



Harlow Fields School and College

Family Newsletter

17th October 2025 Issue 4

Dear Families and Carers,

As the mornings turn crisp and the leaves begin to fall, please make sure pupils come to school wrapped up warm with coats, hats and gloves. The autumn chill is here to stay!

☀️ **Exciting News – Our New Sensory Rooms!**

We're thrilled to announce that **two new sensory rooms** will be opening next week! These beautiful spaces have been designed to support our pupils' wellbeing, regulation and engagement in learning. Take a look at the pictures below — we can't wait to see pupils enjoying them soon.



🏠 **Come and Learn With Me**

Join us to experience learning through your child's eyes, explore the curriculum, and gather ideas to support learning at home.

Dates: Friday 21 November 2025, Friday 6 March 2026 & Friday 15 May 2026

🎓 **Parents' Weeks – Celebrate Progress**

Families are warmly invited to visit, celebrate achievements and discuss progress. Can't come in person? You can join via Teams or phone.

Dates: 8–15 December 2025, 16–20 March 2026 & 6–10 July 2026 (report week)

Attendance – Working Together

Thank you for continuing to **work closely with us on attendance**. We know that sometimes, getting children into school every day can be challenging, but attendance is one of the most important factors in helping pupils make progress, feel settled and confident, and take part fully in school life.

When we speak with you about attendance, we may ask questions or request details that we must record carefully. Please know this is never personal — it's simply part of our duty to ensure we're offering the right support and keeping accurate records.

As a mother of two children who both struggled with school attendance due to ill health and other challenges, I truly understand how stressful and emotional this can be. I want you to know that my door is always open — please do reach out to me, not just as your Headteacher, but also as the Senior Attendance Officer and as a Mum who's been there.

You can: **Email me directly:** head@harlowfields.essex.sch.uk, / See me at gates / Pop in to see me

Together, we can find the best way forward for your child and your family.

However, we do have to follow the **law on school attendance**, and schools are required to take certain steps when attendance becomes a concern. Please be assured that our approach will always be understanding, supportive and based on partnership — we want to work with you to make things better, not harder. "Attendance is important, and the law requires us to follow up, but our aim is always to support families and pupils."

You can:

 Email me directly: head@harlowfields.essex.sch.uk

 Catch me at the gates or pop in for a chat.

Safety on Tending Road

We recently welcomed a road safety assessment team to discuss ideas for keeping everyone safe during drop-off and collection. Thank you for your continued cooperation — your support really helps.

Sam's Place Update

Following consultation, the council has confirmed that **Sam's Place will close on 6 November 2025**. We know this will be disappointing for some families and thank you for your understanding.

PTFA Christmas Fair & Autumn Fun

Get ready for festive fun!

 **Saturday 6 December, 12–3pm – Upper School Hall**
There'll be stalls, a raffle and plenty of cheer.

To help support the fair, we'll have a **Non-Uniform Day on Thursday 23 October** — pupils can dress in spooky outfits or wear whatever makes them feel comfortable. In return, please bring a small tombola donation (toys, books, food, or beauty items — alcoholic gifts should be handed to Reception by adults).

🌻 Clubs Return After Half Term

After-school clubs will resume after half term! Tanya and her team will confirm places and details.

🌟 Headteacher's Stars of the Fortnight 🌟

Congratulations to our incredible pupils for their hard work, courage and kindness — you make Harlow Fields shine!

Oak – Sylvie-Rose | **Lea** – Musa | **Blossom** – Blossom | **Brooke** – Narjas | **Beech** – Teddy | **Elm** – Chimdie | **Maple** – Eddie | **Roman** – Leon | **Hawk** – Somto

✉ Reminders

- For transport queries: head@harlowfields.essex.sch.uk
- Facebook: *Harlow Fields School and College*
- Twitter: *@harlow_fields*
- Instagram: *@harlowfieldsschool*



Key Autumn Dates

- **Staff Training (pupils at home):** Mon 3 Nov
- **Odd Socks Day / Anti-Bullying Week:** 10–14 Nov
- **Come & Learn With Me:** Fri 21 Nov
- **Christmas Jumper & Dinner Day:** Fri 12 Dec
- **Christmas Fair:** Sat 6 Dec

As we approach half term, I want to express heartfelt thanks to our amazing staff. Their care, creativity and commitment make Harlow Fields such a warm and inspiring place for every pupil. I couldn't be prouder to work alongside them. Wishing all our families a cosy and colourful autumn, filled with warmth, laughter, and time together. Thank you, as always, for your continued support — Harlow Fields truly is special because we're *working together to succeed*.

With warmest wishes,
Kathleen M Faherty
Headteacher

ps - donations to our food bank are very welcome, thank you all

