Harvington C.E. (Controlled) First & Nursery School

Village Street, Harvington, Evesham, Worcestershire WR11 8NQ
Tel: 01386 870412
email: office@harvington.worcs.sch.uk
www.harvingtonfirstschool.co.uk

'Together we love, learn and grow'

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find the information for Nursery for the Autumn term.

Nursery Manager: Mrs Anita Wood **Deputy Manager:** Miss Emma Suffield	**Key Workers:** Mrs Anita Wood Miss Emma Suffield Mrs Amy Stone **Teaching Assistant:** Mrs Bryony Reeve
PTFA Reps: Gemma Rolls and Nikki Clarke	
Theme: **Autumn 1**: 'All about me' / 'Autumn' and 'Harvest'. **Autumn 2**: 'People Who Help Us' and 'Christmas'. **RE:** Why is Christmas special for Christians?	**Equipment Required:** All children will need **named** wellies and water bottles. Children will need to bring in message books daily so that adults can write in any relevant messages. Please ensure your child has a waterproof coat, a hat, a scarf and gloves for outdoor learning.
Key features of our theme: The first few weeks will include getting to know one another, our routines, baseline assessments and establishing expectations. In our topic, we will be learning about ourselves, families and our senses through child-led learning opportunities and planned activities. Our songs for this half term are 'Head, shoulders, knees and toes' and 'Old MacDonald had a Farm'. In the second half of the Autumn term, we will be thinking about 'People who help us' and 'Celebrations'. In our topic, we will be learning about road safety, our health and the people who look after us. We will also learn about Guy Fawkes, Diwali and Christmas. Our songs for this half term are 'Doctor Foster Went to Gloucester', Hickory Dickory Dock', 1,2,3,4,5, Once I Caught a Fish Alive', Row, Row, Row Your Boat' and 'Pussy Cat, Pussy Cat'.	**Planned Trips/Visitors:** Forest School every Tuesday morning on the school site. **Autumn 1:** Friday 9th October ~ PTFA Bedtime Story/Film Night (Nursery 5.30pm-6.30pm) Wednesday 21st October at 9.30am ~ Harvest Festival in the school hall ~ Nursery involved **Autumn 2:** World Nursery Rhyming Week ~ 9th-13th November 2026. Thursday 12th November, at 2.15-2.50pm - 'World Rhyming Week' ~ Parents are invited to join us in nursery for a sing along session with the children. A visit to the local farm shop - TBC Reception and Nursery's Christmas Together Day – Wednesday 9th December

Key Events this Half Term:

September 2026
Tuesday 1st ~ Staff Development Day school closed to pupils
Wednesday 2nd ~ Staff Development Day school closed to pupils
Thursday 3rd ~ School opens for Autumn term
Thursday 3rd ~ PSHE Jigsaw/ Understanding Christianity - Creation
Friday 4th ~ Online Safety Day
Wednesday 16th ~ Meet the Teacher 5pm-6pm
Friday 25th ~ Open Morning 9.30-11.30am
Tuesday 29th ~ School Photographs (N-Year 5 plus siblings)

October 2026
Tuesday 6th ~ Open Morning for prospective new families - 9.30am
Wednesday 7th ~ Open Evening for prospective new families - 6pm
Friday 9th ~ PTFA Bedtime Story/Film Night (Nursery 5.30pm-6.30pm) (R-5 ~ 5.30pm-7.15pm)
Wednesday 21st ~ Harvest Festival - 9.30am in the school hall ~ Nursery involved
Friday 23rd ~ Last day of Autumn 1
Monday 26th ~ Friday 30th October ~ Half term holiday

November 2026
Monday 2nd ~ PSHE/Understanding Christianity Day - People of God & Incarnation
Tuesday 3rd ~ Oracy Day
Wednesday 4th ~ Non-Fiction November Theme Day
Thursday 5th ~ World Celebrations Theme Day
Friday 6th ~ Safety Awareness Theme Day
Monday 9th-13th ~ World Nursery Rhyme Week
Wednesday 11th ~ Remembrance Day 10.50 ~ school hall - All welcome (Nursery not involved)
Friday 13th ~ Children in Need Day ~ Non-Uniform Day (bright colours) for a donation
Tuesday 25th ~ Parent Consultations face to face 5pm-7pm in the school hall (Nursery)

December 2026
Wednesday 9th ~ EYFS Christmas Together Day
Friday 11th ~ PTFA Christmas Fair 3.00-4.30pm
Monday 14th ~ EYFS/KS1 Production: 1.30pm
Tuesday 15th ~ EYFS/KS1 Productions: 1:30pm and 6pm
Thursday 17th ~ Christmas dinner, party and special visitor
Friday 18th ~ Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 18th ~ End of Autumn term

January 2027
Monday 4th ~ Staff Development Day ~ school closed to pupils
Tuesday 5th ~ Spring term starts for pupils
Tuesday 5th ~ PSHE Jigsaw/Understanding Christianity Day
Wednesday 6th ~ Artists from around the world theme day
Thursday 7th ~ Big Schools 'Bird Watch' Theme Day
Friday 8th ~ PE Enrichment YN-Y5

Class Dojo is an online platform that connects teachers with students and parents to build amazing classroom communities. We will be using Class Dojo to showcase your child/children's learning in nursery by adding messages, videos, photographs etc with you on a digital portfolio. Each child will also have their own area where we will share their learning and set tasks and next steps and we would encourage you to share any learning or achievements from home. We will send out some instructions about how to access this and would appreciate if you could return the signed form ASAP so that we can share their learning journey quickly with you. No observations can be sent until this form is completed and returned.

Key Workers - thank you for being patient with us whilst we work out the key worker groups. This takes a little time because we like to see who your children interact with - this can often build into special friendships which continue throughout their school lives. More information to follow.

Communication ~ The Nursery Team endeavour to write in message books wherever possible about children's individual progress and read and respond to Dojo messages. A focus board will be displayed in the lobby about our termly topics. This helps to encourage conversations between parents/carers and

children about their experiences within Nursery that term. We are always available at the end of a session to discuss matters that might arise.

Lunch boxes ~ The Nursery team promote healthy eating and packing a healthy lunch for your child is vital to make sure they get the right energy and nutrients they need for lunchtime play and afternoon fun. Hot meals are also available – please see the Class Catering leaflet. Reminder: please could you put an ice pack into your children's lunch boxes to ensure that sandwich fillings, yogurts, fruit and vegetable sticks etc are all kept fresh and cool. Can we please ask that you put an unbreakable plate in your child's packed lunch and remember to cut up grapes/cherry tomatoes and large pieces of food. The school has a nut-free policy so please do not send any foods containing nuts into school. We have several children across the school who have severe nut allergies, so it is essential that this is adhered to. Thank you.

PE ~ Please ensure children attending nursery on Wednesday afternoon or Thursday morning wear training shoes/black plimsolls ready for our PE activities in the school hall. Also, can we remind parents not to put their children in tights for PE days as we are trying to develop independence skills in taking off our shoes and socks.

Independence ~ Shoes can be tricky to get right at the best of times. They are either on the wrong feet or sometimes hard to do up. Please can we ask you to persevere with your children whilst they learn this skill as it helps them to become more independent with their self-care. Velcro/elastic/buckles or slip-on shoes are suitable, but please avoid shoelaces unless children can tie them independently. A little reminder that open shoes/sandals (including Crocs etc) are not suitable as little feet can get hurt during play.

Forest School – This will take place every Tuesday morning, weather permitting. Activities are accessible for all children as every child's wellbeing is important to us; this is emphasised in the ethos of Forest school: "NOBODY EVER FAILS".

"Children need to learn to make their own decisions regarding what is a sensible risk in play, and this is too often stopped by fearful and over cautious adults" - Margaret Edgington

Please remember warm clothing, hats, gloves and scarves and an extra pair of socks. Forest School activities are carried out on-site.

'World Rhyming Week' ~ If you would like to sing along at home to some of the songs we will be learning, why not visit https://www.worldnurseryrhymeweek.com/swp-ideas/

"If children know 8 nursery rhymes by heart by the time they are 4 years old, they are usually among the best readers and spellers in their class by the time they are 8." (Mem Fox, Reading Magic)

Songs for the week:

- **Doctor Foster Went to Gloucester**
- **Hickory Dickory Dock**
- **1,2,3,4,5, Once I Caught a Fish Alive**
- **Row, Row, Row Your Boat**
- **Pussy Cat, Pussy Cat**

Why are nursery rhymes and song important?

- **Nursery rhymes and children's songs boost vocabulary and language development**
- **They help children to develop literacy skills**
- **They provide a fun way to support early numeracy skills**
- **Nursery rhymes help children to develop social, physical and emotional skills**

Meet the Teacher ~ 16th September 2026 ~ 5-6pm - All welcome to come and have a look around the nursery.

Parent Consultations face to face ~ (Tuesday 25th November) ~ Please sign up for parent consultations online; the Nursery staff would love to share your child's profile with you and talk about their progress. Appointments will be between 5-7pm.

Time table ~ Autumn 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Forest School		PE	
		PE	Outdoor learning	

Requests for changes to bookings must be made through the office. They will check availability and let you know whether your request has been approved. If there are any changes to your hours or days, please go to the office and fill in a new form. This will help us keep track of any changes and amend our records. Please also ensure parent declarations have been signed. For more information regarding booking, please speak to the office. Also don't forget to book for special occasions, for example trips, together days, workshops and Sports Day to name just a few. Staff will keep you informed about any of these, with updates via Class Dojo.

We hope you have found this overview useful; remember to check our class page on the school website too. If you require any further information please put a note in your child's message book, speak to us at 3pm or make an appointment to see Mrs Wood via the office.

Yours sincerely,

The Nursery Team