



GREAT HOCKHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY NEWSLETTER – 1st May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,








Attendance

Weekly Attendance	Week Ending 27/03/25	Week Ending 17/04/25	Week Ending 24/04/25	Week Ending 01/05/25
Rabbit Class	94.5%	100%	100%	82.3%
Owl Class	98.8%	100%	100%	95%
Deer Class	98.2%	98.8%	96.3%	97%
Hedgehog Class	96.3%	96.5%	92.8%	93.3%

Great News from Ofsted

We are delighted to share the outcome of our recent **Ofsted inspection (March 2026)**. Inspectors recognised the **very strong work** taking place across Great Hockham Primary School and Nursery and praised the care, ambition and commitment shown every day by pupils, staff and families.

What Ofsted said about our school:

-  **Children feel safe and happy** – safeguarding arrangements were fully met and pupils told inspectors they feel safe and well cared for.
-  **Excellent behaviour and attendance** – pupils behave exceptionally well, learning takes place in calm classrooms, and attendance is **above the national average**.
-  **A strong, ambitious curriculum** – children are taught a broad and balanced curriculum that is carefully planned from Nursery to Year 6. Reading and phonics were highlighted as particular strengths.
-  **Outstanding early years provision** – early years was described as a “hive of joyous learning,” with children settling quickly, developing confidence and being very well prepared for Year 1.
-  **Inclusion at the heart of the school** – pupils with additional needs and those who need extra support are identified early and supported effectively so they can access the full curriculum alongside their peers.
-  **Strong personal development** – pupils learn how to keep themselves safe, look after their wellbeing and respect others. Trips, visitors and enrichment activities help broaden horizons and experiences.
-  **Strong leadership and caring community** – staff are proud to work here, parents are overwhelmingly positive, and the school plays an important role in village life.

Achievement and next steps

Children achieve well across the school, with particularly strong outcomes in phonics and solid results at the end of Year 6. Inspectors noted that the school is now focusing on **providing even more challenge**, so that more pupils reach the **higher standards**.

We are incredibly proud of our pupils and grateful for the continued support of our families and community. Thank you for being part of what makes Great Hockham such a special place to learn.

Here is a link to the report on our website if you have not had the chance to read it in full yet:

[Inspection Report](#)

Friends of Great Hockham

Buddy Bench Big Reveal! ❤️

Today was an exciting day on the playground as the children were introduced to our brand-new *Buddy Bench*! The Friends have worked incredibly hard to make this happen, and it was wonderful to see it finally in place and ready to use.

The Buddy Bench is a simple but powerful idea: if a child is feeling a little lonely or doesn't have someone to play with, they can sit on the bench. Other children will know this is their chance to invite them to join in a game. It's a fantastic way to encourage kindness, build confidence, and spark new friendships across the playground.

We are incredibly grateful to the anonymous donor who made this bench possible—your generosity will make a real difference to our children every single day. Thank you!

Help Us Brighten Our Playground 🎨

We're not stopping there! The Friends are on a mission to bring even more colour and life back to our playground. We are currently raising funds to purchase paint for the blacktop, and we would love your support.

If you—or someone you know, including local businesses—would like to contribute, please get in touch at friendsghps@outlook.com.

Thank You!

A huge thank you to all our parents and supporters. Your continued help and enthusiasm make projects like this possible—we couldn't do it without you! Friends of Great Hockham.



We would like to share our huge thanks for the Buddy Bench. The children were absolutely delighted when it arrived and have already embraced it with great enthusiasm.

Mini Monsters Visit - Friday 15th May 2026



Interactive Wildlife Experiences for Schools

Information for Parents and Carers

Dear Parent/Carer,

Your child's class will shortly be taking part in a visit from the **Mini Monsters Creepy Crawly Roadshow**, delivered by Ed Mackay.

Mini Monsters provides educational animal encounters designed to promote curiosity, respect and understanding of wildlife from around the world. All animals are captive bred and accustomed to calm, supervised handling sessions.

During the session, pupils will:

- Learn about a variety of reptiles and invertebrates
- Explore animal adaptations and habitats
- Develop confidence and respect for living creatures
- Have the opportunity to handle certain animals if they wish

If you would prefer your child **not** to handle the animals please **notify** the school **before** the session.

Handling is always voluntary. No child will be required to touch an animal.

Hygiene is taken very seriously. Pupils will:

- Use alcohol-based hand sanitiser immediately after handling
- Wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water following the session
- Be supervised at all times

If your child has any relevant allergies, skin sensitivities (e.g. eczema), or medical needs that staff should be aware of, please inform the school in advance.

Kind regards,

Ed Mackay

www.minimonsters.co.uk

Dates for your Diary

May

Monday 4th May: Bank holiday

Monday 11th May – Thursday 14th May: Year 6 KS2 assessment tests with a special breakfast

Friday 15th May: Mini Monsters visits the school
Friday 15th May 2 – 4.30pm: SEND Café by appointment (see leaflet)
Monday 18th May: Homework due in
Tuesday 19th May 8.40-8.55am: Hedgehog Homework Celebration
Wednesday 20th May 8.40-8.55am: Deer Homework Celebration
Thursday 21st May 8.40-8.55am: Owl Homework Celebration
Thursday 21st May: RE enrichment day
Friday 22nd May 8.40-8.55am: Rabbit Homework Celebration
Sunday 24th May: Great Hockham Village Horn Fair – where our children will be dancing around the Maypole.
Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May: Half term holiday

June

Monday 1st June – Friday 5th June: Year 4 Multiplication Table Check
Monday 15th June – Friday 19th June: Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
Thursday 18th June @ 1.15pm: Sports afternoon

July

Monday 6th July- Friday 10th July: Activities Week
Monday 13th July: Transition Day to new classes
Thursday 16th July @ 2.15pm: Whole school celebration of learning in Church
Friday 17th July @ 2.30pm: Year 6 leavers celebration
Friday 17th July: Last day of term

Have a lovely long weekend, see you all again on **Tuesday** 5th May.

Warmest regards

Lisa Hazard

Mrs L Hazard



Coffee and Chat Café!

Friday 15th May, 2pm – 4.30pm

Great Hockham Primary School and Nursery would like to welcome our Parents and Carers into school for a chat about any worries, queries, questions or anything related to your child.

You will have the chance to book a 1-1 Private Appointment with our school SENDCo, Miss Wade, as well as other professionals who can offer a range of support and advice across many different areas and services.

Who Will Be There and How Can They Help?

Georgia Wade – Great Hockham Class Teacher and SENDCo – *If you have any concerns or questions about your child's learning, progress, social, emotional and mental health, behaviour or speech and language; come for a chat! Let's explore together.*

Sally Bailey – Engagement and Advice Worker for SENDIASS - *SENDIASS offer free, impartial and confidential information, advice and support to parents/carers and young people about SEND and education. Jo will be able to offer next steps advice and answer any questions.*

Eloise Crosland – Early Help Consultant – Breckland South
Schools and Communities support children that have been identified to have emerging and low Special Educational Needs. We can support children at school and at home.

Jennifer Wilson – Autism Practitioner - Educational Psychology Specialist Service
We offer services to schools to support schools to meet pupil's needs linked to autism and neurodiversity. We offer sign posting and advice to support children and recommendations for home and school.

Andreia Abelenda – Family Hub Practitioner
Our Start for Life and family hubs approach supports parents and carers of children and young people from conception until they are 19-years-old. We can support families with young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, until they are 25-years-old.

If you feel the above colleagues could offer any support at all, please come and see us! Anyone and everyone is welcome!

Please contact Mrs Pavey to book your 1-1 private 30-minute slot between 2pm and 4.30pm.

Creative, Caring, Daring