EMSWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Enjoy, Persevere, Succeed

NEWSLETTER: Friday 3rd July 2026



Welcome to this week's newsletter! It has been great to return to a more normal routine this week after the exceptionally hot weather we experienced last week. There is a possibility of another heat warning in the coming days, although forecasts vary. At present, temperatures are not expected to reach the levels we saw last week, so school will remain open as normal. Should this change, we will let you know as soon as possible. In the meantime, please continue to follow normal routines so that children can enjoy all of the exciting end-of-year activities, including the remaining transition sessions.

I would like to say a huge thank you to EPSA for organising such a wonderful Summer Fair last weekend! It was lovely to see our school community come together and to watch families enjoying time together. The band, which included Conrad's dad, were fantastic and really helped to create a brilliant festival atmosphere. EPSA work incredibly hard to support the school and provide enrichment opportunities for our children, and we are extremely grateful for all they do!

Thank you also to everyone who completed our parent survey. The survey has now closed, and we received close to 200 responses. Your feedback is incredibly valuable and helps us to review our processes, celebrate what is working well, and identify areas where we can continue to improve. The results will be discussed at the Governors' meeting on 16th July, and I will aim to share feedback and key outcomes with parents early in the next academic year.

Recently, some parents may have noticed that class teachers have been out of class a little more than usual. We wanted to reassure families that this has been for positive reasons linked directly to school improvement. We have commissioned Hampshire advisers to work alongside our teaching staff, reviewing curriculum planning and discussing teaching and learning to ensure that our provision is as effective and impactful as possible. We carried out a similar process around three to four years ago when I first joined the school, and I strongly believe it is valuable to undertake this work periodically. Having dedicated time to reflect on planning with educational experts helps us to continually improve what we offer our children. In addition, teachers have been working with colleagues who will be teaching their current classes next year, sharing detailed information about the children's strengths, needs and achievements to ensure smooth transitions and a successful start in September. We always try to minimise disruption and keep staffing arrangements as consistent as possible. However, when teachers are out of class for activities that directly benefit children's learning, progress and wellbeing, it is important that they are given the time to carry out this work effectively.

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Finally, I would like to provide an update on our school improvement projects. Although communications around these projects have been a little quieter recently, there has been plenty of work taking place behind the scenes.

Project 1 – Developing our Outdoor Areas

Mrs Pritchard has continued to drive this project forward. The Men's Shed are working on creating a mud kitchen for the field, and we have now received quotations for clearing the brambles after finally accepting that the working parties would take far too long to tackle the task! Once this work is completed, we will be able to establish the Forest School area as well and our aim is to have this up and running in September – all going well! The vegetation around the pond has grown back, but progress has been limited until some blackthorn trees can be removed to make the area safer. We hope this work will take place soon so that the area can be cleared and in regular use before the brambles return.

Project 2 – Creating a Reflection Garden

This project is focused on creating a low-maintenance reflection garden where children can spend time in a calm and relaxing environment, including those who may have experienced bereavement or loss. Mrs Baldwin has been working hard on this project behind the scenes and you will have noticed that work has already begun. We are incredibly grateful to Isla Parker's dad, Brett, who has dedicated so much time and effort to the project free of charge. Brett's company, Parkwood, undertakes extensions, brickwork, patios, landscaping and a wide range of building work. Our experience of working with him has been one of professionalism, commitment and hard work, and we are very thankful for his support. If you would like a quote for any work you are planning, you can contact him at parkwood2026@outlook.com or pop into the office and we will give you his card.
The next stage is to install the planters, flowers and benches. The benches have been very kindly donated by Elena Scott-Stone's grandmother, Jill, and we are looking forward to seeing them installed ahead of the official opening of the garden later this month.

Project 3 – Refreshing Indoor Areas

Work is also progressing on our programme to revitalise indoor spaces, including the shared Year 4/5 area. Mr May has now finished fully preparing the Yr 4/5 area with lining paper, and the final painting will take place during the summer holidays.

A tremendous amount of work has gone on behind the scenes to help create an even better environment for our children, and we are very grateful to everyone who has contributed their time, skills and generosity to these projects!

There are also a couple of important reminders and some safeguarding information included on the next page so apologies for the length of this newsletter – there is just so much to share! Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter, and I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes,
Rebecca
Headteacher

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Safeguarding - Social Media Ban and Online Safety Measures

As we're all probably aware by now, the UK government announced a social media ban for under 16's, to come into force from Spring 2027. Whilst many are applauding this, many more are not. Part of the problem is that there are very few hard facts: what does this actually mean in practice, which platforms, what does it mean for families and much more.

Internet Matters have put a big article together exploring these questions and more which you may find useful, you can access this using the link here: **Link:** **Social Media Ban and Online Safety Measures**

Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme – Reminder

There are over **25 HAF schemes** running across Havant and the surrounding areas during the summer holidays, offering:

- Fun activities
- Nutritious meals

These are available for children receiving **benefit-related free school meals (FSM)**.

What's new for Summer 2026:

- A **new central booking system** to make it easier to find and book activities
- Built-in eligibility checking (no HAF codes required)

Families can:

- Visit the **Havant HAF Booking Site**
  Eequ · After school. In place of school. Beyond school.
- Register their interest in local schemes - Bookings opened at **9:00am on Monday 22nd June 2026** so book your sessions now.

Sports Day 2026 – Reminder of new dates

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our Sports Days on **Friday 10th July** and **Monday 13th July**.
The format of the day will follow the same structure as last year. Each house will spend either the morning or afternoon on the field, taking part in a range of activities. Throughout the session, children will earn points for their house, which will be totalled at the end of the event.
The house with the highest overall score will be awarded the **House Cup**, which will be presented during a whole-school assembly.

Friday 10th July

Hayling House (RED)	Prinsted House (GREEN)
9:15 – 11:00	13:05 -14:50

Monday 13th July

Thorney House (BLUE)	Fowley House (YELLOW)
9:15 – 11:00	13:05 – 14:50

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Art Update

Thank you to everyone who came along to the EPSA Summer Fair last weekend. It was wonderful to see so many children proudly chatting about the decoupage shells they had created with Lou and hearing how inspired they were to have a go at home. Your support has helped raise valuable funds for EPSA, and we hope these beautiful shells will bring lasting memories of a fantastic experience.

For those who couldn't make it to the Summer Fair, we will be putting the shells on sale again after school one day. We will send out a message about this next week.

Miss B Diver
Art Lead













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The Reflection/ Peace Garden taking shape:



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Celebrating the Children

Our Stars of the Week this week are:

Class	Name	Reason
Badgers	Rea St Clair	Rea, you have shown increasing confidence, enthusiasm, and skills in maths this week, we are so proud of you. Well done!
Hedgehogs	Ravenna Goodall	Ravenna, you have tried hard to use your phonics independently in writing this week, we are very proud of you. Well done!
Squirrels	Martha Griffin	Martha, you always demonstrate a wonderful enjoyment of school and a positive attitude towards learning. Well done!
Rabbits	Teodora Gutu	Teodora, you have shown such perseverance with your handwriting this year, we are so proud of your progress - keep it up!
Puffins	The recipient of Puffins' class certificate is unwell today.	
Penguins	Amiyah Goodall	Amiyah, you have made such fantastic progress this year! We can see your confidence has really grown and you are such a kind and nurturing member of Penguins class. Well done!
Lions	Ava Montazer Alih	Ava, you have blown us away with your independent writing. You have persevered and it is lovely to see how proud of your success you are. Well done!
Tigers	Raffy Lafferty	Raffy, you are such a kind and considerate member of our class. You always try your best and are a fantastic role model to others, thank you!
Kangaroos	Saro Preston	Saro, you are a shining example of our school values, enjoy, persevere and exceed! Well done on a fantastic Year 4 - you should be so proud of all the progress you've made.
Koalas	Max Pearce	Max, your effort in English this week has been outstanding. Your use of rich and ambitious vocabulary has made your writing a pleasure to read, well done!
Owls	Soraya Goodall	Soraya, you have a warm smile, kind heart and show wonderful resilience, every day. You brighten our classroom and make school a happier place to be. You are truly something special!
Otters	Jude Michael	Jude, you always demonstrate our school values and are an excellent role model to others through your positive attitude, kindness, and consistent effort in everything you do. Well done and thank you!
Flamingos	Pendar Kabiri	Pendar, you have thrown yourself into every challenge this year. Thank you for being so resilient. You are a star!
Toucans	George Forster	George, you have worked really hard to learn your lines for the Year 6 production - thank you for your dedication. (And your singing is BEAUTIFUL too!)

Award	Child or Class Receiving the Award	Reason
Attendance Award	Penguins 100%	For achieving the highest % of attendance this week!
Headteacher's Award	Erika Nonkev	Erika is receiving the headteacher's award this week for being a truly delightful member of our school community. She consistently works hard and always gives her very best effort in everything she does. Erika's respectful attitude, excellent manners, and positive approach make her a wonderful role model for others. She is a kind and caring friend who always shows consideration for those around her, helping to make our school a happy and welcoming place. We are very proud of you Erika, well done!
Star Class Award	Koalas Class	The Star Class Award is presented to the class who have shown the most respect for their learning environment this week. They have looked after their belongings and kept both their classrooms and their cloakrooms clean and tidy for everyone. The winning class this week was chosen by our site team.

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Early Years (EYFS)

A Week of Magical Mermaids

We have enjoyed a wonderful week of magical mermaids! In the creative area, many of the children used a range of resources to create their own mermaid pictures. We were very impressed with their drawing skills and the care they took when using fine brushes to add intricate details to their artwork.

The fun continued with our exciting **Mer Festival**. The children enjoyed making special mermaid drinks, decorating cupcakes, and creating beautiful headbands to wear during the celebrations. It was lovely to see everyone using their imagination and creativity while taking part in the festivities. ✨ 🧜 🧜







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Pictures of our newly renovated library



Years 1 and 2 (Key Stage One)

We have had another fantastic week of learning in Year 1. In maths, the children have been learning about fractions, focusing on finding and recognising halves and quarters of shapes and objects.
In history, we have been exploring homes from different periods in time, including Medieval, Tudor and Victorian homes. The children enjoyed comparing how homes have changed over time, and this has helped prepare them for our upcoming school trip.
This week, the children were also very excited to have their first transition session. They enjoyed meeting their new teachers and spending time in their new classroom, and it was lovely to see them embrace this new experience with such enthusiasm. We hope you all have a wonderful weekend and look forward to another exciting week of learning!

As we approach the end of the year, the children in Year 2 have continued to work extremely hard and should be very proud of all they have achieved. Despite the recent hot weather, they have coped wonderfully, showing resilience, sensible behaviour and a positive attitude throughout the school day.
In Maths, we have been recapping previously taught skills and applying them in a range of contexts. The children have worked carefully through word problems, selecting the appropriate strategies and using written methods to explain their thinking clearly. We have also continued practising our 2, 5 and 10 times tables, making strong links between multiplication and division facts to build confidence and fluency.
In PSHE, the children have been sharing their ideas and feelings about their transition to Year 3. It has been lovely to see the maturity and excitement they have shown, as well as the kindness and support they have offered one another during discussions.
Finally, the children completed their races for Sports Day with great enthusiasm and determination. They worked incredibly hard to earn points for their houses and demonstrated excellent teamwork, encouragement and sportsmanship throughout the event.

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Years 3 and 4 (Key Stage Two)

We have had a much more normal — and definitely cooler — week in Year 3, which has made learning in the classroom much easier for everyone.

In English, the children have been busy completing their newspaper reports based on *Mr Penguin and the Lost Treasure*. They worked hard to include all the key features of a newspaper report and should be very proud of their efforts. We are looking forward to publishing their finished reports next week.

In science, we have been learning about animal diets and skeletons. The children explored the differences between herbivores, carnivores and omnivores, as well as how skeletons help animals to survive and move. We then linked this learning to our computing lesson, where the children researched different animals and created informative documents. They thoroughly enjoyed combining their scientific knowledge with their computing skills.

The highlight of the week had to be our transition session. The children were excited to find out who their teachers will be next year and, it is safe to say, there were plenty of cheers around the school! We are all looking forward to the next transition session next week, when the children will have the opportunity to spend more time in their new classrooms and begin preparing for the exciting year ahead.

This week in Year 4, the children have been busy writing their magnificent stories inspired by our class text *Varjak Paw*. We have been incredibly impressed by the ambitious vocabulary they have challenged themselves to use, and their writing has been full of creativity and imagination. In maths, we have been learning about position and direction, plotting coordinates on a grid and drawing shapes accurately using coordinates. It has also been an exciting week as the children had the opportunity to meet their new teachers and are already looking forward to September. All of this has taken place during assessment week, and we could not be prouder of the resilience, determination and hard work the children have shown throughout, well done everyone!

Pictures of our newly renovated library







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Years 5 and 6 (Key Stage Two)

This week in Year 5, the children have shown great resilience as they began their final Year 5 assessments. In maths, they have continued working on decimals, focusing on adding and subtracting them, while in writing they drafted a persuasive letter to the CEO of a major carbon company, encouraging more sustainable practices.
In science, we followed up on our recent trip by revisiting the phases of the Moon. The children were also excited to visit their new classrooms and find out that we will all be staying together as a team in Year 6!
We finished the week with a DT day, using Modroc to create casts for our Egyptian death masks, ready to be painted next week.

Year 6 have had an exciting week visiting their new secondary schools for transition sessions. While in school, they have been busy creating transition booklets to take with them as they move on from Emsworth Primary. As part of this project, the children have written thank-you letters to staff members who have made a positive impact on them, introduced themselves to their new tutors through personal letters, and created future autobiographies based on their aspirations and goals.
Alongside these transition activities, we have continued rehearsing for our production of *Rock Bottom*. The children have done a fantastic job learning their lines and, now that the stage is up, we have been focusing on staging, lighting and the timing of sound effects. The children have all been given a letter regarding tickets for the show, so if you have not yet seen it, please check with your child or contact their class teacher.

🌴 🚣 **Year 6 Leavers Disco – Beach Party!** 🚣 🌴

Friday 10th July
Grab your sunglasses and get ready to celebrate! 🌼
Our amazing **Year 6 Leavers Disco** is just around the corner, and this year's theme is **Beach Party**! Join us for an evening packed with music and dancing as we celebrate the end of an unforgettable primary school journey.

🌺 **Date:** Friday 10th July at 4.15-5.30pm
🕺 **Theme:** Beach Party
👕 **Dress Code:** Bright, beach-inspired outfits optional! (no swimwear, please!)

Children are invited to stay at school and get ready with their friends before the disco.
Tickets are on sale now, so don't miss out! Book your child's ticket to secure their place at this fantastic farewell celebration.
Book now at https://www.pta-events.co.uk/epsa

Let's send our Year 6 children off in style with a night to remember! 🌊 🎉

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✨ ✨ **EPSA Newsletter** ✨ ✨

🎪 🌞 **Thank you** to everyone who came to our summer fair last weekend. It was great to see so many of you enjoying the games, activities and refreshments. Well done to our raffle winners! We hope you all had a fantastic time and thank you for making it a success!

👏🏻 👏🏻 Thank you to **Tamla Soulband** who played a fantastic set for us! Thanks to **Gemsdance**, the school choir run by **Mrs Toghill**, **Orla and Amelie** for drawing our Raffle, the **Emsworth Fire Station Team**, **Lou Edwards** from **SandBar Shell Art** and **Miss Diver** for having an amazing display of painted shells from the children. Thank you to **Kerry Conroy** from the **Serenity Rooms** for stepping in as our face painter at the last minute!

👏🏻 👏🏻 A massive thank you to our wonderful volunteers and staff who helped run the fair- the event wouldn't be possible without your time and enthusiasm. From those who helped us with all the gazebos, took the time the day before and after the fair to help put away, to running an incredible BBQ and of course running the games! Truly thank you, thank you! A shout out for **Mrs Mitchell, Mrs Baldwin, Mrs Higson** and **Mr May** for helping make this event possible ❤️

🌈 🎉 **Get Ready for Our Colour Run!** 🎉 🌈 **Friday 17th July – After School**

The countdown is on for one of the most exciting events of the year – our Colour Run! We can't wait to see everyone enjoying an afternoon packed with fun, laughter and lots of colour!

We're thrilled to introduce this year's exciting course. Our friends from Mini Athletics and More Leisure have kindly offered to lead energetic warm-up sessions before the fun begins, getting everyone ready to run, jump and smile!

Once warmed up, runners will dash through a cooling sprinkler and under a spectacular balloon arch to begin the course. Along the way they'll tackle a fantastic range of obstacles including:

- Jumping over hurdles
- Weaving through tyres
- Crawling under cargo nets
- Leaping through a giant ball pit
- Making their way beneath a colourful gazebo filled with hanging pool noodles and streamers

The course features four colour stations, where our wonderful volunteers will shower runners with safe, non-toxic coloured powder as they make their way around the obstacles. Every child will complete the course twice before crossing the finish line to receive a special celebratory wristband!

The fun doesn't stop there! Once children have completed their run, parents are invited to join in the celebration by purchasing sachets of coloured powder for £1 each to throw at their own child in our designated colour celebration area.

🤓 **All runners must have either sunglasses or goggles to be allowed to take part.**

🎟️ **Book now at https://www.pta-events.co.uk/epsa . Tickets are £6.50 and include a white t-shirt and a celebratory wristband.**

🎟️ **Ticket sales close on Monday 13th July- tickets must be purchased online as a waiver needs to be signed to participate.**

🙏🏻 🙏🏻 **Donation Request**

🔴 **Ball pit balls**

🏖️ **Pool Noodles**

Please bring either of the above items to the office if you can! 🙏🏻 **Thank you**

👏🏻 👏🏻 **A huge thank you to Jake Lafferty, a year 1 and 3 parent who has made us 6 wooden stakes for our cargo net. We really appreciate your support!** ❤️

🚨 **<u>GUNGE ALERT!</u>** 🚨

Four incredibly brave (and super willing!) teachers have agreed to be GUNGED for your entertainment at the colour run! Soon we'll be selling raffle tickets, giving 8 lucky children the chance to be drawn to pour buckets of colourful gunge over our courageous volunteers. Who are these mystery teachers? We'll be revealing their names soon... but here's a little spoiler alert: our amazing Headteacher, Mrs Mitchell, has already agreed to take the plunge! Keep an eye out for ticket sales—you won't want to miss your chance to be part of the fun while helping to support our school!