News Update Friday 13th November 2026

Herstmonceux
Church of England Primary School
Learning, Loving, Living

Dear Families,

This week has been a poignant time of reflection across the school as we came together to observe the two-minute silence. Our Year 2, 3, 4, and 5 children gathered respectfully in the school hall, while our Year 6 pupils joined members of the local community at the war memorial. We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 children, who truly embodied our school values and represented us beautifully throughout the service.

Alongside these moments of quiet reflection, the corridors have been filling with a lot more singing this week! Every year group has begun learning songs and refining their performing techniques in the run-up to Christmas, and the school is already starting to sound very magical. Keep an eye on Arbor, as details regarding all of our upcoming Christmas performances will be sent out this week and next.



Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Kind regards

Miss Emmett
Head of School

Celebration Assembly

All the children work hard to follow our Golden Rules and to use their Learning Powers, and in the last two weeks we especially congratulate …

Oak Class Reception – Arlo W & Freddy
Maple Class Y1 – Liam & Monty
Willow Class Y2 – Lillie-Mae & Becca
Chestnut Class Y3 – Charly & Manni
Spindle Class Y4 – Nate & Toby
Ash Class Y5 – Camille & Lincoln
Sycamore Class Y6 – William G & Bobby

Prayer from Celebration Worship

Dear Lord,

Thank you for my school and family.
Give me the courage and help me for my steps.
Thank you for guiding me when I am lost, appreciating others and me.
Thank you for making me and others belonged and loved.
You helped help me live life to the full, learning the best I can be and to love all God's Kingdom.

Amen

Written and read by William L - Sycamore Class Y6

Attendance

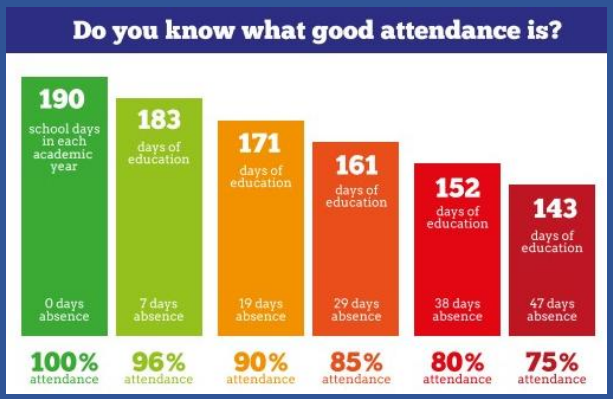


Good attendance is key to your child's success, learning, and happiness at school. Arriving on time every day ensures they never miss out on vital lessons, exciting activities, or time with friends.

Congratulations to our winning class this week…

Chestnut Class with 99.25% attendance

Oak Class - Reception	96.35%
Maple Class - Year 1	97%
Willow Class – Year 2	96.19%
Chestnut Class – Year 3	99.25%
Spindle Class – Year 4	92%
Ash Class – Year 5	95%
Sycamore Class – Year 6	96.55%



Thank you for your continued support in helping our pupils achieve their very best by prioritising regular attendance!

Calendar dates

Please visit our website to keep up to date with all school events. This is the easiest way to keep an eye on everything school life.

https://www.herstmonceux.e-sussex.sch.uk/Calendar/

Year 6 Remembrance







Parent Evening Reminder

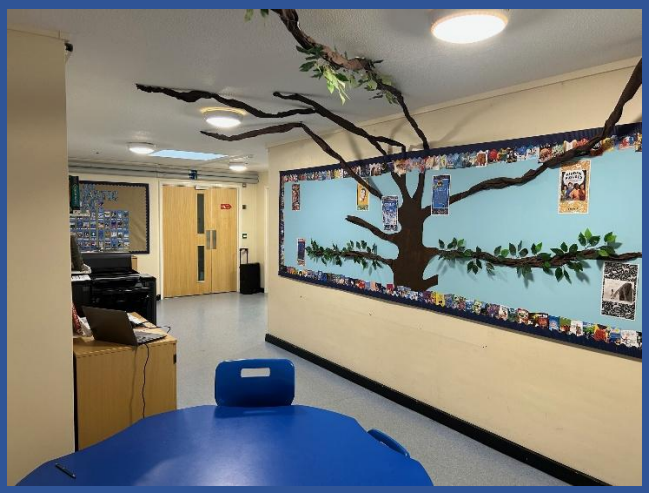


Don’t forget to book your appointment for our upcoming Parents’ Evenings on Tuesday 17th and Thursday 19th November! This is a great opportunity to discuss your child’s progress and celebrate their achievements with their teacher.

Bookings are open on the Arbor App. Please log in to reserve your preferred time slot. We look forward to seeing you there!

Welcome to The Book Stop!

While our main library is temporarily serving as school offices during our building work, we have transformed our central corridor into a brand-new reading hub: The Book Stop!




Featuring new picture shelves and our library checkout station, The Book Stop ensures pupils can continue borrowing their favourite titles every day.





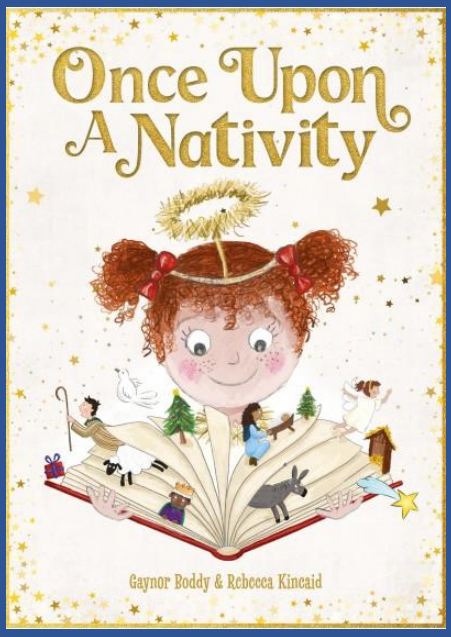
Putting reading at the centre of everything we do is our top priority this year, and this space is our very first step toward building a thriving reading culture across the school.





We can’t wait to see our young readers exploring The Book Stop and discovering their next great adventure!

Once Upon a Nativity



We are delighted to invite Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 families to our Christmas production, Once Upon A Nativity! Performances will take place on:

- Wednesday 9th December: 2:00pm – 3:00pm
- Thursday 10th December: 9:30am – 10:30am
- Friday 11th December: 2:00pm – 3:00pm

Doors open 15 minutes prior (timings are approximate). Each family is allocated three tickets across the performances, available first-come, first-served via Arbor. See the year group letter that was sent home this week for more information.

Please send your child's homemade or shop-bought costume into school in a named bag by Monday 30th November. If you need help sourcing a costume, please let us know as soon as possible!

Fantastic 50 update

Reception Autumn walk took place this afternoon, and what a glorious afternoon it was!



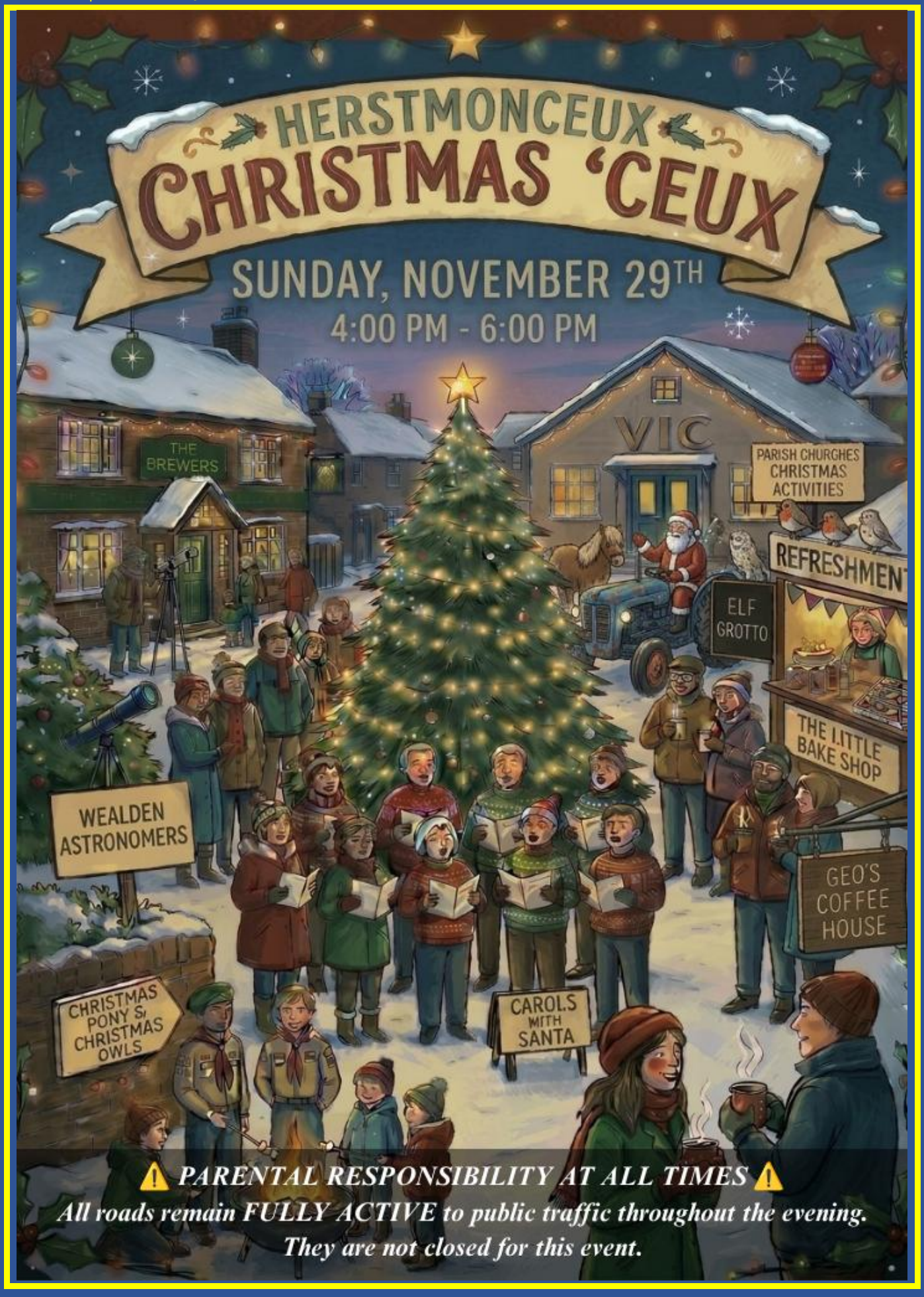
There was certainly plenty of evidence that autumn was all around Reception today!








CHRISTMAS BAUBLE COMPETITION
WE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE ALL PUPILS TO DECORATE A BAUBLE TO HANG ON THE CHRISTMAS TREE. THE DESIGNER OF THE WINNING BAUBLE WILL RECEIVE A PRIZE AND SWITCH ON THE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS LIGHTS.
RUNNER UP PRIZES ALSO UP FOR GRABS!
BAUBLES CAN BE PURCHASED ON ARBOR SCHOOL SHOP AND COLLECTED FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE.
ALL ENTRIES TO BE RECEIVED BY 25TH NOVEMBER
ALL MONEY RAISED WILL GO TOWARDS IMPROVEMENTS TO OUR SCHOOL


HERSTMONCEUX
CHRISTMAS 'CEUX
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
THE BREWERS
VIC
PARISH CHURCHES CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES
REFRESHMENTS
ELF GROTTO
THE LITTLE BAKE SHOP
WEALDEN ASTRONOMERS
GEO'S COFFEE HOUSE
CHRISTMAS PONY & CHRISTMAS OWLS
CAROLS WITH SANTA
⚠ PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY AT ALL TIMES ⚠
All roads remain FULLY ACTIVE to public traffic throughout the evening.
They are not closed for this event.

PTA Events

We have plenty of exciting events coming up over the next few months! Please take a look at the dates below and make a note in your diaries.

- Friday 20th November – Non-Uniform Day (Chocolate Donation)



  - Children can come to school in non-uniform in exchange for a donation of **chocolates** for our Christmas Fayre tombola.

- Friday 4th December – Non-Uniform Day (Bottle Donation)



  - Children can come to school in non-uniform in exchange for a donation of a **bottle** (e.g., wine, spirits, soft drinks, or toiletries) for the Christmas Fayre bottle tombola.

- Saturday 5th December – Christmas Fayre (12:00pm – 2:30pm)
  - Join us for festive stalls, games, and holiday treats!



- Tuesday 15th December – Elfridges School Christmas Shop
  - Children can visit the secret gift shop during the school day to purchase presents for family members.



- Thursday 17th December – Christmas School Disco & Non-Uniform Day
  - **KS1:** 3:15pm – 4:15pm
  - **KS2:** 4:15pm – 5:15pm
  - *Children may wear non-uniform to school today.*



Safeguarding at Herstmonceux CE Primary School

Our school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and expects staff, including volunteers and visitors, to share this commitment.

No worry is too small.
If you see or hear something that concerns you, speak to one of our safeguarding team.
We are always here to listen and help.

If you have safeguarding concerns or would like to discuss any issues that arise, please contact us in person, via the school office or by using the email address safeguarding@herstmonceux.e-sussex.sch.uk.

		
Helen Emmett Head of School Safeguarding Lead	Catherine Cottingham Executive Headteacher Deputy Safeguarding Lead	Kally Livingston SENCO Deputy Safeguarding lead

You can also get advice if you have a concern about a child from the following helplines:

East Sussex Single point of Advice :01323 464222

NSPCC Safeguarding advice line: 0808 800 5000

Chair of Governors: Liz Ford
Safeguarding Governors Nina Jabang and Emma Robinson

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/ ChildLine: https://www.childline.org.uk/