



GREAT HOLLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

GREAT TIMES

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THINKING AND LEARNING TOGETHER, ACHIEVING FOREVER

Issue 6, July 2026



Message from the Director of Primary

Here we are at the end of another GREAT year and I continue to be incredibly proud of each and every member of our school team and our pupils for always striving to do their best in all aspects of school life. I hope you enjoyed reading your child's school report and share my pride in all they have accomplished this year.



We have had another year of brilliant results in the KS2 SATs assessments, and although there is more to school life than test scores and grades, it does show that what we do at Great Hollands really does work!

End of Key Stage 2	National Average 2026	GHPS	Difference
Percentage achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and maths	63%	78%	+15%
Percentage of pupils who achieved the expected standard in grammar	74%	84%	+10%
Percentage of pupils who achieved the expected standard in reading	75%	87%	+12%
Percentage of pupils who achieved the expected standard in writing	73%	89%	+16%
Percentage of pupils who achieved the expected standard in maths	75%	84%	+9%

There is no doubt that there is a significant link between high attendance and success in school, both academically and socially. High attendance and good punctuality enables children to succeed and maximise their learning potential.

This is an interesting fact we wanted to share with parents, which shows the link between good attendance and good success at school:

GHPS	
Pupils who achieved the expected standard in all subjects had an average attendance of	95.34
Pupils who did not meet the standard had an average attendance of	92.41

With this in mind, I would like to take a moment to congratulate some of our pupils who have achieved 100% attendance for the year. This is a tremendous achievement and they should be incredibly proud. Huge congratulations go to...

Mohsin (Badgers)	Travis (Hawks)
Amelia (Badgers)	Florence (Panthers)

We also have so many children who have tried hard throughout the year to keep up a high level of attendance and they are also to be commended for their efforts. The following children have 98% or higher across the whole year, so we would also like to take a moment to congratulate:

Year 6	Year 5	Year 4	Year 3	Year 2	Year 1	Reception
Damian	Callan	Samar	Liyanna	Lily-May	Arthur	Ronnie
Leilani	Zac	Jade	Georgia	Summer	Kai	Blossom
Dixon	Bailey	Willow	Oliver	Hunter	Melody	Harlow
Dexter	Caleb	Sylvia-May	Fred	Zion	Isla	Rayier
Thea	Esme	Finley-Ray	Ava	Ronnie	Tilly	Lola
	Nitya	Ayush	Rufus	Lincoln	Logan	Tallulah
	Cooper	Liana	Aiden R	Emma	Naiah	
	Luke		Jacob	Saras		
	Finnley		Isabelle			
	JJ		Rosco			
	Kaden		Sofia			Nursery
	Hang		Flynn			Sofia
			Elias			

As I reflect on the past year, I would like to take a moment to thank our wonderful school community of parents, carers, PTA helpers, staff, pupils and friends for your continued and unwavering support.

As we end the year, I want to again congratulate **Ms York** on her new position as **Head of School** and **Mrs Watson** on her new position as **Deputy Headteacher**. These 2 exceptional leaders will ensure that GHPS continues to thrive, whilst I maintain oversight of this wonderful school along with a growing number of primaries within our high performing Trust.

Please take a moment to carefully read the news, notices and reminders below. I hope you all have a GREAT summer break and I look forward to seeing you again in the Autumn Term.

Rents

Richard Ferris
Director of Primary



Staff Farewells

As is usual at the end of the school year, we are going to be saying goodbye to a few members of our amazing staff team.

Mrs Li and **Miss Livingstone**, who were providing maternity cover for Mrs Pesani and Mrs Ajewole, will both be leaving. We'd like to say a big thank you to them both for everything they have done, and we wish them all the best for the future.

We are also saying goodbye to **Mrs Dexter**, who has been working in the Reception classroom every Friday, and previously provided classroom support in Year 5. She has been a dedicated team member and we wish her well.

Finally, we say farewell to a few members of our fantastic lunchtime team. **Mrs Gadsby**, **Mrs Young** and **Mrs Alfabeto** will all be off on new adventures, either working at different schools, spending time with family or exploring other opportunities, we send our best wishes with them for the future.

A full staff list for 2026-27 can be found later in this newsletter and will soon be published on our website.



IMPORTANT – School Lunch Reminder for Children Moving to Year 3 and Free School Meals 2026

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive free school meals under the Universal Infant Free School Meals (UFSM) scheme.

If your child is moving to Year 3 in September, you will need to pay for lunches provided by the school, unless you qualify for Free School Meals.

As mentioned in the [letter sent home in May](#), Free School Meal eligibility is changing and all children will need to be re-checked to confirm their entitlement.

Maiden Erlegh Trust works with Slough Borough Council to carry out these eligibility checks for our parents, and we are able to undertake these re-checks on your behalf. To do so, we need to ensure we have the required information from you, which includes:

- Parent full legal name
- Parent date of birth
- Parent National Insurance Number or Asylum Number

Your information can be submitted using our online form, which can be found on the link below:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/jsfFNLEj8H>

Alternatively, you can visit the Slough Borough Council website and submit a check request online, this will be processed and the results will be shared with the school. This can be done via the following link:

<https://www.slough.gov.uk/xfp/form/244>.

School Lunches Price Increase

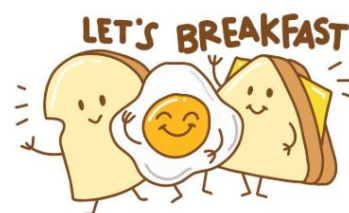
ABM, our catering provider, has experienced significant increases in the cost of food, staffing and other operational expenses over recent years. Despite these rising costs, the school has worked closely with ABM to absorb these increases wherever possible, ensuring that the price charged to families has remained unchanged.



However, in order to continue providing high-quality, nutritious meals for our pupils, it has become necessary to increase the cost of a school meal. From September 2026, the price of a school meal will increase from £2.60 to **£2.80** per meal.

Free Breakfast Club from September 2026 – Details Coming Soon!

Further to our communications earlier this term, including the parent survey, we are continuing to plan for the launch of our free breakfast club in the Autumn Term. There will be further updates coming out over the summer, so please do keep an eye on your emails for more information as it is available.



We're really pleased to be able to provide this opportunity, enabling us to support parents and carers and provide a smooth, calm transition for children into school each morning. As with our current morning club, the provision will be open for all children from Reception to Year 6 and children will need to be brought to club and signed in by an appropriate, responsible person.

It is so important to keep children reading over the summer – why not try...



The Summer Reading Challenge 2026

Sign up for free at any of the [9 Bracknell Forest Libraries](#)

Bracknell Forest Libraries are encouraging children to 'Read to the Beat' with a musical flare by entering the Reading Agency's Summer Reading Challenge 2026.

Running from Saturday 4 July to Saturday 12 September, children aged 4-11 years old can continue to develop an enjoyment of reading by taking part in the challenge over the Summer holidays.

How to get involved:

- Register with a children's library card for free at any [Bracknell Forest Library](#)
- Collect the Summer Reading Challenge booklet
- Visit any Bracknell Forest Library four times (Visits can be made at any of our libraries)
- Receive rewards along the way
- Borrow and read any 6 books throughout the summer holidays (2 books per visit)

- Take part in [fun activities](#) at your local library during the holidays (check for events mid-July)
- Complete the challenge by Saturday 12 September to receive a medal
- Receive a certificate at school after the challenge ends

Complete the challenge by Saturday 12 September to receive a medal.
Certificates for completing the challenge will be awarded at school.



Delivered by The Reading Agency and powered by Universal Music UK, this year's Summer Reading Challenge asks you to 'Read to the Beat'. Read to the Beat illustrations by Harry Woodgate, illustrations and logo © The Reading Agency 2026

Diary Dates

SEPTEMBER 2026	
Thursday 3 rd	INSET DAY
Friday 4 th	INSET DAY
Monday 7 th	Years 1-6: Start of Autumn Term Doors open at 8.40am, School starts at 8.45am
	Nursery: Home Visits for New Pupils – details will be sent to individual parents
Tuesday 8 th	Reception: Come & Play and Parent Meeting – 9.30am or 1.30pm
	Nursery: Home Visits for New Pupils – details will be sent to individual parents
Wednesday 9 th	Reception: First Day at School – 8.40am–12.00pm Collection from Silver Hall
Thursday 10 th	Reception: First Day staying for Lunch – 8.40am–1.30pm Collection from Silver Hall
	Nursery: Returning Pupils and First Intake Group start
Friday 11 th	Reception: First Full Day at School – 8.40am–3.15pm Collection from Silver Hall
	Nursery: Second Intake Group start
Tuesday 15 th	Years R-6: Flu Immunisations – details to follow

OCTOBER 2026	
Friday 9 th	New Pupils: Open Event for Prospective Families (September 2027 Intake) – places must be booked: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/hA8eGdXXJu
Monday 12 th	Reception: Food Workshop with Rasher, Buttercup and Clover – 1.30-3.00pm
Monday 26th to Friday 30th	HALF TERM BREAK
NOVEMBER 2026	
Monday 2nd	INSET DAY
DECEMBER 2026	
Friday 18 th	Whole School: End of Autumn Term School finishes at 2.15pm

These dates are subject to change, we will try to give as much notice as possible!



Staff List 2026-27

Senior Leadership Team

Director of Primary Hub	Mr R Ferris
Head of School and EYFS Lead	Ms N York
Deputy Headteacher and SENDCo	Mrs N Watson
Phase Leader Years 1-3	Miss V Estcourt
Phase Leader Years 4-6	Mrs C Ajewole
Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	Mrs S Mackay
Operations Manager	Mrs C Barrett

Class Structure

Class		Lead	Support
FS1 Nursery	Caterpillars (AM)	Mrs L Parry	Miss N Scaplehorn Ms R Sharp
	Caterpillars (PM)	Miss N Scaplehorn	Mrs K Griffin
FS2 Reception	Butterflies	Mrs V Kalampaliki	Mrs K Griffin (am) Ms R Sharp (pm)
KS1	Foxes	Mrs K Fifield	Mrs A Wheeler Mrs K Malczewska Mrs D Lindsey
KS1	Badgers	Miss H Mullins	
KS1	Hedgehogs	Miss V Estcourt	
LKS2	Falcons	Mrs V Andrew	Miss S Johnson Mrs A Ivanescic
LKS2	Hawks	Mrs G van der Rest	
UKS2	Panthers	Mrs C Ajewole	Miss S Harrison Mrs H Sparshott
UKS2	Tigers	Mrs C Pesani	
	The Nest	Miss C Shield	Mrs S Maddala Mrs A Yasodharan
	PPA Cover	Miss L Hawkins	

Administration and Operations

Operations Officer	Mrs K Wise
Reception & Attendance	Mrs M Smith
Finance Assistant	Mrs Z Merritt
Site Team	Mr J Holgate Mr R Law

SEN Team

Mrs B Balza Mrs E Pace Miss J Brown Mrs S Sunwar
Wraparound Care
Miss L Clark Ms R Sharp Mr H Clark-Obler

Lunchtime Team

Miss L Clark
Mrs J Atkinson
Miss C Frost
Mrs B Palmer
Miss P Holness
Miss D Hewett
Mr H Clark-Obler
Mrs G Smith

What a Year of GREAT Learning!



Enjoy
SUMMER