
Attendance
Overall attendance

95.8%

+0.3% Last 7 Days

Tutor Group 

 Attendance  



Attendance Percentage	Days of School Missed
98%	4 days
96%	8 days
94%	12 days
92%	16 days or three weeks
90%	20 days or four weeks
85%	30 days or 6 weeks

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i5KxggkPTw>



Dear parent / guardian,

We are delighted to share with you a new NHS funded service designed to support young people aged 7-12 who are experiencing worries or anxieties; **Lumi Nova**. With the end of the school year approaching, we wanted to remind you to take advantage of our offer as your child/ren transition into the summer and new academic year.

What is Lumi Nova?

Lumi Nova is an intergalactic adventure game to support young people to fight fears and manage worries. Whilst exploring planets, customising characters and earning treasure your child breaks their fears and worries down into manageable steps, learning life-long skills and building resilience.

Watch this short animated video to learn more: [Lumi Nova Introduction Video](#)

Who can use Lumi Nova?

Lumi Nova was created for 7 - 12 year olds (school years 3 - 7) who are having difficulties with fears, worries, or anxiety related to social situations, separation or phobias.

Lumi Nova can help your child to face their worries by breaking them down into small manageable challenges and can support your child with:

- Returning to school or starting a new school
- Making new friends and going to social events
- Speaking in front of a group
- And lots more!

How do you access Lumi Nova?

Accessing Lumi Nova is quick and easy. Use the link below to register and you will receive a text message to guide you through getting started or scan the QR code.

luminova.app/devon

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.

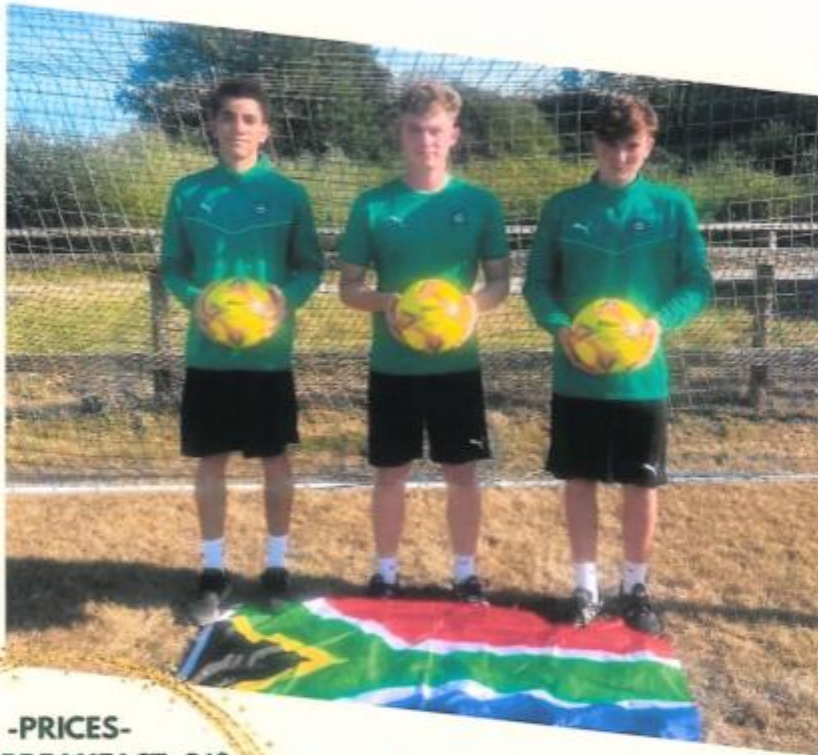
Your child may also get free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

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.

BIG BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER AND RAFFLE



-PRICES-
LARGE BREAKFAST £10
SMALL BREAKFAST £8
KIDS BREAKFAST £5
PLUS A HOT OR COLD DRINK
OF YOUR CHOICE
GLUTEN FREE & VEGETARIAN
OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Please Support our trip to South Africa!
Join us for a delicious
Breakfast!

Just pop in for a Breakfast or
book to ensure you don't
miss out!

please call or message Emma 07881764739
Jude 07594146240

Saturday 17th October-Halwill Parish Hall
10:00am-12:00pm



LJD COACHING LIMITED

FOOTBALL & MULTI SPORTS DAY

WEDNESDAY 28TH OCTOBER

AT BUDE TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

9AM – 3PM

FUN • FITNESS • TEAMWORK • SKILLS

£20 FOR THE DAY

BRING A PACKED LUNCH AND PLenty TO DRINK

DRESS APPROPRIATELY FOR THE WEATHER

LJD COACHING LIMITED
DEVELOPING CONFIDENCE, SKILLS & A LOVE FOR SPORT

QR Code: [QR Code]

<https://playwaze.com/ljd-coaching/e85aljhpv5l/discover-result?item=PhysicalEvents%2F99873-B&type=Activities&communityids=e85aljhpv5l&fromCommunity=False>

HAVE YOUR SAY!

WHAT SHOULD YOUR PARISH COUNCIL BE DOING?

A Stronger Halwill Together ♥

Your Village Your Views Our Future

Halwill Parish Council would like to learn your views on what the priorities should be for the Parish Council spend.

SATURDAY 14TH NOVEMBER

10AM TO 1PM

SCHOOL ROOM, VILLAGE HALL

Everyone's opinion counts!

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE ATTENDED TO QUICKLY?

- Village benches
- Carpark repairs etc.
- General maintenance

WHAT MEDIUM TERM PROJECTS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THE COUNCIL FUNDING?

- Communal garden
- Dog exercise area
- Limit overnight parking in the hall carpark etc.

DO COME ALONG and state your views and preferences.

- ✓ View the public display
- ✓ Share your ideas
- ✓ Help set the priorities
- ✓ Make a difference in your community

PEOPLE PLACES COMMUNITY FUTURE

Working together for a better Halwill ♥

Halwill Parish Council
A STRONGER COMMUNITY FOR TOMORROW



Halwill Winter Gift Fayre 2026

Saturday 21st November

Halwill Parish Hall

10am—2pm



Shop a beautiful selection of products,
gifts and crafts from local businesses.

Food, Cakes & Refreshments

Children's Seasonal Activities

Raffle and MORE!!

Stall enquiries by email to
chair.scallywags@outlook.com

Tables: Single £10, Double £16

Plus a donation to the raffle





HALLOWEEN DISCO



£3
Entry

Spooky Activities (Included in Entry price)

Tuck shop, Refreshments & Lucky Dip
(for a small charge)



FANCY DRESS OPTIONAL (Non Halloween Welcome)
PRIZES FOR THE BEST DRESSED

Halwill Parish Hall
Friday 30th October
5pm—6.30pm

OPEN TO 11's & UNDER
ACTIVITIES SUITABLE FOR
EARLY YEARS & KEY STAGE 1
PARENTS MUST
ACCOMPANY CHILDREN



Great British Summer Savings

Rising prices can make life's little treats harder to afford, especially during the school holidays when costs build up for families. This Government is determined to help, and that is why last month the Chancellor announced the *Great British Summer Savings* scheme.

From 25 June to 1 September 2026, the Government is temporarily cutting VAT from 20% to 5% on children's meals in restaurants, children and family tickets to cinemas, theatres, concerts and exhibitions, and admission to a wide range of attractions. Combined with free bus travel during August for children aged 5 to 15 in England, families and young people will be able to enjoy experiences that make summer special, including visits to the kinds of cultural and educational attractions that enrich children's lives outside the classroom.

The public are ready to get behind the scheme and are keen to take advantage of the discounts available. As trusted pillars of their communities, schools play a vital role in connecting families with important information.

We need you to help spread the word. So please share details of the *Great British Summer Savings* scheme through your newsletters, school apps, and other communications to parents and carers, so that the families in your school community know about the experiences they can enjoy this summer for less.

This forms part of a broader effort by the Government to ease financial pressures on families. From ending the two-child limit and expanding free school meals, to rolling out free breakfast clubs and delivering 30 hours of free childcare, this Government is taking action to put more money back into parents' pockets and give every child the best possible start in life.

As part of this campaign, we have launched an **attraction finder** website which allows families to type in their postcode and find participating venues near them to make the most of summer savings. To use the attraction finder, please visit <https://summersavings.gov.uk>.

Businesses can find out more about the VAT reduction by visiting GOV.UK and searching 'Temporary reduced rate of VAT for family attractions'.

Speech and Language Therapy

EASY ACCESS DROP IN

We are starting new easy access drop ins for pre school children.

Would you like any advice and support for your child's speech, language and communication skills? Visit one of our easy access drop ins with your child to see a Speech and Language Therapist. Get advice, support and strategies from the team.

Drop in sessions are now being held in different locations across Torbay, South Devon and North Devon. Exeter, East and Mid Devon.

If you would like to attend a drop in, please scan the QR code below to find a location and time that works for you.

