

5th December 2025



Histon & Impington
Brook Primary School

HIBPS Newsletter



Headteacher update

Dear Families,

Children in Key Stage 2 enjoyed a visit to see 'The Reluctant Dragon' this afternoon! It was a super performance and a great opportunity for the children to visit our friends at Histon Park School! Our thanks to families for supporting with the trip today.

The busy elves have been hard at work getting the school looking festive this week. Our Christmas Post Box springs into action from this coming Monday morning, so do encourage your children to start writing cards if they are keen.

Next week, class Christmas Parties will be taking place on Thursday afternoon across the school. As ever, a huge thanks to the PTA and families who supported with the present wrapping effort today. Fingers crossed that Santa manages to get all of them delivered on Thursday afternoon....!

Finally, another plea to anyone in our school community who might be interested in helping to run a moveable barrier as part of our 'School Streets' trial. We want to work to make our approach to school as safe as possible but require community support to do this.

Richard Bakker
Headteacher



Meridian
Trust



KS1 and KS2 updates

Year 1 – partitioning in maths



Year 1 – partitioning in maths



Year 2 – watching their hyacinths grow! Year 2 – watching their hyacinths grow!





KS1 and KS2 updates

Year 3 – making pizzas



Year 3 – making pizzas



Year 5 – making homes in DT



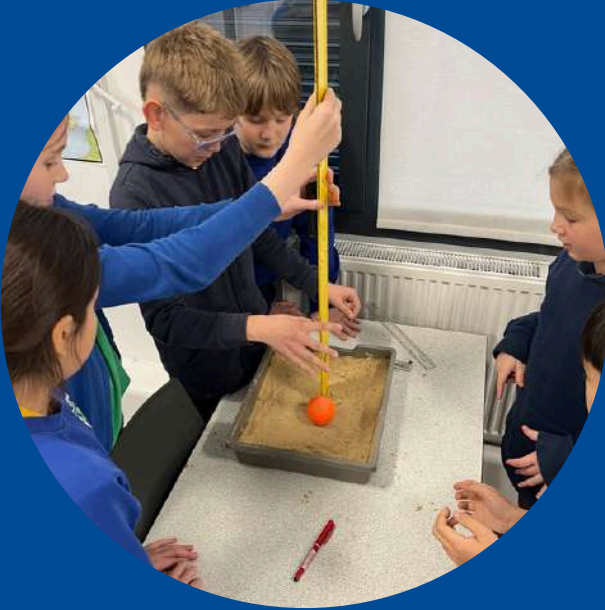
Year 5 – more homes in DT!





KS1 and KS2 updates

Year 6 – science experiment



Year 6 – computing



French Links this Week:

French– Colours – Labelled diagram – can you match up the colours and maybe spell them too?

Year 4: Story: Le Petit Chaperon Rouge (Little Red Riding Hood) – 2nd level French – BBC Bitesize – this week listen to the story while following along with the words.

Year 5: MON PETIT DEJEUNER (3) – Matching pairs – how many breakfast products can you find?

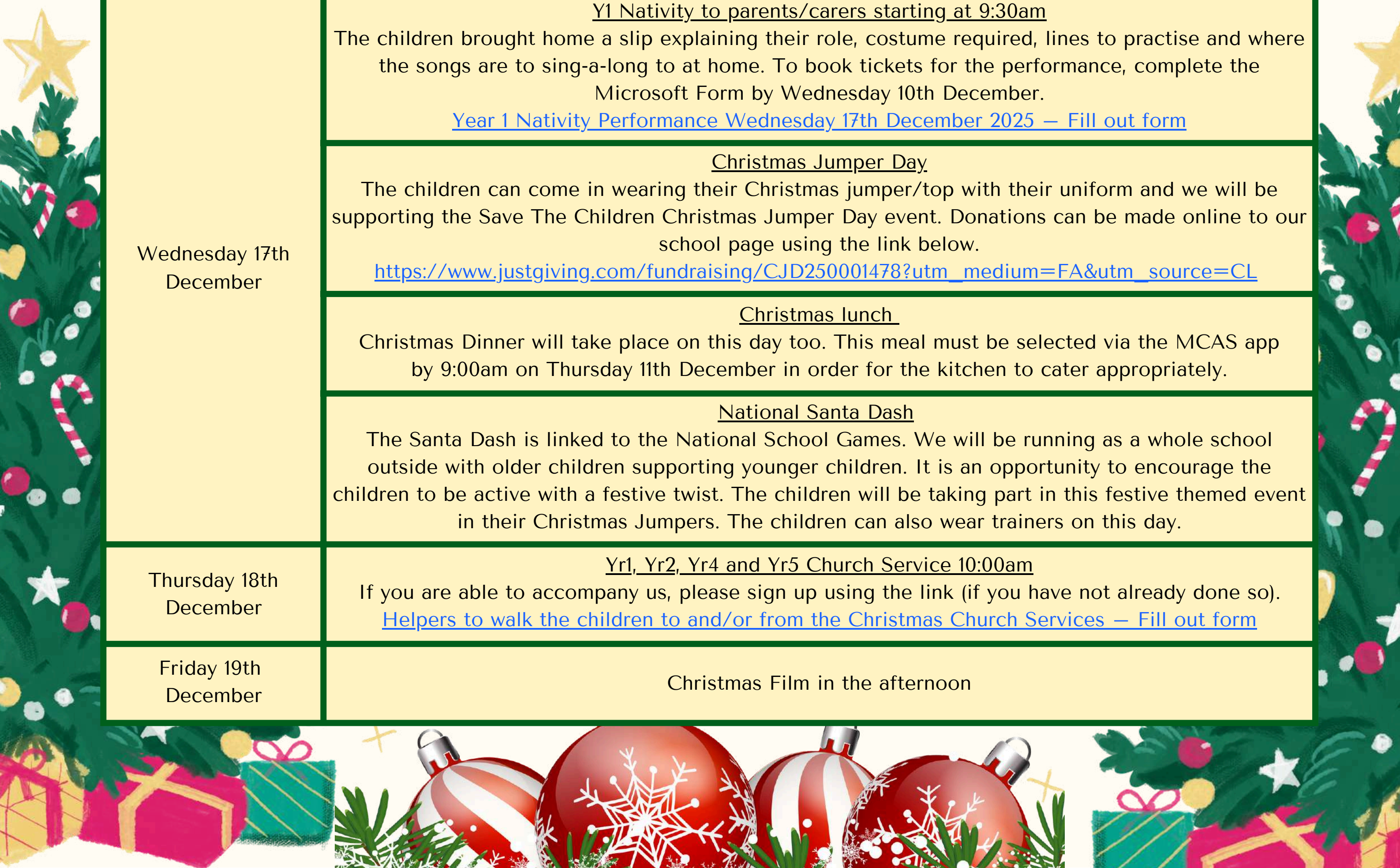
Year 6: Dash And Blink: Forgotten French – join the game and start earning points in the hobbies section!



Christmas

DATES & INFORMATION

Friday 5th December	<p><u>The Reluctant Dragon Performance for KS2</u> (1:45pm-2:15pm @HIPPS)</p> <p>We are looking for parents/carers to walk with us to and from Histon and Impington Park Primary. You are welcome to stay with us for the performance too! Please let us know if you are able to volunteer to help using the link below (if you have not already done so).</p> <p>Parents/Carers to walk with KS2 classes to HIPPS on Friday 5th December – Fill out form</p>
Monday 8th December	<p><u>Christmas Post-box Opens</u></p> <p>If your child would like to send Christmas cards to their peers, these can be put into the school Christmas post box any time from Monday 8th December. The post box will be in the entrance to the new building. Please make sure that all cards have the full name and class of the recipient. Due to GDPR regulations, we are unable to send home class lists with the children.</p>
Thursday 11th December	<p><u>Christmas Parties in Classes</u></p> <p>All classes will have a party in the afternoon – nothing extra required and normal school uniform. The PTA are kindly providing snacks (all dietary requirements taken into account) and a present.</p>
Monday 15th December	<p><u>Reception, Yr3 and Yr6 Church Service 10:00am</u></p> <p>If you are able to accompany us, please sign up using the link (if you have not already done so).</p> <p>Helpers to walk the children to and/or from the Christmas Church Services – Fill out form</p>
Tuesday 16th December	<p><u>Rock Steady Christmas Concert starting at 9:30am Doors open from 9:25am).</u></p> <p><u>Y1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal to the school</u></p> <p>Children need to have their costumes for today.</p>
Wednesday 17th December	<p><u>Y1 Nativity to parents/carers starting at 9:30am</u></p> <p>The children brought home a slip explaining their role, costume required, lines to practise and where the songs are to sing-a-long to at home. To book tickets for the performance, complete the Microsoft Form by Wednesday 10th December.</p> <p>Year 1 Nativity Performance Wednesday 17th December 2025 – Fill out form</p>
	<p><u>Christmas Jumper Day</u></p> <p>The children can come in wearing their Christmas jumper/top with their uniform and we will be supporting the Save The Children Christmas Jumper Day event. Donations can be made online to our school page using the link below.</p> <p>https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/CJD250001478?utm_medium=FA&utm_source=CL</p>
	<p><u>Christmas lunch</u></p> <p>Christmas Dinner will take place on this day too. This meal must be selected via the MCAS app by 9:00am on Thursday 11th December in order for the kitchen to cater appropriately.</p>
	<p><u>National Santa Dash</u></p> <p>The Santa Dash is linked to the National School Games. We will be running as a whole school outside with older children supporting younger children. It is an opportunity to encourage the children to be active with a festive twist. The children will be taking part in this festive themed event in their Christmas Jumpers. The children can also wear trainers on this day.</p>
Thursday 18th December	<p><u>Yr1, Yr2, Yr4 and Yr5 Church Service 10:00am</u></p> <p>If you are able to accompany us, please sign up using the link (if you have not already done so).</p> <p>Helpers to walk the children to and/or from the Christmas Church Services – Fill out form</p>
Friday 19th December	<p>Christmas Film in the afternoon</p>





Key Dates : This Term

Monday 8th December	12:00	Flu vaccinations – mop up session
Wednesday 10th December	14:30–15:00	IVC Year 10 P.E. Students – Working with Year 6
Thursday 11th December	Afternoon	Class Christmas parties.
Monday 15th December	Leave school 9:20	Reception, Years 3 and Year 6 – Christmas Church Service
Tuesday 16th December	9:30	Rock Steady Bands – Final Concert to Parents
Wednesday 17th December	All Day	Christmas Jumper Day / Christmas Lunch / Santa Dash
Wednesday 17th December	9:30	Year 1 – Nativity to Parents
Wednesday 17th December	14:30–15:00	IVC Year 10 P.E. Students – Working with Year 6
Thursday 18th December	Leave School 9.20	Years 1, 2, 4 and 5 – Christmas Church Service
Friday 19th December	All day	Last Day of Autumn Term
Monday 5th January	All Day	Staff Training Day – School Closed
Tuesday 6th January	Usual Day 8:35 – 15:15	First Day Back – Spring Term

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about FORTNITE



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With over 650 million registered users, Fortnite remains one of the most played and discussed online games globally. Known for its vibrant graphics, fast-paced gameplay, and cultural crossovers with everything from music artists to superhero franchises, the game continues to capture the attention of young people. This guide outlines the risks trusted adults need to know about, including game updates, and offers practical safety tips to help address them.

ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player, offline mode in Fortnite; it can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about, both in terms of connectivity and using up data. You may find that dedicated, young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about family time or trips away – such as days out and holidays – than you might expect.

IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – limited-time cosmetic 'skins', music tracks, LEGO items, and battle passes. Children can feel pressured to spend money on V-Bucks – the in-game currency – to avoid missing out, particularly as exclusive items rotate frequently. Some items may not return to the store for years, while Battle Pass rewards are often "gone when they're gone".

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

There's no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them from the contest. That said, there's no blood or gore. The violence is rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comical touches to lighten the mood, such as mini-games and emotes. Guns and other weapons often look and behave realistically, so discretion is advised. Past seasons have introduced characters and references from mature franchises like The Witcher and Halo.

CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with many gamers of various ages. Crossplay allows friends to play with each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch or PC, while the Party Chat feature allows them to talk to each other during the game. This can put youngsters at risk of exposure to strangers, inappropriate language, and cyberbullying.

FREQUENT UPDATES

Seasonal releases introduce new map changes, gameplay mechanics, and cosmetics. Ongoing updates can increase screen time and potential for obsession as children try to unlock rewards before the season ends. These regular renewals help to hold players' interest, but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep coming back. Seasons often change thematically.

POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from films and TV shows like Power Rangers and Avatar: The Last Airbender, to comic book characters including Batman. Other collaborations with series, artists, and influencers may expose children to music, language, or ideas that are more suitable for older audiences.

Advice for Parents & Educators

DISCUSS SAFE SOCIAL INTERACTION

Talk with children about who they're playing with online. Coordinate play time with the child's friends for socialisation and safety in numbers. Encourage them to avoid private voice chats with strangers and remind them not to share personal information. Use real-life examples to explain potential risks, and remind them that if they see something concerning, they should tell a trusted adult.

SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into buying sought-after items before they disappear for weeks or months. This could lead to surprise transactions on bank cards if children are tempted into an impulse purchase. Parents could consider getting a prepaid card for the child or ensuring that purchases require adult authorisation. This can be done through parental settings on a console or account settings in the Epic Games app on PC.

ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously on the same console or computer. This can be a good option for siblings or for when a child's friends visit, but it also offers an opportunity for parents to do something fun with their child, while making sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows? You might even teach them a thing or two!

BE WARY OF SCAMS

The immense popularity of Fortnite with younger audiences – that are generally more trusting – means there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's loading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game. Make sure any young player knows this.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



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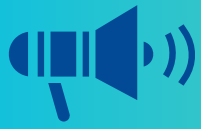
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PTFA News

Easy Fundraising – the simple way to donate to our PTFA

Dear Parents/Carers,

Shopping the Black Friday sales? Turn your Christmas shopping into donations to our school PTFA.

Join Easyfundraising (online or via their app) & select our school as your donation cause, for a free, easy way to raise funds while you shop 🛍️💰

Participating companies donate a % of your purchase directly to our school fund with no extra cost to you. You can even add it to your browser so it automatically reminds you as you shop.

See poster for full details or just follow the link and search for Histon & Impington Brook.

Perfect if you are hitting those Black Friday sales or Christmas shopping! 🎄



Thanks,
PTFA Team

Histon & Impington Brook School PTFA Committee
hjspta@gmail.com



Histon & Impington
Brook Primary School

PTFA



Could you coordinate our Spring Raffle?

We're looking for a volunteer to coordinate raffle prizes from local businesses for our February raffle - can you help?

We've contacted many local businesses asking for support for our February raffle.

We're looking for a volunteer to:

- > Coordinate responses & collect the offered prizes
- > Help with raffle ticket distribution via the school
- > Promote the raffle, supported by PTFA comms

The raffle will be held at our Quiz on 6th Feb.

How to get involved

If you'd love to help, please email:

hjspta@gmail.com

Thank you

Turn your Christmas shopping into everyday magic for us with easyfundraising



You shop, brands donate to us. It won't cost you any extra!



Help us make a difference when you shop.
Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk



1 Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk

2 Sign up and search for us

3 Your favourite brands donate to us whenever you shop with them



Histon & Impington
Brook Primary School

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GROUPON



TUI

JOHN
LEWIS



Viking

ASOS



Uber Eats



Histon & Impington
Brook Primary School



PTFA

Could you be our Grants Coordinator?

We're looking for a volunteer to coordinate applications to external grants and charity organisations to support our fundraising projects - can you help?

What's involved?

- **Identifying local and national grant opportunities** we could apply to for PTFA projects for our school. (We also have a directory of ideas to get you started.)
- **Writing and managing grant applications**, with support from other PTFA members & school staff, as needed.
- **Applying for support from Histon village funding opportunities**, including the annual Red Lion Beer Festival and HI Feast grant opportunities.

Time commitment

Approx. 4 hours per half term. You're welcome to join PTFA meetings to keep in touch, but it's not compulsory.

How to get involved

If you'd love to help, please email: hjspta@gmail.com

Thank you

Advertisement introducing the Lighthouse Toys
Histon and Impington Brook Primary School PTFA affiliate program

Every time you shop via
lighthouse toys.co.uk/brooks school

5% is donated to Brook Primary!



Lighthouse Toys

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Please enable cookies so that the affiliate link tracks
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Free delivery on orders £10+ for CB249 postcodes

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Scrunchems Sugar Capybara retails £3.50 with code £2.80

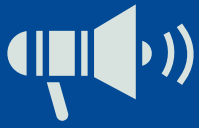
Push Popper Maths game retails £6 with code £4.80

Cortex Challenge Kids retails £15 with code £12

Quadrilla Basic Coding Wooden Marble Run retails £100 with code £80

Quadrilla Advanced Coding Wooden Marble Run retails at £150 with code £120

This code is valid until 31st December and while stocks last.

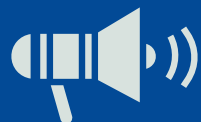


Parent Reminders

Please can we remind everyone that the speed limit in to school is 5 mph!

If you have to drive in for Kids Club or an after school club. Please drive as slowly as possible, there have been several reports of bad driving and near misses week.





Parent Reminders

IS MY CHILD TOO ILL FOR SCHOOL?

yes

until...

NHS

CHICKENPOX	At least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over.
DIARRHOEA AND VOMITING	48 hours after their last episode.
HIGH TEMPERATURE	If your child has a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes away.
IMPETIGO	Their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics.
MEASLES	4 days after the rash first appeared.
MUMPS	5 days after their swelling started.
SCABIES	They've had their first treatment.
SCARLET FEVER	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics.
WHOOPING COUGH	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics.



NO



CONJUNCTIVITIS	You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have conjunctivitis. Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.
COUGHS & COLDS	It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold.
HAND, FOOT & MOUTH	If they seem well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.
HEAD LICE	There's no need to keep your child off school. You can treat head lice and nits without seeing your GP.
THREADWORMS	Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend treatment.
SORE THROAT TONSILLITIS	You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.
SLAPPED CHEEK	You don't need to keep your child off school if they have slapped cheek syndrome because, once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious.