High Ongar Primary School Newsletter

Friday 23rd October 2026

Welcome from the Head of School

As we come to the end of our first half term, I would like to take the opportunity to celebrate everything that our children have achieved since returning to school in September. It has been wonderful to see the progress they have made in their learning and the way they have embraced our new school values of **'Be Kind. Be Resilient. Be Respectful'.** We are incredibly proud of all they have achieved in such a short space of time.

A reminder that Parents' Evening appointments will be taking place after half term. Please look out for the email sent earlier in this week, which contains all the information you need to book your appointment. These appointments will be an opportunity to discuss how your child has settled into their new class.

Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to complete our recent parent survey; we greatly value your feedback. We have taken your comments on board and are exploring a number of developments in response, so please continue to look out for further updates.

Please do take a moment to read through this newsletter carefully, as there are some additions to the Important Dates section. I would also like to draw your attention to the Reminders section as some classes have updated PE days.

Thank you for your continued support this half term. I wish all our families a restful and enjoyable break, and we look forward to welcoming the children back for another exciting half term of learning and achievement.

Best wishes,

Mrs S Kilbey
Head of School

Important Dates

23rd Oct - Non Pupil Day
1st Nov - Shoebox Service at St Mary's 10.30am
2nd Nov - Clubs restart
9th Nov - Yr6 Resilience Workshop
11th Nov - Remembrance Service at the Memorial
11th Nov - Parents Evening
12th Nov - EYFS Intake Tour
12th Nov - Parents Evening
27th Nov - Friends Playground Tuck
28th Nov - Tree Lighting at St Mary's 3.30pm to 4.30pm
30th Nov - Non Pupil Day
4th Dec - Clubs finish
8th Dec - EYFS and KS1 Nativity 9.30am
9th Dec - Friends Christmas Shop
10th Dec - EYFS and KS1 Nativity 2.15pm
16th Dec - Christmas Jumper Day
16th Dec - Christmas Panto
17th Dec - Friends Christmas Disco
18th Dec - Christmas Assembly at St Mary's - parents welcome
18th Dec - School finishes at 1pm

In this issue...

- Welcome Message
- Pumpkin Competition
- Celebrations
- Reminders - updated PE Days
- Friends Update
- E-Safety Updates

High Ongar Primary School Newsletter

Friday 23rd October 2026

School Updates and Celebrations

Pumpkin Competition

A huge thank you to the Friends of High Ongar for organising our fantastic Pumpkin Competition - we have raised a total of £71! We were amazed by the creativity, effort and imagination shown in all of the entries. The standard was incredibly high making it very difficult for our judges to choose the winners.

- **Ash -** Jax and Oscar
- **Beech -** George and Tommy
- **Elm -** Roo and Hope
- **Maple -** Ella and Albie
- **Willow -** Henry and Teddy











High Ongar Primary School Newsletter

Friday 23rd October 2026

School Updates and Celebrations

House Team Update

The race for the End of Year House Point Cup is well underway! Thank you to all our children for consistently demonstrating our school values and earning points for their houses. Here are the current standings:

563

524

559

543

Keep up the fantastic work everyone!

Achievements and Adventures



Herbie and his Theydon Bois golf team have been crowned 'Overall Season Winners' in a recent Golf Six League competition.
Well done!

High Ongar Primary School Newsletter

Friday 23rd October 2026

School Updates and Celebrations

Headteacher Award Winners

Congratulations to our Headteacher Award Winners this week!

Week Ending 22nd October

Ash - Lottie and Jaxon
Beech - Amelia and Bambi
Elm - Anya and Ace
Maple - Sam and Violet
Willow - Jude and Amber



Attendance

Congratulations to our attendance champions over the past two weeks. Excellent attendance helps children make the most of every learning opportunity and supports them to achieve thier best.



Week Ending 16th October:

Maple - 100%
Whole School - 96.4%



Week Ending 22nd October:

Maple - 99.7%
Whole School - 98.5%

High Ongar Primary School Newsletter

Friday 23rd October 2026

School Updates and Celebrations

Headteacher Award Winners

Congratulations to all our Headteacher Award Winners this half term!











High Ongar Primary School Newsletter

Friday 23rd October 2026

Reminders

Attendance

8.35am Gates Open
8.40am Classrooms Open
8.45am School Starts
10.30am Morning Break
10.45am Morning Break ends
12pm Lunch starts
1pm Afternoon learning begins
3.10pm Gates open
3.15pm End of day



To make sure that all children are as safe as possible, we operate a system of first day contact. When your child is absent, please contact the School Office on 01277 363761. Please give:

- Your child's name
- The reason for absence
- When you expect your child to return to school

You must call the school every day your child is absent.

PE Days

Ash - Wednesday and Thursday
Beech - Thursday and Friday
Elm - Tuesday and Friday
Maple - Monday and Tuesday
Willow - Monday and Wednesday



High Ongar Primary School Newsletter

Friday 23rd October 2026

THE FRIENDS OF High Ongar Primary School

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

We have lots happening over the next few weeks! Thank you, as always, for supporting Friends of High Ongar and helping us raise money for our school.

PUMPKIN COMPETITION

Thursday 22nd October

Children are invited to carve and decorate a pumpkin at home and bring it into school on the morning of Thursday 22nd October.

£1 ENTRY PER PUMPKIN

1st & 2nd prizes will be awarded in each class!

Please remember to take your pumpkin home again at the end of the school day.

HALLOWEEN TUCK SHOP

Thursday 22nd October
After School in the playground

Come and join us for some spooky treats!

WE NOW TAKE CARD PAYMENTS!

HAPPY SCHOOL BAG COLLECTION

Thursday 5th November

happy school bag

Planning a pre-Christmas clear-out? This is the perfect excuse to sort through those wardrobes and donate any good-quality items you no longer need. Happy School Bag pays the school based on the weight of the items we collect, meaning your unwanted clothes can help raise money for High Ongar while also being reused rather than thrown away.

WHAT CAN YOU DONATE?

- Adult & children's clothing
- Paired shoes
- Handbags & belts
- Hats & scarves
- Jewellery & accessories
- Perfumes & toiletries

Pick up your Happy School Bag from the school office (or you can use your own bin bags).

Please bring all donations into school on Thursday 5th November only.

PLEASE DON'T INCLUDE: school uniform, underwear, toys, books, household linen or dirty/damaged/wet clothing.

£110 RAISED!

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who supported our September Tuck Shop!

Together we raised an amazing **£110!**

Every purchase really does make a difference, so thank you for your continued support.

£1,048 SPENT!

We are delighted to share that we have spent **£1,048** on learning support equipment which helps the maths, geography and computer curriculum.

MATHS | GEOGRAPHY | COMPUTERS

WHAT ARE WE FUNDRAISING FOR?

We're currently raising funds towards:

- NEW CHRISTMAS TREES
- A WHOLE-SCHOOL WELLY RACK
- UPGRADES TO OUR FOREST SCHOOL
- AND THERE ARE PLENTY MORE PROJECTS WE'D LOVE TO SUPPORT... WATCH THIS SPACE!

Thank you for supporting Friends of High Ongar and helping us make a difference for all of our children.

High Ongar Primary School Newsletter

Friday 23rd October 2026



High Ongar Primary School Newsletter

Friday 23rd October 2026

