



**Harlow Fields School and College**

## *Family Newsletter*

5th December 2025 Issue 7



**Just a reminder that it's our Christmas Fair tomorrow!**

We'd love to see you there — come along, join the fun, and get into the festive spirit!



## **A Really Important Survey – We Need Your Voice!**

We are working hard to secure something in place of **Sam's Place**, and your views will directly shape the next steps.

**Please take a moment to complete our Harlow Fields & Sam's Place Parent Survey:**

 [Harlow Fields & Sam's Place Parent Survey – Fill in form](#)

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## **Parent Views for Annual Reviews**

Parent views for AR have been sent home via email in advance — **these are essential**, so please take the time to complete them.

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## **Class Newsletters**

Class newsletters will be ready by the end of term — we're really looking forward to sharing these with you!

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## **Parents' Weeks – Celebrate Progress**

We warmly invite families to come in and celebrate achievements, see learning in action and discuss progress.

If you can't attend in person, you can join via Teams or phone.

 **8–15 December 2025**

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## **Website Update**

Please take a look at our website for the latest video update:

<https://harlowfields.essex.sch.uk/>

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## ☀️ Next Term's Topic: David Walliams! ☀️

We are delighted to share that our theme for next term is **David Walliams!**

This exciting author study will run across our pathways and will be woven through all areas of learning. If you'd like to support this at home, please enjoy David Walliams stories together or explore activities from *The World of David Walliams* website.

### Across our pathways we will be focusing on:

#### ✨ Sensory / Semi-Formal Pathway

- **Communication and Interaction:** Songs and Lyrics
- **Cognition and Learning:** Texture
- **Independent, Social and Emotional Development:** Shared Play
- **Physical and Sensory:** Gross Motor Skills

#### 📖 Semi-Formal / Formal Pathway

- **English:** World Book Day (David Walliams theme)
- **Maths:** Addition & Subtraction, Time and Measure
- **Science:** Animals
- **Computing:** Coding
- **Food Technology:** Following Recipes
- **PSHE:** Health and Wellbeing
- **PE:** Target Games
- **Music:** Making Music
- **Art:** Picasso

If you have any questions, please contact [RebeccaWillers@harlowfields.essex.sch.uk](mailto:RebeccaWillers@harlowfields.essex.sch.uk)

# Letter from Cathryn Adams, Chair of the Improvement Board

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week, as Chair of the Improvement Board I was invited to attend the Full Governing Body meeting and it was good to have the opportunity to meet with the governors.

At the governors meeting we spoke about the membership and role of the Improvement Board. The school recently participated in two reviews as planned activities commissioned by the Improvement Board designed to strengthen practice. The first was a review of curriculum and provision in September. The report acknowledged early progress and provided a number of recommendations along with a further recommendation that a follow up review to monitor progress is carried out later in the academic year.

A safeguarding review also took place over two days in July and September and a number of recommendations were made that leaders are implementing. There has also been ongoing attendance improvement support and the school will now be taking this forward with the Improvement Board and Local Authority maintaining oversight.

The Improvement Board met on 6th November to consider the recommendations of those review reports. Leaders and governors have now had the opportunity to read those reviews and consider the recommendations and how they can be included in the School Improvement Plan. The Improvement Board will be working with the Senior Leadership Team to monitor the implementation and progress made.

In the lead up to Christmas, I would like to send you my best wishes for the festive season. It is a wonderful time in schools with opportunities for families and the community to come together and celebrate a special time of the year.

**Cathryn Adams**

Chair of Improvement Board



## Headteacher Star Pupils of the Fortnight



We are delighted to celebrate our pupils' fantastic effort, resilience and kindness this fortnight. These nominations reflect our school motto: *Working together to succeed.*

### **Oak Class – Sophie**

Sophie has made great progress in communication and phonics, showing real determination despite some challenges at home. Well done, Sophie!

### **Roding Class – Oliver**

Oliver is an all-round superstar! His enthusiasm, determination and positive attitude shine through in everything he does. He set a brilliant example on the school trip, being polite, responsible and representing the school with pride. Amazing work, Oliver!

### **Sycamore Class – Mason**

Mason has made fantastic progress with his independent handwriting and is now attending lessons for longer periods. He has rejoined his peers at the main tables, moves around school confidently, and is using the toilets more regularly. Brilliant, Mason!

### **Maple Class – Freddie**

Freddie has shown great improvement in reading. Although he isn't always keen to read aloud, he has recently read with an adult several times. Well done, Freddie!

### **Lea Class – Whole Class (special mention: Musa)**

Lea Class were exceptional at their party yesterday. Despite it being new and noisy for some, the class stayed calm and supportive. Special mention to Musa, who faced his fear of unfamiliar bathrooms with courage. Well done to all!

### **Blossom Class – Macy**

Macy is nominated for her shining character. She brings warmth, positivity and joy to her class every day. Fantastic, Macy!



# Term Dates 2025–2026

## Autumn Term 2025

- Start: **Monday 1 September**
- Half Term: **27–31 October**
- End: **Friday 19 December**

## Spring Term 2026

- Start: **Monday 5 January**
- Half Term: **16–20 February**
- End: **Friday 27 March**

## Summer Term 2026

- Start: **Monday 13 April**
- Half Term: **25–29 May**
- End: **Friday 23 July**

## Staff Training Days (Pupils at Home)

- 1 September 2025
- 3 November 2025
- 28 November 2025
- 5 January 2026
- 1 June 2026
- 20 July 2026

## End of Term Half-Day Finishes


- 19 December 2025
- 3 April 2026
- 17 July 2026

# Autumn Term & Key Dates 2025/26



## Christmas Events – December 2025


### Christmas Jumper & Dinner Day

 Friday 12th December

### Merit Assemblies

- Upper School: *Monday 15th December, 1.45pm*
- Sixth Form: *Tuesday 16th December, 2pm*
- Lower School: *Wednesday 17th December, 1.45pm*
- PMLD: *Thursday 18th December, 2pm*

### Christmas Grotto & Harlow Brass Band

 Wednesday 17th & Friday 19th December


### End of Term – Friday 19th December

- Transport departs: **1.20pm**
  - Walkers depart: **1.30pm**
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## Spring Term Events 2026


### Staff Training

 Monday 5th January (pupils at home)


### Parental Coffee Morning

 Thursday 8th January, 9.30am


### Virtual Tea & Chat with SLT

 Thursday 15th January, 6pm


### Safer Internet Day

 Wednesday 11th February


### NSPCC Number Day

 Friday 6th February


### Family Performance – Harlow Brass Band

 Thursday 13th February


### World Book Day

 Thursday 6th March


### Parental Coffee Morning

 Monday 2nd March, 9.30am


**Come and Learn With Me Day**

 Friday 6th March

**Young Carers Action Day**

 Monday 16th March


**Neurodiversity Celebration Week**

 Monday 17th – Sunday 23rd March


**Spring Merit Assemblies & Meetings**

- PMLD Merit Assembly: *Monday 16th March, 2pm*
- Sixth Form Merit Assembly: *Tuesday 17th March, 2pm*
- Upper School Merit Assembly: *Wednesday 18th March, 2pm*
- Lower School Merit Assembly/Classroom Activities: *Thursday 19th March, 2pm*

**Parent Meetings**

 Week commencing 9th March

**Family Performance – Harlow Brass Band**

 Friday 27th March


Class newsletters will also be shared this term.

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# Summer Term Events 2026


**Virtual Tea & Chat with SLT**

 Thursday 23rd April, 6pm


**Staff Training**

 Monday 1st June (pupils at home)


**Publish Classes for 2026–27**

 Week of 1st June


**Parent Coffee Morning**

 Monday 8th June, 9.30am


**Come and Learn With Me Day**

 Friday 12th June

**Year 14 Leavers Event**


 Friday 12th June

**Parent Meetings**

 Week commencing 22nd June

*(Families will receive end-of-year reports and meet their new teacher)*

**Virtual Tea & Chat with SLT**


 Thursday 25th June, 6pm




### PTA School Fete

 Saturday 27th June


### Whole School & College Transition Week

 Week commencing 29th June

### Sports Day

 Friday 3rd July


### Family Picnic

 Friday 10th July


## Summer Merit Assemblies

- Sixth Form: *Monday 13th July, 2pm*
- Upper School: *Tuesday 14th July, 2pm*
- Lower School/Classroom Activities: *Wednesday 15th July, 2pm*
- PMLD: *Thursday 16th July, 2pm*

### Family Performance – Harlow Brass Band

 Friday 17th July

### Inset Day

 Monday 20th July (pupils at home)



**A FUN-FILLED SING-ALONG FESTIVE SHOW**

**MEET FATHER CHRISTMAS  
EVERY CHILD RECEIVES A GIFT**

**THE GREAT  
CHRISTMAS  
SNOW  
PATROL**

**BY KEVIN JAMES**

**6th-24th December 2025**

**HARLOW PLAYHOUSE**  
CREATE • ENJOY • FOR ALL

Free bursary places available via the Essex ActivAte HAF programme  
Kindly funded by ECC, Active Essex and the Department for Education  
Please contact the Box Office on 01279 431945 to use your 16-digit code

**"...A GREAT INTRODUCTION TO THE THEATRE FOR LITTLE ONES..."**  
- HAVE A NICE PLAY



## The 12 Safety Tips for Christmas

Presented by 'The 2 Johns'



*"I Know them"*



The Johns would like to invite you to join a complimentary online event. This will provide you with an introduction to a world that we, as adults, did not grow up in but your children are fully embracing.

They will give you tips on: -

The Internet Express	Gaming	The Exploiters
WhatsApp & Snap Chat	Screen time	Cliff Top Parenting
What to do if it goes Wrong	Sexploitation	Where can I Get Help
Indecent Images of Children	Stranger Danger	The Power of Influence

The two Johns, yes, they are both named John and have spent many years working in the police in various overt and covert roles tackling online and offline child exploitation. They are regarded as experts in their field and annually work in hundreds of primary and secondary schools interacting with thousands of children, teachers and parents. They also regularly deliver lunch and learn sessions to parenting networks in the private sector.

Over the past fifteen years, the two Johns have been key speakers at numerous major events throughout the country. In Essex they are regularly commissioned by the Safeguarding Children's Board, Community Safety Partnerships and schools to deliver both staff training and bespoke sessions for large numbers of children. This includes their highly successful 'Walk Online Roadshow' which is delivered to many thousands of children annually.

The 2 Johns



'Keeping Children Safe'

**Thursday 11th December**  
**at 20:00hrs**

(Scan the QR code to register)

[www.esafetytraining.org](http://www.esafetytraining.org)



EST E Safety Training



@JohnsThe2