



GREAT HOCKHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

NEWSLETTER – 4th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the start of another exciting term at Great Hockham Primary School! I am delighted to introduce myself as your new Executive Headteacher. I am very excited to be working with you and your children and cannot wait to get to know you better.

My working days at Great Hockham will be Mondays, Wednesday afternoons and Fridays, so if you would like to meet with me or discuss anything, please do make contact with the school office. Mrs Claire Fowler, our Head of School, is also available continuing to work Monday to Thursday, and together we are committed to ensuring every child thrives.

Celebration Assembly

One of the things I am most looking forward to is our Friday morning celebration assembly, which is our chance to celebrate children's achievements, both in and out of school. If your child has achieved a certificate or done something brilliant outside of school that you would like us to share with the school community, please bring it to the school office with some details about what they have achieved so it can be shared in the next celebration assembly. We will also celebrate whose wonderful work has been displayed in the silver frame that week, which is proudly displayed near the school office for everyone to admire. If your child comes home with a wonderful work certificate, please pop into the school office so that your child can show you their work in the frame. As of next week, do check your emails on a Friday as each teacher will be sending out a super squirrel postcard to the parents of a child who has really impressed them that week. We will give the child a paper copy, sharing the reasons why it was sent with the whole school the following Monday. We also celebrate the class who has won the attendance trophy for the best whole class attendance the previous week.

Birthday Assembly

To celebrate your child's birthday, we will continue to allow them to wear their own clothes, either on their birthday if it is a school day, or a different day near to their birthday if it falls at the weekend or during a school holiday. We will also ensure that we sing happy birthday to them during our weekly celebration assemblies.

Curriculum Maps and Homework Celebrations

You will receive class welcome letters, curriculum maps and information about the homework for this half term on Monday. We will continue to invite you into your child's classroom to see all of the wonderful homework that the children have created. This gives them a real purpose for their learning at home, and they feel really proud showing everyone what they have created. Thank you in advance for supporting your child with their half termly homework project. We are always so impressed at the quality of the work the children produce!

Uniform

Please ensure you put your child's name on their uniform and belongings, so they are easy to return if misplaced, and please send sunhats and check that your child is wearing sun cream if the weather is hot. Please also ensure your child is wearing the correct colours on PE days: black or dark grey

shorts, skorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms, white or dark green T-shirt and a black, dark grey or dark green sweatshirt or hoodie. Trainers can be any colour.

School Attendance and Penalty Notices

We are sharing information from Norfolk County Council for parents regarding attendance attached to this letter, with a particular focus on the policy for leave of absence requests and the circumstances in which a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) may be issued. The information also explains the process for submitting and considering leave of absence requests, helping to ensure that parents and carers are fully aware of the procedures and expectations around school attendance.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. We greatly appreciate your cooperation in supporting your child's learning, wellbeing and attendance, and for working with us to ensure that all our children have the best possible opportunities to succeed. We look forward to continuing to work together throughout the year.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes

Helen Mitchell

Headteacher