



Summer Term 2026

19th June 2026

Newsletter 9

Helmdon Primary School

☎ 01295 768126

<http://www.helmdonprimaryschool.com>

Dear Parents and Carers,

Congratulations to Camilla and her family on the safe arrival of baby William. We look forward to meeting him on the playground soon.

After 19 years working at Helmdon School, Mrs Clare Hedley has decided to leave at the end of this term. She has worked with 6 different headteachers and many different staff and I have certainly been very grateful for her support, help and guidance with everything from the budget to maintenance to contractors. She will be sorely missed but we have successfully recruited her replacement and Mrs Cassie Whitney will be joining us in September. Mrs Whitney is a School Business Manager in an Oxfordshire school so will bring a wealth of knowledge to the role.

KS2 had a lovely day on Tuesday at Everdon Outdoor Learning Centre and it was a joy to take the children as their behaviour was excellent. KS1 also enjoyed their day and their slime looked very interesting! Thank you to Mr Mount for driving the Greatworth Community minibus for the KS1 trip. This helped us keep the cost of the trip down but we must also thank FOHS again for subsidising both the KS1 and the KS2 trips.

Well done to all the KS2 children who took part in a Rounders Festival yesterday afternoon at Chenderit School. We had so many children sign up we were able to take 2 teams! Next Thursday, 25th June, there is a Yr5/6 Dodgeball Festival and Tuesday 7th July is a KS2 Orienteering event. Please see ParentPay for more details and to sign up.

Northampton Children's Book Group "Book Swap"

Yesterday, all our children were able to swap - or buy for a very small donation - one or two loved books from home for new books courtesy of the NCBG. There was a huge array of fiction, non-fiction and poetry books to choose from, for all ages, and it was a wonderful opportunity to try new authors and books. A big "thank you" to Louise Stothard and the ladies from the NCBG for providing the books and for helping the children choose new ones to take home.

This was our second book swap in school and something we hope to do again in the future.

Sports Day – Wednesday 25th June

Surely, nothing can go wrong for next Wednesday! I don't think we've ever had to cancel so many sporting events because of the weather. It may well now be very hot instead, but hopefully with sunhats, sunscreen and water bottles we will be ok next week.

Please send your children into school in their PE kits. (If they would like to come in a t-shirt of their House colour, they are welcome to, as they will sit with their House.) KS1 Sports will take place in the morning. KS2 will take place in the afternoon. You are welcome to watch your children in their races. KS1 Parents can stay on the school field after children have been dropped off. Gates will remain open until 9.20, if you arrive after this time, please come to the front door. You can bring picnic blankets & camping chairs and we ask you to sit on the far side of the field, in front of the table tennis and slide. Gates will re-open for parents of KS2 at 1.20. If you arrive after this time, you will have to enter through the school. FOHS will be providing refreshments for parents both morning and afternoon and would be grateful for donations either using cash or your phone. Let's hope we can have a fun, sunny event on Wednesday!

Year 1 and 2 Educational Farm Trip reminder

Year 1 and Year 2 are being transported to Greatworth Hall for an educational farm experience. You will find the details on Parent Pay. There is no cost to this event. We do require parental consent for all trips taking children off site.

FOHS Cake Sales - Coordinator Needed!

We're looking for a volunteer to take charge of the monthly cake sales as Rachel, who has ably organised the sales for the last three years, will not be able to continue in September when she'll also have a secondary school run!

You don't need to join the committee to run the cake sales, you just need to be available after school on the first Friday of the month and willing to come a bit early to set up the tables. Please speak to anyone on the committee or email friendsofhelmdonschool@outlook.com if you might be interested - it's a lovely way to get involved and you'd be helping us raise over £400 a year, as well as putting a smile on a lot of children's faces! Many thanks to Rachel for all her organising (and delicious tray bakes!) over the last few years.

Have a lovely weekend,

Amanda Zdyrko
Headteacher

Upcoming events at a glance:

- Tuesday 23rd June meeting for Reception 2026 parents, 6pm in the hall.
- Wednesday 24th June Sports Day

Community News and Attachments (these can be found in the Community section of our school website)

- Brackley Netball Club- Mondays Term Time 6:00pm to 7:00pm - Y3 upwards - Magdalen College School Woodhams Sports Hall (next to the tennis courts). First session is free. Contact sarah@brackleynetballclub.com
- Winchester House Summer Camp Flyer

Please be reminded that we are a Nut-Free school, as there are people within our community that have nut allergies. Please do not provide nut products as part of the packed lunches.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

If you have any concerns about the health, welfare or safety of a child in the Helmdon Primary School community please come and see me or email me at head@helmdon.northants-ecl.gov.uk I am the Designated Safeguarding Lead at school and I access my emails regularly. The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are Samantha Castle and Clare Hedley and they can be contacted via email: s.castle@helmdon.org and bursar@helmdon.northants-ecl.gov.uk. However, if you think a child is in immediate danger, please call Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 0300 126 7000 and/or call 999.

Online safety

The school's online safety team are myself (as DSL) and Michael Felce as the subject co-ordinator. Please speak to either of us if you have any concerns about e-safety. We can also be contacted by email: m.felce@helmdon.org and head@helmdon.northants-ecl.gov.uk