



Welcome to Homerswood



Diary dates

Wednesday 14th January
Parent Forum at 6:30pm

Thursday 15th January
Census Day
Primary Applications 2026 Close
SEND Cafe at 2:30pm in Staffroom

Tuesday 20th January
Full Governing Body at 6pm

Thursday 22nd January
Ayaz Bhuta Double Paralympian
and European Championship Visit

WB 2nd February
Storytelling Week

3rd-6th February
Family Book Looks

Thursday 5th February
SEA Visit (all day)

Friday 6th February
FOH Uniform Sale

WB 9th February
Children's Mental Health Day

Tuesday 10th February
Parent Consultations - online

Thursday 12th February
Parent Consultations - face to face

WB 16th February
HALF TERM

Wednesday 25th February
Year 2 Trip to Air Museum

Thursday 26th February
Year 5 Maths Challenge at 1:30pm

Wednesday 4th - Friday 6th March
Year Woodrow

Thursday 5th March
World Book Day
FOH Wonka Bar Event

Headteacher: Miss Mica Kettle BEd (Hons), MaST
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Rebecca Fitts BA, PGCE
Assistant Headteacher: Mrs Jenny Gregory BA,
PGCE

Newsletter

Welcome Back

A very happy New Year to everyone in our school community! I hope you enjoyed a restful and joyful break, and that 2026 has begun on a positive note for you and your families. It has been wonderful to see the children return this week with bright smiles, renewed energy, and a real sense of enthusiasm for the term ahead.

January always feels like a time of fresh starts, and this week has already been filled with optimism, curiosity, and kindness. Classrooms are buzzing with learning, friendships have been happily reunited, and our shared routines are helping us quickly settle back into school life. I am incredibly proud of how smoothly the children have transitioned back and how supportive our staff and families continue to be.

As we look ahead, this term promises many exciting learning opportunities, events, and chances to come together as a community. Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support, and partnership. It truly makes a difference. Here's to a positive, purposeful, and rewarding year ahead for us all!

FOH New Year Parties – What a Night!

The FOH New Year Parties were a fantastic way to ring in the year, filled with great music, energy, and plenty of smiles on the dancefloor. Spiderman and Elsa even turned up to celebrate with the younger children as well - what a treat!

A huge thank you goes out to all of the volunteers and staff members who organised and helped out during the event. Your dedication and hard work behind the scenes made the night such a success. From planning and set-up to keeping everything running smoothly, we appreciate it all. Thank you for helping create such a memorable start to the term!

Double Paralympian & European Champion Visit

Ayaz Bhuta MBE PLY (Wheelchair Rugby Gold Medallist Tokyo 2020) will be visiting our school on Thursday 22nd January 2026.

He will lead an assembly in the morning then individual class workshops throughout the day where the children can ask questions, take part in a Rugby teamwork drill and see the Paralympic Gold medal up close.

REMINDER: Birthday Sweets

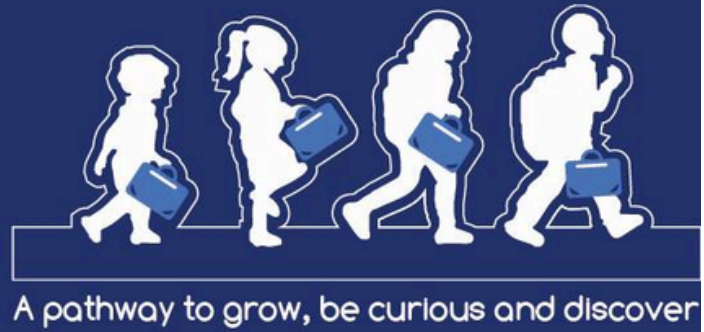
In line with guidance from the Local Authority, we will no longer be able to share sweets or other food items brought in from home to celebrate children's birthdays, effective in our school from January 2026. This means that items brought in from home such as sweets, chocolates, cakes, or biscuits cannot be distributed to pupils in school. We would like to reassure you that we will continue to celebrate children's birthdays through assemblies; other inclusive and meaningful ways that do not involve food so that every child still feels recognised on their special day.

Stay Connected

If you have any questions, please get in touch via email at admin@homerswood.herts.sch.uk or call us on 01707 320610. Don't forget – members of the Senior Leadership Team are out on the playground each morning and are always happy to help.



Welcome to Homerswood



Attendance Update



Whole School Attendance this week:
97.5%

Here are this week's attendance figures:

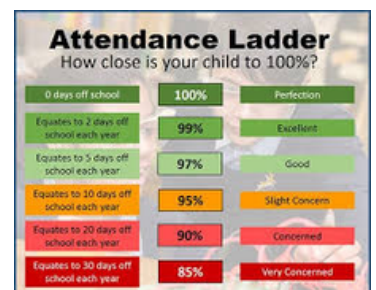
- Nursery: 94.5%
- Reception: 98.3%
- Year 1: 96.2%
- Year 2: 99.4%
- Year 3: 100%
- Year 4: 96.7%
- Year 5: 96.0%
- Year 6: 97.3%

Congratulations to **Year 3** for the best attendance this week. Keep it up!

Each DAY a class achieves 100% attendance they get a letter from the word ATTENDANCE. When they have spelt it completely they get extra free play outside on the Friday afternoon. This way everyone can contribute over time #teamwork

- Reception: A T T E
- Year 1: A T
- Year 2: A T T
- Year 3: A T
- Year 4: A T T E N D
- Year 5: A T T
- Year 6: A T T E

The importance of regular school attendance explained letter (sent 26.09.25)
Term time holidays and leave of absence letter (sent 26.09.25)





Welcome to Homerswood



Proud Of My Class:



Each week the class staff team will share in assembly why they are particularly proud of their class that week.

- Reception - Well done for coming back with a fantastic attitude and behaviour for learning.
- Year 1 - Well done for your focussed enthusiasm and approach to learning.
- Year 2 - Well done for excellent listening and being really focussed.
- Year 3 - Well done for an excellent attitude and renewed love of reading in your fluency sessions.
- Year 4 - Well done for re-settling back into routines, you have really impressed the team.
- Year 5 - Well done for re-settling back into routines, you have really impressed the team.
- Year 6 - Well done for getting straight back to routines and for excellent focus.



Superstar Singers:

- Alfred - Reception
- Ada - Reception
- Ella - Year 2
- Fern - Year 3



Handwriter of the Week:

Aiden - Year 4

Weekly Winners (improvement in accuracy)

- 1st - Leo (Year 5)
- 2nd - Henry (Year 6)
- 3rd - Leonardo (Year 5)



Welcome to Homerswood



Sports Diary Dates

06.01.2026 & 13.01.2026

Mr O'Neill in for indoor athletics
Year 5 and Year 6

20.01.2026

Football fixtures at Monks Walk for
the football team

21.01.2026 & 28.01.2026

Mr Williams in for handball Year 2
and Year 4

22.01.2026

Paralympian Wheelchair Rugby
Gold Medallist Ayaz Bhuta school
visit

22.01.2026

Badminton training at Birchwood
leisure centre for 8 in Year 6

23.01.2026

Mr Williams in for Curling practise
for Year 3

04.02.2026

Rapid fire cricket at Stanborough
for 8 in Year 4

06.02.2026

Handball visit for Year 5 to Monks
Walk

Sports Updates



Welcome back to our PE and Sport updates for Spring term. We had a very successful Autumn term for our sport and are looking forward to continue this for every child.

We kicked off the week straight away with a visit from Mr O'Neill for indoor athletics for Year 5 and 6 in preparation for upcoming inter-school events later in the term.



We have all new curriculum events taking place this half term:

Nursery & Reception: Gymnastics

Year 1: Gymnastics and Target games

Year 2: Gymnastics and Target games

Year 3: Gymnastics and Ball skills

Year 4: Gymnastics and Handball

Year 5: Gymnastics and Football

Year 6: Gymnastics and Hockey



In addition to our wonderful, busy curriculum, we have many clubs, active blasts, events and sports leaders challenges taking place aswell to ensure all children are hitting their 60 active daily minutes and enjoying PE and sport - benefitting physically, mentally and emotionally.

As always if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

For further updates and information about sports and physical education at Homerswood please visit our webpage.





Welcome to Homerswood



Key dates

6th January - Epiphany

19th January - World Religion Day

1st February - Tu Bishvat

17th February - Random Acts of Kindness Day

17th February - Lunar New Year

17th February - 21st March - Ramadan

18th February - Ash Wednesday

22nd February - World Thinking Day

4th March - Holi

3rd - 5th April - Easter



We would love to invite families to come into school and share stories, traditions, or special activities that celebrate their culture with us.

If this is something you would be interested in, please contact the school office.

Celebrating Spiritual, Moral and Cultural Diversity

Every day at Homerswood, we encourage our pupils to be curious about the world, respectful of others, and proud of their own identity. Whether through exploring world faiths, celebrating cultural festivals, engaging in thoughtful discussions, or participating in creative projects, we strive to build a school community where diversity is valued and every voice matters.

Epiphany

Epiphany is a special Christian celebration which is celebrated on 6th January each year. It remembers the visit of the Three Wise Men, who followed a bright star to find baby Jesus. Epiphany reminds us that Jesus came for everyone and marks the end of the Christmas season in many churches.

In some countries, Epiphany is also called Three Kings' Day, and people enjoy special traditions, songs, and foods. Children may learn about sharing, generosity, and welcoming others from the Wise Men's journey.



At school, Epiphany is a time to talk about light, hope, and new beginnings. We can celebrate by being kind, curious, and thoughtful towards everyone around us.