

18th September 2026



Histon & Impington
Brook Primary School

HIBPS Newsletter



Headteacher update

Dear Families,

During the last academic year, we updated you on the progress of our 'school streets' initiative to ensure safer access to the school for pedestrians and cyclists at the start and end of the school day.

We are pleased to inform you that the local authority have approved the start of an 18th month trial, which we expect to start on Monday 28th September. More details can be found via the link below and we are also sending out letters to families today.

However, in order to ensure the trial is successful, we are seeking volunteers to help run the 'school street' - if you are interested and would like more information, please do email the school office or catch myself or Mrs Inman on the school gate.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/school-streets/histon-and-impington-brook-primary-school>

It was lovely to see so many children and families enjoying the colour run on Saturday! Thank you to the PTA and school staff for supporting this great event which we hope to make a regular fixture each year!

Thank you,

Mr Bakker and Mrs Inman



Meridian
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School News – Welcome Baby Maria!

We are so thrilled to announce that Miss Gannon had baby Maria in the summer holidays. Miss Gannon and Maria are both doing extremely well. They came to visit this week and said hello to the children in 5AG from last year-and of course gave the staff lots of cuddles too which brightened everyone's day.



School News – HIBPS Colour Run



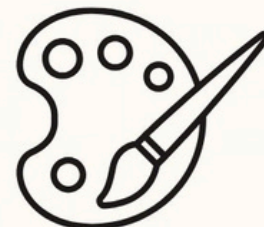
On Saturday afternoon, our wonderful PTFA hosted our annual Colour Run. There was paint, drinks, cakes, and even an ice cream van! The sun was shining, and the wind was blowing just enough to ensure the paint was flying everywhere. Everyone who took part had a brilliant time and was certainly very colourful by the end! Thank you to everyone involved in organising the event.





Key Dates : Autumn Term

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>
Monday 28th September	9:15 onwards	All Years - Individual School Photos with YEP.
Wednesday 7th October	7.30pm	Meet/Join PTFA and AGM - Tawa Lounge
Thursday 8th October	All Day	All Years - Flu Vaccinations
Monday 19th October	3.30pm-6pm	All Years - Parent Consultations - Pre-booked slots
Wednesday 21st October	3.30pm-6pm	All Years - Parent Consultations - Pre-booked slots
<i>Friday 23rd October</i>	<i>All Day</i>	<i>Teacher Training day - School Closed</i>
<i>Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October</i>	<i>All Week</i>	<i>Half Term Holiday - School Closed</i>
Saturday 31st October	All Day	Year 6 Application Deadline for Year 7
<i>Monday 2nd November</i>	<i>All Day</i>	<i>Teacher Training day - School Closed</i>
Friday 13th November	All Day	All Years - Children in Need Day
Thursday 19th November	All Day	Years 5 & 6 - Visit to Bletchley Park
<i>Friday 27th November</i>	<i>All Day</i>	<i>Teacher Training day - School Closed</i>
Friday 11th December	All Day	All Years Christmas Celebrations (Lunch/ Jumpers/Santa Dash)
Wed 16th December	9.30-11.30am	Reception and Year 6 - Vision Screening
Monday 1st March	All Day	Year 6 - Year 7 Places - Offer Day
Wednesday 14th July - Friday 16th July	All Days	Year 6 - Grafham Residential Trip
Wednesday 26th May	KS1 - 9.30-11am KS2 - 1.30-3pm	School Sports Day
Friday 18th June	3.15pm -onwards	Summer Fair



Histon & Impington
Brook Primary School

OPEN DAYS

FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS/CARERS OF CHILDREN
STARTING RECEPTION IN SEPTEMBER 2027.

TUESDAY 6TH OCTOBER 2026 9.30AM-10.30AM

WEDNESDAY 14TH OCTOBER 2026 9.30AM-10.30AM

TUESDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 2026 6:00PM-7:00PM

THURSDAY 5TH NOVEMBER 2026 9.30AM-10.30AM

TUESDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2026 9.30AM-10.30AM

PLEASE EMAIL: OFFICE@BROOKPRIMARY.CO.UK
OR PHONE: 01223 712192 TO BOOK A PLACE!



Meridian
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Education Inclusion Family Advisor

Drop-in appointments

September 2026

To book an appointment
please email Leanne Martin
leanne.martin@cambridgeshire.gov.uk



Dates

Wednesday 16th

Thursday 24th

Time

9:30am–3:30pm

Education Inclusion Family Advisors offer you an opportunity to ask for information, advice and support on any issue affecting your family life in a relaxed and confidential environment. These areas include:

- Challenging behaviour
- Routines
- Supporting emotions and wellbeing
- School transitions
- Parenting strategies
- Building resilience and confidence
- Any other family challenges you might be facing



HISTON & IMPINGTON BROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL

MEET THE PTFA AND AGM

**Wednesday 7th October
7.30pm for 7.45pm start**

At Tawa Lounge, Histon

Join us for a drink and our PTFA AGM.

**Hear about the impact that fundraising has on
school projects, share ideas for this year's activities
and meet our friendly PTFA Committee.**



HIBPS PTFA

REGULAR GIVING

No time for bake sales?

Here's the thing- our PTFA helps fund a range of enriching activities and projects. From new books your kids love, to amazing playground equipment, subsidising school trips that create memories and more.

However, we can only do it with your help. The good news? If you're time-poor but still able to give, then a regular donation is an easy way to contribute.

£10/month = less than two fancy coffees. But 50 families doing it = £6,000/year for our kids. They'll benefit from it. Everyone wins.

PAYROLL GIVING

Tax-efficient: £10 a month costs you only £8 (just £6 for higher rate taxpayers)

Charity name: Histon and Impington Brook Primary School Parent-Teacher-Friends Association
Charity number: 268870

On board? Click this [link](#) to get started

STANDING ORDER

Set up a standing order to:

Account number: 43091589
Sort code: 20-17-20
Bank: Barclays
Account name: Histon and Impington Brook School PTA
Ref: Your name

Email hijpspta@gmail.com a [Gift Aid form](#) so we can claim an extra 25p for every £1 donated.

Music Lessons – Violin Taster Sessions – Next week



Dear Parent/Carer,

For those who don't know me, I am writing to introduce myself as the violin teacher at Histon and Impington Brook Primary School. Since starting HIBPS in 2006, I have had the privilege of teaching many young violinists and have had the pleasure of seeing them continue their musical skills into later life.

This is the time of year when Year 6 have moved up to Secondary School and inevitably this creates a few spaces for keen new musicians. Fortunately for me, I can continue to teach the Year 6 violinists at Impington Village College, where I have taught for over 30 years.

*Therefore, I am inviting you to talk to your child about whether they would like to learn this most exciting and versatile instrument. They will be able to come to a free taster session on **Thursday 24th September** to try the instrument and find out more.*

The benefits of learning a musical instrument are well documented, and I feel that the fine motor skills required for playing the violin are very beneficial in a child's development. Alongside this, they can develop transferable skills such as self-discipline and confidence. It has the potential to be a life-long skill which also brings many social benefits.

Lessons take place in the music room during the school day and are offered to children in the current Year 1 upwards.

Quality hire instruments are available at a very reasonable cost and children can choose to take performance exams if they wish. More information, including lesson and hire costs, will be given should your child wish to try a taster session.

Please do get in contact as soon as possible if your child is interested in attending a taster session at: heartstringsmusician@gmail.com

With best regards,
Mrs. Cath Davis



Music Lessons



Cambridgeshire Music offer all kinds of individual and group Music Lessons, and come to our school to give individual lessons to pupils.

Jan Wyndham-Hall who teaches Brass music lessons in our school, has a couple of spaces free if any children are interested in learning a brass instrument.

If you are interested in brass or other music lessons go to their website below.

www.cambridgeshiremusic.org.uk



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHAT'S REAL ONLINE

Children are growing up in a digital world where seeing and hearing no longer mean they can always believe. One major emerging concern is what UNESCO describes as 'synthetic media': AI-generated audio, images or video, including deepfakes, that can convincingly imitate a person's voice or likeness. As these tools become easier to access, children may encounter manipulated content, cloned voices, and fabricated messages that appear or sound real. Parents and educators therefore need to help them question what they experience online, which can often feel harder when we're experiencing it for the first time, too.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AI-GENERATED CONTENT

Artificial intelligence can now create realistic images, audio, video, and text in a very short time. Online, children may encounter fabricated news clips, AI 'influencers', fake screenshots, or entirely invented events without ever realising they are fake. The real challenge is that this content often looks polished and convincing. Parents and educators need to help children understand that professional-looking content is not automatically reliable and that all digital material should be questioned before it is trusted or shared.

DEEPFAKES LOOK CONVINCING

'Deepfakes' use AI to alter or create images and videos that appear to show a real person doing or saying something that never happened. They are sometimes used to spread false information, embarrass someone, or target people through bullying and image-based abuse. Even when others know the content is fake, the emotional and reputational impact can still be significant – and, in some cases, potentially life threatening. Deepfakes therefore need to be treated as both a digital literacy and safeguarding concern.

FALSE INFORMATION SPREADS

Misinformation is false or misleading information shared without necessarily intending harm, while disinformation is deliberately created to deceive others. Both types can spread quickly through social media, messaging apps, and video platforms. Their popularity, repetition, and confident presentation can make these false claims feel true. Children may also be more likely to trust content shared by friends, influencers, or familiar accounts, making source-checking and verification essential parts of developing their digital literacy.

VOICES CAN BE CLONED

AI tools can copy someone's voice using only a short audio sample. A child may receive a call or voice note that appears to come from a parent, friend, teacher, or trusted adult, but the audio is not genuine. These messages can be used to create panic, request money, obtain information, or pressure a child into secrecy. Hearing a familiar voice is no longer enough to confirm someone's identity, especially when a message is urgent or unusual.

ACCOUNTS MAY BE FAKE

Not every online profile represents the person it claims to be. Fake accounts may impersonate another pupil, a teacher, a family member, or someone connected to the school. They can be used for acts such as bullying, scams, grooming, or manipulation. A convincing photograph, username, or message history does not prove that an account is genuine. Children should be cautious when someone asks for their or someone else's personal information, images, passwords, money, or access to private conversations.

ALGORITHMS INFLUENCE REALITY

Many online platforms, such as social media, are shaped by algorithms that recommend content based on what users view, like, search for, and share. This means children do not see a neutral or balanced version of the world. They may repeatedly encounter similar opinions, misleading claims, or increasingly extreme content. Over time, this repetition can make an opinion feel more common or credible than it really is, because the child may never see this opinion opposed or countered.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PAUSE, CHECK, COMPARE

Teach children not to accept content as true simply because it looks professional, sounds confident, or has been widely shared. Encourage them to pause, identify the original source, check the date, and compare the claim with another reliable source. Ask questions such as: Who created this? What evidence is provided? Could anything have been altered? What is the real motive? Regular, age-appropriate practice helps children develop the critical thinking needed to navigate their online worlds.

VERIFY ANOTHER WAY

A familiar face, voice, or account is no longer enough to confirm someone's identity. If a message is unusual, urgent, or asks for secrecy, money, personal information, or immediate action, children should verify it through a separate route. They should be encouraged to call the person directly using a known number, speak to them face to face, or check with another trusted adult. Families can also agree a private 'code' phrase to help them authenticate genuine emergency messages from each other. This should be something random, non-personal, and known only to the family.

KEEP TALKING OPENLY

Create regular, non-judgemental conversations about what children see, hear, and experience online. Make sure you use parental controls where appropriate and understand each platform's age restrictions. Asking children about new platforms, influencers, unusual messages, or content they are unsure about can help open up valuable conversations. Avoid immediately blaming the child or removing their device, as this may discourage them from disclosing their concerns in the future.

SAVE, REPORT, SUPPORT

When fake content, impersonation, or manipulation targets a child, take it seriously, even if the material is fabricated. Save relevant messages, usernames, links, and screenshots without sharing the content any further. Report it through the platform, follow safeguarding procedures, and escalate concerns involving threats, grooming, sexual content, coercion, or extortion. Remind children that creating or sharing this content, even as a so-called 'joke', can have serious consequences for them and others, and may be difficult to remove once shared online.

Meet Our Expert

Philippa Walthmell is an educator, author and digital transformation specialist with expertise in digital safeguarding, online safety, AI in education and whole-school digital strategy. She is the Founder and CEO of EdRupture and works with schools, organisations and policymakers to help create safer, more ethical and more effective digital learning environments for children and young people.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website

@wake_up_weds

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Snack better this September!

**Snack
tember**

EXPLORE BETTER SNACKING...

TRY NEW SNACKS...

MAKE YOUR OWN SNACKS!



Inspiring healthier, more sustainable snacking
for children and young people. Find out more:
www.nutrition.org.uk/snack-tember-2026

Better snacking. One bite at a time.

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 **British
Nutrition**
Foundation

Your Outside School Achievements!

We love seeing your fabulous achievements outside of school!

Please e-mail the office at office@brookprimary.co.uk if you have any achievements you would like to celebrate with everyone!

Please say if you and your child are happy for it to go in the Newsletter, in the school Celebration Assembly or on the Celebration Wall, or any combination of these.