



The Ewyas Herald

Friday 5th September 2025
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Dear Parents and Carers

The children have had a great first three days back in school. From our new reception cohort to those in year 6 entering their final year at primary, all the classes have been busy settling into their new routines and getting started on their new learning.

Here at Ewyas Harold, we believe that education is about more than just books and numbers—it's about shaping kind, confident, and thoughtful individuals who will make a positive difference in the world. That's why we're proud to have started on our journey to become a Values-Based school. During our Monday INSET day, staff and governors learned more about Values-Based Education and developed plans for introducing this across the school.

Values-Based Education is about embedding positive human values - like respect, honesty, compassion, and responsibility - into every aspect of school life. It's not just about teaching children what values are, but helping them live those values through daily experiences, relationships, and reflection.

Our first step is to select which values are the most appropriate for us to focus on in the school. I will be in touch again shortly to gather your views on this and will then work alongside governors to narrow it down accordingly.

Once this is done we will then focus on each value in turn to make sure we give them the time needed for children to develop a sound understanding and put them into practice. The values will be woven into everyday learning, helping children to reflect on their choices, build strong relationships, and develop a sense of purpose and belonging. Whether it's through classroom discussions, assemblies, or playground interactions, we're nurturing compassionate citizens of the future.

Clubs

It has been a very busy start to term and I have been incredibly impressed by how settled the classes have been. As you know the process of moving to Bromcom as our Management Information System has had its challenges. One of the teething problems seems to have been around clubs. All the afterschool clubs have spaces - please contact the office if your child would like to join and take part.

Attendance

I wanted to say thank you and well done. Last academic year the school's attendance was above Herefordshire and National data. We achieve 96.6% attendance across the year (Herefordshire's was 95.3% and nationally it was 94.8%). We can be very proud of this. The more time children spend in school, the more they learn, the better their relationships with peers are and the more they are shown to enjoy their education. I have every faith that we can build on this upward trend (in 2023-24 it was 95.6%) and get above 97% this academic year.

Mr R Foster

Governor News

Dear Parents and Carers

It is with regret that I have to inform you that Lauri Lloyd has stepped down as Parent Governor. Lauri has been a valued member of the governing board for 6 years and we wish to extend our thanks for her support and hard work.

This leaves us with a Parent Governor vacancy - would you be interested in this role or do you know a parent who might be? There are many skills we are looking for in our governors like the Early Years and forest schools to human resources and financial management. You don't have to have these skills but you do need commitment and some time to fulfil the role. Please use this link ([here](#)) for more information and to complete the nomination form. Please contact the school office or Mrs A Jenner (Chair) if you have any queries or wish to discuss or nominate yourself or someone else. We have a full governing body meeting on 23rd September and it would be really good to have someone onboard by then. Deadline for nominations are 12th September.

Janet Mailes
Clerk to governors

Find this newsletter and lots of other useful information on our school website:
www.ewyasharoldprimaryschool.co.uk/

Contact details for Ewyas Harold Primary
Head teacher:
Mr Richard Foster: 01981 240432
admin@ewyas-harold.hereford.sch.uk
Governors:
ajenner@ewyas-harold.hereford.sch.uk

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Reception admissions for 2026-2027

Do you have a child born between
1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022

If so you will need to apply for a school place
by 15 January 2026
(to commence September 2026)

Applications can be completed from
15 September 2025 online
(scan QR code) or visit:



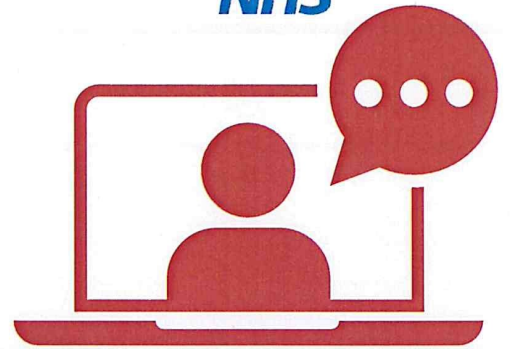
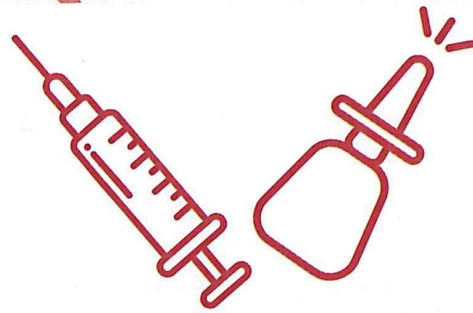
www.herefordshire.gov.uk/schools-education/primary-school-admissions

Please note: a place at a nursery does not
guarantee a place at the associated primary
school, therefore you must still apply.

For further information please contact the school
admissions team on 01432 260926 / 261574 or
schooladmissions@herefordshire.gov.uk



Vaccination UK
Immunisation Provider for
NHS

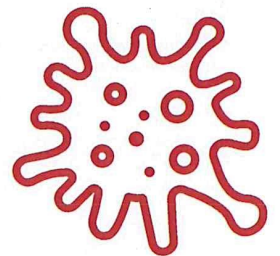


FREE PARENT WEBINAR: THE FLU VACCINE IN CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Join us for a presentation discussing the flu vaccine in children and young people.

Topics covered:

- ✓ Why does my child need the vaccine
- 💡 Side-effects and safety
- 👤 Nasal vs injection (pork gelatine content)
- 📊 Flu data from previous years
- ❓ Q&A session



Wednesday 17th Sept



8:00 - 9:00pm



Microsoft Teams



363 003 291 454



jc3J83z5



Thursday 18th Sept



6:00 - 7:00pm



Microsoft Teams



310 543 675 2095



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Dear Parents and Carers,

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE LAW REGARDING PENALTY NOTICES FOR UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

A new National Framework for Penalty Notices for school absence, including unauthorised holiday absence, has been introduced following changes to the law. The new Government regulations came into effect from 19 August 2024 and we wanted to bring this to your attention, as it affects how penalty notices are issued across England.

What is the law regarding penalty notices?

- **Per parent, per child**
Penalty notice fines are now issued to each parent, for each child that was absent. For example: 3 siblings absent for unauthorised absences, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.
- **10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period**
Penalty notice fines are considered when there have been 10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period. These sessions can be consecutive (e.g. 10 sessions of holiday in one week) or not (e.g. 6 sessions of unauthorised absence taken in 1 week and 1 per week for the next 4 weeks).
- **First offence**
The first time a penalty notice is issued the amount will be:
 - £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days
 - Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days
- **Second offence (within 3 years)**
The second time a penalty notice is issued the amount will be:
 - £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days
 - There will be no offer of a reduction in rate

- **Third offence and any further offences (within 3 years)**

The third time an offence is committed for unauthorised absences a penalty notice will not be issued. The local authority will instead consider other legal options to improve attendance and this could include prosecution. If prosecution in the Magistrates Court is deemed appropriate, fines can be up to £2500.

- **New two penalty notice limit in a three-year period**

The three-year rolling period starts for parents when the first penalty notice is issued to them after the 19 August 2024.

Further information can be found at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance. Please see FAQs attached with more information about how the new rules may affect you.

For specific information about how your child's school supports attendance please see the attendance policy on the school website.

Yours sincerely

Louise Tanner
Head of Learning and Achievement

FAQs

Why is school attendance important?

Every moment in school counts and days missed add up quickly. Evidence shows that pupils who have good attendance enjoy better wellbeing and school performance than those who don't. There are only a few circumstances where a child is allowed to miss school, such as illness or where the school has given permission because of an exceptional circumstance.

What should I do if I am worried about my child's attendance?

In the first instance you should contact your child's school and ask for advice on how you can work together to improve the situation. You can also access information on Herefordshire Council website [School attendance and absences](#) – Herefordshire Council.

Who can be issued with a penalty notice?

Each parent can receive a fine for each child who has had unauthorised absence from school. In education law, anyone who lives with a child and who has day-to-day care of the child is also considered to be a parent whether they are the biological parent or not. For example, this will include step-parents and partners.

Do the rules only apply to holidays during term time?

No, it applies to all unauthorised absence from school including holidays. Unauthorised absence includes other absence that has not been agreed such as truancy, arriving late after the register has closed and failing to provide reasons for absence.

What happens if I am issued with a penalty fine and I don't pay it?

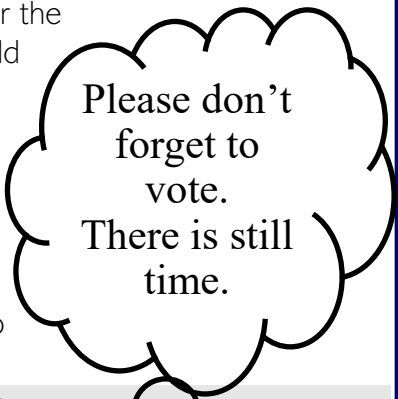
Unauthorised absence from school is an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996. A penalty fine is an opportunity for you to settle out of court. If you don't take this opportunity, you can be prosecuted for the offence of failing to ensure your child's regular attendance.

Ewyas Harold Primary School calls out for votes to get a share of Tesco's Stronger Starts fund

The primary school is bidding for a cash boost from the Tesco Stronger Starts scheme.

Stronger Starts provides grant awards of up to £1,500 to local community projects, with a particular focus on children and young people.

Three groups in every community have been shortlisted to receive grant awards and Tesco customers can vote for the group they think should take away the top award in their local Tesco store. Ewyas Harold Primary School is one of the groups on the shortlist in Hereford to purchase a mini bus to help the children and community at Ewyas Harold Primary school access wider opportunities.



We have been informed that there is work commencing at the Church/church hall which will make the hall car park unavailable for parking. It has been noted before that parents should not use the church car park but for new parents/grandparents collecting pupils, this is a gentle reminder not to park in the church hall car park please.

After school clubs Autumn Term 2025

These clubs will begin on Wednesday, 4th September and run up to the Christmas break. Spaces at these clubs will be on a first come first serve basis and booked via the new MCAS parent app. If you experience any problems doing this, please contact the school office.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3:20 - 4:15	KS1 Film Club KS2 Drama Club	Chill Club	Chill Club	Choir Construction KS1 Sports KS2	Chill Club

School Diary

Sept	9th	3:30-4:15	Reception, Year 1 & 2 Meet the Teacher
	10th	3:30-4:15	KS2 (Year 3, 4, 5 & 6) Meet the teacher
	10th		Don't forget to book your child's meals for next week (deadline midnight Weds)
	11th	AM	Guitar & Drum lessons restart—if interested please contact the office
	23rd	18:00	Full governing body meeting
	25th	AM	School Photographer for individual and sibling photos