

Newsletter

“
Exploring, learning, and growing
together—one day, one lesson
and one success at a time!
”

WB 23RD MARCH 2026

Issue #11

As we reach the end of a busy and successful term, I would like to thank our whole school community for their hard work and support. We hope you all have a wonderful Easter break, filled with rest, happiness and special moments with family and friends. Let's hope the weather is kind to us! We look forward to welcoming everyone back in two weeks' time, refreshed and ready for the summer term.



Curriculum Spotlight



Each week, we celebrate one of our subjects in school. This week's spotlight is on **Reading** with our Subject Lead: Mrs Sowerby



Key Dates



27/3 - Finish for Easter 1pm



13/4 - Return to School



20/4 - Y5 Fit 4 life



21/4 - Y3 Charity Day



4/5 - May Day Bank Holiday



7/5 - Polling Day - School Closed

Reading is at the heart of our curriculum and is enjoyed across the school in a variety of engaging ways.

In EYFS and KS1, children are developing their early reading skills through the Fischer Family Trust phonics programme, building strong foundations in decoding and fluency.

In Year 2, pupils take part in Routes to Reading sessions, which support them in deepening their comprehension skills.

Across KS2, we participate in whole-class reading lessons, where children explore a rich range of texts, including non-fiction, poetry and fiction. This half term, Year 3 have been studying poetry, Year 4 have been reading 'The Wild Robot',

Year 5 have been enjoying Who Let the Gods Out? by Maz Evans, and Year 6 have been exploring migration poetry by Michael Rosen. We are proud of the enthusiasm for reading shown throughout the school.



Classroom magic in EYFS

Key Dates

- ✓ 11/5 - Y4 Healthy Schools - parents invited 1:30-2:30pm
- ✓ 20/5 - Finish for half term
- ✓ 1/6 - Return to school
- ✓ 8/6 - EYFS Charity Day
- ✓ 8/6 - Y6 London 1
- ✓ 10/6 Photographs
- ✓ 23/6 - Y6 London 2
- ✓ 17/7 - Close for Summer

EYFS have been out to impress this half term with their creativity and resilience across the continuous provision. We have loved our learning and this has also been reflected at home, where we are sharing our key learning.

In Literacy, we are looking at the story 'We're Going on an Egg Hunt' and we have loved comparing the similarities and differences with our other popular story, 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt.' We are lucky enough to be holding our very own Easter egg hunt at the end of this week and we wonder how many we will find!

In Maths, we are learning to use practical contexts to sort different items based on given criteria. These include size, colour, pattern and function. We have started with adult-led activities but we will gradually move on to organising our own categories and beginning to group items independently. We have loved helping Miss Clayton sort out her messy bag and group things based on their different sizes.

In PE, we have loved our new topic of Gymnastics! We have been focusing on a key skill each week and have enjoyed developing and improving these during our sessions. We are now able to copy and create shapes with our bodies both on the floor and on a range of apparatus. We have also developed our balancing skills, learning to shift our weight to different areas, jump and land safely, rock and roll, as well as create a sequence and perform it to others.

Check out our pictures showing our strength on the apparatus!



Orian Catering

Dear Parents/Carers,

I'm writing regarding our foodservice agreement, which is due for its annual review from 1 April 2026 in line with our rolling contract arrangements.

Our partnership with Orian catering is to support our pupils with a safe, nutritious and reliable meal service every day. School budgets remain tight across the education sector, and we approach this review with a strong commitment to transparency, fairness and long-term stability.

From 1 April 2026, National Minimum Wage will increase by 4.1%. Revisions to primary school food standards and associated portion guidance were introduced in December of 2025. This change to school food standards increased the food portion size.

While food inflation has eased from earlier highs, current industry forecasts indicate food price increases of around 5–6% during 2026, with many school food buying categories affected. The broader CPI outlook for 2026/27 is forecast at approximately 3.0%–3.5%, which continues to affect utilities, logistics and consumables across the service.

In light of the above, your revised pupil meal price, effective from 1 April 2026, will be:
£3.17 per meal.

Alongside careful cost management, we are continuing to invest in improvements that strengthen service quality and long-term value. This year we are:

- Enhancing our School Hub meals management system.
- Strengthening allergen management and compliance processes.
- Increasing Health & Safety and allergen audit frequency.
- Continuing supply chain negotiation and rationalisation
- Investing in improved workforce management systems to optimise staffing deployment and productivity.



A few reminders

Uniform

We have noticed a few slips in uniform standards this week. Please remember that children are expected to wear full school uniform, including black shoes. On PE days, children should wear their full PE kit, but again, this should reflect our school uniform policy and jewellery is not permitted. All uniform can be obtained from Touchline Embroidery, Office Bridge and Gooddies Schoolwear.

Reading Books

Reading regularly at home makes a huge difference to your child's confidence and progress in school. We kindly ask that you listen to your child read at least three times a week at home. After each reading session, please remember to sign your child's reading diary so we can celebrate and track their efforts together. Children who read four times in a week and have their diary signed, will receive their Starbooks stamp. Thank you for your continued support in helping your child develop a love of reading. It truly makes a difference.

Wraparound Club

Our before school club runs each day from 7.15am until 8.45am, Monday - Friday. It is staffed by our own staff and costs **£4** for the morning session. The children get a good choice for breakfast which includes cereal, toast, beans on toast and sometimes a croissant can be spotted! The children have plenty of activities to keep them busy during breakfast club.

Our after school club runs from 3.15pm to 6.00pm, Monday - Friday.
Costs are **£10** and **£8** for sibling discount.

At our afterschool club, children enjoy a light meal and the opportunity to relax, socialise with friends and participate in a variety of creative and active sessions.

Clubs can be booked through our online booking system.



Halton Parent/Carer News

ON BEHALF OF HALTON SEND STRATEGIC IMPROVEMENT BOARD You Said, We Did, We're Doing Parent and Carer Information Event

We're really looking forward to our next You Said, We Did, We're Doing Parent and Carer Information Event and hope you're able to join us on Thursday 26th March 2026 10am-12noon @Bridge Suite, DCBL Stadium, Widnes.

This event is an opportunity for us to share with you an update on the progress being made across SEND services in Halton, as well as what's coming next. We've listened carefully to feedback from our last session and have refreshed the format to make sure the event is focused, interactive and makes good use of your time.

We'll begin with a short presentation covering local and national updates after which there'll be interactive tabletop sessions. These smaller discussions will give you the chance to explore key areas in more detail, ask questions and share your views.

We really hope you're able to join us and be part of the conversation.

To register for the event use this link here
<https://forms.office.com/e/1Tz2aPGPD4?origin=lprLink>

Parent / Carer Halton Newsletter

Join the Halton MBC mailing list and be the first to receive brand-new monthly Parent/ Carer SEND newsletter. Filled with up-to-date news, important information and relevant events.

This newsletter is a collaboration between SEND services across Halton.
<https://signup.es-mail.co.uk/Signup/a7125672ee19683656ed341c758c6fb3>



Halton Healthy Schools Parent/Carer News

Support Healthy Habits at Home

You can find helpful tools, articles and local resources by visiting . A great place to learn more about supporting your child's well-being.

<https://padlet.com/HaltonHIT/halton-healthy-schools-parents-news-kxkmsfbkonytivbs>

Support for Young Carers from Halton Carers

We currently support approximately 700 young carers between the ages of 4-17, both individually and as part of their family. You can refer yourself to us to be registered as a young carer or a professional such as school teacher or GP can refer you.

Once you are registered our Carer Support Workers will visit you at home or school, or somewhere else to identify the impact that caring has on you. They will offer services that will enable you to have some for yourself. We will address any instances of inappropriate caring by arranging suitable support for the cared for person.

As many young carers can be disadvantaged by their caring role we encourage them to discuss their feelings and aspirations for the future. We link closely with schools, colleges and GP practices to ensure that the extent of your caring role is understood by other professionals and does not limit your life chances. If you are a young carer you can access our fun day trips with other young carers or as part of your family, funding towards a break, group activities and confidence building courses.

Young Carers registered with ourselves can access our:

- Information & Support
- Young Carers Group
- Personalised Carer Break Fund
- Young Carers Trips
- Training
- Holistic Therapies
- Newsletter

We can also with consent, refer onto other services in Halton for support.

[Visit www.haltoncarers.co.uk for more information](http://www.haltoncarers.co.uk)



Halton Family Hubs: Support for You and Your Family

Halton Family Hubs are friendly, accessible places where families can get face-to-face support and information from a range of services, all in one place. Whether you're expecting a baby, raising a toddler, or supporting a young person, the hubs are here to help.

Family Hubs bring together services from the Council, NHS, and community organisations. They aim to make it easier for families to find the support they need, when they need it.

Who Can Use a Family Hub?

You can use a Family Hub if:

You are pregnant

You are a parent or carer of a child aged 0 to 19, or up to 25 if they have special educational needs or disabilities

You are a young person aged up to 19, or up to 25 with SEND

Support is open to all families living in Halton, whatever your circumstances.

What Support Is Available?

The range of support available can vary depending on the hub, but many offer:

Activities for children under 5, including play sessions and sensory groups

Midwifery and health visiting services

Infant feeding advice, including breastfeeding and weaning support

Perinatal mental health support for parents before and after birth

Parenting courses and workshops, designed to build confidence and share experiences

Across all hubs, the goal is to help parents and carers nurture their children and give them the best possible start. This support helps to improve health and education outcomes across Halton.

Where Can I Find a Family Hub?

There are several Family Hubs in Halton, based in both Runcorn and Widnes. There are also additional community locations where some services are delivered.

To find your nearest Family Hub and see what's on offer:

Visit: www.haltonfamilyhubs.co.uk/family-hubs

Or contact your local hub directly for more information:

Kingsway Hub (Widnes): 0151 511 8822

Ditton Hub (Widnes): 0151 511 8444

Upton Children's Centre: 0151 257 2450

Warrington Road Hub (Widnes): 0151 511 8366

Brookvale Hub (Runcorn): 01928 797160

Halton Lodge (Runcorn): 0151 511 5050

Windmill Hill (Runcorn): 01928 717132

