

# NEWSLETTER



Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

As summer gives way to the familiar rhythm of a new school year, I hope this finds you and your families refreshed and enriched by a season of cherished moments. Whether your time was spent on grand adventures or in the quiet comfort of home, I trust it was filled with joy and memory-making experiences.

It is with immense pleasure and a sense of great anticipation that we open our doors for a new academic year. The energy across the school is already noticeable, a testament to the exciting journey we are about to embark on together. We have so many wonderful things planned, designed to challenge, inspire, and nurture the potential within every one of our children.

This weekly letter provides a window into the vibrant life of our school. Through it, I aim to share not only important updates and practical information but also to celebrate our collective achievements and the small, magical moments that define our community. I look forward to another year of collaboration and success.

## Diary Dates – Including Holiday Dates 2025/2026

As we look ahead, we are populating our school calendar with an exciting array of events and key dates for the new academic year. We encourage you to keep a close eye on these updates, ensuring you remain fully informed and engaged in our vibrant school life.

2025	
September	
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>	First day of autumn 1 term for pupils
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Reception Baseline assessments begin in F2
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery 'Meet the Teacher' - 9:00am or 5:00pm
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	F2 'Meet the Teacher' - 9:00am or 5:00pm
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5/6 'Meet the Teacher' - 9:00am or 5:00pm
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 1/2 'Meet the Teacher' - 9:00am or 5:00pm
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3/4 'Meet the Teacher' - 9:00am or 5:00pm
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Non-uniform day for MacMillan – bring a £1 donation
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	9:15am – 10:15am MacMillan Coffee Morning for parents / carers
October	
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Wear yellow for Pupil Mental Health Day
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 trip to Magna Science Centre in Sheffield
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	'Break the Rules' school fundraising day

<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	Last day of the autumn 1 term
<b>November</b>	
<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	First day of the autumn 2 term
<b>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	Parent Meetings: 3:30pm – 6:30pm
<b>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	Parent Meetings: 3:30pm – 6:30pm
<b>December</b>	
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	Last day of the autumn 2 term
<b>January</b>	
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	First day of the spring 1 term
<b>February</b>	
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	Last day of the spring 1 term
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	INSET DAY – School Closed
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	First day of the spring 2 term
<b>March</b>	
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Year 5 depart for Hathersage residential
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	Year 5 return from Hathersage residential
<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	Parent Meetings: 3:30pm – 6:30pm
<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	Parent Meetings: 3:30pm – 6:30pm
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	Last day of the spring 2 term
<b>April</b>	
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	First day of the summer 1 term
<b>May</b>	
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	BANK HOLIDAY – School closed
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	Key Stage 2 SATS Week
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	Last day of the summer 1 term
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	INSET DAY – School Closed
<b>June</b>	
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	First day of the summer 2 term
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Year 4 multiplication Check Week
<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	Phonics Screen Week
<b>Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	Year 6 depart for Wales residential
<b>July</b>	
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	Year 6 return from Wales residential
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	School reports
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	Last day of summer 2 term

## A Warm Welcome Back

# Mrs Dempsey

Family Support Worker &  
Emotional Literacy Support Assistant

Supporting children and families at our school

### What is my role?

I work with children and families to provide extra support when things feel challenging, whether at school or at home. My role is to listen, encourage, and help find positive ways forward so that every child can be happy, safe, and ready to learn.

### Family Support Worker

As a Family Support Worker, I am here to:

- Offer advice and guidance on parenting, routines, and behaviour.
- Provide a listening ear for parents and carers.
- Signpost families to local services (housing, finance, health, wellbeing, etc.).
- Support with attendance, punctuality, and engagement with school.
- Work alongside teachers and staff to make sure children feel supported both at home and in school.

### ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant)

As an ELSA, I work with children individually or in small groups to help them with:

- Building self-confidence and self-esteem.
- Managing worries, feelings, and friendships.
- Developing social skills and problem-solving.
- Coping with loss, change, or difficult life events.
- Improving emotional wellbeing so they can succeed in their learning.

✓ My aim is to work in partnership with families to make sure every child feels supported, valued, and confident in school and beyond.

Hello and welcome back, everyone!

Please remember, you're always welcome to come and have a chat with me, or if it's easier, you can arrange a time that works best for you. I'm here to listen and support you with any concerns you may have about your child or situations at home.

My working hours are 8:30am–1:30pm every day, and you can reach me either through the school office or by email at [bdempsey@hucknallfha.co.uk](mailto:bdempsey@hucknallfha.co.uk).



## Staffing Updates

As we look to the new term, I want to share a few staffing updates that have taken place over the summer break.

We say a fond farewell to Mrs Dane, our School Business Lead, who has moved on to a new role as a teaching assistant closer to her family home. We are incredibly grateful for the positive impact she had on our school community and the valuable contributions she made during her short time with us. Her dedication and kindness were deeply appreciated, and we wish her every success and happiness in this next chapter.

Looking ahead, we are currently in the process of recruiting a new School Business Lead. This is a vital role, and we are committed to finding the right candidate to lead our administrative and financial operations at Hucknall Flying High Academy. In the interim, we are very fortunate to have the expert support of the Flying High Partnership Central Team, that includes Mrs Oswin. They will be on hand to support our dedicated office team, Mr. Shacklock and Mrs. Whitt, to ensure a seamless and efficient start to the school year.

Additionally, we're thrilled to introduce two new faces to our team this term. A big welcome to Mrs Stanley, who joins our nursery as a new Teaching Assistant. We also extend a warm welcome to Miss Sales, who will be gaining valuable experience as a trainee teacher, supporting our Year 2 class. We know both will be fantastic additions to our school family.

## Meet the Teacher Sessions

Over the next few weeks there will be opportunity to attend a 'Meet the Teacher' session, for you to see your child's class teacher and meet with those involved in your child's year group. The dates and times for these sessions are listed below:

<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Nursery Meet the Teacher 9:00am or 5:00pm
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September</b>	F2 Meet the Teacher 9:00am or 5:00pm
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Year 5/6 Meet the Teacher 9:00am or 5:00pm
<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September</b>	Year 1/2 Meet the Teacher 9:00am or 5:00pm
<b>Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Year 3/4 Meet the Teacher 9:00am or 5:00pm

There will be **two identical sessions** for parents to attend, one in the morning (straight after dropping off) and one in the evening, hopefully supporting attendance.

### **When:**

- **Morning Session:** 9:00 a.m.
- **Evening Session:** 5:00 p.m.

**What to Expect:** During these sessions, we will share **key information for the year ahead** and provide an **insight into the curriculum** for your child's new year group. We look forward to seeing you there.

### Uniform

What a child wears to school reflects his/her learning. Wearing a school uniform creates pride, creates an identity for a school and it also portrays the school's ethos and shared positive values. It is also important for children to wear the correct clothing for physical activities. For PE, children are required to wear the correct PE Kit.

The wearing of a school uniform creates a sense of a collective and individual pride in our school community as well as giving our students a sense of belonging. Security around the school is also significantly enhanced as our children can be readily identified as belonging to Hucknall Flying High Academy.

Additionally, equality is fostered by a uniform policy common to all students. Compulsory uniforms assist in eliminating peer group pressure to wear less appropriate clothing, reduces competition amongst children and removes pressure on families to provide "fashionable" items for daily wear.

We have a smart uniform that all children are expected to wear.

- Navy blue fleece with school logo
- White polo shirt
- Navy blue jumpers or cardigans.
- Girls - Grey tailored trousers / skirt / pinafore – (Gingham dresses may be worn in summer months)
- Boys – Grey tailored trousers – (Grey tailored shorts may be worn in summer months)
- Plain black shoes
- Tights or socks plain black / grey

### Attendance



Hucknall FHA is committed to working together with parents and carers to ensure the highest possible attendance, which will in turn support the progress of our children, enabling them to achieve the best outcomes and access the best opportunities possible. You can support the school, and your child, to achieve attendance targets by:

- Making sure your child attends school regularly and on time.
- Contacting school on the first day of any absence

- Informing school of any problems that may impact your child’s attendance, punctuality, and learning.
- Arrange routine medical appointments **outside of school time**. If this is not possible, please bring your child in prior to their appointment and ensure they return to school afterwards.
- Ensuring children are ready for school by having good morning and bedtime routines.
- Ensure that you do not book holidays in term time.
- If you feel your child is too ill to come to school, please try to provide medical evidence. This can be prescription medication, an appointment card, or a prescription.

Attendance	Impact
<b>Above 97%</b>	Less than 6 days absence a year. Excellent attendance. Pupils with this attendance should have access to most of the taught curriculum.
<b>95%</b>	10 days absence in a year. Attendance has room for improvement. Pupils with this attendance are likely to access most of the curriculum. But may miss out on important educational experiences.
<b>90%</b>	19 days absence over the year. Pupils with this absence are missing 1 month of school per year and will miss key curriculum areas. It will be difficult for them to achieve their best.
<b>85%</b>	29 days absence in a year. These pupils are missing 6 weeks of school per year, equivalent to a half term. It will be very difficult for them to access the curriculum and achieve.
<b>80% or below</b>	Pupils with this attendance are missing the equivalent of 1 day for every week of school. It will be almost impossible to access all the curriculum.

### MacMillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning

We are supporting MacMillan again this year and will be doing a fund-raising day on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September.



- We are collecting pennies for MacMillan – any loose change in the house – bag it up and send to school for the event – every penny counts!
- Non – Uniform day for £1 donation.
- Coffee Morning in school – 9:15am -10:00am. All friends and family invited.
- Cake Sale after school (if there are enough donations)
- All donations of cake really appreciated on the day – let’s make a difference for MacMillan!

### Parking

As we begin this school year, let's work together to park safely and respectfully. Please avoid parking on double yellow lines, zig-zags, corners, or in front of residents' driveways. Also, remember to turn off your engine when your car is stationary.

Following these guidelines keeps our children safe and helps us maintain a positive relationship with our neighbours. Thank you for your cooperation.

Let’s look forward to an exciting year ahead!

Best wishes, Mr K Clowery

