

'Enabling everyone to flourish' Respect, Perseverance, Creativity

Hawkesbury CE VC Primary School
Hawkesbury Upton, Badminton, South Glos GL9 1AU
Telephone: 01454 238629



Executive Headteacher: Mr M Riches

E-mail: enquiries@hawkesbury.org.uk

28th November 2025

Dates and events for Term 2

Christmas fair – Saturday 6th December, 11.00am – 1.00pm

Come and join us in the Village Hall as we raise important funds for the school through our PTA run Christmas fair. There will be a range of stalls and refreshments as well as an opportunity to see Father Christmas. We look forward to seeing you there.

Nativity services – Wednesday 10th December, 9am & Thursday 11th December, 2pm

Preparations for the Wren and Robin Nativity are well under way. Each child has a part to play and the classes are doing a great job at learning the songs. Please come along to the school hall, bringing other family members with you. We do ask that, if younger siblings come along, they sit quietly with their families so that the children can focus on saying their lines and projecting their voices.

KS2 pantomime – Tuesday 16th December, 1.15pm & 5.30pm

The school is currently filled with much pantomime singing as the children are in full swing of their rehearsals. The show will take place in the school hall on Tuesday 16th December, 1.15pm and 5.30pm. All children in Swallow and Hawk Classes are needed at both performances. To ensure enough seating we kindly ask that families have no more than 2 seats per show.

Christmas lunch – Wednesday 17th December

Please book your child's meal in the usual way. A menu is attached along with this newsletter.

Christingle service – Friday 19th December, 9.30am

Please do come along and join us for this special event which will take place at St Mary's Church. We will join together in some Christmas carols and the children will learn all about the meaning of Christmas through the making and lighting of the Christingle.

Term 2 assessments

At the beginning of December, teachers will carry out assessments for every child in reading, writing and maths. In the early years, assessments will be carried out for a broader range of learning areas in line with the foundation stage curriculum. As part of these assessments, children in Year 2 - Year 6 will be asked to complete a test paper in reading and maths. This will help to inform the teachers as they carry out their assessments. Teachers will then meet with Mr Riches and Mrs Wilson towards the end of term to discuss the progress of individual children and how we can work together to support every child to succeed. Information about assessments will be shared more fully at the next round of parent/teacher meetings. Teachers will make contact with you sooner should they need to discuss your child's progress with you. Please do speak to your child's class teacher should you have any questions or concerns.

Attendance matters

Thank you all for your support in ensuring your child is in school and on time every day. This is the best way to help them to succeed in school. Please be reminded that, for this reason, term time absence requests will only ever be agreed in exceptional circumstances. If you would like to request a term time absence please speak to the Headteacher in the first instance.

Our whole school target for this year is 96.5%. Our current attendance stands at 97.1% - thank you to you all for your support with this.

Attendance for each class currently stands as follows:

Wrens: 98.7%

Robins: 97.7%

Swallows: 96.5%

Hawks: 96.4%

Please be reminded that the NHS has advice and support to help families determine whether or not their child can attend school: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Another reminder too that all children need to be in school by 8.30am each day so they are ready to begin their learning. Please do not delay your child's learning or the learning of others in the class by arriving persistently late.

Christmas cards

The school Christmas post box will be placed in the area just inside the white doors to the KS1 corridor for the final two weeks of school. If children choose to write cards to their friends, they can be placed in the box which will then get sorted by a group of Year 6 children.

Emergency lock down procedure

Early next term we plan to hold an emergency lockdown practice in the same way that we hold regular fire evacuation practices. This is in line with our health and safety policy which sets out how we must work to ensure children and adults at the school are safe at all times. We will work with the children to very gently help them to understand what we are doing and why. Classes will be alerted through the phone system and will move quietly and sensibly to a part of the building which is safe where they will carry on with their learning. Staff will be asked to ensure all doors and windows are closed and that all children are present and accounted for. We'll let you know how it goes!

Recent charity support

Children in Need

Thank you also to all who were able to make donations to Children in Need recently. We know that many families also donated online. For further donations please head to the website:

<https://donate.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/>

Poppy appeal

We'd like to thank all families who donated to this year's poppy appeal through the school this year. **The school raised a total of £85.11.** If you missed the chance to make a donation please go the website where you can find out more about how to help.

'Enabling everyone to flourish' Respect, Perseverance, Creativity

Parent council feedback		
Question / comment	Feedback	Actions
Some children do not like the pizza dough.	This is the recipe that was used before the pre-made bases. The is good uptake from children.	No further action.
There are a number of pot holes in the lane when picking up from after school club.	We recognise this issue which has been resolved by the land owner on a number of occasions.	Those picking up are encouraged to park on the road and walk down the lane if preferred. School will follow this up with the land owner.
Some are pulling up on the double yellow lines outside school at drop off time.	School recognises that this puts children's lives at risk and have addressed this in the newsletter.	Reminder text to be sent to all.
Parents are receiving a lot of communications through the week, particularly when multiple school trips are taking place. Can this be simplified?	Mention was made of a parent who may be able to support with this. Most communication tends to be aimed at Fridays but when there is a time sensitive letter (e.g. for a trip) it may need to go out sooner.	School to liaise with parent to discuss options.
Recycled paper – do we use and can we?	School would aim for this to be in place if it isn't currently. Costs may be prohibitive.	School to make cost comparison and implement if possible.
Neurodiversity week – could PTA pay for an external speaker?	Yes – school would be very happy with this.	PTA to confirm if they can support. Suggested speakers to be notified to school.
Shoe / welly racks – there aren't enough for all children.	This has been discussed at a recent PTA meeting and school is awaiting further information.	School to liaise with PTA.
Clapping etiquette in celebration service – some parents are unsure when they should clap.		School to make this clear during next celebration service.
Celebration service – can we recognise staff too?	Yes, school is keen to do this.	
Junk modelling – some parents feel a lot is coming home, others think it's important if children enjoy it.	School believes it is an important part of children's development and enjoyment.	No further action.
Panto costumes – suggestion to keep a bank of costumes to keep on a rolling cycle.	School agrees this would be a good idea. Consideration needs to be made towards cleaning and storage.	School to identify storage options and confirm.
Some parents are keen for the school to consider moving Swallow Class to the old room as it is felt to be a better room.	It works well for school to have it this way round as KS2 are together and able to access KS2 toilets more easily. KS1 children use the ASC room for phonics / maths / interventions. The rooms are the same size and the current room is brighter.	School to make a decision based on what's best on balance then action accordingly.

'Enabling everyone to flourish' Respect, Perseverance, Creativity

Advent reflections

The Church of England has a number of resources to help families prepare for the season of advent. Please take a look at their advent reflection sheets which can be discussed each week in the build up to Christmas. They focus on the theme of joy.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2025-09/joy-weekly-advent-activity-and-colouring-sheets-final.pdf>

Term 2 calendar

Event	Date and time	Information
Hawkesbury joins Severn Federation Academy Trust	01.12.25	
Hawk Class visit to Parliament	02.12.25	
Robin Class visit to Chipping Sodbury crib festival	04.12.25	
Wren Class parent workshop	05.12.25, 2.15pm	
PTA Christmas fair	06.12.25. 11.00am–1.00pm	This will take place in the village hall.
Whole school trip to Redgrave Theatre	08.12.25	
Wrens & Robins Nativity	10.12.25, 9am 11.12.25, 2pm	This will take place in the school hall.
Wren Class visit to Beaufort House	12.12.25	
Swallows & Hawks pantomime	16.12.25, 1.15pm & 5.30pm	This will take place in the school hall.
Christmas lunch	17.12.25	
Christmas parties	18.12.25	Children may wear their party clothes into school for the day.
Christingle service	19.12.25, 9.30am	Come and join us in the church. Children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper if they have one.
Last day of Term 2	19.12.25, 3pm	
First day of Term 3	05.01.26, 8.30am	

Dates can also be found on our school website: <https://hawkesburyprimaryschool.co.uk/category/news/>

2025-2026 term dates

Term	Starts	Ends
Term 1	Monday 1 September 2025	Friday 24 October 2025
Term 2	Monday 3 November 2025	Friday 19 December 2025
Term 3	Monday 5 January 2026	Friday 13 February 2026
Term 4	Monday 23 February 2026	Thursday 02 April 2026
Term 5	Monday 20 April 2026	Friday 22 May 2026
Term 6	Monday 1 June 2026	Tuesday 21 July 2026