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Newsletter – Summer Term 6 2025

Autumn Term 1 2025
INSET Days Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd September 2025 – School staff only
Wednesday 3rd September 2025 – Start of school for children Y1 – Y6
Reception Class have their own induction timetable

Summer Term 6 2025
Last day of term: Friday 18th July 2025

Normal Gate Times
Gates open 8:45am and close at 8:50am – school starts at 8:45am
Gates open 3:10pm – school ends at 3:15pm

See dates for diary in ***'HWPS Calendar for Summer Term 6 2025'***

July 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a fantasitic summer term! The summer term is always busy but this year, we seem to have packed in more than ever. A huge thank you to our amazing pupils, parents, staff and governors for making it all happen.

Swimming
Y5 and Y6 attended swimming lessons. We would like to say a special thank you to Cheltenham College for teaching our KS2 pupils how to swim – a great life skill to learn. Also, thank you to Heidi's Heroes charity for providing a crash course for identified upper KS2 swimmers at the Ladies' College. Swimming lessons will contine next academic year and dates will be shared at the start of the Autumn term. We had glowing reports about our pupils good manners and impecable behaviour. Heidi's Heroes, Cheltenham-based charity

Charity Work
To raise more funds for the 'Lions at Large' charity, Year 5 baked cookies with Natalie and sold them at break time. The children have loved doing this project and being able to paint and decorate 'Hester', to join the other lion cubs in Cheltenham and Gloucester, has been a huge privilege. Thank you to the artist Jan Cussons https://www.etsy.com/shop/janerellysarts/ for making the children's designs and ideas come to life.

'Hester' can be found in the Children's Library in Cheltenham town centre… Art Trail - Lions at Large
Please go and find him and take a photo. Join the library and borrow a book to read over summer.

Educational Visits
Year 4 visited Greystone's Farm and learnt about the Iron Age. Greystones Farm | Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust They had a brilliant time and came back to school, wearing their blue warrior face paints! After the visit, the children made their own huts. Again, there were wonderful comments made about our children's behaviour and attitude towards learning.

Slimbridge invited two classes to their Wetland Centre Slimbridge Wetland Centre | Gloucestershire | WWT The children spent the day exploring in the natural habitat, observing birds and learning all about them. We hope to work with Slimbridge in the future. It is essential that our pupils get to visit places like this so that they can experience different places, people, animals and birds. Nature is so important for our survival and well-being.

The Cotswold Farm Park welcomed our Year 2 class. They learnt about the farm animals, had a lovely lunch and played on the park area.

Year 5 visited All Saint's Academy, to experience the variety of resources and experiences that children have whilst attending their school. They enjoyed the day – having a taste of secondary school life.

Year 6 Residential
A huge thank you to Croft Farm, for hosting another successful residential. Camping, Caravanning & Luxury Lodges at Croft Farm Waterpark It is great that the children get to experience the adventures of camping and staying away from home for a couple of nights, whilst only being in close proximity to school and families.

The children had an amazing time building rafts, climbing, paddle boarding, playing games and sleeping under the stars. Please see our Facebook page for photos: Facebook

Wentworth Court
Our wonderful links continued this term with Wentworth Court. The Year 2 class visited and took part in a session with 'The Music Man'. Our children love the links with our 'Intergenerational Project'.

Beat Officer
We said thank you and goodbye to our PC Beat Officer, this term. PC Palmer has attended our school for the past 4-5 years, teaching our Year 6 children about online safety, keep safe work in the community and answering any queries that the children ask. Unfortunately, the funding has been cut to this service, which has been invaluable for our children. Our teaching staff will continue to teach the Personal, Social, Emotional and Health curriculum which includes this vital work.

Sports Days
Our Sports Days are organised for the children to enjoy, take part and participate in all that they can. A huge thank you to Mrs G for her fantastic organisation, tireless efforts and amazing energy. We will all miss her greatly. Well done to Sudeley House, as the overall winners. This year, Mrs Swinton has produced e-books of photos to share and celebrate the days. We hope you enjoy them.

The links and QR codes for all three Sports Days are as follows:

KS1: https://read.bookcreator.com/EMOBtu2mYzgT8uYf3z8yvRdwFpf2/bl8vLz4WRGWUWm5wmSWI8g

Y3/6: https://read.bookcreator.com/EMOBtu2mYzgT8uYf3z8yvRdwFpf2/r0IKVsZBRFWlxEquWPlTXQ

BOOK CREATOR

Year 3 and 6 Sports Day 2025

Hester's Way

Y4/5: https://read.bookcreator.com/EMOBtu2mYzgT8uYf3z8yvRdwFpf2/GNz9uuFOSti9I_W5-g4BHg

BOOK CREATOR

Year 4 and 5 Sports Day 2025

Hester's Way

Colour Run

We have had so many positive comments about the Colour Run. Thank you to parents and families for taking part, as well as the children. It was a fabulous afternoon to run and have fun! Mr Whippy was in attendance and has kindly made a donation to our school funds… his queue was never ending in the wonderful sunshine.

This was one last event that Mrs G wanted to share with everyone. The children, staff and parents have all shared their thanks and gratitude for all that Mrs Godzisz has done for our school. She was overwhelmed by your kindess and appreciation. Hopefully, she will stay in touch and we can share the events that will continue as part of our school offer.

The Chemistry Spectacular

Thank you to Cheltenham College for bringing the 'Chemistry Spectacular' to our school.

We have many budding scientists and they loved watching the amazing science in an upper key stage 2 assembly.

Mr J Copeland-Jordan, who led the spectacular who is STEM Lead at Cheltenham College, is also one of our Governors, who brings many skills and talents to support and challenge the leadership of our school.

This was a fantastic opportunity for our children.

Year 6 Leavers
A huge well done and farewell to our Year 6 leavers. They have been an amazing cohort and over the past couple of years, have matured into resilient, confident learners. Their time with us has flown by.

The class overall attained in Year 6 SATs and outcomes: Reading 70% (75%); Writing 67% (72%); GPS 73% (73%); Maths 67% (74%). Reading and writing improved against LY and all outcomes are increasing in-line with national outcomes. More children have attained greater depth: reading 13%, writing 10%, GPS 30%, maths 23%.

Two of our pupils have gained admission into Grammar Schools. Penny Lewis will be attending Pates Grammar School and Theo Stephens will be attending The Crypt Grammar School. We are very proud of their achievements, as are their families.

We all know that SATs do not demonstrate all of the achievements that the children make over the years and the people that they are or will become. This cannot be measured and all of the children are very special to us.

As their head teacher, it's a been an honour and privilege to get to know each and everyone of them. They are now ready to step into the next chapter of their education. As they do, we want you to remember our Vision and Values:

Aspire – dream big
Aim high, follow your dreams and reach for the stars. Know where your talents lie, practise things that you find difficult to improve and get better. Study hard so that you can have purpose in life, doing something that you enjoy doing. The best jobs in life are the ones where you contribute and give back to others. Choose your path: go to college, start a business, train in a trade – a plumber, builder, electrician, be keyworkers teachers, doctors, nurses – build your lives and try to help others. Please let us know how you get on with studies, hobbies and jobs. We remember you all and love hearing about what past students have achieved.

Believe - in yourself
Self-belief is so important, remember when things may be difficult, that you can do it, if you try, and remember that others believe in you too! We believe in you. Sometimes you have to be strong – be resilient and never give up.

Care - for yourself and others
It is important to care about yourself – your mental well-being, as well as your physical health. Remember that kindness is a strength. Be kind to yourself and to others. Know that your behaviour affects you and has consequences on others too. If a mistake is made self-reflect, apologise where you can for your own peace of mind, as well as others. Don't forget that a smile can change everyone's day. Bring joy and share the love!

Achieve
Look at how much you have already achieved: in different subjects, you have taken part in a variety of sports and clubs, raised house points for your teams. Remember the events and visits that you have taken part in and in which you may have conquered your fears: the residential, Forest School Learning Alliance sessions, dance festival, Young Voices, Gloucester Tag Rugby, Cheltenham Town Football sessions... the list goes on.

Always remember that you can achieve – and by following our school values this will help you. **Remember the three P's: Positivity, Perseverance and Pride.**

Farewell to other children and families who are also leaving us, we wish you all the best. We would like to welcome the new Reception Class, new pupil's and their families joining us in September.

News for Autumn Term 1 2025

Start of the Day
The school gates on Milne Walk and Village Road open at 8.45am. We will keep these open for 5 minutes and they will close at 8.50am. All children must be in school for registration at this time. Any children entering through
the school office, after this time, will be marked as late.

End of the Day
The gates will open at 3.10pm. Please wait outside your child's class and teachers will release the children to you at 3.15pm.

We would like all children from **Year 1 to Year 6** to walk onto the playground independently, in the morning. Staff will be ready to see them into school.

Reception Class have different dates and times during their induction. Please use the information already shared in the induction/starter packs. We look forward to seeing you in September!

Breakfast Club
Breakfast Club will be available for those children who are already registered from Wednesday 3rd September. The Milne Walk Gate opens at 8.15am for the breakfast club children. Please can we ask that all children are brought to the gate at this time.

School Dinners
As a school, we have always tried our utmost to keep parental costs reasonable. We have reviewed the catering costs, which as you will be aware, have increased considerably, with increased inflation on food and energy. As such, our cost per meal will be increasing to £3.00 (which will take effect on ParentPay from 01/08/2025). This is still a reasonable cost in-line with other lunch deals.

If you buy a meal for your child on Parent Pay, this will be the new charge £3.00. Parent Pay charges a fee of approximately 23p per transaction - which school have to incur the costs. Please can you try to pay for at least 5 or 10 school dinners up front, this will limit fees and mean that we can provide more for the children.

Children who receive 'Universal Free School Meals' in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, or your child is in receipt of Free School Meals, will not need to pay for school dinners.

Please apply for Free School Meals here: https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/

We have all thoroughly enjoyed teaching your amazing children this year. Everyone who works at, and who is involved with our school, knows and appreciates the unique and special qualities of each and every-child. After all of the hard work and efforts it is time for a rest and family time.

We wish you all a wonderful, restful summer break!

Kind regards, Miss Kirsti Ashman and the HWPS Team