High Ongar Primary School Newsletter

Friday 6th November 2026

Welcome from the Head of School

It has been a pleasure to see a positive start to the new term. Across the school, children have settled quickly back into routines and are approaching their learning with enthusiasm and determination. It is wonderful to see pupils embracing the opportunities and demonstrating our school values each day.

This week, pupils have represented the school brilliantly at a Tag Rugby tournament and at an exciting animation day. These experiences provide valuable opportunities for children to develop teamwork, creativity and confidence, and we are incredibly proud of the way our pupils conducted themselves when representing High Ongar Primary School.

Looking ahead, we have another busy and exciting week planned. Children will be taking part in a range of activities to support our Children in Need fundraising efforts, while pupils will also have the opportunity to represent the school at KS1 Multi Skills and KS2 Cross Country events. We look forward to celebrating these experiences and sharing achievements with you.

A reminder that Tapestry will go live on Monday. If you have not already done so, please take a few moments to read the letter that has been sent home and activate your accoutns. We are looking forward to using Tapestry to share and celebrate children's learning and experiences in school throughout the year.

As always, we would love to hear about any achievements outside of school so that we can celebrate these successes in future newsletters.

Best wishes for a wonderful weekend,

Mrs S Kilbey
Head of School

Important Dates

9th Nov - Yr6 Resilience Workshop
11th Nov - Remembrance Service at the Memorial
11th Nov - Parents Evening
12th Nov - KS2 Cross Country - invitation only
12th Nov - EYFS Intake Tour
12th Nov - Parents Evening
13th Nov - Children in Need Fundraising Day
18th Nov - EYFS Intake Tour
27th Nov - Friends Playground Tuck
28th Nov - Tree Lighting at St Mary's 3.30pm to 4.30pm
30th Nov - Non Pupil Day
4th Dec - Clubs finish
8th Dec - EYFS and KS1 Nativity 9.30am
9th Dec - Friends Christmas Shop
10th Dec - EYFS and KS1 Nativity 2.15pm
16th Dec - Christmas Jumper Day
16th Dec - Christmas Panto
17th Dec - Friends Christmas Disco
18th Dec - Christmas Assembly at St Mary's - parents welcome
18th Dec - School finishes at 1pm

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School Updates and Celebrations

Tag Rugby Tournament



On Wednesday, Year 5 and Year 6 took part in a Tag Rugby tournament at Ongar Primary School. Both teams did extremely well and the children's skills were commended by other participants. Our A Team came 2nd overall and our B Team came 1st overall. Both River and Ethan were given special mentions by their teams and staff.
Well done to everyone!

Animation Day

On Wednesday, we visited Ongar Primary School to take part in an exciting animation day. We used the app 'Stop Motion' to build our own fun films. The children first practised a range of skills before deciding on a story, which they then created. At the end of the day, the children were able to share these films with the rest of the group. Everyone had such fun!









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School Updates and Celebrations

Bridge Academy Trust Community Award

We are excited to launch this year's Bridge Academy Trust Community Award, giving children the opportunity to try new experiences, help others, and make a positive difference in their community. Activity booklets can be found on the school website, which lists ideas for each section. Once children have completed an activity, they should bring their evidence to Miss Arnold during Thursday lunchtime, or it can be emailed to communityaward@highongar.essex.sch.uk

We look forward to celebrating all the fantastic achievements of our pupils throughout the year!

Achievements and Adventures





Reiss and his Braintree Futsal Team competed in the European U9 Futsal Tournament in Belguim.

They did amazingly well overall, playing on the group stages across Friday and Saturday. They managed to get to the Semi Finals on Sunday, beating the tournament hosts Squadra which was an incredible game to watch. Braintree sadly lost in the final 3-2 which was also played on Sunday but they gave it their best efforts and just missed out in the end.

Reiss was also awarded player of the match in the final which was voted by the tournament staff. Very proud of Reiss and his team mates.

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School Updates and Celebrations

Headteacher Award Winners

Congratulations to our Headteacher Award Winners this week!

Week Ending 6th November

- **Ash -** Maria and Jesse
- **Beech -** Joshua and Ines
- **Elm -** William and Nova
- **Maple -** Cooper and Sophie
- **Willow -** Kit and Frankie



Attendance

The class with the highest attendance this week is:



Beech Class - 97.3%
Whole School - 92.7%

These classes have earnt a piece of their attendance puzzle:



Ash Class **Beech Class**

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Reminders

Attendance

8.35am Gates Open
8.40am Classrooms Open
8.45am School Starts
10.30am Morning Break
10.45am Morning Break ends
12pm Lunch starts
1pm Afternoon learning begins
3.10pm Gates open
3.15pm End of day



To make sure that all children are as safe as possible, we operate a system of first day contact. When your child is absent, please contact the School Office on 01277 363761. Please give:

- Your child's name
- The reason for absence
- When you expect your child to return to school

You must call the school every day your child is absent.

PE Days

Ash - Wednesday and Thursday
Beech - Thursday and Friday
Elm - Tuesday and Friday
Maple - Monday and Tuesday
Willow - Monday and Wednesday



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THE FRIENDS OF High Ongar Primary School

♡ November Newsletter ♡

Hello November!

We hope everyone had a lovely half-term break! We've got lots of exciting things coming up at High Ongar, and the Friends have been busy planning some wonderful events for the children and families to enjoy!

Our School Is Getting Festive!

Thanks to your amazing support, we've now been able to purchase new Christmas trees and decorations for the school! We can't wait to see them bringing a little festive magic to the classrooms this Christmas.

Christmas Raffles – Fantastic Prizes!

RAFFLE TICKETS

Tickets for our Christmas Raffle and Nativity Front Row Seats Raffle will be on sale at school pick-up on the following dates:

Monday 23rd, Tuesday 24th & Wednesday 25th November
Thursday 3rd & Friday 4th December

Elfridges Christmas Shop

Wednesday 9th December

Our Elfridges Christmas Shop is back! The children will have the opportunity to choose some special gifts for their loved ones. More details coming soon!

Christmas Disco

Thursday 17th December

Get those dancing shoes ready! Our Christmas Disco will take place on **Thursday 17th December**. More information about timings and tickets will follow soon!

Christmas Cards That Give Back!

Keep an eye out for your child's Christmas card fundraising order form, coming home soon! For every card or gift ordered, the school receives **20% back!**

November Tuck Shop

Friday 27th November

Our next Tuck Shop will take place after school on **Friday 27th November**. Come along for some tasty treats!

Happy School Bag Collection

A huge thank you for your support – we raised **£105.20** from our Happy School Bag collection!

♡ Can You Lend a Hand?

We're looking for volunteers to help at Elfridges Christmas Shop and our Christmas Disco.
If you can spare a little time, please speak to a member of the Friends or let the school office know.

Thank you for your continued support!

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