



Reach for the Stars, by Learning and Growing Together

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

## ATTENDANCE

To help us achieve this, we kindly ask for your continued support in ensuring that children arrive on time and attend school every day. Regular attendance makes a real difference to your child's learning and wellbeing. In line with guidance from the Vale and our Governing Body, please note that term-time holidays cannot be authorised and, where children's attendance drops below 90% and repeated holidays are taken, there is a risk of a Fixed Penalty Notice Fine being issued by the Vale of Glamorgan Council. Thank you for working with us to build on this success.

Attendance for the Week beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> October was 93.39%! Above our whole school target of 92.5%!

Well done to each of the following classes who went beyond our target of 92.5%!	Nursery	96.92%
	Year 1	95%
	Year 3	95.86%
	Year 4	93.79%
	Year 6	96%

## THIS WEEK (Ending 17th October)

**YEAR 4:** enjoyed a visit to the library, developing their understanding of the career and role of authors and creating innovative stories.

**YEAR 2:** The next group of learners enjoyed their road safety session this week. This focus will continue next week.

**YEAR 6:** were active participants in their Cyber Safety with PC Dan. He was very complimentary of the children's excellent engagement.

### Wednesday 15th October: Parent Involvement Meeting

Thank you to those parents able to attend this week.

Points discussed:

Even Better If (EBI...) You said...	We Actioned / Responded...
<p><b>Communication:</b> Seesaw to be used as a means of sharing learning and to know what our children are doing in school.</p>	<p>Following a trial period, we have made the decision as a school <u>not</u> to share Seesaw with parents. Reasons for this include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seesaw is our main source of capturing learning and progress in Nursery through to Year 2 as the children record less in books. Being overly cautious of who is in the photograph and comments made regarding progress has slowed this process considerably.</li> <li>Our intention at the current time is to use our Website, but to manage this safely we are investigating the use of an access code for parents. Class photographs will be uploaded on a fortnightly basis along with other special events and trips.</li> <li>Children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 all have individual accounts on Google Classroom. This is where the class teacher sets learning which the children then complete. It is then stored in their individual accounts. All learners have a user name and password to their accounts so can share this learning with you.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Books and Evidence of Learning:</b> It would be nice to see how children are progressing with their learning beyond parent evening sessions.</p>	<p>Parents evening is during the first week back following half term and the following parents evening opportunity to view learning will be in February. Looking forward we will arrange further opportunities for you to view your children's learning during the half term prior to Easter, Whitsun and the Summer holidays. We will add these dates to our shared diary of events.</p>

<p><b>Phonics:</b> Clarity needed regarding how phonics teaching is delivered and what is being sent home to practice.</p>	<p>Phonics sessions for children in Years 1, 2 and 3 take place every day. Throughout the week, pupils learn different letter sounds, with the number of sounds covered varying depending on their complexity. As each sound is introduced, children practise using it in a range of words to build confidence and fluency. On Fridays, we send home spellings that reflect the sounds learned during the week - these often include words they've already practiced in class. We then carry out a short spelling check on Monday to assess understanding and celebrate progress. In Years 4, 5 and 6 we have introduced a new spelling assessment which will inform groups following half term. Children will then commence with weekly spelling tests.</p> <p><b>REMINDER: Miss Anderson - Phonics / Spelling and Reading session: Supporting parents in understanding how we teach these areas at High Street. 2pm @ High Street. Everyone welcome.</b></p>
<p><b>What are our children learning about?</b> It would be good to know what children are learning each term as this would support parents in discussing learning and providing additional learning opportunities at home.</p>	<p>Next week the children will focus on Harvest. Each year group will focus on a different question and will then share their learning with peers.</p> <p><b>Nursery:</b> What is Harvest?  <b>Reception:</b> Where does food come from?  <b>Year 1:</b> Why do people celebrate Harvest?  <b>Year 2:</b> Who helps bring food to us?  <b>Year 3:</b> What can we learn from Harvest stories?  <b>Year 4:</b> How has Harvest changed over time?  <b>Year 5:</b> How do people celebrate Harvest around the world?  <b>Year 6:</b> How can we show the spirit of Harvest in school?</p> <p>Next week we will share learning for the first week back following half term and then a more detailed plan regarding our longer term inquiry for the rest of the Autumn Term.</p>
<p><b>Wrap Around Care</b> This would be a service lots of parents would use if run at High Street.</p>	<p>At the current time this would be a significant undertaking whilst we have other priorities to focus on. It is something we can reconsider in the future.</p>
<p><b>Fundraising</b> Engaging in raising funds for opportunities, experiences and resources for school.</p>	<p>Our parental involvement group has been working away in the background...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Investigating how we set ourselves up as a charity.</li> <li>▪ Engagement with High Street Traders resulting a range of excellent raffle prizes!</li> <li>▪ Wrapping and pricing 'gifts' for parents and siblings that can be bought by the children.</li> <li>▪ Organisation of a 'Holiday' raffle to be held during Christmas concerts.</li> </ul> <p><b>We are continuing to collect gifts for adults, siblings and children. These will be wrapped and priced for children to buy as Christmas presents closer to the end of term. All contributions gratefully received!</b></p> <p><b>We would also welcome engagement with outside agencies if this is something parents / carers can support with. Please let us know.</b></p>
<p><b>Everyone is welcome to our next meeting on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November @ 5pm in our main hall. Please enter school via the main entrance. Please remember the purpose of this group is:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To build trust and strengthen relationships.</li> <li>• To value the voice of Parents and Carers as key partners in raising and ensuring standards and outcomes for learners.</li> <li>• We want to be open and transparent regarding how we educate our learners – we want this to be an impactful partnership where parents and carers have a sense of ownership in school improvement.</li> </ul> <p><b>This group is not an opportunity to deal with complaints – there is a separate policy and procedure in place for this.</b></p>	

**NEXT WEEK (Beginning 21<sup>st</sup> October)**

**TUESDAY – HALLOWEEN DISCO.** [Disco 1:](#) Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 @ 3pm until 3.45pm. [Disco 2:](#) Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 @ 4pm until 4.45pm. Tickets are £2 each or £5 for a family of 3 children or more. This includes a hot dog and drink. Packs of sweets will also be available to buy for 20p.

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October: Year 4 Sony**

Whilst a late opportunity – a valued opportunity has been offered to our Year 4 children to explore Sony in Bridgend and also to go through the physical process of creating a short film! The children will be leaving school at approximately 9.30am and will return before the end of the school day. Separate letters will go out with the Year 4 children today.

**HARVEST – VALE FOOD BANK COLLECTION:** On Thursday we will be holding our Harvest celebrations. Vale Food Bank have requested tinned meat / fish, tinned sweetcorn, soup, coffee, UHT Milk, Corned Beef, Treats and Biscuits.

## GENERAL INFORMATION / REMINDERS

**YEAR 6 PROM – FUNDRAISING:** Year 6 Parents are currently busy fundraising for the Year 6 Prom next Summer. They are going to run a raffle which will be drawn on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October (same day as Halloween Disco). Tickets will be £1 a strip. Prizes will include a main hamper and two small baskets. Any donations gratefully received!! Requests for tickets can be sent to the office in a sealed envelope with your child's name and class on the outside. These will then be handed to those organising the Prom on your behalf.

## TRANSPORT NEEDED!

Our school choir are eager to share their talents with local residential homes for the elderly. We already have a few dates in the diary. Would any parent/company have a mini bus we could access to transport the children to these events? We of course could hire a bus but do not want costs being a barrier to children performing and elderly audiences missing out on these wonderful opportunities.

## CAREERS DAY

Thank you to those who have already responded. As a school we are currently working on the last stage of our Careers and Work Related Experiences Quality Award. With this in mind, we would like to run a 'careers day' for our learners. This would involve parents and family members coming into school to briefly share some information about their jobs, roles and responsibilities and will then respond to questions prepared by the children. If you are willing to participate or know someone who can, please let me know as soon as possible so we can start making arrangements. [Mckees12@hwbcymru.net](mailto:Mckees12@hwbcymru.net)

## COMMUNICATION WITH CLASS TEACHERS

If you are not able to catch teachers at the beginning or end of the day on the school yard, please send an email to the office. This will then be forwarded to the class teacher who will follow it up directly with you. [Office@highstreetprimary.co.uk](mailto:Office@highstreetprimary.co.uk)

## CONTACT DETAILS

Please let us know if your contact details or your child's allergy information changes, so we can keep them safe in an emergency.

## SAFEGUARDING

Mrs McKee, Mr Macpherson and Miss Kingston are the leads for safeguarding at High Street. Mr Jamie Phillips is our safeguarding Governor. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you think a child is in immediate danger of being harmed, please contact the Police on 999. If you think a child is at risk, not being looked after properly, or you have concerns about his or her welfare, please let us know or contact: 01446 725202 / Out of hours: 02920 788570.

## UNIFORM

From now on we will only be selling the uniform we hold in stock. A Class Apart in Dinas Powys now stocks uniform for High Street. Orders can also be placed online [WWW.ACLASSAPART.CO.UK](http://WWW.ACLASSAPART.CO.UK)

## SWAP SHOP

This will continue so please ensure you pass on items which are too small for your child and swap them for larger sizes.

## FOREST SCHOOL and PE

From September, your child will have PE and Forest School on the same day each week (except for Nursery). Your child will need:

**For PE:**

Shorts, leggings or joggers, T-shirt and trainers.

**For Forest School:**

Old, comfy clothes - joggers and a jumper or t-shirt, shoes with good grip or wellies. We have spare wellies and waterproofs to lend the children on wet or muddy days. Thank you for your support!

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Reception	Year 1 Year 2	Nursery PE Year 6	Year 4 Year 5	Year 3 Nursery Forest

## NUT FREE SCHOOL

To ensure the safety and well-being of all our pupils, High Street Primary School is a nut-free school.

⚠ We have children with severe nut allergies, and even small traces of nuts can cause a life-threatening allergic reaction (anaphylaxis). To help keep everyone safe, we kindly ask that no nuts or nut-containing products are brought into school, such as Peanut butter, Nutella, cereal bars with nuts and mixed nuts, or snacks containing nuts.

☑ Please check snack and lunchbox items carefully before sending them into school.

Thank you for your support in keeping our school community safe and inclusive for everyone.

## HEALTHY SCHOOL

At High Street Primary, we encourage children to bring a healthy snack for break time.

☑ Fruit or vegetables only – Grapes must be cut in half before they are sent to school as these are a choking hazard.

⊘ No crisps, chocolate, biscuits, or processed snacks.

⊘ No squash or fizzy drinks – please send in a water bottle that can be refilled throughout the day. Milk is also available on a daily basis.

Helping children eat well supports their learning, concentration, and overall health. Thank you for supporting our healthy school approach!

## FREE BREAKFAST CLUB

Open every day from 8:00am to 8:15am for children to have breakfast. After breakfast, children join fun activities and games.

At 8:50am, children go to their classrooms to start the school day. If your child is new to Breakfast Club, please fill out a registration form before their first session. You can pick a form up from Reception.



# Harvest appeal



## Help support your food bank this Harvest

In the three weeks leading up to Harvest, the Vale food bank will provide over 7300kg of food to local individuals and families facing hardship.

## Donate food



Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your community.

## Shopping list

Tinned meat/fish

Tinned sweetcorn

Soup

Coffee

UHT Milk

Corned Beef

Treats

Biscuits

[vale.foodbank.org.uk](http://vale.foodbank.org.uk)

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1193005) and Scotland.  
Registered Limited Company in England & Wales

## ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/26 DIARY DATES

Dates for the Academic Year. New information will be **added in red** when available.

SEPTEMBER 2025	
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	<b>INSET Day.</b> School closed for children
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Children return to school for the new academic year
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Parent Voice:</b> Meeting @ 5pm
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Applications for Secondary Schools Sept 26/27:</b> Open Sept 19 <sup>th</sup> 2025 online (Vale Admissions). Closes 21 <sup>st</sup> November. Outcomes of applications 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2026
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	<b>Flu nasal spray:</b> Consent forms completed online
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Creative Arts and Craft for Adults:</b> In the Snug 9.15am to 11.15am with Mrs Walker
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Parent Voice Group:</b> 5pm High Street Primary School
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Families Learning Together:</b> Building, creating, learning and exploring together @ 9am until 11.30am, provided by CAVAC in the SNUG
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Adult First Aid Skills:</b> One day course with Mrs Walker 9am to 3pm
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Year 6:</b> Parent consultations re residential trip 3.00pm – 3.30pm
Week Beginning 13 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Nursery Parent Meetings:</b> To be arranged closer to the time by Nursery Staff
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	<b>'Fitmore' Family Fun Day:</b> Organised by Whitmore Sports Ambassadors. Please contact reception for a consent letter – to be returned ASAP
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	Full payment of £145 for Y5 Residential to be paid by today. Please contact HT if we can support with this.
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Tempest Photography:</b> Family photographs from 8.30am and individual and sibling photographs taken during the school day
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	<b>Halloween Disco:</b> Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 @ 3pm until 3.45pm <b>Halloween Disco:</b> Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 @ 4pm until 4.45pm
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	<b>Harvest Celebrations:</b> Items will be collected by Vale Food Bank on Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> .
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> October to Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2025	October Half Term
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	<b>INSET Day:</b> Children do not attend school
Week Beg. 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	<b>Teacher / Parent meetings:</b> Throughout week. Details to be confirmed closer to time
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Miss Anderson - Phonics / Spelling and Reading session:</b> Supporting parents in understanding how we teach these areas at High Street. 2pm @ High Street. Everyone welcome
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> November to Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	<b>Year 5 Residential Visit to Treginnis Farm, St David's</b>
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Applications for Reception Sept 26/27:</b> Open Nov 28th 2025. Online (Vale Admissions). Closes 23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2026. Outcomes of applications 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Christmas Concert:</b> Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 @ 9.15am to 10am <b>Christmas Concert:</b> Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 @ 2.15pm to 3pm
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Christmas Concert:</b> Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6: @ 9.15am to 10am <b>Christmas Concert:</b> Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 @ 2.15pm to 3pm
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December to Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2026	Christmas Holidays
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>INSET Day:</b> Children do not attend school
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	<b>Applications for Nursery 26/27:</b> Open 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan 2026. Online (Vale Admissions). Closes 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2026. Outcomes of applications 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> Feb to Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2026	February Half Term
Week Beg. 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	<b>Teacher / Parent meetings:</b> Throughout week. Details to be confirmed closer to time
<b>Date TBC</b>	<b>Date for Nursery Teacher / Parent Meetings</b>
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	<b>St David's Day Celebrations</b>
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Spring Fair:</b> Everyone welcome, 3pm to 4pm

Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March to Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Half Term
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	INSET Day: Children do not attend school
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Whitsun Half Term
Wednesday June 10 <sup>th</sup>	Sports Day: All Nursery pupils (am), Reception through to Year 6 from 1pm @ Romilly Park (TBC)
Friday June 19 <sup>th</sup>	High Street Hula on the front yard @ 2pm
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Annual Report to Parents
Monday June 15 <sup>th</sup> through to Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	End of Year school trips to be confirmed by each class teachers later in the year
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Moving on Assembly – Reception @ 9.15am
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Moving on Assembly - Year 1 @ 2.15pm
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Moving on Assembly - Year 2 @ 9.15am
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Moving on Assembly - Year 3 @ 2.15pm
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Moving on Assembly - Year 4 @ 9.15am
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Moving on Assembly - Year 5 @ 2.15pm
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Transition: Visits to new classes
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Moving on Assembly - Year 6 @ 9.15am
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Moving on Graduation – Nursery @ 11am (morning children) and @ 2.30pm (afternoon children)
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Last Day of School Year 2025/26
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	INSET Day: Children do not attend school
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July to Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> August	Summer Holidays
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2026	INSET Day: Children do not attend school