



Honesty, Respect,
Kindness, Perseverance

[Lower Halstow School](#)

[Newsletter](#)

June 2025

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Update from Mrs Deevoy and Miss Crowe

We are sure that this term has to be the shortest term on record – 23 days in total! It has meant that the end of the academic year is fast approaching. We still have so much to fit in, so Term 6 will be a super busy one! More information on this can be found in the calendar section at the end of the newsletter.

As we moved through this exciting term, we were so proud of the dedication and enthusiasm our pupils continued to show across the school. We want to say a huge well done to our Year 6 pupils, who worked incredibly hard in the build up to their SATs. Their focus, resilience and positive attitudes have been truly impressive, we're so proud of each and every one of them! A big thank you also goes to all our staff, throughout the school, who have supported the children at every stage of their learning journey. The majority of the SATs papers actually test content that isn't covered in Year 6 so it is definitely a team effort.

Term 6 brings statutory phonics screening for our Year 1 pupils (and some Year 2 pupils) and multiplication screening checks for our Year 4 pupils. We are sure they will confidently take these in their stride. EYFS will also be benchmarked next term, but hopefully they will be oblivious to the assessment processes being used as they continue to play to learn as usual!

You may have noticed a few growing stomachs recently. Whilst we do have a lot of birthday cakes in the staff room regularly; two staff haven't been overeating and are in fact expecting. Mrs Harris is expecting her second child and Mrs Mugeford is expecting her first child. Both will be with us in Term 1 before having next year off on maternity leave. However, we are covering the cost of employing additional teachers from the start of the academic year in order to ensure consistency for the children from day one. We are sure you will want to join us in congratulating both teachers on their happy news.

A few reminders

- * Please apply sunscreen before school, bring in a sunhat and a water bottle.
- * Please order your school photos directly through the Carmel Jane photography website.
- * End of year reports will come out when data is released to us (final full week of term).
- * Snacks for breaktime should only consist of the following:
KS1 – Fruit or vegetables (these are provided by the school, but home fruit/veg is also fine).
KS2 – Healthy snacks (low sugar/salt): no crisps, chocolate, sweets, cakes or biscuits.
- * Please, please continue to listen to your child read at home. Practising reading with your child will help them to remember what they have learned in school and make this stick.

Best wishes

Mrs Deevoy and Miss Crowe

Teddy Bears' Picnic – A 'Beary' Lovely Afternoon Together

What a wonderful afternoon we had for our Teddy Bear's Picnic on the school field! It was fantastic to see so many families joining us to enjoy the sunshine, a picnic tea and plenty of smiles. Children brought along their favourite teddy bears—some old, some new and all very well loved!

There was a real buzz of excitement as everyone settled down with their teddies; the afternoon was full of fun and laughter. A special highlight was the "Guess the Number of Jellies in the Jar" competition, which had everyone putting their thinking caps on.

Events like this remind us what a special community we have at Lower Halstow School. Thank you to all the families who came along and helped make the picnic so memorable. Thank you to the Friends of Lower Halstow School for organising the event and of course, thank you to the children for being such excellent picnic companions – and to their bears for behaving so well!

Enriched Lunchtime Play – A Huge Success!

We are thrilled to share that our enriched play at lunchtimes is going brilliantly! Thanks to the generosity of our school community, we now have a growing range of toys, games and resources that have transformed playtimes into a more engaging, creative and inclusive experience for all children. They have responded so positively—becoming more focused, cooperative and enthusiastic during lunchtime play. Some of the most popular areas have been the digging zone, where budding builders and archaeologists have been hard at work, and the dressing up station, which has sparked all sorts of imaginative adventures!

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who has already donated, your support is truly appreciated. If you're having a clear-out at home, we would still love donations of toys, especially cars, small world play items and dressing up clothes in good condition. Thank you.



School Attendance

Our current whole-school attendance stands at **94.4%**, which is the same as last term. While we would ideally like to see this figure gradually increasing, we're pleased that it hasn't dropped—and we're actually 0.1% higher than we were at this point last year, which is a small but positive step in the right direction. The biggest barrier to improving our attendance remains casual absence—missing odd days here and there soon adds up and can have a real impact on children's learning, progress and confidence in the classroom.

Thank you to all families who have continued to support good attendance. Every day in school really does make a difference to your child's learning and progress. Let's keep working together to improve our attendance further as we move through the term!

Termly Breakdown:

Terms (cumulative)	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
1	93.8%	94.2%	95.2%
2	92.5%	92.8%	94.3%
3	95.3%	94.2%	93.6%
4	93.5%	94.1%	94.4%
5	93.6%	94.3%	94.4%

Charity Week – Together we can make a difference!

Term 6 begins with our annual charity week. The classes have all chosen their preferred charity and have planned out what they want to do to raise the money. The charities that the children have chosen to support are: Swale Foodbank, The Little Princess Trust and Save the Children. Please see the table for each class's event.

Further details will be added to individual Class Dojos.



Class	Charity	Activity	Planned date
Year R – Acorn	Swale Food Bank	Sponsored Run	5.6.25
Year 1 – Rowan	Save the Children	Obstacle Course	5.6.25
Year 2 – Willow	Little Princess Trust	Table Top Sale/Cake sale	6.6.25 after school
Year 3 – Maple	Save the Children	Break the Rules day	6.6.25
Year 4 - Hawthorn	Little Princess Trust	Dress as your future self day	6.6.25
Year 5 – Beech	Save the Children	Movie and PJ afternoon	2.6.25
Year 6 - Oak	Save the Children	Cake Sale	3.6.25 after school

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
2.6.25	Term 6 begins
June	Year 4 times table statutory national screening
3.6.25	Fire Safety Sessions – whole school
Wk beg 9.6.25	Year 1 phonics statutory national screening check
Wk beg 9.6.25	Year 6 Activity week
9.6.25	Year R – 5 French workshops
11.6.25	Willow Class trip to Leeds Castle – further details to follow
13.6.25 (pm)	Year 5 swimming block 2 begins
16.6.25 (pm)	Year 6 transition talk with PC Day
17.6.25	Hawthorn Class trip to Maidstone Museum of Kent Life
18.6.25 (pm)	Sports Day
19.6.25	Skip 2 B Fit Day
20.6.25	Staff Development Day (Children do not attend)
25.6.25	Reserve Sports Day (PM)
27.6.25	FOLHS Break the Rules Day – more information to follow
1.7.25 (am)	Whole School Transition morning
2.7.25	Year R Vision and Hearing checks
3.7.25 (am)	Year 1 Synagogue trip
4.7.25 (am)	Year 6 First Aid session
4.7.25 at 3.30pm	FOLHS Summer Fair
Wk beg 7.7.25	Outdoor Cooking Week (whole school)
7.7.25	Rowan Class trip to Tyland Barn – details to follow
8.7.25	Indian Drumming workshop
9.7.25	Maple Class trip to Tyland Barn – details to follow
10.7.25 (am)	Whole School Transition morning

11.7.25	Staff Development Day (Children do not attend)
15.7.25 2pm	Music Extravaganza performance – details to follow
16.7.25 2pm	Year 6 Production to parents
16.7.25 3.20-4.00	Open Classrooms
18.7.25	Leavers' Disco – details to follow
22.7.25 1.30pm	Leavers' Service
22.7.25	Last Day of term Finish at 2.15pm

2025-2026

- Term 1 begins: 3.9.25

2025-2026 Staff Development Days:

- Monday 1st Sept 2025
- Tuesday 2nd Sept 2025
- Monday 5th January 2026
- Friday 19th June 2026

