

HB newsletter: Autumn 1, Wk 8

Harper Bell
Seventh-day Adventist
Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a busy and successful half term, I would like to say a heartfelt **well done to all our children** and thank you to our parents and carers for your continued support. There is so much to celebrate at Harper Bell, and it has been lovely to see the children working hard, growing in confidence and taking greater pride in their learning and our school community. The partnership between home and school remains central to everything we do.

Thank you for your encouragement, your feedback and the trust you place in us. We want every family to feel welcomed, listened to and supported as we work together to help every child thrive. Please continue to check ClassDojo and visit our school website at **www.harperbellsdaschool.co.uk** for newsletters, important dates, school information and updates.

Attendance has improved significantly this half term, and I am grateful for your efforts to ensure that children are in school regularly and ready to learn. Every day in school helps children build their knowledge, strengthen friendships and feel a sense of belonging. Please continue to work with us to maintain this positive progress, and do speak to us if you need support with any barriers to attendance.

Our recent Ofsted inspection was an important moment for the school. I was proud of how our children represented Harper Bell and grateful to the parents who shared their experiences with inspectors. We look forward to sharing the report with you once it is published and celebrating the school's progress together.

I wish all our families a **safe, restful and enjoyable half term**. I hope you have the opportunity to spend time together, recharge and enjoy a well-deserved break. We look forward to welcoming the children back, ready for another happy and successful half term.

Warm wishes, **Mrs Susan Sidhu Headteacher**

Curriculum in action: Reception

Harper Bell Seventh-day Adventist Primary School

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📚 Literacy

This week, we enjoyed listening to the story **Whatever Next!** by Jill Murphy. 🧸🚀🌙 We talked about the characters and events in the story and practised remembering what happened in the correct order. We used our imagination to think about exciting adventures!

🔢 Maths

This week, we have been learning to **recognise, count and match amounts to 1, 2 and 3**.
We used objects and pictures to match quantities to the correct numerals.

🍎 = 1
🍎🍎 = 2
🍎🍎🍎 = 3

We practised counting carefully and checking that each object was counted once.

🎨 Art

We had lots of fun making our own **harvest hats!** 🍁🌾🎩 We explored autumn colours and used our creativity to decorate our hats. We were very proud of our wonderful designs!

✝️ RE

We continued learning about Christian values and how we can show love, kindness and care towards others.

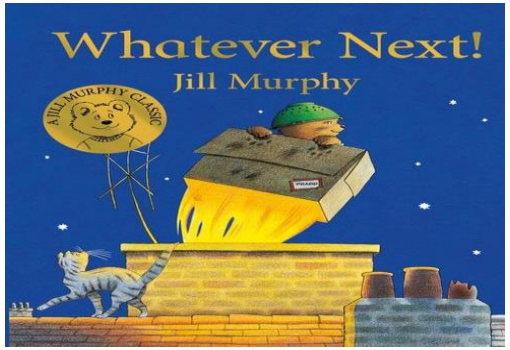
💛 PSHE

We have been practising sharing, taking turns and being kind friends. We are learning how to work together and help one another during play.

🏠 Learning at Home

🔢 **Maths:** Ask your child to find 1, 2 or 3 objects around the house and match them to the correct number.
📚 **Reading:** Share a bedtime story and ask your child what happened at the beginning, middle and end.
🔤 **Phonics:** Practise blending simple words such as *cat, dog, sun* and *pin*.





Curriculum in action: Year 1

Harper Bell
Seventh-day Adventist
Primary School

🔢 Maths
This week, we have been learning how to **solve addition word problems**. We used counters, drawings and number tracks to help us count on and find totals. We also practised writing addition number sentences and explaining our answers.

🖍️ English
We have continued developing our sentence-writing skills, focusing on using adjectives to describe and adding more detail to our writing. We have been practising saying our sentences aloud before writing them.

🔤 Phonics
We have been practising reading and spelling words using our phonics knowledge. We have also been working on recognising tricky words and reading sentences with increasing confidence.

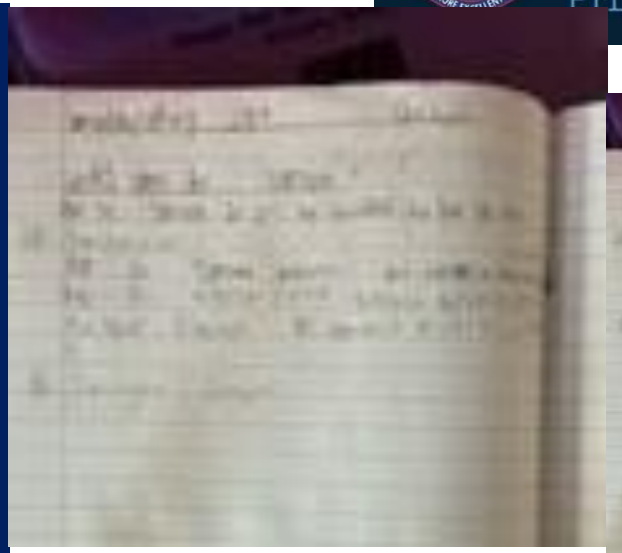
🌍 Geography
We completed our **end-of-unit geography quiz**! This was a fantastic opportunity to remember and demonstrate everything we have learnt during our geography topic.

🎨 Art
We had lots of creative fun making our very own **harvest hats**! 🍂🌾 We explored autumn and harvest themes while using our artistic skills to create colourful designs.

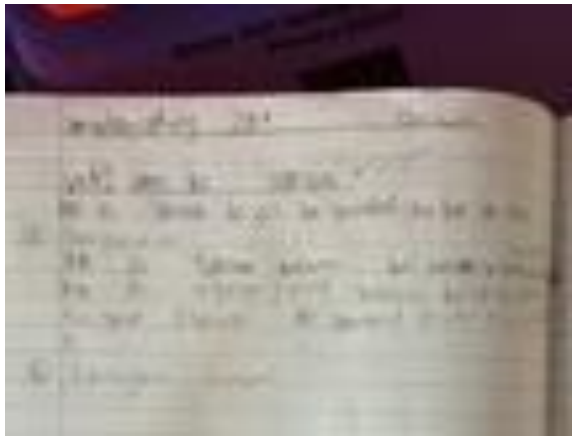
✝️ RE
We have continued exploring our learning in Religious Education, thinking about Christian values and how we can show kindness, care and respect towards others.

💛 PSHE
We have been thinking about how to be good friends, work together and show respect to everyone in our classroom.

🏠







Curriculum in action: Year 2

Harper Bell Seventh-day Adventist Primary School

Maths: This week in Maths, the children have been building on their addition and subtraction of 2-digit numbers. They have used base 10, part-whole models and number lines to explain their thinking and have been tackling reasoning problems with growing independence. .

Writing: In Writing, the children have continued their work on Stardust They have been using expanded noun phrases and sensory language to describe the characters and settings and have been proud to share their exciting sentences with the class.

Reading: In Reading, the children have been practising reading with fluency and expression. They have been answering questions about what they have read and using clues in the text to explain their ideas.

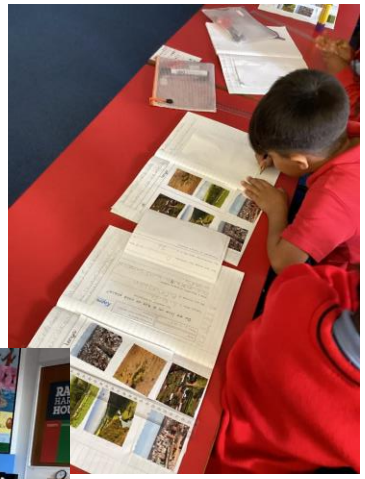
Science: In Science, the children have been comparing different habitats. They have been sorting plants and animals into the places they live and explaining how each habitat meets their needs for food, water and shelter.

Art: In Art, the children have been bringing their sketching skills together. They have used light and firm pencil pressure to create tone and shading, adding depth and detail to their drawings.

RE: In RE, the children have continued exploring "Why do Christian's trust Jesus and follow him?". They have been reflecting on stories of Jesus and adding their thoughtful ideas to our class Trust Tree

Happy half term! What a brilliant first half term it has been! The children have worked so hard and settled wonderfully into Year 2. Thank you for all your support at home. Have a restful and happy break, looking forward to seeing everyone back after half term







Curriculum in action: Year 3

Harper Bell Seventh-day Adventist Primary School

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🔢 **Maths:**
In Maths, the children have moved on to using formal written methods to solve addition and subtraction calculations. They have been developing their confidence and accuracy when using the column method to solve calculations.

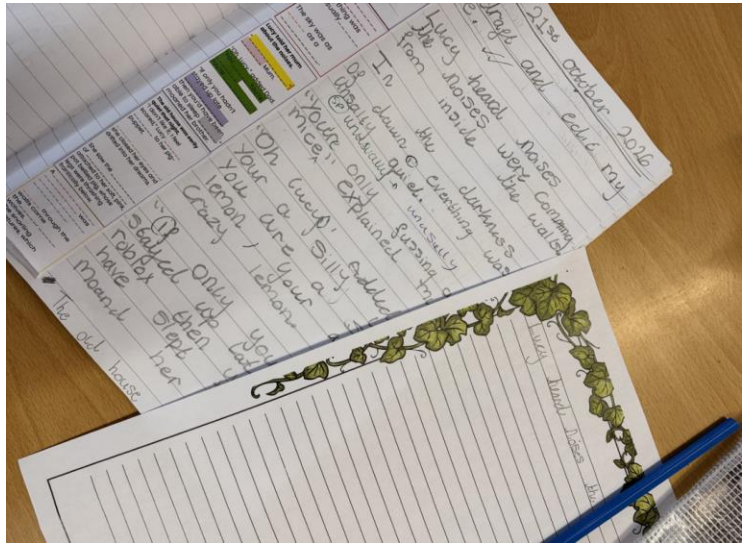
📰 **Writing:**
In English, the children have published their suspense stories! They have worked hard to create exciting and engaging pieces of writing, using ambitious vocabulary to build tension and keep their readers hooked. We have been so impressed with **their creativity**!

📚 **Reading:**
In Reading, we have focused on developing retrieval and inference skills. The children have been practising how to find key information in a text and use clues to explain their ideas and make sensible predictions about characters and events.

🚀 **Science:**
In Science, the children completed their end-of-unit assessments, demonstrating the knowledge and understanding they have developed throughout the unit. Well done, Year 3!

🌼 **What a fantastic half term!** 🌼
Year 3 have worked incredibly hard and should be very proud of all they have achieved. We hope everyone enjoys a restful and enjoyable half-term break. We cannot wait to welcome the children back for another excellent half term filled with exciting learning and new opportunities!

Miss Nisar



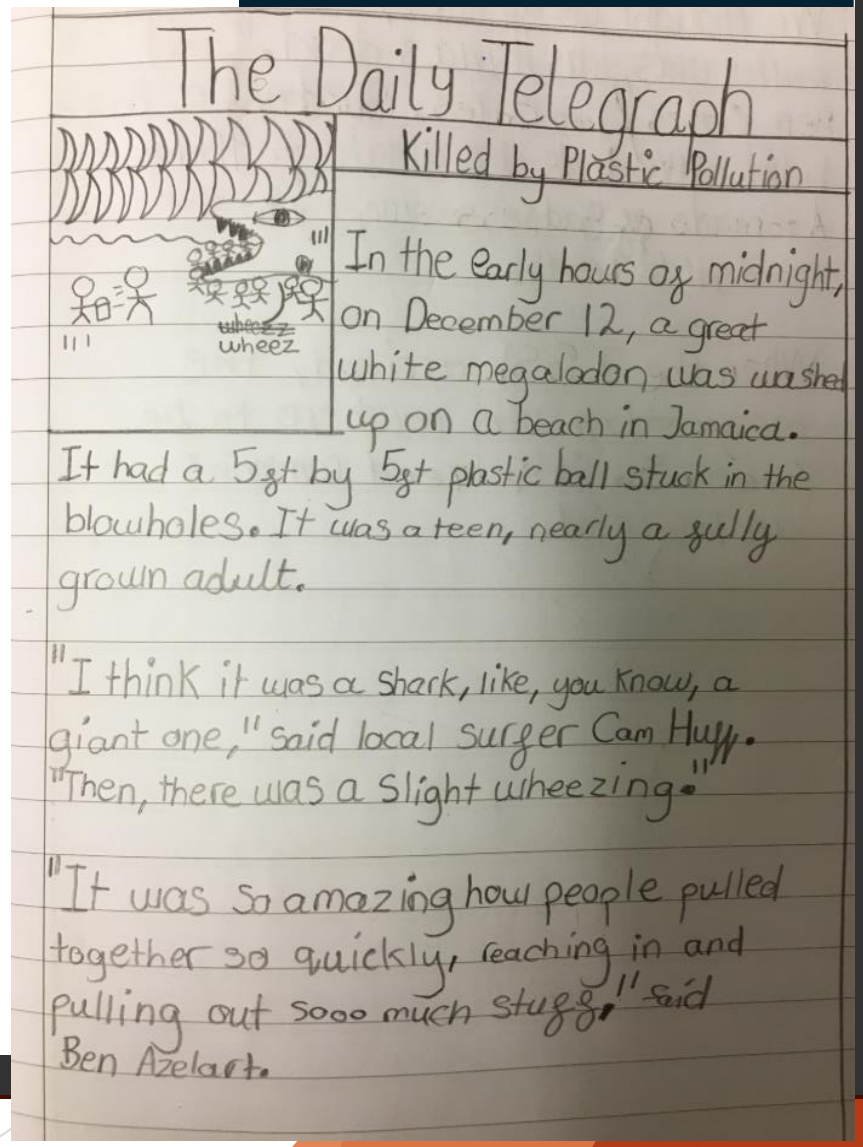


Curriculum in action: Year 4

Harper Bell
Seventh-day Adventist
Primary School

Maths: This week, the children have been developing their confidence in using the column method for addition, including calculations that require exchanging. We have also moved on to column subtraction, beginning with calculations that do not require exchanging before introducing exchanging to solve more challenging problems. The children have been encouraged to work systematically, ensuring digits are correctly aligned according to their place value.

Writing: In Writing, the children have been bringing together all the fantastic sentences and vocabulary they have developed throughout our recent lessons to complete their Big Write – a newspaper article exploring the effects of plastic pollution on an ocean creature. They have been applying their writing skills by using conjunctions to extend ideas, adverbials to explain when, where and how events happened, and ambitious adjectives to create vivid descriptions. The children have worked hard to produce informative and engaging newspaper reports that raise awareness of the impact of plastic pollution on marine life.



The Daily Telegraph

Killed by Plastic Pollution

wheez

In the early hours of midnight, on December 12, a great white megalodon was washed up on a beach in Jamaica. It had a 5ft by 5ft plastic ball stuck in the blowholes. It was a teen, nearly a fully grown adult.

"I think it was a shark, like, you know, a giant one," said local surfer Cam Huff. "Then, there was a slight wheezing."

"It was so amazing how people pulled together so quickly, reaching in and pulling out sooo much stuff," said Ben Azelart.

Curriculum in action: Year 5

Harper Bell Seventh-day Adventist Primary School

🔢 **Maths:** This week in maths we have continued to look at addition and subtraction, as well as how we can use the inverse to check answers.

📰 **Writing:** This week the children planned, editted and published their own version of 'one small step' based on their own career aspirations.

📚 **Reading:** This week in reading we have looked at key members of the Royal family such as King Charles, Queen Camilla, Prince William and Prince Harry. We have looked at their roles and how they contribute to England and to the rest of the world.

📣 **Science:** For science this week we simply completed our end of unit quiz- the children did FANTASTICALLY and showed immense improvement from their pre-unit quiz.

PE: This week we had a visit from Joel Fearon for PE. The children really enjoyed meeting an Olympian and tried really hard at the activities.





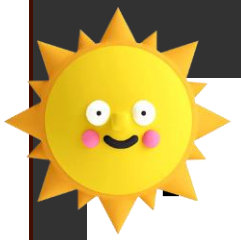
Curriculum in action: Year 6

Harper Bell
Seventh-day Adventist
Primary School



🔢 **Maths:** This week, the children have been developing their confidence and accuracy in long multiplication and short division, applying their knowledge of place value and number facts to solve increasingly challenging calculations. They have also been practising generating and identifying multiples, exploring number patterns and using their understanding of multiplication to support their mathematical reasoning and problem-solving skills.

📰 **Writing:** In Writing, the children have been applying the skills developed during their previous sentence-level lessons to craft an engaging opening to a suspense narrative. They have focused on using complex sentences, including relative clauses, to add detail and develop their ideas, alongside precise vocabulary and powerful descriptive language to create atmosphere, build tension and capture the reader's imagination. The children have been encouraged to make thoughtful choices about their language and sentence structures to keep their readers intrigued and eager to discover what happens next.



HB Home Learning: Autumn 1, Wk 8

Harper Bell Seventh-day Adventist Primary School

Reception:

Formation and spelling pack of all we have learnt so far.
Spell CVC words.
Name writing practice.

Year 1: Mahs and Phonics recap

. Reading books allocated please return Tuesday after holiday.

Year 2:

- Homework is now in homework books. Please look after the books and ensure they are returned by Wednesdays.
- Logins for TT Rockstar have been given out

Year 3

Homework is now in homework books. Please look after the books and ensure they are returned by Wednesdays.

Year 4

Homework books sent home:

-Maths
-Reading Comprehension
-Spelling

Year 5:

- Homework is now in homework books. Please look after these books and ensure they are returned by Wednesdays.

Year 6:

- Homework in homework books.
- Children should also be practising times tables on TT Rockstars. Logins have been sent home. Their accounts are monitored to see when they last logged in.





In our Local Community

Harper Bell
Seventh-day Adventist
Primary School

Family Wellbeing Zone

https://familywellbeingzone.org.uk/

https://greensquareaccord.co.uk/news/community/introducing-the-family-wellbeing-zone



Harper Bell
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Primary School



Harper Bell SDA Primary School

After School Club!

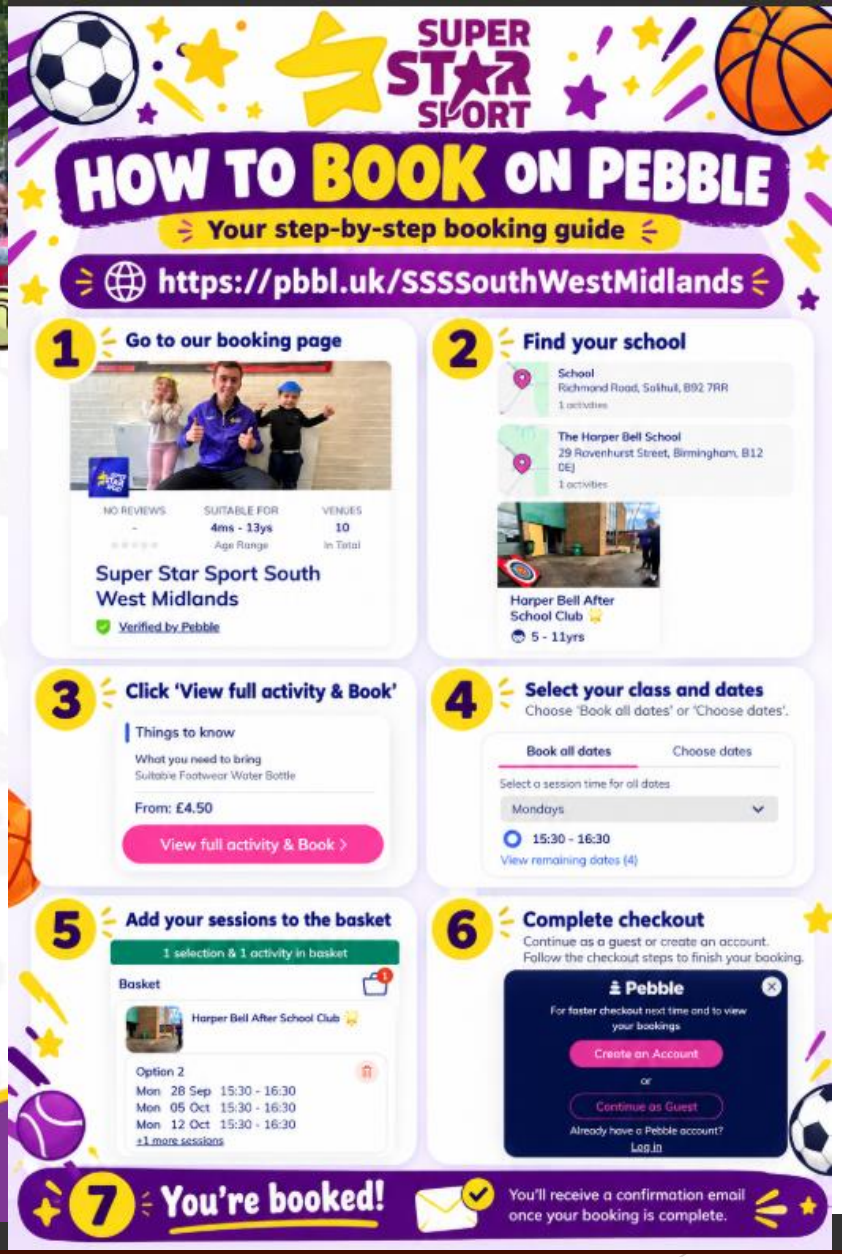
Option 1 – Full Session
Monday to Thursday: Collection by 5:00 pm
Friday: Collection by 2:30 pm

Option 2 – Early Collection
Monday to Thursday: Collection by 4:30 pm
Friday: Collection by 2:00 pm

Monday: Football
Tuesday: Dodgeball
Wednesday: Multisports
Thursday: Archery
Friday: Discovery Club

SCAN HERE

To book:
Visit www.superstarsport.co.uk
Go to "Book Now" & select your club!





Harper Bell is part of the British Council Learning Sectors programme, supported by Formula 1®

We are delighted to share that our school has joined the British Council's Learning Sectors programme, supported by Formula 1®. This exciting international initiative connects schools in the UK with partner schools in India or Spain for a five-month project, giving our pupils the opportunity to collaborate with young people from around the world.

What will our pupils be doing?

STEM learning
Pupils will take part in curriculum-linked activities focused on science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM).

Broadcasting and media
Pupils will explore the world of broadcasting and media, including insights from experts at Formula 1®.

International collaboration
Our pupils will work with pupils in our partner school to share ideas, learn from each other and design creative solutions to real-world challenges.

Real-world inspiration
Through activities and expert input from Formula 1®, pupils will learn about innovation, careers and the exciting opportunities that STEM and media can offer.

What are the benefits for our pupils?

- Develops 21st century skills such as critical thinking, teamwork, problem solving and digital literacy.
- Builds intercultural awareness and global citizenship.
- Enhances communication and presentation skills through media-inspired activities.
- Gives insight into real-world careers in STEM, broadcasting and sport.
- Creates meaningful links with an international school community.

We are proud to be part of this inspiring programme, which supports our commitment to providing a broad, enriching curriculum and preparing our pupils to be confident, compassionate and globally aware citizens.

Harper Bell
Seventh-day Adventist Primary School





Harper Bell
Seventh-day Adventist Primary School

Parent Voice
You Said – We Did

LISTENING • WORKING TOGETHER • MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Thank you ♥ for your continued feedback and support. Together, we make our school even better!

You said...
You would like specific lunchtime supports for pupils who require help with a specific area of learning.

We did...
In addition to targeted in-class support and interventions, we now target pupils' individual needs through:
- Maths lunchtime clubs
- Times tables lunchtime club
- Knowledge booster club.

MATHS
TIMES TABLES
KNOWLEDGE

You said...
You would like clearer communication of key dates and events.

We did...
We now ensure all dates are posted on the Class Dojo main page in addition to our newsletter.

ClassDojo

You said...
You would like more sporting opportunities.

We did...
We have introduced after school sporting provision and invited a world class athlete into school.

You said...
You would like to feel more involved with and informed about your child's learning in school.

We did...
We now have frequent (at least half-termly) parent workshops to share our learning and how we teach, a weekly newsletter that explains our learning from the week and class teacher updates on Class Dojo.

You said...
You want to be fully aware of the home learning offer.

Learn Practise Grow

We did...
We have shared online platforms in which teachers can monitor progress during home learning and homework books to allow learning to be transferred consistently and effectively between home and school.

You said...
You would like more enjoyable community events.

We did...
We have put on a range of events, including those to celebrate parents, carers and families. Such events will continue to be planned and published throughout the year.

You said...
You would like the opportunity to take learning beyond the school day.

We did...
We have arranged an 11+ tuition offer.

11+

FAITH | COMMUNITY | *A more excelent way* | EXCELLENCE | OPPORTUNITY

HARPER BELL ADVENTIST SCHOOL
A MORE EXCELLENT WAY

Inclusion Coffee Morning

Working together to support every child to flourish

All parents and carers are warmly welcome!



- Meet specialist professionals
- Learn practical strategies for home and school
- Ask questions and gain useful advice
- Find out about the support available
- Connect with other parents and carers

Date:
Wednesday 18th November

Venue:
Harper Bell Seventh-day Adventist School

8:30am – Arrival, refreshments and an opportunity to meet other parents and carers
8:45am – Session begins
9:45am (approximately) – Session concludes

Professionals Involved

Confirmed Attendees

Zoe Atzori
Communication and Autism Team (CAT)
Supporting children's communication, social interaction and autism-related-needs, including practical strategies for home and school.

Natalie Cooper
Language, Learning and Strategic Support (LLSS)
Advice on supporting children's language development, learning needs and access to education.

Attendance to be confirmed

Bismah Tanveer
Speech and Language Therapist
Information and guidance about speech, language and communication development.

Occupational Therapy
Information about supporting children's sensory, physical and everyday functional needs.

If these professionals are unable to attend, relevant information will still be provided.

Information to be provided by

Peggy Barrett
Educational Psychology
Supporting children's learning, development, wellbeing and understanding of additional needs.

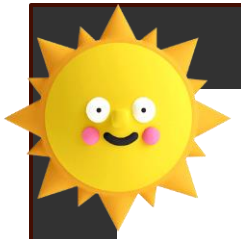
Adele Kershaw
City of Birminghan School (Advisory Teacher)
Practical guidance on supporting children's behaviour, emotional regulation and positive wellbeing.

Working Together for Every Child

At Harper Bell, we believe that every child deserves to feel included, valued and supported to achieve their full potential. Strong partnerships between home, school and specialist professionals are essential in helping our children flourish.

A more excellent way

Harper Bell
Seventh-day Adventist Primary School



YOUR VOICE CAN HELP CREATE CHANGE

bvsc research

Take part in a friendly community conversation about health and wellbeing in Birmingham and Solihull.



Join a friendly community conversation about:

- The challenges people face in their communities
- Ideas for overcoming those challenges
- How we can create healthier, happier communities together

Your experiences and ideas can help shape future community support and services.

World Cafe Details

Location: Billesley Ark - 725 Yardley Wood Rd, Birmingham, B13 0PT
Date: 26th October 2026
Time: 10.30am to 01.30pm
To book your place:

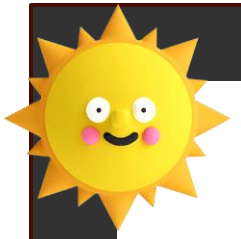
SCAN HERE

Lunch, tea, coffee and refreshments provided.
No expertise needed - just bring your experiences and ideas
£50 LOVE2SHOP VOUCHER FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS



Be heard. Be involved. Be part of the change.
Your experiences and ideas could help improve health and wellbeing for people across Birmingham and Solihull.

Harper Bell
Seventh-day Adventist Primary School



Dates for your diary







Harper Bell
Seventh-day Adventist
Primary School

Mon 2 Nov	Inset Day (school closed to pupils)
Wed 4 Nov	Reception/Year 1 Animal Encounter
Tue 10 Nov	Reception/Year 1 Parent Reading Workshop
Wed 11 Nov	Remembrance Worship
Tue 17 Nov	Year 2 Parent Reading Workshop
Wed 18 Nov	Inclusion Multi-agency Coffee Morning
Thu 19 Nov	Year 4 Viking Experience
Thu 19 Nov	Year 4 Anglo-Saxon Experience
Tue 24 Nov	Year 3 Parent Reading Workshop
Tue 1 Dec	Year 4 Parent Reading Workshop
Mon 7 Dec (11am-12pm)	Choir Performance (Abbey Rose Nursing Home)
Tue 8 Dec	Year 5 Parent Reading Workshop
Wed 9 Dec	Advent and Christmas Community Service
Thu 10 Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
Mon 14 Dec (10.30am-11.30am)	Choir Performance (Edgbaston Manor Nursing Home)
Tue 15 Dec	Year 6 Parent Reading Workshop

A Holy Mission

We are delighted to share that Mr Brown will be travelling to Jamaica on 3rd November for two weeks to support an important church-building project. During his visit, he will be helping to rebuild and repair three Seventh-day Adventist churches, including one in Westmoreland, using his practical skills to serve local church communities and help create safe, welcoming places for worship.

This is a wonderful example of Christian service in action and of using the gifts God has given us to help others. As 1 Peter 4:10 reminds us: “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others.”

Mr Brown is currently raising funds to help cover the cost of his travel and accommodation, enabling him to carry out this valuable work. Any contribution, however small, would be greatly appreciated. Please see the school office if you would like to make a donation.

We will be keeping Mr Brown, the churches and the communities he will be serving in our prayers as he prepares for his journey.







Spiritual thought for the week...



Harper Bell
Seventh-day Adventist
Primary School

“Let all that you do be done in love.” - 1 Corinthians 16:14

Jesus taught us that love is at the heart of everything we do. Love is shown not only through our words, but through our actions – when we offer kindness, show patience, forgive others and lend a helping hand. Even the smallest act of love can make a big difference to someone's day.







Attendance Page

Harper Bell
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Primary School





Last week: 96.7%
This week: 97.95%