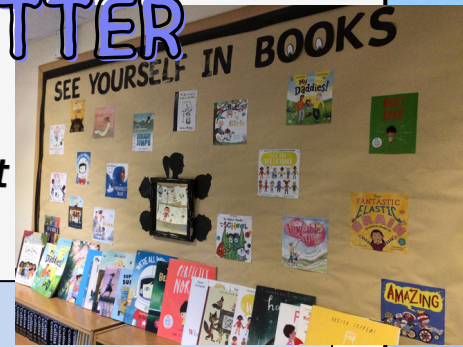




HIGH ERCALL NEWSLETTER

Be Kind Be Safe Be Ready
Respectful Resourceful Resilient
Reflective Responsible



Headteacher Welcome

What a lovely start we have had to the new school year! It has been wonderful to welcome the children back through the doors and see our classrooms, corridors and playground full of life again.

As I begin this term in my new role as Acting Headteacher, I would like to thank you for your warm wishes and continued support. Having been part of High Ercall since 2019, the school and its community mean a great deal to me, and I feel incredibly proud to have the opportunity to lead the school this term.

A particularly big welcome to our new Reception children and their families, who are beginning their High Ercall journey with us! We have been so impressed with how well the children have settled into Class 1. Starting school is a huge milestone, and they have already shown such confidence as they begin getting to know their teachers, making new friends and exploring their new environment. We are very excited to watch them learn and grow during their first year with us.

Across school, the children have settled back brilliantly. There has been a real sense of excitement as they have met their new teachers, reconnected with friends and begun establishing their new routines. Our focus this week has very much been on relationships, wellbeing and making sure every child feels happy, safe and ready to learn.

A huge thank you to all of our staff who gave up time during the summer holidays to come into school and prepare classrooms and shared spaces. So much work happens behind the scenes to make sure everything is ready for that first morning, and the school has looked incredibly welcoming.

If you haven't already seen it, make sure you take a look at our library! Our very talented HLTA, Mrs B, has been busy transforming the space with some fantastic hand-painted book characters. Perhaps you could ask your children: how many characters can they spot – and can they name the books they come from?

Thank you for helping us make the start of the year such a positive one. I hope this weekly newsletter will give you a real flavour of what has been happening across school, celebrate the children's achievements and learning, and keep you up to date with important dates, opportunities and ways to get involved.

Have a lovely weekend, and I look forward to another busy and exciting week ahead.

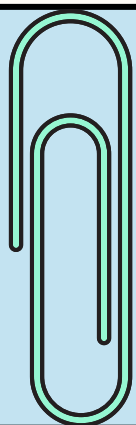
Gemma Lingham
Acting Headteacher

A note from Mrs Machin

A big thank you for your patience and understanding as we have introduced ParentPay. There have certainly been a few challenges to navigate along the way, but we feel we are getting there! It has been lovely to see how our school community has pulled together and supported one another while we have made the change. We are hopeful that, now everything is becoming established, ParentPay will make things simpler and easier for everyone going forward. As always, if you experience any problems or need any help, please don't hesitate to contact myself, Mrs Luckman or Mrs Hadley in the school office. We are always happy to help.

Mrs Machin
School Business Manager





KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

AUTUMN TERM 2026

MEET THE TEACHER TUESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER AT 9:00AM

We would like to invite parents and carers of children in Classes 2 - 5 into school on Tuesday 9th September at 9:00am for an informal opportunity to meet your child's new teacher and find out more about the term ahead. Class 1 parents will be invited in later on in the term. Teachers will share information about what your child will be learning this term, key dates and events, and important class routines, as well as ways you can support your child's learning and wellbeing at home.

Our new SENDCo, Nic Bane, and ELSA, Cathy Leaver, will also be available for an informal chat about any additional support we may be able to offer your child or family.

We hope you can join us and look forward to welcoming you into school!
If you are unable to attend, all information will be sent out via email.

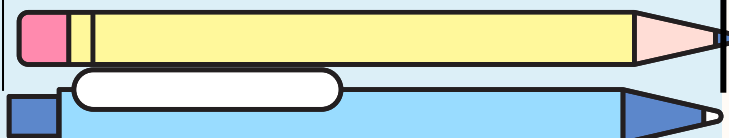
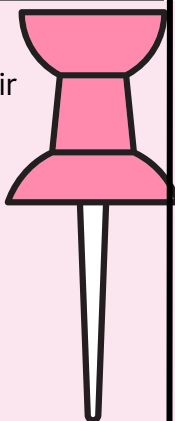
UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT
Wednesday 16th September	PSHE parent consultation
Week beginning 21st September	Y6 Bikeability - info sent out
Wednesday 23rd September	C1 parent workshop
Wb 12th October	Parent Reading Workshop
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
Wednesday 4th November	Flu vaccinations
11th - 13th November	Y6 Pioneer Residential Trip
Friday 8th January	Young Voices concert—Birmingham

PE DAYS

Please send children into school in their PE kit on the following days:

Class 1 - Monday and Tuesday
Class 2 - Monday and Tuesday
Class 3 - Monday and Friday (slight change to original days)
Class 4 - Wednesday and Thursday
Class 5 - Wednesday and Thursday



CELEBRATIONS AND BEHAVIOUR



High Ercall Primary School Our Values: Respect • Responsibility • Resourcefulness • Resilience • Reflection		
Be Kind • Use kind words • Include everyone • Show respect • Help others		
Be Safe Make safe choices • Walk calmly • Look after yourself and others		
Be Ready Listen • Learn • Be prepared • Try your best		

Celebrating Our 5Rs

Each week, teachers will choose a child from their class to receive our 5R Star Certificate, recognising someone who has demonstrated one or more of our school's 5Rs through their learning, behaviour or attitude. We look forward to celebrating our 5R Stars each week and sharing their achievements with you!

Our New Behaviour Steps

This week, we have also introduced our new behaviour steps across school. Staff have been spending time with the children discussing what these steps mean, the expectations we have of everyone and how they help us to make our school a happy, safe and positive place to learn.

Why not ask your child: "What can you tell me about the new behaviour steps?" We would love our families to be familiar with them too, helping us to reinforce the same positive messages both at home and at school.

Book of the Week

This week's recommended read is **The Colour Monster Goes to School** by Anna Llenas. We have been sharing this story across school as part of our soft start to the new school year. The story explores the different emotions the Colour Monster experiences when starting school and has provided a lovely way for our children to talk about their own feelings – from excitement and happiness to nerves and uncertainty.

By talking openly about these emotions, we are helping children understand that all feelings are okay, while supporting them to feel safe, settled and confident as they begin the new school year. Why not ask your child how the Colour Monster felt about going to school and which feelings they have experienced this week?



OTHER NEWS



Menu wb 7.9.26

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 Bolognese Farm Assured Minced Beef with a Chef's Rich Tomato Sauce or Cheese and Tomato Pizza ✓ Vegetarian Bolognese 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	 The Eatwell project supports the Let's Dine ethos by cooking healthy, simple ingredients with the children.
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	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

FHEPS needs your help!

As we start a new school year, we would also love to give our Friends of High Ercall (FHEPS) group a bit of a revamp – and we need you! Whether you can offer lots of time or just a little, we would love to hear from parents, carers and family members who might like to get involved. We have lots of ideas for fundraising, events and ways of contributing to school life, but new ideas are very welcome too.

Getting involved doesn't have to mean attending every meeting or taking on a big commitment. Helping at an event, sharing a skill, approaching local businesses, suggesting fundraising ideas or simply lending an extra pair of hands can all make a difference.

If you think you might be able to help, please get in touch with the school office. It would be fantastic to build a group of people who can help us bring some new ideas and energy to HEPS and, ultimately, provide even more opportunities for our children.

Please see attached flyer for more details

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

