



Hawkesbury

CE VC Primary School

Newsletter, 2nd October 2026



Enabling Everyone to Flourish

Respect, Perseverance and Creativity

Headteacher's message

We've already reached the halfway point of Term 1 – the time really has flown by!

October is Black History Month and Down Syndrome Awareness Month. Throughout October, we'll be celebrating both through a range of activities and collective worship sessions, helping our children learn about and appreciate diversity in our community.

Thank you to all parents who responded to the parental questionnaire, it is always great to receive feedback, we love to know how we are doing so please come to talk to us anytime.

We were delighted to see that several parents expressed interest in running a club for our children. If you have a skill, hobby or interest you'd like to share, please let our office staff know. We'd love to expand our extra-curricular offer for the children.

We've been welcoming prospective families to the school in preparation for September 2027 admissions. If you know anyone looking for a primary school place, please do encourage them to get in touch with the office to arrange a visit.

Thank you all for your support of the school.

Best wishes,
Christine Wilson
Executive Headteacher

Harvest Service

The children are busy preparing for our Harvest service on Friday 9th October at 9.30 am in St Mary's Church. We would love to see as many families as possible there to celebrate with us. A huge thank you to Mrs Heirani, who has been teaching the children some wonderful harvest songs.

We are showing **generosity** by collecting donations for Yate Foodbank. Suggested donations include tinned fruit or veg, microwave rice, tinned meat, cereal, squash, washing up liquid, small boxes of laundry detergent.

Any donations would be greatly appreciated, please bring these into school on Friday 9th October.

Thank you!

Book recommendation Chosen by Mrs McCaul

The Day the War Came by Nicola Davies

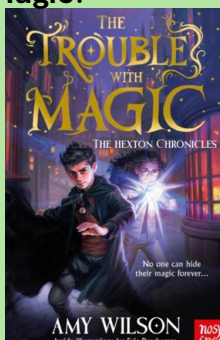


This is a powerful picture book, written as a poem, that follows a child whose ordinary school day is shattered when war arrives, destroying her home and forcing her into a dangerous journey alone.

Our Christian value for this term is **Generosity**

Author Event

We are pleased to announce that we have an author visit for KS2 children on Thursday 8th October. Amy Wilson is a highly acclaimed children's author, published by Pan Macmillan, and now Nosy Crow. She will be visiting our school to introduce the children to her latest 9+ magical fantasy book, **The Trouble With Magic**.



Amy will be talking to the children about her book, the process of writing, and will also be helping them with some creative writing of their own. Copies of her book are available to buy at £7 each (discounted from the normal price of £7.99) Amy will be happy to sign any copies on the day.

If you would like to buy a book please bring in £7 on the day in a named envelope.

Macmillan Coffee Afternoon



Thank you to everyone who baked, bought and ate cakes at our Macmillan Coffee afternoon, we made a whopping £133.



If you still wish to donate to this great cause then please use the QR code below.



Attendance

At Hawkesbury, we believe that **every child deserves the best possible start in life**, and regular attendance is a crucial part of that.

When children are in school every day, they:

- ✓ Keep up with their learning and don't fall behind
- ✓ Build strong friendships and feel part of our community
- ✓ Experience all the exciting opportunities we offer

Class Attendance

Wren Class	98.6%
Robin Class	97.6%
Swallow Class	97.2%
Hawk Class	96.4%
Whole School	97.1%

99% plus	Excellent attendance
95-99%	Good attendance
95-90%	At risk of persistent absence
90% or below	Persistently absent

We are aiming for at least 97% whole school attendance.

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PTA News and Plea

*We're delighted to announce that Friends of Hawkesbury have once again been asked to provide the barbecue at the Hawkesbury Upton Bonfire Night on **Saturday 7th November**. In previous years, the barbecue has raised significant funds for our school, helping us to provide extra activities and resources for the children throughout the year. We're thrilled to have this opportunity again!*

We need your help to make it a success.

*We're looking for volunteers to help with: setting up before the event, serving food and drinks during the evening, tidying up afterwards. **Can you spare a few hours?** Even if you can only help for part of the evening, your support would be greatly appreciated. It's great fun, you'll meet other parents from our school community, and you'll be directly helping to fund exciting opportunities for our children.*

If you're interested in helping, please contact: The school office, Danielle or Sophie

Highlights from the recent Local Academy Committee (LAC)

Our committee have completed important training on Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2026 and allergy safety, ensuring they remain up-to-date with the latest safeguarding requirements and can effectively hold leaders to account.

The committee has established an action and monitoring plan to ensure robust oversight of school priorities throughout the year, including regular visits and focused monitoring activities.

The committee have reviewed our priorities which includes the Oracy Framework, which prioritises listening skills as a foundation for effective communication. This supports our commitment to developing confident, articulate learners across both schools.

Year 6 Visit to Lifeskills

Our Year 6 pupils recently stepped into the realistic interactive village at Lifeskills, where they took part in a unique hands-on experience designed to prepare them for everyday life.

Working through a series of realistic scenarios, the children learned how to spot hazards, think through difficult situations and make safe decisions. They explored topics including road and railway safety, staying safe at home, electrical safety, making a 999 emergency call and basic first aid.

The interactive sessions encouraged pupils to build confidence, ask questions and practise the skills they need to stay safe both now and in the future. It was an engaging, memorable day that brought important safety messages to life in a fun and practical way.

We hope our pupils came home with plenty to talk about – and some important safety tips to share with their families!

Contact details

If you have any queries, please get in touch. We will be happy to help.

01454 238629 or 07934 740685 EnquiriesHawkesbury@sfat.uk

Hawkesbury CE VC Primary School, High St, Hawkesbury Upton, Nr Badminton GL9 1AU

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News and Events

Term Dates for 2026 – 2027

Term	Starts	Ends
Term 1	Monday 1 st September	Friday 23 rd October
Term 2	Monday 2 nd November	Friday 18 th December
Term 3	Monday 4 th January	Friday 12 th February
Term 4	Monday 22 nd February	Thursday 25 th March
Term 5	Monday 12 th April	Friday 28 th May
Term 6	Monday 7 th June	Wednesday 21 st July

INSET Days – The school will be closed to pupils on 5 training days spread throughout the year:

Tuesday 1st September, 2026

Thursday 22nd October, 2026

Friday 23rd October, 2026

Monday 8th March, 2027

Friday 25th June, 2027

Term 1 Clubs

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri
		Taekwondo	Future Stars	USports

If you are interested in supporting our enrichment offer by organising a club please do contact the school.

Dates for your diary

October	Black History Month
2 nd Oct	Hawk Class swimming lessons start
8 th Oct	PTA AGM at 8pm in the school hall
9 th Oct	Harvest Festival, 9.30am in church
12 th Oct	Parent / teacher meetings 3.30pm-5pm
14 th Oct	Parent / teacher meetings 3.30pm-7pm
20 th Oct	Wren Class STEM Workshop
21 st Oct	Outdoor learning day
21 st Oct	Last day of Term 1
22 nd Oct	INSET day
23 rd Oct	INSET day
Term 2	
2 nd Nov	First Day of Term 2
6 th Nov	Earth Day
6 th Nov	Celebration service with families, 2.30pm
9 th Nov	Individual and sibling photographs
10 th Nov	DT Workshop for Hawk Class
16 th Nov	Anti-bullying week
27 th Nov	Celebration service with families, 2.30pm
4 th Dec	Christmas shopping evening, Hawkesbury Village Hall
8 th Dec	Nativity performance, 2pm
9 th Dec	Nativity performance, 9.30am
15 th Dec	KS2 pantomime, 1.15pm and 5.30pm
17 th Dec	Whole school pantomime visit
18 th Dec	Christingle service, 9.30am in church
18 th Dec	Last day of Term 2