



Harlow Fields School and College

Family Newsletter

14th March 2025 Issue 13

Dear Parents and Carers

I want to share some important news with you about a new group we have started at Harlow Fields School and College called the Improvement Board (IB). This group has been set up in response to our most recent Ofsted inspection and will help us make our school even better for our children!

What is the Improvement Board?

The Improvement Board was formally established on Wednesday, 12th March, and colleagues have already visited our school a few times. It will be used when our school needs extra help from the Local Authority (LA). While the IB is not a legal requirement, the LA expects us to have it with the agreement of our governing body. The IB does not take over the governing body; they still have all their important jobs.

The IB will work with school leaders and governors to check how we are improving and make sure we are meeting our goals. Families who attended the recent coffee morning had the opportunity to meet Cathryn Adams, the Chair of the group.

Who is on the Improvement Board?

The members of the Improvement Board include:

- Peter-Jon Prince – Our School Effectiveness Partner
- Emma Jordan – Head of Education and Early Years for West
- Kathleen Faherty – Headteacher
- Rebecca Willers – Incoming Senior Assistant Headteacher
- Paula Violet – Chair of Governors
- Ruth Sturdy – CEO of SEAX Trust, who gives advice for special schools

What Will the Improvement Board Do?

The Improvement Board will meet at least every half term, or more if needed, to discuss how we are doing with our improvement goals. Before each meeting, members will share reports about what they have done, what they found out, and what we should do next. Each meeting will have clear actions for members to take, with specific timeframes and goals. After each meeting, the minutes will be shared with all IB members to keep everyone informed. To ensure that communication is tight, the IB will also be sharing updates with families.

Thank you for your continued support for our school and your children. If you have any questions or need more information, please feel free to reach out.



Headteacher Star Pupils of the Fortnight

This new section of our newsletter is dedicated to highlighting the "Star Pupils of the Fortnight," showcasing the outstanding contributions and progress made by our pupils. **All our pupils are stars but do read about these four pupils and their achievements:**

Olivia, Blake class	for superb engagement with her learning
Freddie, Beech class	for excellent engagement with his learning
Jay, Chelmer class	for his high levels of creativity, hard work and having a poem published
Ashton, Eagle class	for his high levels of creativity and excellent intricate detailed artwork

**URGENT
APPEAL**

We need your help to keep our bubbles, glue sticks and wipes flowing!

What We Need: 🍬 ✨

- **Bubbles:** To keep our playtime magical!
- **Wipes:** For those sticky fingers and little messes!
- **Glue sticks:** For those crafty moments our pupils love!

How You Can Help:

If you have any spare bubbles, glue sticks or wipes lying around, please bring them to the main school office!

Thank You for Your Support! 🌈 💖



Key Dates for Your Diary

- Neurodiversity Celebration Week: Monday, 17th March – Sunday, 23rd March
- PMLD Merit Assembly: Friday, 28th March at 2pm
- Parent Meetings: Week commencing 24th March - this is for **ALL** families
- Sixth Form Merit Assembly: Monday, 31st March at 2pm
- Upper School Merit Assembly: Tuesday, 1st April at 2pm (with PTA cake sale)
- Lower School Merit Assembly/Classroom Activities: Wednesday, 2nd April at 2pm (with PTA cake sale)
- Autism Acceptance Week: Monday, 31st March – Sunday, 6th April
- End of Term: Friday, 4th April (½ day for pupils and young people)



Feedback & Suggestions are very Welcome!

We welcome your feedback and suggestions daily at the school gates, during coffee mornings, or by scheduling a visit—our open-door policy ensures we're always ready to listen. You can also use the suggestion box at our school reception or email us at admin@harlowfields.essex.sch.uk

Your input is vital in enhancing our school community!



Meet **Cheryl**, our friendly receptionist and a **key contact for families**. Feel free to drop by for guidance or assistance, and she will ensure your message is conveyed or your query addressed. You can also reach her at cheryl.mcginley@harlowfields.essex.sch.uk We encourage you to connect with her!

Kindest regards

Kathleen M Faherty

Headteacher