



2ND OCTOBER 2026

HOLTSMERE END INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER AUTUMN TERM 1 2026

Dear Holtsmere families,
I hope that you have all had a good week.

Macmillan - After School Cake Sale

Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to the cake sale. I am pleased to say that we raised **£149.40** for this wonderful charity.

Sleep workshop

Please see information below about a sleep workshop which we running in the school hall on 7th October. If you have any questions about your child's sleep/ routines please come along. We are certain that it will be helpful. Tea and coffee provided and maybe even some biscuits!! See you there.

Parents Evening Sign Up

As you are aware from a previous email, the Parents evening sign up opens today (Friday 2nd Oct) at 6pm on Arbor and closes on Wednesday 14th Oct at 9am.

School photos

School individual photos are taking place on Wednesday 7th October. As usual we offer sibling photos to take place before school. If you would like to have your children photographed together please bring them to school for **8am**. There is always a queue for this and the photographer aims to take all sibling photographs in time for school start at 8.40. Due to this there will be no choir club on that day.

Years 1 and 2 'How we learn' sessions

Please see below for the date of these important sessions. I would urge all parents to attend if they are able to. You will hear useful information about the techniques and strategies we use in school and how you can support your child at home.

Have a lovely weekend.

Nicola

Nicola O'Connell Headteacher

Year 1 have been learning about plants and trees in their Science lessons this week.





Well done to Hazel class - this week's best attendance - 97% 🎉



Thank you to every parent who has made sure that their child is in school, on time, each day. We really appreciate it.

Attendance

Chestnut	Maple	Hazel	Oak	Beech	Pine
90%	96% 🎉	97% 🎉	88%	94%	93%

You **MUST** inform us if your child is absent from school, by calling or emailing the office, **each day of absence**.

Lateness - the number of children who were late in each class

Chestnut	Maple	Hazel	Oak	Beech	Pine
0 🎉	0 🎉	1	2	1	1

If your child is late- Missing 15 minutes per day adds up to 2 weeks of school across the year!



Happy Birthday!



Winning house

Blue

Upcoming dates

Day	Date	Time	Event
Date change!! Wednesday	7th Oct	2.40	Year 1 'How we learn' meeting
Wednesday	7 th Oct	9am	Sleep workshop - All welcome
Wednesday	7 th Oct		Individual photographs. Sibling photos can only be taken BEFORE school. Families to arrive at 8am. All other photographs are taken in school time
Thursday	8 th Oct	2.40	Year 2 - 'How we learn' meeting
Wednesday	14 th Oct	9am	Toilet training workshop for parents of our Nursery and Reception children

ATTENDANCE

Thank you for supporting good attendance. By working together, we can help every child be a HERO – Here Every day, Ready, On time!



HERO our attendance bear is awarded to the class with the best attendance each week

Attendance Ladder



How can you help your child achieve the best attendance possible?

- Allow plenty of time to get ready in the morning and have breakfast before leaving for school.
- Allow plenty of time to get to school - if you are late please bring your child to the School Office.
- Have a bedtime routine so that they have a good night's sleep.
- Please do not keep your child off school if they have a minor ailment such as a cough, cold, runny nose, sneezing or sore throat.
- Children should be kept home for 48 hours from the last episode of vomiting and diarrhoea.
- If they are unable to attend school, please ring the school office by 9.15am to give details of the absence, otherwise your child's absence will be recorded as unauthorised.
- If making a routine appointment for the dentist/doctor, please make it out of school hours, or during school holidays.
- If parents/carers have an appointment, please try to arrange for another suitable adult to collect your child(ren) so they stay at school till the end of the school day.
- Talk to us. We are here to help. If you are having any difficulties that are affecting your child's attendance at school, please come and talk to us as soon as possible so we can help you.
- Take your family holidays in school holiday time, missing valuable learning time can have a big impact on your child's education.

We cannot authorise term time holidays.

Our term dates are published a year in advance. They can be found here:
<https://www.holtmereinfants.herts.sch.uk/Term-Dates/>

We appreciate that holidays are cheaper in term time, we can't go either!! We are committed to our roles as you should be to your child's education.



Early Years ♥ Toilet Training Workshop

Support, advice and strategies for parents
whose child is finding toileting challenging
at home and/or school.



**WEDNESDAY
14TH OCTOBER**



9AM



**TEA AND
COFFEE**

♥ **COME ALONG!** ♥

♥ Informal with no judgement ♥

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2:



Infant and Nursery School

Harvest Festival

Wednesday 21st October
at 9.15am



Traditionally grandparents are invited
to this event.
2 spaces per child.

We are limited due to health and safety regulations in the hall,
so please only book the allocated 2 spaces per child.
We kindly ask that this event is for grandparents.
We appreciate your support in respecting this.



Booking will open on Arbor on
Friday 9th October at 6pm
and close on Tuesday 20th October at 9am.
Bookings can be made via the School Shop on Arbor.

We politely request donations of
tinned and toiletry items
such as shower gel, toothpaste,
shampoo etc.

The donated items will be given to



our own
community
cupboard

Happy learners aiming high

FREE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS
LIVING IN DACORUM

Raise Resilience

Helping you support your child
through life's ups, downs and
everything in between.

“

Practical tools.
Stronger connections.
Resilient families.

**Six sessions**

A complete introduction
to resilient parenting

**One hour each**

Practical and manageable
around family life

**Completely online**

Join comfortably
from home

**Flexible access**

Join live or catch up
on demand

You'll gain practical, evidence-based tools to help you:



Understand your
child's thoughts,
feelings and
behaviour



Navigate difficult
moments with
greater confidence



Build resilience
and stronger
connections
together



STARTS
14th October
Every Wednesday
for 6 weeks



TIME
8:00pm – 9:00pm
One hour per
session



WHO IS IT FOR?
For parents and carers
living in Dacorum
Places are available to
eligible parents and carers.



Visit the webpage to learn more and register:

bounceforward.com/raise-resilience-for-parents-in-dacorum/



Free for
parents and
carers living
in Dacorum

Promoting Healthy Sleep for Your Child

Date	Wednesday 7 th October 2026
Time	8.50 to 10.00 am
Location	Holtsmere End Infants School

Supporting your child with a good bedtime routine

A **free** workshop for parents:

- Why is sleep important?
- Impact of poor sleep on children/young people
- How to create a good sleeping environment
- Tips for a positive bedtime routine



To book your free ticket please email our School Office :

admin@holtsmereinfants.herts.sch.uk

DSPL8

Delivering Special
Provision Locally

DSPL8 SEND Parent & Carers Information Fayre

Tuesday 13th October 2026

9.30am until 12.30pm

At the the Grove Hill

Adventure Playground

Redbourn Road, HP2 7BA

BOOK YOUR SPOT

*This **FREE** event is for Parents and Carers of Children
with SEN or Disabilities; we will have local
services/providers information stands, activities for
children & refreshments!*





ADD-vance
The ADHD and Autism Trust



FREE ONLINE AUTUMN 2026 WORKSHOPS FOR HERTS PARENTS/CARERS

Online Workshops funded by Hertfordshire County Council	Day	Date	Time
Identifying ADHD and/or Autism	Mon	7.9.26	19:00 - 20:30
Understanding Autism	Wed	9.9.26	10:00 - 11:30
Understanding Autism for Parents/Carers of Girls	Mon	14.9.26	19:00 - 20:30
Understanding ADHD and Autism in the Early Years	Wed	16.9.26	10:00 - 11:30
Understanding PDA	Mon	21.9.26	19:00 - 20:30
Understanding ADHD	Wed	23.9.26	10:00 - 11:30
Understanding Neurodivergent Teens	Mon	28.9.26	19:00 - 20:30
Supporting Siblings	Wed	30.9.26	10:00 - 11:30
Understanding Challenging Behaviour	Mon	5.10.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Manage Anger	Wed	7.10.26	10:00 - 11:30
Understanding Sensory Differences	Mon	12.10.26	19:00 - 20:30
Tips & Tools to Manage Sensory Differences	Wed	14.10.26	10:00 - 11:30
Preparing for Adulthood (14+)	Mon	19.10.26	19:00 - 20:30
Understanding Self-Harm	Wed	21.10.26	10:00 - 11:30
Half Term			
Support for Dads and Other Male Carers	Mon	2.11.26	19:00 - 20:30
Applying for an EHCP	Wed	4.11.26	10:00 - 11:30
Understanding Anxiety	Mon	9.11.26	19:00 - 20:30
Tips & Tools to Manage Anxiety	Wed	11.11.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Manage School Absence	Fri	13.11.26	10:00 - 11:30
Working in Partnership with School	Mon	16.11.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools for Toileting	Wed	18.11.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Support Communication	Mon	23.11.26	19:00 - 20:30
Tips & Tools to Support Social Skills	Wed	25.11.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Build Self-Esteem	Mon	30.11.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Support Emotional Development	Wed	2.12.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools for Positive Behaviour	Mon	7.12.26	19:00 - 20:30
Tips & Tools to Manage Everyday Changes	Wed	9.12.26	10:00 - 11:30

"What a fantastic workshop - thank you so much!
I've taken away a wealth of information"

"Absolutely incredible workshop, it has
been extremely beneficial to my child"

📞 01727 833963

✉️ herfs@add-vance.org

🌐 <http://www.add-vance.org/>

Book your FREE ticket on <http://add-vance.eventbrite.com/> or visit our website

These workshops are funded by Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund and are open to residents of Hertfordshire only

Recordings are sent to all registered participants to view for 7 days, even if you don't attend live.