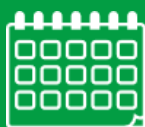




Dates for Your

DIARY



Friday 25th October 2024

Pupils last day before half term

Monday 4th November 2024

School closed—PD day

Tuesday 5th November 2024

Pupils return to School

Wednesday 6th November 2024

Open morning for prospective
Reception parents—September
2025

Friday 8th November 2024

PTA AGM—all welcome

**Monday 11th —Friday 15th
November 2024**

Anti-Bullying Week

Friday 15th November 2024

Children in Need

Friday 29th November 2024

School closed—PD day

Term Calendar can be found [here](#).

NEWSLETTER

A message from Mrs Mitchinson

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of our first half term, I want to take a moment to reflect on some of our recent highlights;



Reception held their first Reading meeting, followed by a 'Stay and Play' session. Parents were invited to join their child in the classroom and see how their reading journey starts. Thank you to everyone who attended—your support makes a huge difference.

We've had several football tournaments on our school field. Our teams of players have shown great energy, determination and resilience. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported. Our Year 6 girls came 2nd last week and our Year 5 boys came first this week—*Full results on page 3*—What a brilliant result!



Our Choir will be performing at the Apex in Bury St Edmunds in December as part of BBC Radio Suffolk's Carol Concert. Thank you to the PTA who have funded new choir t-shirts for children to wear when performing.



Our Year 5's are making great progress with their music lessons. Children are learning to play the guitar or the cornet. I'm looking forward to seeing their skills come together in a performance later this year.



Our Peer Mediators are ready to support play during break and lunchtimes.

Our work on developing children's learning behaviours is really coming together - children are proud to show off their super sitting, wonderful walking and tight transitions in lessons. They are focused and ready to answer questions. Teachers are using 'cold calling' as a technique to ensure all learners are engaged and develop a deeper level of understanding.

I'm excited to see what the next half term will bring! Thank you for your continued support and I hope everyone has a relaxing half term break.

Mrs Emily Mitchinson

Attendance



It is really important that we continue to work together to do all we can to prioritise the children's attendance—Face-to-face education is important in helping our children reach their full potential.

Our whole school attendance is currently

96%

A dip from the start of the term, which saw 97.4% of children in school.

We have noticed that some children are missing out because they have a cough or cold. Please be reassured that children can attend when experiencing cold symptoms. Your child's class teacher will ensure they are monitored and will make contact if children begin to struggle.

We thought this NHS guidance might be useful -

[Is my child too ill for school?](#)

Mrs Martin works with Mr Hicks and our Education Welfare Officer (EWO) to provide support to families where children's attendance becomes a concern.

We are committed to ensuring every child gets the best possible start.



Clubs

We are very fortunate to have our booster classes running both before and after school for selected pupils. Teachers are supporting children with their times tables, phonics and reading and maths skills.

We also have another great range of after-school clubs on offer next half term -

Monday

Yr 5/6 Football

Tuesday

Yr 3/4 Football, Read & Craft club for Reception, Sewing and Jewellery making for Yr 1 & 2

Wednesday

Yr 3/4/5/6 Choir, Creative club for Yr 1/2, Cricket club for Yr 5/6

Thursday

Yr 5/6 Gymnastics, Ball Games for Yr 1/2

Friday

No clubs.



Corporate Tiger
EMBROIDERY - PRINT - DESIGN

We continue to have high expectations of our children and want everyone to wear the correct uniform.

Uniform can be ordered from [Corporate Tiger](#)

Sporting Fixtures

We have hosted three football tournaments this month for the Forest Heath Sports Partnership.



The first tournament was the 7 v 7

mixed under 11s held on the 9th October. 20 teams entered from 18 schools and were placed in 4 pools, the winners from each pool moving into the semi-finals. Great Heath 1 played extremely well against some tough opposition and finished bottom of the pool. Great Heath 2 equally played extremely well and after some hard fought games finished top of the pool to progress into the semi-final. They lost this game narrowly and moved into the 3/4 placed game losing this on penalties, finishing a very credible 4th.



The second tournament was the 6 v 6 mixed Years 3/4 held on the 15th Oc-

tober. 18 teams entered. In this tournament the girls and boys each play a half with the scores combined. All children played brilliantly and some excellent goals were scored. The team finished joint 5th overall.

Yesterday's Year 5 development team came 1st in the under 11 tournament.



We are looking forward to the next round of tournaments.

Mr Hicks.

Poppy Appeal



Our Year 6 Ambassadors have been chosen and are already having an impact. They're keen to be involved in our Poppy Appeal and will be joining the parade on Sunday 10th November. Year 6 will also be representing all of us at Great Heath at the War Memorial on Monday 11th November.

The Ambassadors will be selling poppies in the morning, which started on Wednesday. A message has been shared via dojo showing the various items for sale.

PTA

Thank you to the PTA for yesterday's wonderful disco. It was great to see the children dressed up, dancing and having fun with both staff and friends.

Everyone is warmly invited to their Annual General Meeting, which will take place on Friday 8th November at 3.30pm.

The PTA are always looking for volunteers. You don't have to give up time regularly but they'd love to have extra help at events, such as discos and fairs. If you can spare an hour or two, please let a member of the PTA or SLT know.

Don't forget about their ASDA 'Cash pot for schools' scheme—the poster can be found at the end of the Newsletter.

A closer look at Sensory Circuits

When a child struggles to process and organise sensory information, it can make functional daily activities a real challenge.

Children that are dysregulated and overwhelmed with sensory information are less likely to be fully ready to learn.

Sensory Circuits involves a sequence of physical activities that alert, organise and calm pupils. This helps them to regulate their senses to achieve the 'just right' level of alertness needed for effective learning.

We currently run daily groups, in the morning, for pupils in Year 3– Year 6. This ensures everyone is able to access the school day: children are alert, calm and happy.



SEND: The 7 Cs

At Great Heath, we are using the **7Cs** Learning Portfolio to help identify pupils' strengths and barriers to learning. The 7Cs Learning Portfolio provides a language of assessment that we can all use. The 7Cs are:

Curriculum, Cognition, Communication, Compassion, Creativity, Control and Communication.

Within each 'C' there are a further 7 skills. We talk about each skill and, together with your child, we try to identify 3 strengths and 3 barriers to learning; this helps plan the next steps. At home, you might like to encourage your child to talk about their strengths and difficulties; ask them what they think they are good at and ask them what they would like to get better at. Please see Miss Ramsell or your child's teacher if you would like more information on the 7C's.

If your child is on the SEND register, their targets will have been discussed at parents evening last week. Teachers will be updating pupils' SEND plans to reflect this. Updated plans will be coming home after half term.

The SEND **Local Offer** details the services available for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Suffolk's SEND Local Offer can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

Our SEND team: Miss Ramsell is our SENCO and Mrs Parsons is our SENCO Assistant.





Great Heath Academy

Open Day

for

Children starting school in
September 2025

on

Wednesday

6th November 2024

Join us for a morning tour of our
school.



Call the
Academy
to book
your place
01638
713 430

Great Hopes Achieved