

HIGH ERCALL NEWSLETTER

Be Kind Be Safe Be Ready

***Respectful Resourceful Resilient
Reflective Responsible***



Headteacher Welcome

It certainly feels as though we are now in the full swing of school life, and it has been wonderful to see so much happening across school over the past week!

We have been very busy planning lots of exciting events for the term ahead, including our Harvest and Christmas celebrations, some of which you can read more about below. We are really looking forward to creating some special opportunities for our children and families to come together throughout the term. Your child should also have come home with an information letter and sponsorship form for our 3 Peaks Challenge. We are very excited about this event and hope that everyone will get involved! If you have not received the information or sponsorship form, please contact the school office and we will make sure you receive a copy, it is also attached to the bottom of the newsletter.

It has also been a particularly sporty week! Our children have been busy representing the school through Year 5/6 Boys' Football, Girls' Netball Development and Bikeability.

We are incredibly proud of all the children who have taken part. They have represented our school fantastically, demonstrated amazing sportsmanship and, most importantly, shown our 5Rs in everything they have done.

They have been wonderful ambassadors for our school.

A huge well done to every one of them! 🍌

There is plenty more to look forward to over the coming weeks, so please keep an eye on our newsletters and communications for all the latest dates and information.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Mrs Lingham
Acting Headteacher



Spotlight on Staff - Mrs Lingham

It's time for our second Spotlight on Staff! Unfortunately, I didn't have too many willing volunteers this week, so I thought I had better step up and put myself in the spotlight!

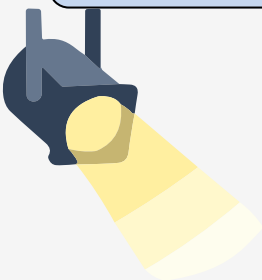
My journey with the High Ercall community began back in 2018, when we moved to Shropshire and my eldest daughter joined Reception. Little did I know then quite how big a part of my life the school would become!

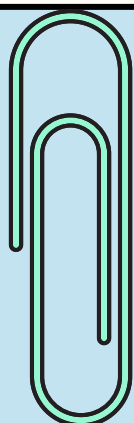
I initially began volunteering in school, supporting children with maths interventions, before joining the staff as the Year 5/6 teacher. From there, I moved into the role of Deputy Headteacher and have now had the privilege of taking on the role of Acting Headteacher.

Before joining High Ercall, my career took a slightly different route! I served in the Royal Air Force as an aircraft technician before retraining as a teacher. Since then, I have been fortunate enough to work in a real variety of educational settings – from teaching maths in a secondary school in Reading, to working in a middle school in Northumberland and teaching A Level Maths in Anglesey. I then made the move into primary education, teaching in a range of different settings, including schools in London and Lancashire, before eventually finding my way to our lovely little rural school here in High Ercall!

Away from school, I have two daughters who keep me very busy! Most weekends are spent ferrying them between football, gymnastics and various other sporting activities, so there is rarely a quiet moment!

I have a real passion for teaching and education, and although my role within school has changed over the years, I still absolutely love being in the classroom with the children. Seeing them learn, grow in confidence and develop their own personalities is one of the best parts of working in education.





KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

AUTUMN TERM 2026

HARVEST & CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Due to damage to the church roof, Reverend Ian has advised us that unfortunately we are currently unable to use the church for our usual Harvest and Christmas Carol services.

Although we are disappointed that we cannot celebrate together in the church in our usual way, we have decided to turn this unexpected change into an exciting opportunity! This year, we will be replacing both services with two special whole-school enrichment days:

🌾 **Harvest Enrichment Day – Wednesday 21st October**

🎄 **Christmas Enrichment Day – Friday 18th December**

For each Enrichment Day, we will mix the children across the school to create five brand-new classes, with children from all year groups learning and working together. Each group will spend the whole day with a teacher and teaching assistant, giving our children a wonderful opportunity to work with different pupils and adults from across the school.

🌾 **Harvest Enrichment Day – ‘Farmer to Fork’**

Throughout our Harvest Enrichment Day, the children will take part in a range of Harvest-themed activities based around our ‘Farmer to Fork’ theme.

The highlight of the day will be a whole-school Scarecrow Challenge! Each of our five new classes will work together to design and create their very own scarecrow inspired by the theme.

In the afternoon, parents and carers will be invited into school to see the finished creations and vote for their favourite. There will even be a prize for the winning class!

🎄 **Christmas Enrichment Day**

At Christmas, our mixed-age groups will come together once again for a festive day of creativity. Each group will design and make Christmas products, which will then be available for parents and carers to purchase during the afternoon.

We are also hoping to finish our special day with a whole-school Christmas Carol Sing-Along, giving our school community the chance to come together and enjoy some festive favourites.

We are really looking forward to making these two days memorable occasions for the children and turning a change of circumstances into something new and exciting for our whole school community. Please keep the afternoons of Wednesday 21st October and Friday 18th December free in your diaries if possible. Further information, including timings for parents and carers, will follow nearer the time.

We hope you will be able to join us!

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT
10am - Saturday 10th October	3 Peaks Challenge - Haughmond Hill
Tuesday 20th October	Y5/6 Loudmouth Workshop
Wednesday 21st October	Harvest Festival and Enrichment Day
Thursday 22nd & Friday 23rd October	PD day—staff training
Monday 2nd November	Return from half term break
4th November	Flu immunisations
11th - 13th November	Y6 Pioneer Residential Trip
13th November	Wear spots for ‘Children in Need’
17th November	C2 / C5 Parent conversations
18th November	C1 / C3 / C4 Parent conversations
10am - Sunday 22nd November	3 Peaks Challenge - Grinshill
1st December	YR parent lunch
3rd December	C3 Fire Safety workshop
10am - Saturday 5th December	3 Peaks Challenge - Wrekin
Friday 18th December	Christmas enrichment day/Last day of term
Friday 8th January	Young Voices concert—Birmingham

CELEBRATIONS AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Our 5R Stars this week are:

C1 - Ariella for being responsible
C2 - Daisy for being an all-round 5R star
C3 - Josh for being resilient
C4 - William for being resilient
C5 - Madison for being resilient

Attendance:

We've unfortunately been hit by a little bug in KS1 but we still have a good overall percentage of 94.05%

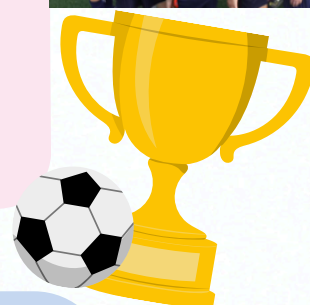
C1 - 85.61%
C2 - 94.14%
C3 - 97.34%
C4 - 99.18% - WINNERS!
C5 - 94.36%

Y5/6 Football team

Many congratulations to the Y5/6 boys football team who won all four games in their tournament this week. The boys worked fantastically together and we will look forward to moving into the Plate competition against other Telford schools. Mrs Jordan would like to thank Mr Shelley for joining her for the afternoon and for his coaching expertise.



The score lines were:
High Ercall **1 - 0** St George's
High Ercall **4 - 0** St Luke's
High Ercall **6 - 2** Thomas Telford
High Ercall **1 - 0** Wrekin View



Parent Pay

A quick reminder to please make sure that you are signed up to ParentPay, as we use this for a number of important activities across school.

ParentPay is used to sign children up for after-school clubs, school trips and sporting activities, so it is important that all parents and carers have access to their account. You should have received an activation email at the start of the school year with the information needed to get set up.

If you haven't received this, are having difficulty accessing your account or need any further support, please contact the school office and we will be happy to help.



Book of the Week

A Werewolf Ate My Homework!

Looking for a book packed with laughs, mischief and a little bit of mayhem? Then A Werewolf Ate My Homework! could be your next great read!

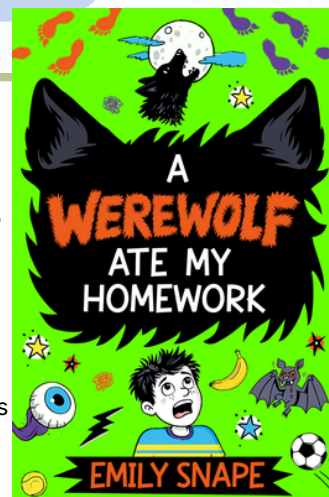
This funny and exciting story puts a monstrous twist on that classic excuse: "I didn't do my homework!" Expect plenty of silly situations, unexpected adventures and, of course, werewolf trouble along the way.

Perfect for children who enjoy:

Funny stories • Monsters and werewolves • School adventures • Books that don't take themselves too seriously!

Will the homework survive? There's only one way to find out...

Why not give it a try and let us know what you think?



OTHER NEWS



Menu wb 28.9.26

Week 2	
Monday Pork Sausages Farm Assured Pork Sausages or Homemade Sausage Roll Farm Assured Pork Sausages Wrapped in Puff Pastry Vegetarian Nuggets ✓ Pasta Twists , Diced Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetable Selection, Seasonal Salad Selection, Bread Swirl Mousse Early Years options: Natural Yogurt with Fruit or Fresh Fruit Salad or Cheese and Crackers	Thursday Bolognaise Farm Assured Minced Beef with a Chef's Rich Tomato Sauce or Cheese and Tomato Pizza ✓ Vegetarian Bolognaise Mixed vegetables and Beans in a Chef's Rich Tomato Sauce ✓ Pasta Twists , Seasonal Vegetable Selection, Seasonal Salad Selection, Bread Cornflake Cake or Flapjack Early Years options: Natural Yogurt with Fruit or Fresh Fruit Salad or Cheese and Crackers
Tuesday Chicken Curry Farm Assured Chicken in a Chef's Curry Sauce Mac 'n' Cheese Macaroni Pasta and Quorn in a Chef's Creamy Cheese Sauce ✓ Boiled Rice , Seasonal Vegetable Selection, Seasonal Salad Selection, Wholemeal Bread Cake and Custard Early Years options: Natural Yogurt with Fruit or Fresh Fruit Salad or Cheese and Crackers	Friday Jumbo Fish Finger White fillet of Fish coated in Breadcrumbs or Battered Fish White fillet of Fish coated in a Light Batter or Salmon Fishcake Star Cheese Pastie Creamed Potato and Mixed Beans, Grated Cheese encased in Puff Pastry Chips , Garden Peas, Baked Beans, Seasonal Salad Selection, Wholemeal Bread Fruit Crumble and Custard Early Years options: Natural Yogurt with Fruit or Fresh Fruit Salad or Cheese and Crackers
Wednesday Big Breakfast Farm Assured Bacon, Free Range Scrambled Egg Vegetarian Sausage ✓ Smiles , Baked Beans, Tomato, Mushroom, Seasonal Salad Selection, Bread Fruit Jelly or Golden Shortbread Early Years options: Natural Yogurt with Fruit or Fresh Fruit Salad or Cheese and Crackers	



Healthy Snacks at Breaktime

A quick reminder that children should be bringing a healthy snack to enjoy during breaktime. Having a nutritious snack helps children to stay energised and ready to learn throughout the morning.

Some great choices include fresh or dried fruit, vegetables, yoghurt, rice cakes, oatcakes or other healthy snack options.

We kindly ask that children do not bring sweets, chocolate, crisps or other high-sugar snacks for breaktime.

Thank you for helping us encourage healthy choices and good habits across school! 🍎 🥕 🥦

School uniform

We currently have a lot of lost property building up in school, so please can we remind all parents and carers to make sure that all items of school clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name.

When labelled clothing is found, it can usually be quickly reunited with its owner. Unfortunately, we currently have a large amount of unnamed clothing.

If possible, please also label lunch boxes, water bottles and other belongings that children regularly bring into school.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep our lost property pile under control!

Chill Club – Homework & Reading Support

For parents and carers of children who attend Chill Club, we wanted to let you know about a little change we have introduced to our afternoon routine.

Staff are now using the final half an hour of Chill Club (5:00–5:30pm) as an opportunity to support children with their homework and reading. During this time, children can work on any homework they have been given, and staff will also spend time listening to children read.

We hope this provides some extra support for our families, particularly for parents and carers who may not be getting home until later in the evening. It also means that when children get home after a long day, there is hopefully a little less to squeeze into the evening!

Of course, we would still encourage families to enjoy sharing books and reading together at home whenever possible, but we hope this additional support at Chill Club proves helpful.

School Holiday dates

Thursday 22nd / Friday 23rd Oct 2026 - PD days (staff only)
 26th - 30th Oct 2026 - Half term

21st Dec 2026 - 1st Jan 2027 - Christmas holidays

Monday 4th Jan 2027 - PD day (staff only)

15th - 19th February 2027 - Half term

26th March - 9th April 2027 - Easter holidays

3rd May 2027 - Bank Holiday

31st May - 4th June 2027 - Half term

Monday 7th June 2027 - PD day (staff only)

22nd July - 3rd September - Summer Holidays



SPONSORED 3 PEAKS CHALLENGE

We are very excited to launch our High Ercall 3 Peaks Sponsored Walk Challenge! Before Christmas, we are challenging every child to conquer three of our fantastic local peaks – Haughmond Hill, Grinshill and The Wrekin – and to raise as much sponsorship money as they can along the way!

The money raised will be used for two fantastic causes: helping our school to purchase new play equipment for children to enjoy at break and lunchtimes, as well as supporting our chosen charity, Bereavement UK, who have been a huge support within our school community in recent months.

Families can choose to complete the three walks independently in their own time, or come along and join school staff on one, two or all three of our organised walks. It's a brilliant opportunity to get outdoors, spend time together and take on a challenge while raising money for two very worthwhile causes.

Everyone can take part!

HAUGHMOND HILL - SAT 10TH OCT 10AM
GRINSHILL - SUN 22ND NOV 10AM
WREKIN - SAT 5TH DEC 10AM



**Details of meeting
place will be
communicated
nearer to each
event!**

**Sponsorship money to be submitted to either
school or through online payment by
Friday 18th December 2026**



High Ercall

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Raising money for school play equipment and Bereavement UK

3 PEAKS SPONSORSHIP FORM

Name: _____



#	Sponsor	Amount	Paid
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

Thank you for your support