Hello High Ongar!

No.16 – 5th May 2026

A wonderful couple of weeks enjoying the sunshine at HOPS and the children all looked refreshed coming in this morning after their long weekend.

Today we said good luck to Reverand Stewart as he leaves the Parish of High Ongar to his new parish in Kent. The children talked about their favourite memories of Reverand Stewart including his Easter assembly when they get the chance to smash an easter egg and his lent assembly where he flips pancakes with them! The children had made him a card which was presented to him. Reverand Stewart has also been a governor at HOPS for the last 8 years and has volunteered much of his time in supporting our school. Wishing him every success as he moves onto his new chapter.

A big well done to the Year 5 children who completed their Bikeability course last week. They worked hard all day to master riding their bikes safely on the roads outside of school, signaling and maneuvering in accordance with the green cross code. The next set of Year 5s will be undertaking their Bikeability course this Thursday so a big 'good luck' to them.

Our Year 6s are fast approaching their SATS (next week) and are busy revising their past learning to enable them to do their very best. Please ensure all children arrive at school on time (by 8.50am) next week to enable our Year 6 children to begin their tests at the planned time. There are a number of procedures that need to take place in the school office during statutory SATS weeks and therefore the office staff need to be available to do these from 8.50am to enable the tests to start promptly at 9am.

A big 'good luck' to our wonderful Year 6s for next week - we know they will do their very best and make themselves proud!

Best wishes,

Mrs Evans

Dates for your diary

5-8th May – WESSP Cricket sessions – PE kits required
11-14th May – SATS exams
19th May – Years 4, 5 and 6 – The Hive school trip
25-29th May – Half Term
1st June – Class photos
8th June – Ash and Beech Class – Barleylands school trip

My Headteacher's Awards have been given to:

Ash: Jenson and Sadie & Teddy and Ivy

Beech: Hartley and Amelia & Annalise and Oakley

Elm: Dolly and Hope & Oliver and Parker

Maple: Lucas and Anna & Isabella and Ronnie

Willow: Amber and Zak & Jude and Paige

Information and Reminders

Important change - ordering meals and meal balances for children in Years 3 to 6

With effect from **Monday 1st June**, the first day back after the summer half term, if you wish to order a meal for your child their meal account must be in **credit** to cover the cost of the meal. This applies when pre-ordering meals online using the Arbor App or Parent Portal and if your child orders a school dinner on the day. If you pre-book meals using Arbor, you will be able to see the menu and select a menu item even if you have insufficient balance, however, your choice will not be confirmed until a payment is made.

If there is insufficient funds in your child's meal account to cover the cost of a meal, your child will need a packed lunch. Any meal accounts with a debit balance pre-1st June must be topped up as soon as possible.

This does not apply to children in EYFS, Year 1 and 2 and those who receive Income free school meals.

Meal order cut off times (all year groups)

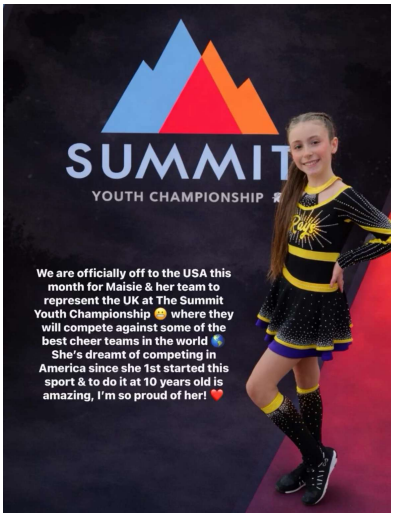
May we remind you that you can order a meal online up to **8:50am** on the same day and children can order a meal during morning registration.

We place our meals order with Chipping Ongar Primary School at **9:30am** each day and orders cannot be accepted after this time.

If your child is not in morning registration, their meal will automatically be cancelled to avoid over ordering and incorrect charging. Therefore**, if your child is absent or late and requires a school dinner, please let the office know, even if you have pre-ordered.**

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Many thanks for your support and we hope your child continues to enjoy our school dinners.



Maisie from Year 6 recently went to America with her Cheer Team for the Youth Summit World Championships competition.

Maisie's team ended up 29th in the world out of 71 teams. They were up against some of the best teams from all over the world. Overall, they did amazing for their 1st time at an America championship competition. Well done Maisie, we are very proud of you.

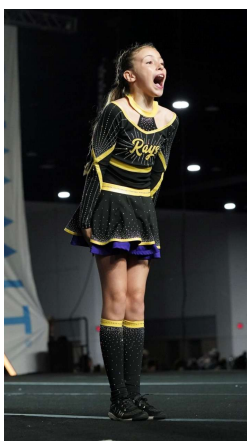
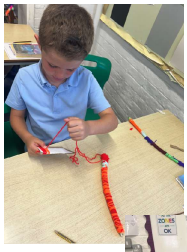


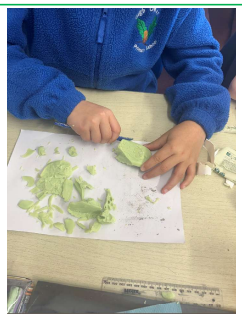
Photo Gallery

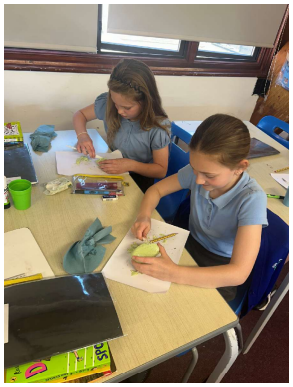
Elm class exploring with colorful patterns by weaving with wool and sticks during D&T in Elm Class



Miss Arnold's brother, Steven, who ran the London Marathon for Pancreatic Cancer UK, came to visit us the week before the marathon. He delivered an assembly about his training and fundraising. The children were inspired by his motivation and commitment to the charity he was running for. The children then took part in a relay race in support of Steven, showing off their running skills! Steven successfully finished the marathon in 4 hours 20 minutes and raised over £2000 for charity- well done Steven!

Maple Class have been carving bars of soap inspired by the work of Barbara Hepworth and her artwork named Pierced Form (Amulet) 1962.





the parish of
High Ongar

Quiz Night!

High Ongar Village Hall

13th June - 6.30 for 7pm start

In aid of Harlow Food Bank

Tickets £6.00 please buy online at Eventbrite

Community Quiz Night in aid of the Harlow Food Bank Tickets, Saturday 13 June • 19 - 21:30 | Eventbrite

Bring your own Drinks, glasses and Nibbles
Any questions please contact
Wendy Pike 07940003474

Harlow Foodbank
Together with Trussell

THE FRIENDS OF High Ongar Primary School

FRIENDS OF HIGH ONGAR PTA MEETING

We need you!

WEDNESDAY 13TH MAY

7:30PM

THE FORESTERS PUB, HIGH ONGAR

All are welcome to attend.
We'll be discussing fundraising ideas and planning upcoming events—
your input is important to us.

Together we can do more for our school!