

Hanley St Luke's C of E Academy

NEWSLETTER

Friday 11th September 2026

A message from Mrs Cooper



Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to everyone as we begin a new academic year together at Hanley St Luke's. I hope you and your families have enjoyed a wonderful summer break and have had the opportunity to rest, recharge and create special memories together.

There has been lots happening around school during the holidays. We are delighted to see the first stages of our new City Garden taking shape, alongside the development of a football area for our children to enjoy. We have also refreshed several outdoor spaces, helping to create an even more vibrant and welcoming environment for our children to learn, play and flourish.

We are especially excited that our first school minibus has arrived. This will provide many more opportunities for educational visits, sporting events and enrichment activities, helping us ensure that all children can experience life in all its fullness.

I would also like to celebrate the tremendous success of our Holiday Club. Throughout the summer it provided support, fun and friendship for many of our children and families. Thank you to the dedicated staff and volunteers who gave their time and energy to make this possible. Their commitment reflects the caring and supportive community that makes Hanley St Luke's such a special place.

We begin the new academic year with much to celebrate. I am incredibly proud that our school has been awarded both the Gold Wellbeing Award and the Young Carers Award.

These achievements recognise our commitment to supporting the wellbeing of all children and ensuring that every child is valued, nurtured and encouraged to succeed. As we look ahead, we are excited about the opportunities, experiences and achievements that await our children. Together, by working in partnership with families, we will continue to provide the very best education, care and support for every child.

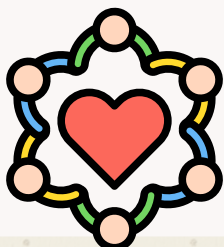
Thank you for your continued support. It is a privilege to work alongside such a wonderful school community. I wish all of our children and families a happy, successful and rewarding year ahead.

Our vision at Hanley St Luke's is rooted in the words of Jesus in John 10:10:

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

This continues to inspire us as we strive to ensure that every child flourishes academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually.

With best wishes,
Zoe Cooper
Proud Principal



WELCOME BACK!





In the spotlight this week....

English is taught through developing children's Oracy (speaking and listening), Reading and Writing skills right from the start. Our vision is for our children to be absorbed in a book they are reading, enthusiastically joining in with stories and rhymes and shining and oozing with confidence when performing in front of their family and school friends. We want to spot future authors when reading children's creative writing. We want all of our children to have a love of reading and the confidence to articulate their views, ideas and opinions orally and in their writing.

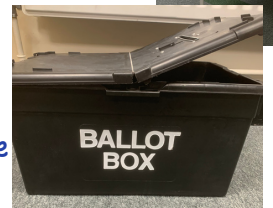
From Nursery to Year 6, we give our children as many opportunities as possible to develop their speaking and listening skills through play, daily interactions with adults and peers, class discussion and more formally in debates. Support is put in place to enable all children to become confident with their speech and language.

Children are taught new vocabulary daily, in lessons, and using the language programme, 'Mrs Wordsmith.' We want all of our children to 'learn to read' and 'read to learn', ultimately leading to a love of books. Children are taught to use phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words. From Nursery, we use Super Sonic Phonic Friends. Throughout the school, children receive daily story time where they are exposed to high quality, diverse and language rich books. We place a huge emphasis on teaching reading fluency and this is modelled and taught in all lessons enabling our children to read accurately, at pace and with expression and understanding.

Books and experiences are used as the stimulus for writing so that children have a clear purpose and audience. The children are taught spelling, punctuation, and grammar to help structure their ideas and we encourage children to be creative and use interesting vocabulary. Our children are proud of their Writing Journey folders where they produce their final piece of writing after planning, proof reading and editing.

Please support children's Oracy with our Turn and Talk Tuesdays and engaging in daily reading at home. We have lots of wonderful books in the library which the children can choose to read and share.

This week, pupils took part in our School Council elections, experiencing the democratic process in a truly authentic way. Using election booths and parliamentary voting equipment generously donated by the Lord Mayor's Office, children were able to cast their votes just as they would in a real election. The experience helped pupils learn about democracy, responsibility and having their voices heard. Congratulations to all of the children who were elected to represent their classes. We look forward to working with our new School Council members as they begin an exciting year of leadership, service and making a positive difference across our school community.



Turn & Talk Tuesday is a fun weekly opportunity for families to chat about learning at home. Each Tuesday, children receive a curriculum-linked question to discuss with an adult before submitting a short response. It's a simple way to strengthen home-school links, build confidence in speaking and celebrate learning beyond the classroom.



School Uniform

A reminder that all children should come to school each day wearing the correct school uniform and PE kit where appropriate. Smart uniform helps to promote a sense of pride, belonging and readiness for learning. We kindly ask parents and carers to ensure that all clothing and belongings are clearly labelled with their child's name. Full details of our uniform expectations, including PE kit requirements, can be found on the school website: <https://www.hanleystlukes.com/parents/school-uniform>.

Thank you for your continued support in helping our children look smart and ready to learn.

Hanley St Luke's C of E Academy



NEWSLETTER



teachers



Our School Values

Honesty

"You must be truthful with each other, because we are all part of the same body."

Ephesians 4:25

Courtesy

"Show proper respect to everyone, love others, honour God."

1 Peter 2:17

Kindness

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as God forgave you."

Ephesians 4:32

Perseverance

"Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a harvest—if we don't give up."

Galatians 6:9 (ICB)

Respect

"In everything, do to others what you would want them to do to you."

Matthew 7:12



Wrap Around Care Information

We offer wrap around care to support families before and after the school day. You can book your child's place using the following link:

<https://hanleystlukes.hivellink.co.uk/>

Sessions and pricing:

- 7:30am – 8:40am: £1.50
- 8:10am – 8:40am: Free
- 3:15pm – 6:00pm: £5

Please ensure sessions are booked in advance to secure your place.

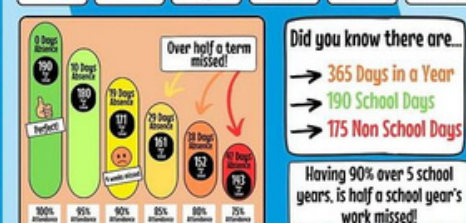
Attendance Updates

School Attendance

Every day counts...

Good attendance helps with...

Academic Achievement Regular attendance helps children progress with the curriculum and achieve higher academic results.	Social Skills Being in school every day helps children make friends, develop important social skills and feel part of the school community.	Routine & Responsibility Attending school regularly teaches the importance of commitment, routine and responsibility. Being absent could make it harder to catch up.	Focus & Engagement Children who attend school regularly are more likely to stay engaged in their learning and develop positive attitudes towards education.	Building Confidence Regular attendance can build a child's self-esteem and confidence as they see their progress and achievements over time.	Enhanced Learning Opportunities School offers more than just lessons – it provides clubs, activities and enrichment opportunities that help children develop their interests and talents.
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Key Dates

Year 1 Northwood Park 15th Sept

Harvest collection begins 21st Sept

Year 3 Conkers 22nd Sept

Year 5 Maths Parent Workshop 22nd Sept

Year 5 Church 23rd Sept 11am

Year 6 Maths Parent Workshop 23rd Sept

Harvest Worship for parents 24th Sept

Wear culture clothes Day Red & Yellow 25th Sept

Year 3 Maths parent workshop 29th Sept

Year 4 Church 30th September 11am

Year 1 Phonics Parent Workshop 30th Sept

The Parent Portal on Arbor

The Parent Portal and Parent App allow parents to manage their child's school activities, including registration for clubs, payments, and monitoring attendance and progress.

[Click here for more information](#)



Pupil Term Dates 2026-2027

Autumn Term 1

Inset Days Tuesday 1st September 2026

Wednesday 2nd September 2026

School opens for pupils

Thursday 3rd September 2026

School closes at 3.15pm Wednesday 21st October 2026

Inset Days Thursday 22nd October 2026

Friday 23rd October 2026

Half Term Holiday Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October 2026

School opens for pupils Monday 2nd November 2026

Autumn Term 2

School closes 3.15pm Friday 18th December 2026

Christmas Holidays Monday 21st December to Friday 1st January 2027

Spring Term 1 2027

School opens for pupils Monday 4th January 2027

School closes at 3.15pm Friday 12th February 2027

Half Term Holiday Monday 15th to Friday 19th February 2027

Inset Day Monday 22nd February 2027 Trust Training Day

Spring term 2

School opens for pupils Tuesday 23rd February 2027

School closes at 3.15pm Thursday 25th March 2027

Easter Holidays Friday 26th March to Friday 9th April 2027

Summer Term 1 2027

School opens Monday 12th April 2027

Bank holiday Monday 3rd May 2027

School closes at 3.15pm Friday 28th May 2027

Half Term Holiday Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June 2027

Summer Term 2

School opens for pupils Monday 7th June 2027

School closes at 3.15pm Tuesday 20th July 2027

Inset day Wednesday 21st July 2027

Summer Holidays Thursday 22nd July 2027

