



Keep Hatch Primary School



Headteacher's Newsletter – 16 January 2026

Calendar of Events

Mon 19th Jan - Big Sister Festival - 10:00 - 14:05 (selected children)

Fri 23rd Jan - Young Voices Choir Event - 02

26th - 30th Jan - Intra House Gymnastics competition

Mon 26th Jan - KS2 School Games Advanced Team Gym Competition

Tues 27th Jan - Year R - Vision screening

Wed 28th Jan - Yr 5/6 School Games Team Gym competition 9:45 - 12:30

Wed 28th Jan - Yr 3/4 School Games Team Gym competition 13:15 - 15:30

Reminders/Notices

Year 6 - PGL:

Please make sure that all payments to date have been made - next payment due 3rd February.

Young Voices 2026:

Payment to be made for the pupil coach and parent coach on ParentPay.

Year 5 Ufton Court visit:

Please complete the online ParentMail Form and make payment via ParentPay.

Year 4 Winchester Science Centre sleeperover:

Please complete the online ParentMail Form and make payment via ParentPay.

Attendance this year:

94.3%



Thought for the Week

This week's thought was: "Challenges are what make life interesting and overcoming them is what makes life meaningful." In assemblies, the children explored how challenges aren't just obstacles - they are opportunities to grow. Every time we keep going, even when something feels hard, we build resilience, confidence, and pride in ourselves.

The children shared some fantastic coping strategies: using positive self-talk, talking to someone they trust, asking for help, breaking challenges into smaller steps, and taking time to pause and think. These skills don't just help in school - they're life skills that will serve them well into adulthood.

Tip for Families: Try a "Challenge Reflection" at home. At the end of the day, ask: "What was the hardest thing you faced today? How did you handle it? What could you try next time?" This simple conversation helps children see challenges as stepping stones, not roadblocks, and reminds them that effort and persistence matter more than perfection.

Rock Steady Performance

On Thursday we were treated to a fabulous performance from our Rock Steady Bands. We were blown away by the children's confidence and ability to perform as a real band! Thank you to all the families who were able to come along and support. If your child is interested in playing in their very own rock band, Rocksteady takes place every Thursday. Please see the flyer that was sent home with your child yesterday if you would like to sign your child up.

Your child can help name new bin lorries

Wokingham Borough Council is inviting pupils to help name its brand-new fleet of waste collection lorries and street cleaning vehicles, arriving this summer. This is a fun way for children to get creative and see their ideas come to life! Winning names will be displayed on the vehicles, and schools with pupils who submit winning suggestions will receive a special visit from the newly named vehicle later in the year.

Entries close on 30 January. Submit ideas online at: <https://engage.wokingham.gov.uk/en-GB/projects/help-name-borough-s-bin-lorries-and-street-cleaning-machines>

All Saints Church

Please see attached flyer.

Amazon Wishlist

I'd like to say a huge thank you to all our parents and carers for the incredibly kind donations we have received last week and this week. Your generosity makes such a difference to our classrooms and the experiences we can offer the children. We are so very grateful for your continued support. If you're able to support, simply:

- Choose an item from the Amazon Wishlist
- Purchase through your own account
- Have it delivered directly to school

We've added some new cooking tools to our Amazon Wish List to help us enjoy more cooking activities with the children. Any support is truly appreciated. Thank you for helping make these experiences so special for our pupils.

If there's an option to add a gift message, please do — it helps us know who to thank! Thank you so much in advance.



Headteacher Mrs C Appleby
Executive Headteacher Mr C Cole



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Puffins	Nadia for her hard work and super reading in Phonics this week! Well done, Nadia.
Sparrows	Remi for working hard during Phonics and for always being so helpful.
Blackbirds	Peyton for doing really well in her maths and phonics this week. Well done!
Robins	Marlowe for creating a beautiful weather collage.
Kingfishers	Felix and Henry for improved stamina and handwriting in their extended writing. Well done boys!
Skylarks	Benjamin for working really hard on his writing!
Cedar	Mirko for working hard in Maths, and for responding to feedback to help move his learning on. Well done.
Rowan	Jayson for showing resilience, great effort and participating in class discussions-sharing his ideas. Well done!
Hazel	Kacey for working hard on her handwriting and producing some lovely neat work! Well done.
Sycamore	Omer for continuing to work hard on improving his writing.
Laurel	Reuben, Ezra and Owen for working super hard to master long multiplication this week.
Maple	Eunice for great enthusiasm in our French lesson this week. Très bien!
Mulberry	Tsveti for working incredibly hard in geography this week and producing a wonderful piece of work. Oliver V for trying to be more confident in the classroom and contributing to class discussions.
Willow	Bailey for being so focused on her work and working well with Mrs Penhaligon. A fantastic effort! Well done. Charlotte for some very thoughtful RE work and taking pride in her work. Well done.
Headteacher's Awards	Ayra (Y1), Jenson (Y1), Grayson (Y2) and Summer (Y2) for consistently demonstrating excellent behaviour, upholding our school values every day, and being an outstanding role model for others. Well done.

This week's top Times Table Rock Stars are:



Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Kingfishers:	Cedar: Erin	Hazel: Cameron	Laurel: Kyle	Mulberry: Heidi
Skylarks:	Rowan: Jayson	Sycamore: Caius	Maple: Max T	Willow: Abi



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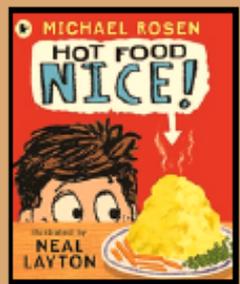
YOUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER ABOUT ALL THINGS READING



WHEN THE DARK RIDER ON A HORSE ARRIVES, MARLO'S BRAVERY IS THE ONLY THING STANDING BETWEEN TREE THING AND CERTAIN DESTRUCTION... AN UNMISSABLE TALE FROM AWARD-WINNING PIERS TORDAY.

NEW RELEASE BOOKSHELF

MICHAEL ROSEN'S POEM ABOUT HIS DAD AND THE TOO-HOT POTATO IS ONE OF THE BEST-KNOWN AND BEST-LOVED OF ALL HIS POEMS. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THE POEM HAS BEEN ILLUSTRATED IN FULL COLOUR, IN A HILARIOUS PICTURE BOOK.



2026 IS THE NATIONAL YEAR OF READING

THE NATIONAL YEAR OF READING 2026 IS A CAMPAIGN TO ADDRESS THE STEEP DECLINE IN READING AMONGST CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULTS. IT IS A DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION INITIATIVE, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE NATIONAL LITERACY TRUST,

FINDINGS FROM 2025

ONLY 1 IN 3 (32.7%) CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 8 TO 18 SAY THEY ENJOY READING IN THEIR FREE TIME

ONLY 1 IN 5 (18.7%) SAY THEY READ SOMETHING DAILY IN THEIR FREE TIME

HOW CAN WE SUPPORT CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE TO GROW A LOVE OF READING?

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| | | |
| Books tied to films or TV series. | Books with visually appealing covers. | The freedom to choose what they could read. |
| | | |
| Hearing recommendations from friends, family or teachers. | Encouraging reading through a variety of formats. | Consider using digital formats. |