

HORRABRIDGE PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Spring Term 2025



Discovering, Learning & Achieving Together

Welcome back! We hope you all enjoyed the Christmas holidays and your children are settled back into school.

This newsletter is full of important information and reminders which are particularly relevant as we start the new year. If you require a paper copy, please contact the school office.

Information, such as term dates and events, can also always be found on our school website.

SPRING 2025 TERM DATES

Wednesday 8th January - Friday 4th April
Half term: Monday 17th - Friday 21st February

TERM DATES 2024-2025

Term	Start on	Finish on
Autumn - 1st half	Thu 5 th Sep 2024	Fri 25 th Oct 2024
Autumn - 2nd half	Mon 4 th Nov 2024	Fri 20 th Dec 2024
Spring - 1st half	Wed 8 th Jan 2025	Fri 14 th Feb 2025
Spring - 2nd half	Mon 24 th Feb 2025	Fri 4 th Apr 2025
Summer - 1st half*	Tue 22 nd Apr 2025	Fri 23 rd May 2025
Summer - 2nd half	Mon 2 nd Jun 2025	Tue 22 nd Jul 2025

* School will be closed on Mon 5th May 2025 (Bank Holiday) *

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

N.B. New events will be added to the 'Calendar of School Events' page on our website so please check regularly for updates

JANUARY

20th - 23rd: Years 1/3/5 Bikeability
24th: Year 3 class assembly @ 9:00am
24th: Year 5/6 County Finals Football
30th: Year 5/6 Swimming Gala
30th: Tree Planting at Buckland Abbey Years 1/4/5
31st: Tree Planting at Buckland Abbey Years 3/6
31st: Year 1 class assembly @ 9:00am

FEBRUARY

7th: Year 6 class assembly @ 9:00am
7th: Year 2 Dentist workshop
10th: Year 5 Visit to Plymouth Synagogue
11th: Safer Internet Day
11th- 12th: Parents' Evenings
12th: Full Governing Body meeting @ 6pm
13th: Year 6 trip to RAF Harrowbeer
14th: Year 4 class assembly @ 9:00am
14th: EYFS & KS1 Reading morning for parents
14th: Break up for half term
24th: Second half of Spring term begins
28th: Year 5 class assembly @ 9:00am

MARCH

4th: Recycle Zone Workshops Year 4/5
6th: World Book Day
6th: EYFS & KS1 Reading morning for parents
7th: Year 2 class assembly @ 9:00am
14th: Reception class assembly @ 9:00am
19th: Full Governing Body meeting @ 6pm
21st: KS1 Music and Singing assembly @ 9:00am
24th: Governing Finance Committee meeting @ 6pm
28th: KS2 Music and Singing assembly @ 9:00am
28th: Last day of After-school activity clubs

APRIL

3rd: Year 2 visit to Deer Farm Park
4th: Easter assembly @ 9am
4th: End of Spring term

SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS

Headteacher: Mr John Clarke
Horrabridge Primary & Nursery School, Walkhampton
Road, Horrabridge, Devon, PL20 7SZ

Tel: 01822 852605

Website: www.horrabridge-primary.devon.sch.uk

Email: admin@horrabridge-primary.devon.sch.uk

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

We would like to remind you of the dates of our school assemblies for the Spring term. Assemblies start at **9:00am**. Parents/carers are always welcome to attend.

- * **Friday 24th January: Year 3**
- * **Friday 31st January: Year 1**
- * **Friday 7th February: Year 6**
- * **Friday 14th February: Year 4**
- * **Friday 28th February: Year 5**
- * **Friday 7th March: Year 2**
- * **Friday 14th March: Reception**
- * **Friday 21st March: KS1 Music and Singing Assembly**
- * **Friday 28th March: KS2 Music and Singing Assembly**
- * **Friday 4th April: Whole school Easter assembly**

During our assemblies, we will issue our weekly class certificates and awards for all year groups, and parents/carers of the recipients are also invited into school to see their child collect their award.



HOMEWORK IN KS1

Year 1 and Year 2 will receive weekly homework, that is phonics based. This will incorporate a range of reading activities and spelling activities. This will be sent out on a Friday and we ask for it to be returned on a Wednesday.

Year 1 and Year 2 will bring home a sharing book. This book is for you and your child to enjoy. We ask for this book to also be returned on a Wednesday. Every child will have the opportunity to share their book with the class before changing their book, ready to bring a new one home on the Friday.

HOMEWORK IN KS2

KS2 homework expectations:

We expect KS2 pupils to read for 20 minutes, 3 times a week. Please record this in their reading record. In addition to this, please spend 20 minutes on TTR (timestables rockstars) a week.

Homework will be checked on a Friday.

SCHOOL FACEBOOK PAGE

Please check out our school Facebook page for regular updates on activities taking place throughout all areas of our school, along with any general information, which we would like to share with you.

The school's page is 'Horrabridge Primary & Nursery School'.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Please try to arrange medical appointments out of school hours or during school holidays, wherever possible. If your child does have a medical appointment, which will result in them missing any school time, you must advise the school office in advance and provide an appointment card or letter, to include with the register, in accordance with advice from the AIO.

HEALTHY EATING

We are asking parents/carers of pupils in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to encourage their children to eat the vegetable or piece of fruit that is provided to each child through the School Fruit & Vegetable Scheme (SFVS), the government's national free scheme for 4-6 year-olds. If it is not possible for one of our children to eat the fruit and vegetables provided in school, we will be asking that only an alternative fresh fruit or vegetable item is provided from home instead.

For pupils in Years 3 to 6, we will be asking that parents/carers only send in a morning snack item that is listed on the NHS Healthier Families snacks list. This can be accessed via the link below (please note that this includes snacks for home and at school and some of those listed may be less appropriate for bringing into school).

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/food-facts/healthier-food-swaps/#snacks>

THE SCHOOL DAY

A reminder that the school day for children in Reception to Year 6 runs from 8:50am - 3:15pm.

- Breakfast Club from 7:30am (booking required)
- Playground gates open at 8:40am
- Classroom doors open at 8:45am
- Registration closes at 8:50am
- Playground gates close promptly at 8:50am*
- School finishes for all classes at 3:15pm
- After-School Club is available from 3:00pm - 6:00pm (booking required)
- Nursery: children enter through the hall doors and leave school through the main doors
Morning session: 9:00am - 12:00pm
Afternoon session: 12:00pm - 3:00pm

* If you have walked with your child onto the school playground, please ensure that you leave promptly and before the gate is locked. Any child arriving after 8:50am will need to come into school through the front door, by the school office. Those children who arrive between 8:50am and 9:00am will be marked as late, those arriving after 9:00am will be marked as an unauthorised absence.

PARENTMAIL APP - EMAIL SETTINGS

If you use the ParentMail app, we would like to remind you of a setting which will enable you to receive instant [email notifications via your email provider, in addition to notifications received in the ParentMail app.](#)

Please go to your IRIS ParentMail App > Settings > Email Preferences > Email Settings > Always receive an email (App users only). If this setting is enabled, you will receive an instant email when we send out a message. If the setting is disabled, notifications are sent to the app only (this setting only applies if you have the ParentMail app installed).

CLASS PE DAYS - SPRING 2025 (1)

For the **first half of the Spring term**, class PE days will be as follows:

Reception: Four mornings - school PE kit not yet required

Year 1: Mondays and Fridays

Year 2: Mondays & Wednesdays

Year 3: Tuesdays & Thursdays

Year 4: Tuesdays & Thursdays

Year 5: Wednesdays & Fridays

Year 6: Thursdays & Fridays

We will notify you of any occasional changes to these days via email.

Children in Years 1 to 6 should come into school on their class PE days wearing their school PE kit for the whole day. The kit is:

- Burgundy or black PE shorts
- Burgundy t-shirt
- Trainers
- Dark grey or black tracksuit trousers or leggings and burgundy school sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece

Children should ONLY come into school in their PE kit on class PE days and on days they have sports-related after-school activity clubs or sports events during the day.

ACCIDENT FORMS

If your child has a minor accident at school, a member of staff treating the child will complete an incident form. This form will then be emailed to you.

It is important that you read the form carefully and email us back straight afterwards, confirming that you have received the form and are aware of any action taken.



ABSENCE REPORTING PROCEDURE

Further to advice from the Attendance Improvement Officer (AIO), we wish to confirm the procedure for the reporting of absences and action that will be taken should we not receive a reason for a child's absence from school.

- **Any child's absence should be reported by 8:50am.** The school office answerphone is available to take messages if your call cannot be answered. You can also email us, by 8:50am, at admin@horrabridge-primary.devon.sch.uk or report your child's absence via Absence Reporting on ParentMail. Please fully complete the online form, giving as much information as possible.
- If we do not receive notification of a child's absence by 8:50am, we will ring the contact numbers we have on file and also send email/text messages to addresses/numbers we hold.
- If, by 9:20am, we have not spoken to anyone who can confirm the child's reason for absence and therefore there is a genuine concern for the child's welfare, we will contact the AIO and/or the police.

TO PREVENT ANY UNNECESSARY ACTION BEING TAKEN, PLEASE ASSIST US BY REPORTING ABSENCES BEFORE 8:50AM

SAFE PARKING & CAR PARK DROP-OFF ZONE

A reminder that we have a **drop-off zone** in the school car park, in front of the double gates, adjacent to the KS2 playground, which you can use to drop your child off in the mornings. Please do not park in the school car park. The school car park is not to be used in the afternoons when collecting your child.

At both the start and the end of the school day, **we have permission to use the car park directly adjacent to the football pitches, off New Park**, which has ample room and is only a short walk from the school grounds. We are in the process of appointing a Volunteer School Crossing Marshall, who will help the children cross the road safely at the end of the school day. For the safety of all children and adults, will you please ensure that you park sensibly, considerately and in accordance with the law.

CHILDREN IN KS2

A reminder for parents/carers with children in KS2 (Years 3 to 6), that if your child is due to be collected at the end of the school day and you are not there when expected, your child **must** return to the school building, notify the office that they are still in school and wait in the foyer until they are collected. They must not wait on the playground, on the pathway leading up to school or on the pavement at the front of school. This is for their safety. Also, children should not play on the equipment in the KS2 playground at home time, but leave the school grounds promptly at 3.15pm. The playground gates will be locked at 3:25pm in order to support security on the school grounds for those attending after-school clubs.



A reminder that ParentMail is our primary method of communicating with parents/carers. We send information such as trip consent forms and certificate winner notifications, along with other general information relating to your child's class.

Once you have registered, you can download the FREE app to make access to ParentMail easier.

ABSENCE REPORTING You can use ParentMail to report your child's absence from school. Please notify us of any absence by 8:50am.

SCHOOL MEALS We use ParentMail to manage online payments for your child's school dinner account. With ParentMail, parents/carers who pay for their child's school meals in KS2 will be sent a weekly reminder to top up their child's dinner account when the credit balance falls below £5.

BREAKFAST CLUB & AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB For parents of children in Years Reception to Year 6, you can use ParentMail to make online payments for Breakfast Club and After-School Club. A weekly reminder will be sent when the credit balance falls below £5.

NURSERY Please note that fees, school dinners and trip payments for children in Nursery cannot currently be made using ParentMail and should continue to be paid by cash, cheque or vouchers via the school office.

SCHOOL BREAKFAST CLUB

Offers a selection of healthy breakfast foods and a range of group and individual activities
Themed days/weeks

Reception to Year 6: from 7:30am to 8:45am (£6.00 per child, per session)

Nursery: 7:30am to 9:00am (£7.20 per child, per session)

Nursery: 8:00am to 9:00am (£4.80 per child, per session)

Nursery: 8:45am to 9:00am (£1.20 per child, per session (childcare only))

For more information, including the food choices we offer, please take a look at our [school website](#)

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

Our After-School Club is available from 3:15pm til 6:00pm

Reception to Year 6: 3:15pm to 4:30pm (£6.00 per child, per session)

Reception to Year 6: 3:15pm to 6:00pm (£13.20 per child, per session)

Nursery: 3:00pm to 3:15pm (£1.20 per child, per session)

Nursery: 3:00pm to 4:30pm (£7.20 per child, per session)

Nursery: 3:00pm to 6:00pm (£14.40 per child, per session)

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