

Hurstmere News

26th May 2023
Edition 8

info@hurstmere.org.uk
www.hurstmere.org.uk



I believe that it is important to fill our lives with experiences and not with things because it enables us to tell stories rather than being left with stuff to merely show. It was therefore a huge privilege to have been able to accompany the Year 10 A football team to West Brom's Hawthorn Stadium a couple of days ago with the 95 'Red Army' supporters from all year groups by my side. It was another example of the whole Hurstmere community coming together once again, and it was most heartwarming to see the camaraderie between staff and pupils.

The ESFA's National Competition programme attracts around 16,000 team entries at secondary school level each season, and for our Year 10 A team to reach the national finals is an amazing achievement in itself. I am incredibly proud of their commitment, their leadership and their resilience – they are a credit to their parents and to us as a school.

Our Core Values Assembly
Theme this week is:
Leadership

If your
actions
inspire
others to
dream more,
learn more,
do more &
become more,
**YOU ARE A
LEADER.**
- John Quincy Adams

**THOUGHT FOR THE
WEEK**



I am a firm believer that Hurstmere School should be more than the experiences within the classroom, and this event is one example where the lessons the pupils learn are far reaching. Such experiences will help shape our boys into young men who make a difference to those around them, and the memories and friendships created along the way will last a lifetime. I am so fortunate to have staff who share this belief and are willing to give up their time to provide these opportunities to our boys.

Parents have also acknowledged the commitment of my staff with written comments including:

"Thank you to the staff for giving up their personal time, away from their families- very much outside of their working hours to enable the boys to have this opportunity."

"We would like to thank you all for a great football season and all of your time and effort that goes into running the team."

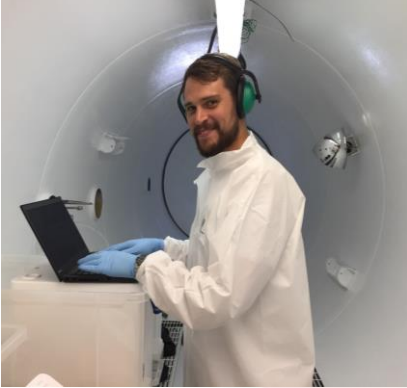
"Education is a tough place to be in at the moment, let alone dealing with these extra events that occur, but you and your team have absolutely smashed it...yet again!"

Hurstmere School is a special place, with a strong sense of community and a determination to succeed in all that we do.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable half-term break.

Lynn Bennett
Principal

Meet the Year 8 Pastoral Team



Mr McDonald, Raising Standards Leader for Year 8

Sometimes life's challenges offer up unexpected opportunities. This was certainly the case for me. I left university having studied Biological Sciences without much career direction. My first 'proper job' was working as a lab technician for a diagnostics company and I thought that my career direction at the time was in diagnostics and immunology. I worked as an Immunoassay Technician, Instrumentation Specialist and R&D Scientist, focusing primarily on developing blood tests. I had some amazing experiences, including setting up customer labs in Taiwan and Malaysia and testing new products in Barcelona. In the picture on the left, you can see me testing our product in a decompression chamber to see if it was suitable for use at high altitudes- and my test results showed that it was!

I never thought teaching was for me, how wrong I was! The camaraderie amongst staff is amazing - something I've never experienced before in other workplaces. Hurstmere is a very special place to work indeed. Every day at work is different with new experiences, challenges, and opportunities to shape lives. The best part of my job, by far, is getting to know all the boys at the school- I've loved getting to know each and every pupil that has come through my classroom. I'm very proud to be the Raising Standards Leader for Year 8 and I will do my upmost to ensure every pupil in the year group has every opportunity to be the best that they can be. My goal for the boys is for them to be a better person than they were yesterday. I will do my best to ensure they leave Hurstmere, not only with the skills and qualifications they need, but as happy, well-rounded young men.

Mme Notton, 8 Caxton Y Form Tutor

Bonjour! I am Mme Notton and have worked at Hurstmere School as a French teacher since 1999, a couple of years after leaving my hometown of Reims in the North-East of France. The school has been a second family to me ever since. I have met some really wonderful people over the years at Hurstmere, staff and pupils alike. I enjoy teaching my native language, having fallen in love with the English language when I was in Year 7 myself. When I am not teaching, marking or planning lessons, you will catch me practising my Spanish skills on Duolingo, spending quality time with my daughters who are 20 and 18 years old or walking my two lovely King Charles Cavaliers. I enjoy reading fiction, especially crime novels and graphic novels, and I love going out for a nice meal with family and friends.

Mrs L Murphy, 8 Sidney X Form Tutor

I am very lucky to be the tutor of 8 Sidney X. Although I have many demanding roles in the school (English teacher, Curriculum Lead of PSHE and of Media Studies), it is the investment of 5 years with a tutor group which I find most rewarding – seeing the boys everyday and watching them become independent and thriving young men. It is during form time that their lasting school memories are made: Christmas and Summer parties in my room, Sports Day, games of paper toss and Secret Santa (which no-one is ever too old for).

Having a form reminds me what great things young people can achieve: public speaking, supporting local charities, forming friendships, becoming mentors in the school. Here's to another great few years together, 8 Sidney X!

Mr Evans, Form Tutor for 8 Cobham Y

I have been at Hurstmere for 5 years now, however teaching for 10 years. I am the Curriculum Lead for History, a subject I love to teach.

It has been a privilege to teach at Hurstmere with such a great bunch of pupils and teachers.

My hobbies outside of school include travelling, reading, listening to podcasts and spending family time with my wife and two-year-old daughter.

Meet the Year 8 Pastoral Team



Mr Blower, 8 Chaucer X Form Tutor

I am Mr Blower, form tutor of 8 Chaucer X. I am the Curriculum Lead for Art and Design, as well as a very long-standing teacher at Hurstmere, having started in the Art department way back in 1992.

I have obviously seen many changes at Hurstmere over the years, but two things definitely haven't changed – it's never boring, and the boys are just as great to work with as ever!



Mr K. Chhabhadiya, 8 Cobham X Form Tutor

I am a Computing and IT teacher here at Hurstmere, and form tutor to 8Co/x. I bring experience from Greenwich University, North Kent College and being a Secondary School Teacher.

My specialisms are in Programming such as Python, HTML, Web development as well as Hardware and Computer Networking Engineering.

I also enjoy teaching Yoga to local communities and youths in the London Borough of Greenwich.



Mr Monksfield, 8 Caxton X Form Tutor

I am extremely proud to work in the Geography Department alongside a team of dedicated and talented colleagues. It is a privilege to be the Form Tutor of 8 Caxton X and to teach Geography to KS3 and GCSE pupils. I am also delighted to have been appointed as the school's new Social Media Coordinator, and look forward to sharing new content on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Hurstmere School has always been a special place to me, as it is not only where I completed my teacher training, but also attended as a former pupil. As well as sharing my love of the natural world, I endeavour to ensure that those I teach are given the same opportunities that I was given. Beyond the realms of Room 14, I enjoy spending time in the gym and travelling to new places. I have also attempted, although not yet successfully, to take up golf. I hope that by (continually) believing, I will eventually start achieving some success on the course!



Mr Robinson, 8 Sidney X Form Tutor

I am delighted to join the Maths Department at Hurstmere School. As a passionate Maths teacher, I have been fortunate to have had a positive impact on pupils in my previous school, and I look forward to the opportunity to do the same for the pupils at Hurstmere. My philosophy is that every child can learn, and every child must learn. Education is a changing profession to which I keep abreast with by undertaking CPD to ensure that I am upscaling.



Miss Broad, 8 Chaucer Y Form Tutor

I'm Miss Broad and I'm the Form Tutor for 8 Chaucer Y; this is my third year working at Hurstmere as an English Teacher. After graduating from university with my Bachelors and Masters Degrees, I travelled the world teaching English and learning Spanish. I love reading both fiction and non-fiction texts and my favourite authors are: Maya Angelou, Naomi Anderton, and George Orwell.



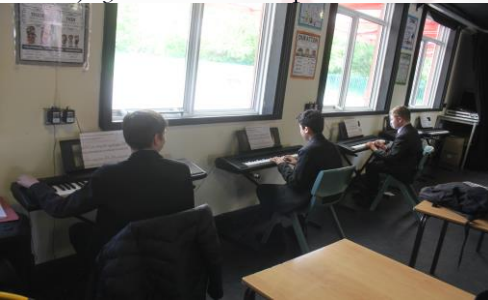
Take a sneak peek into our Year 8 classrooms...



Year 8 **Maths** with Mr Davis – Pupils are learning Direct and Indirect proportion for their upcoming key piece. They explored the direct relationship between distance travelled in miles and how this is directly proportional to distance travelled in kilometres. A link with distance-time graphs helped to show this relationship and pupils were independently practising their skills using the Hegarty Maths platform.

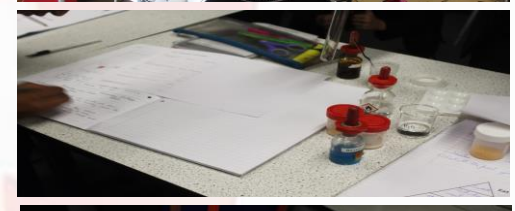
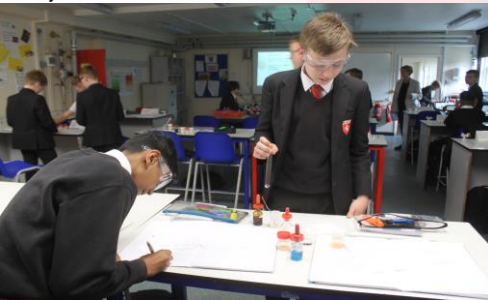


Music - Year 8s have been learning about the features and history of the Baroque, Classical and Romantic eras of music in their lessons this term. Within this, they have been developing their keyboard skills through practising and performing a piece from each era; *Minuet in G* by Christian Petzold, *Für Elise* by Ludwig van Beethoven and *Marche Funèbre (Funeral March)* by Frédéric Chopin.

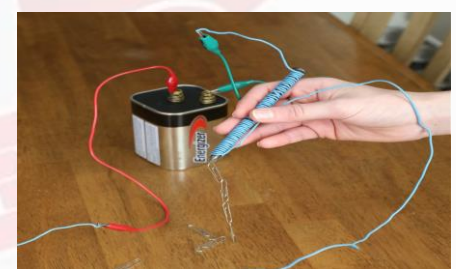
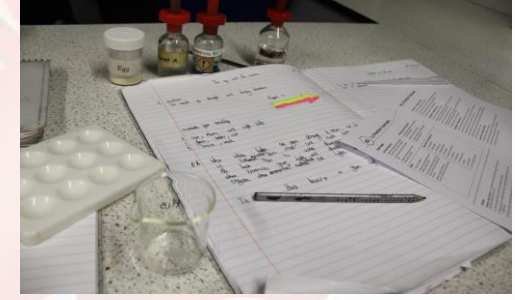


In **Science**, Year 8s are currently studying the 'health and lifestyle' topic, looking at nutrition, learning about food groups and why we need to make sure that we have a balanced diet.

In this lesson, pupils were testing samples of food to find out which food group they contained.



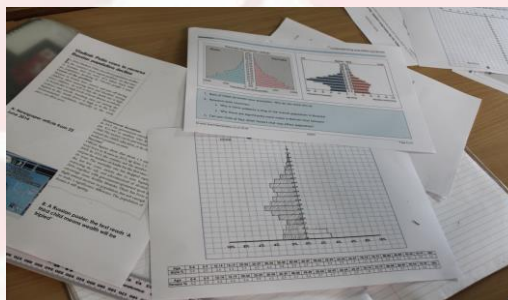
In other **Science** lessons, the Year 8s were learning about electromagnets. Previously, they had learnt about permanent magnets and how they interacted with magnetic objects because of magnetic fields. In this lesson, they built on that knowledge to understand the advantages of electromagnets when compared to permanent magnets. Later in the lesson, pupils built their own electromagnets using a battery, wire and an iron nail. They were given a challenge of making the strongest electromagnet, which was tested by seeing how many paperclips could be picked up.



Take a sneak peek into our Year 8 classrooms...

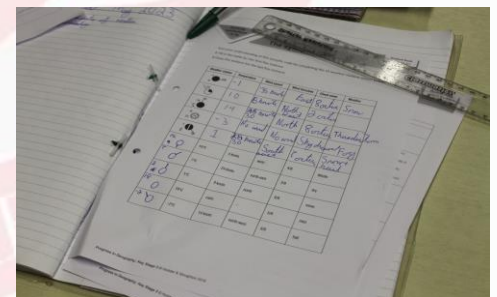


Miss Broad's Year 8 **English** class have started studying Shakespeare's comedic play, 'Twelfth Night'. Pupils are learning about the characters, themes and various narratives within the play and beginning to learn about how these all intertwine with each other.



In **Geography**, Year 8s have been studying population change and demographics. In this topic, pupils have been learning about how and why the population of particular countries have changed over time, including projections for the future. The ability to predict future population structures is especially important when it comes to balancing a country's economy, the dependency ratio, and ageing populations. In this Year 8 lesson, pupils have been investigating Russia's population structure by drawing their own population pyramids, learning about Russia's decreasing population between 2000 and 2010, and what was implemented to balance Russia's population in the future.

During Mr Maher's **Geography** lesson, pupils were deepening their understanding of how weather is monitored and the importance of this monitoring. Pupils engaged in activities and discussions around what weather conditions can be expected on a local and national scale, and completed an activity on how to represent the weather using a range of symbols and ciphers. This is a key step in understanding the impact weather has on us and on our lives.



Year 8 Trip to Danson Park Adventures

Year 8 Water Sports Rewards Trip: Pupils took part in sailing & kayaking at Danson Lake – a great day was had by all. Well done to the boys for all their hard work in school!



Get in touch and book your adventure today

Tel: 020 8303 2828

Email: watersports@bexley.gov.uk



And the Principal Reward goes to...

The Principal Reward goes to: (Yr7) Luca D, Horatio W, Alby J; (Yr8) Jamie G, Joshua L, Daniel R, Austin E, Zavier B; (Yr9) Harley C, Cameron A, Reggie M, Freddie M; (Yr10) Jack C, Fred G, Ethan H, Josh M, Micah I, William L



Principal Reward Vouchers 26.5.23 – Awarded to Daniel R - Yr 8, William B - Yr 10 and Lucas C - Yr 10



A Principal Reward Voucher entitles the bearer to one main meal, a dessert and to queue jump to the front of the line, compliments of the school. This reward is in recognition of our pupils demonstrating one of our school values, R-Trails (Respect, Teamwork, Resilience, Ambition, Integrity, Leadership and Self Belief).

Hear it from the boys...



On Wednesday 10th May, I was not at school because I went to see the Prime Minister! Unfortunately, it wasn't for tea, but instead to attend the Prime Minister's Questions. The House of Commons is a grand building and understandably the security was very strict. There were endless flights of stairs to climb to get to the correct viewing area to observe the country's decisions being debated over and made. Watching the MPs was very interesting as well as entertaining- there were lots of cheering and jeering going on, but the Prime Minister came across as a very likeable person. What an unforgettable experience!

By Jaipal

A few weeks ago, a swarm of thousands of bees situated themselves on my garden fence. I knew from Mr Wright's beekeeping sessions that honey bees are endangered and had a significant role in the environment. So, I went to see Mr Wright the next day and he put me in touch with a professional beekeeper who would take the bees to settle in a proper hive.

By Ryan



Since joining the Sea Cadets, I have been on two sea trips and was able to participate in the King's Coronation Parade in Greenwich. I attend the club every Tuesday and Thursday and really enjoy it. There are many more trips coming up which I'm looking forward to.

By Jasper

Thank you!

Being a teacher is a privilege. We take pride in being able to encourage, support and create opportunities for all our boys. Our Year 11s are working hard for their GCSEs and we are all looking forward to celebrating with them on 29th June for the Leavers Day Celebrations.

It was a wonderful surprise to have received a huge personalised cake from the Ward Family earlier this week to thank all our staff in supporting their son over the last 5 years. Thank you very much for the delicious treat – we all enjoyed it very much!



School Visitors

Charlton Mentoring is an outreach programme involving a dedicated Charlton athlete supporting young people to better engage in school. Charlton have employed trained counsellors since 2004 to offer an active listening service and one-to-one support for young people experiencing challenges in their lives.

Alongside the one-to-one sessions, Charlton also run group sessions where the focus and objective revolves around team building, social skills and being a good citizen in the wider community.



On Thursday 18th May, 13 pupils across Year 10 and Year 9 completed their Peer Mentor Training provided by the Bexley Early Intervention Specialist Advisory Service.

Peer Mentoring schemes are proving extremely successful in helping younger pupils to have a smoother transition from primary to secondary school, thereby improving their confidence and self esteem. The Year 7 and Year 8 pupils who are mentored will have a peer mentor who will listen to them and someone they can reach out to.

Congratulations to:

Woody and Alfie (Year 10) Rocky, Charlie, Sonny, Cameron, Harry, Callum, Bobby, Reggie, Harry, Archie and Hayden (Year 9) who all received a certificate on the completion of their training, presented by Mr Lever, Vice Principal. The training can open opportunities to gain qualifications and also to develop their communication and interpersonal skills, problem solving skills and teamwork. Well done boys!



The Year 9 and 10 Sports Leaders teamed up to run the Bexley School Games Tri-Golf Festival for children in Years 3 and 4. Tri-golf is a modified version of the traditional game of golf played with smaller clubs and balls, making it easier for children to learn and play. The main aim of tri-golf is to teach children the basic skills and techniques of the game, such as grip, stance, and swing. It also helps to develop children's hand-eye coordination, balance, and concentration whilst ensuring everyone is having fun and learning the game in a safe and supportive environment. For many of the primary schools this was the first time the children had played Tri-Golf and it was great to see Hurstmere Sports Leaders teaching the children new skills, supporting them to improve their technique but always ensuring everyone was having fun. Well done to all our leaders who did an amazing job and thank you for giving up your own time to provide positive competition experiences for others. You are a credit to yourselves, your families and the school!



Sporting News



A massive well done to the Year 10A team on winning the North Kent Cup against Wilmington Grammar School 1-0



ESFA National Final

Hurstmere 1-1 St Peters (St Peters won 4-3 on penalties)

On Wednesday 24th May our Year 10A team unfortunately lost on penalties in the national final. In typical Hurstmere fashion, our team was incredibly well-supported with 95 travelling supporters from a range of year groups making their way to West Brom's Hawthorn's Stadium. Hurstmere played really well in the first half, dominating possession of the ball and had control of the game, however, we went into half time at 0-0. Shortly into the second half, Samuel R broke the deadlock to make it 1-0 to Hurstmere. We continued to control the game until the 6th minute of added time and then St Peters scored to equalise and make it 1-1. With very little time left the game went straight to penalties, which resulted in a 4-3 loss. The journey the Year 10 A-team has been on this year in all three competitions has been incredible and something we are all very proud of. I hope the pride of the pupils' achievements will gradually eclipse their disappointment of defeat, and we are looking forward to next year's competitions to hopefully go one further! Well done, boys – you've made us all proud!



Cricket Results

- Year 7 - Chis & Sid beat Hurstmere
Hurstmere beat Wilmington GS
- Year 8 - Langley Park beat Hurstmere
Hurstmere beat Wilmington GS
- Year 9 - Hurstmere beat Wilmington GS
Chis & Sid beat Hurstmere
Hurstmere beat Bexley GS
- Year 10 - Two postponed games. (Games to take place after half term)



Library News

Come and join us for a game of Dungeons & Dragons!



Information for Parents



... from concept to creation

51 Dunwich Road
Bexleyheath
Kent
DA7 5EN

email: end2endtv@hurstmere.org.uk

15th May 2023

Dear Parents/Carers in Years 7-8,

HURSTMERE PUPILS SPECIAL OFFER
SAVE 15% ON HALF TERM TV & FILM HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS BOOKING NOW!
Are your children interested in how TV & Film are made?

After our successful workshops ran in partnership with the British Film Institute, we are thrilled to be running a 2 Day TV & Film Holiday Workshop in the Studio & Production Control Room at Hurstmere School in Sidcup, starting on Thursday 1st June.

With brand new content, these workshops are suitable for those who have attended e2e Clubs before as well as absolute beginners.

This hands on course will explore different elements of TV Production & film making and use professional broadcast equipment in a multi-camera green screen studio and production control room. The workshop will include experience of real life production roles and multi layered video editing, with the short film trailers produced being released over the Easter weekend!

The two-day workshop will run from Thursday 1st - Friday 2nd June 10.00-3.00pm.

end2end TV is the first independent young people's TV Production Company of its kind, empowering young people to find their voice through film, television & digital content.

Booking is open now, and places are extremely limited.

***BOOK NOW TO SAVE 15%-special discount only for Hurstmere pupils!**

To find out more information and book please follow this link:

<https://www.end2endtv.co.uk/clubsandworkshops>

For more information about end2end TV please see our website: www.end2endtv.co.uk

We are always happy to answer any questions you may have, please feel free to email: end2endtv@hurstmere.org.uk

We look forward to meeting your children soon!

Kind regards,

P. Barrett

Peter Barrett

Director

L. Smith

Lorraine Smith

Director

www.end2endtv.co.uk
Tel: 07402 703597

Registered Arts Award Centre



George mead memorial stables

Lots of prizes to be won!

£3.50 per class

Fun dog show!

Saturday May 27th
1pm start

Everybody is welcome!

Drinks and refreshments available on the day!

Upper Wickham Lane, Welling, DA16 3DP

SCHOLAR TRIALS

TUESDAY 30TH MAY
9:15AM REGISTRATION
10AM-12PM SESSION

ELTHAM GOALS
SE9 5LU

Welling United are holding open trials for U16s - U18s on Tuesday 30th May at Eltham Goals (SE9 5LU)

Register at:
www.wellingunited.com/scholars-hip-trials

CROOK LOG SCHOOL

Proudly Presents

A SUMMER CIRCUS AND Family Fun Day!

Saturday 8th July 10-4:30pm

CIRCUS PAZAZ ARE BACK WITH A NEW SHOW!

FAIRGROUND RIDES TOMBOLAS STALLS BAR BBQ BOUNCY CASTLES & RAFFLE

foclps@gmail.com

School Trips



It was an absolute pleasure to take 26 Year 8 and 9 pupils to Combat Laser Games for a Geography Reward trip. Thank you and well done to Jack K and Sam H, our Jack Petchey winners who helped make it happen! It was great to celebrate the successes of those who work exceptionally hard in lesson, day-in day-out. Pupils loved having the chance to fire lasers at their teachers, as well as finishing off the day with a slice of Dominos pizza! I look forward to planning similar trips next year.

Mr Monksfield



Well done to the pupils in Year 9 and 10 who are working towards their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award. The pupils are currently working on their Physical, Skills and Volunteering elements independently. The final element of the DofE Bronze Award is the expedition and this is taking place on the following dates:

Year 10 Expedition - 6th and 7th July 2023

Year 9 Expedition - 11th and 12th July 2023

Friends Of Hurstmere School

Friends of Hurstmere proudly presents our first fundraising event...

QUIZ NIGHT!

Friday 16 June

6.30pm for a 7.00pm start
at Hurstmere School, Hurst Road

Please contact
friendsofhurstmere@hurstmere.org.uk
to book in your team and make payment

£5 per person. Teams of up to 8!

Bring your own bottle!
Fish & Chips available to pre order

Come and join the fun, all the family are welcome!

Please see flyer for our first Friends of Hurstmere fundraising event.

Year 11 Teams are welcome with parent supervision
(all family members welcome).

Any Quizmasters out there, please contact us !

We will also be selling raffle tickets on the evening, so if you would like to donate a prize/bottle, please hand these into reception by Friday 9th June 2023.



Information for Parents

Diary Dates

16th May – 21st June 2023:	Year 11 GCSEs
8 th June 2023:	Year 8 Virtual Parents Evening
29th June 2023:	Year 11 Leavers Day Celebration
4 th & 5 th July 2023:	Induction Days For New Year 7s (8.30am – 2.30pm)
Thursday 6 th July 2023:	New Year 7 Parents Welcome Evening 5.30 – 7pm
Thursday 13 th July 2023:	Year 7 Parents Evening 4 – 7pm
Friday 21st July 2023:	Last Day (Early Closure)
24th August 2023:	GCSE Results Day (10 – 12am)

Term Dates

Bank Holiday – 29th May 2023

Half Term – Last day is Friday 26th May 2023
Back to school - Monday 5th June 2023

Last day of Summer Term is Friday 21st July 2023 (Early Closure)

Autumn Term starts Tuesday 5th September 2023

INSET Days– 4th Sept, 20th Oct, 30th Oct, 1st Dec 2023, 19th Feb 2024

Half Term – Our last day is Thursday 19th October 2023
Back to school on Tuesday 31st October 2023

Last day of Autumn Term is Thursday 21st December 2023 (Early Closure)

Spring Term starts Monday 8th January 2024

Half Term – Last Day is 9th February 2024
Back to school – Tuesday 20th February 2024

Last day of Spring Term is Thursday 28th March 2024

Term Dates for Summer Term 2024 are available on our school website

