

Headteacher's Newsletter

12th September 2025 - Edition 20

Dear Parents/Carers and Families,



Welcome back to a new school year at Hurst Green. I hope you and your families enjoyed the summer break and found time to rest and recharge. It has been wonderful to see the children return last week with such enthusiasm and positivity. Our staff team have worked hard to prepare learning spaces and lessons so that every child feels supported, challenged and inspired from the start.

A huge welcome also goes to our new families who are joining Hurst Green for the first time. We are delighted that you are part of our community and we look forward to getting to know you. Starting a new school is a big step for children and parents alike, and we will do everything we can to make sure you feel settled and supported.

This year, we remain firmly rooted in our school values of Aspiration, Compassion, Equity, Responsibility, Respect and Collaboration. These values guide the way we learn, play and work together, and you will see them continue to shape daily school life. Alongside this, we have clear improvement priorities: developing a love of reading, further strengthening writing, and embedding our values consistently across all aspects of school.

We know that strong relationships between home and school are key to your child's success. Over the coming months, we will create more opportunities to work with parents and carers, to share progress and to celebrate achievements together. Thank you for the continued trust you place in us—we look forward to another exciting year ahead.



Get Involved in School Life

There are lots of ways to get involved in school life this year, and we really value the time and support our families give.

Our **PTA** AGM will take place early this term, and the date will be shared soon. The PTA plays a big part in raising funds and organising events that directly benefit the children, so please do consider coming along.

We also welcome parent and carer **volunteers** in school, whether that's listening to children read or accompanying us on class trips. If you are interested, please speak to the school office so we can share the next steps, including the necessary safeguarding checks.

A big thank you goes to all those who already give their time - we really appreciate the difference you make.

Finally, if your **workplace runs volunteering schemes** where staff are released to support community projects, we would love to hear from you. Help with painting, gardening or small maintenance jobs can make a big impact on our school environment.



Welcome!

We are pleased to welcome two new members of staff to our teaching team this year. Miss McBride and Mr While have already made a great start and are settling in quickly. They bring with them fresh ideas, energy and commitment, and we know they will be an asset to our school. I am sure you will join me in making them feel very welcome as they get to know our children and families over the coming weeks.

Meet the Teacher Events - Y1 to Y6

Our "Meet the Teacher" event will take place next **Wednesday 17th September** from **3.30 to 4.10**. Following feedback from parents, we have changed the format from the one originally advertised. Instead of set presentations, this year the event will run as an open drop in so that parents with more than one child can visit all of their teachers in one afternoon. You will be able to move between classrooms and talk with staff at a time that suits you.

If you are unable to attend, please do not worry. Teachers will upload their slides to the school website afterwards, and you can get in touch if you have any follow up questions. While you are in school, we also invite you to take a look at our new library and the improved learning spaces across the building.

Reception Class will host their own event (Welcome Wednesday) on Wednesday 1st October at 2.30pm in the hall.

School Calendar

Our updated school calendar is now live: **Hurst Green Upcoming Events**.

Thank you to all the parents who said you'd like dates and times earlier. We've added key events/times like sports day well in advance wherever possible. While we will still email some dates and I'll mention a few here, the website calendar is the best way to avoid missing anything.

You can find it under News and Events → Upcoming Events. Please subscribe to it so updates go straight into your own calendar.

We really value the feedback we receive from parents. It helps us to understand what works well and where we can improve. Below are just some of the ways we have listened and responded to your feedback over the past year.

What You Said & What We Did

A before and after school service would be beneficial.

Our brand new wraparound facility has just opened!

Children should bring home a physical reading book rather than an online ebook

We applied for a grant of £7000 to buy physical phonics reading books. All children now bring home physical books.

A shorter start for new Reception intake.

We redesigned our Reception transition process, having it in the summer term. All children were full time within 3 days!

Mentally support ALL children not just those with SEND.

Improve communication.


We have introduced:

- A new website
- Fortnightly newsletters
- Tapestry App for Reception class

We introduced My Happy Mind for ALL children. We created an Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) role and also trained them in art therapy ALL children can access support when they need it.


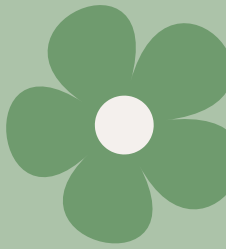
More extra-curricular opportunities.

We have introduced a wide range of clubs, which will be back later in the autumn term.




Improve behaviour and the rewards system.

We have created a new behaviour policy, introduced Track It Lights, and a brand new rewards system. Behaviour has improved significantly and children are motivated by the new rewards system.





We introduced class assemblies, added more parent workshops parent 'trip buddies', and additional Reception class events. We aim to build on this in the coming year.

Invite parents into school more.















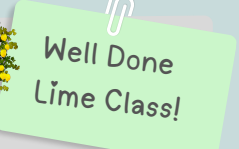



Our Plans for This Year

Looking ahead, we have set clear aims for the year. We will keep working on reading and writing so that every child continues to grow in confidence and achievement. We also want to strengthen parental involvement and communication, with more drop ins and events to bring families into school life. Special curriculum days and events will help us make learning even more memorable and engaging for the children. In addition, we are excited to develop our outdoor space and to embed our wrap around care provision. These plans are ambitious, but after what we achieved together last year, we feel ready and eager to move forward.



Have a wonderful weekend!
Miss Wilson

Attendance 03.09.25 - 12.09.25

 Apple - 98.34%	 Cedar - 95.83%	 Hawthorn - 97.18%	 Pine - 91.25%
 Apricot - 97.62%	 Cherry - 96.88%	 Hazel - 92.67%	 Poplar - 92.92%
 Beech - 97.08%	 Elder - 98.33%	 Larch - 97.71%	 
 Birch - 97.08%	 Elm - 93.26%	 Lime - 99.78%	

House Points



556



526



547



525

Mentions - Week One (08.09.25)

Apricot - N/A
 Apple - N/A
 Beech - Primrose
 Birch - Lucas
 Cedar - Sanjana
 Cherry - Arlo
 Elder - Elise
 Elm - Harry
 Hawthorn - Elijah
 Hazel - Gracie
 Larch - Huey
 Lime - Will
 Pine - Mason
 Poplar - Raghda

