



HAWTHORN NEWS SEPTEMBER 2026



Welcome back to a new school year and a very special welcome to all of the families who are joining our school community for the first time. We are delighted to have you as part of the Hawthorn Family.

It has been wonderful to see the children return to school this week, full of enthusiasm and ready for the year ahead. One of the things that makes Hawthorn such a special place is the strong partnership between our staff, children and families. I am always incredibly proud of how we work together to support our children and help them thrive.

As we begin the new academic year, please remember to inform the school office of any changes to your contact details, including phone numbers and email addresses, so that we can ensure our records remain up to date.

Parents and carers are warmly invited to join us each Friday for our Celebration Assembly, where we recognise and celebrate the achievements of our children and announce our Stars of the Week. The assembly takes place in the hall at 8:50am, and we would love to see you there.

Jane Dale

Changes to end of day collection

Keeping our children safe remains our highest priority. To further strengthen our procedures, we will be making some changes to the way children are collected at the end of the school day. We ask that parents and carers follow the updated arrangements carefully from **Monday 7th September 2026**.



We are only making changes to children from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 who are usually collected from the top MUGA/Reception gate.

	End of Day collection area (Mon– Thurs 3:30pm Friday 1:30pm)	Notes:
Reception	Main office entrance	Children will wait in the school hall and will be released to parents in the car park by the main school entrance. Please wait and staff will release the children.
Year 1 and Year 2	Car Park gate (previously reception class gate)	Children will line up at the gate and be released by a staff member. Parents can wait in the area just through the main gates by the mini bus.

Children from KS2 (Yr3,4,5,6) who are collected from the top gate will be asked to line up by their class teachers before they are dismissed from the MUGA gate as normal. Once you have collected your child please move away from the gates to make more space. Please do not come right up to the gate for your child. Please be patient and allow staff to dismiss them safely.

Arrangements for children who are collected from the bottom gates will remain the same.

These measures are designed to ensure that every child is collected safely by an authorised adult and to help us maintain a secure and orderly end to the school day.

Please inform the school of any changes to collection arrangements before 3pm so we can inform staff in timely manner.

Morning drop off arrangements will remain the same.

We appreciate your co-operation of not driving down Park Close while the children are entering and exiting the school. Please park legally and safely at all times and avoid stopping in unsuitable locations, including on pavements and near junctions as this can put children and other pedestrians at risk.

We appreciate your patience, understanding and co-operation as we implement these important changes.

Attendance

Our school attendance for last year was 94.5%, unfortunately this is below our target of 97%.

Our best attending class were: Year 5 with 95.9% - a huge well done to this class.

We noticed an increase in extended holidays last year; **over 306 school days** have been missed due to holiday absence in term time.

We encourage parents not to take additional holidays during term time as this greatly impacts the children's learning. Every day really does count.

We cannot authorise holidays in term time.

If your child is going to be absent due to an illness, please phone the school office before 8:30am.



Welcome meetings:

At the start of each year we like to invite parents/carers into school to meet your child's new class teacher and for us to share information about what they'll be learning, how you can support at home and any other key messages. We would really appreciate your support, if you are unable to attend another family member is more than welcome to come along.

All meetings will take place in the school hall.

Reception: Friday 11th September at 1pm

Year 1: Tuesday 8th September at 3pm

Year 2: Wednesday 9th September at 3pm

Year 3: Wednesday 9th September at 8:50am

Year 4: Tuesday 8th September at 8:50am

Year 5: Thursday 10th September at 3pm

Year 6: Thursday 10th September at 8:50am



School uniform expectations

Our school uniform consists of a navy blue sweatshirt, dark trousers or a skirt, and a white polo shirt. Children in Year 6 wear a white shirt and school tie. Headscarves need to be plain navy/black with no decoration and no longer than shoulder length. Sensible black shoes should be worn at all times, while trainers or PE pumps may be worn for PE lessons.

Please note that nail varnish and gel nails are not permitted in school. For health and safety reasons, the only jewellery allowed is one pair of stud earrings and a simple watch. Earrings must be removed on PE days. Watches with gaming functions, cameras or internet connectivity are not permitted.



Breakfast Club

Our breakfast club starts at **8:00am**.

Please note that there is no staff supervision available before 8:00am, so children should not arrive before this time.

8:00am - 8:15am

Children enjoy breakfast together in a calm and welcoming environment.

8:15am - 8:35am

Children can take part in a range of activities, including reading, board games, drawing and colouring, before the start of the school day.

Please note: Breakfast is served until **8:15am** and is then cleared away. Please arrive by **8:00am** to allow your child time to eat breakfast.



KS1/KS2 After school clubs

Once again we have a great range of free after school clubs running this half term. They will start on Monday 14th September and can be booked via Compass, please keep an eye out for a notification about how to sign up.

Please make sure you are only selecting one club per day for each child. If you have any problems please contact the school office who will be able to help. Clubs do fill up quickly and are offered on a first come first serve basis.

Clubs for Reception children will be introduced in the Summer Term.



Community Schools

Term and Holiday dates for 2026 - 2027



SEPTEMBER 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

OCTOBER 2026						
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NOVEMBER 2026						
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DECEMBER 2026						
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JANUARY 2027						
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FEBRUARY 2027						
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MARCH 2027						
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APRIL 2027						
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MAY 2027						
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31						

JUNE 2027						
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JULY 2027						
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AUGUST 2027						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					
	1	2	3	4	5	

School term dates.

Please see the calendar for when school holidays are.

Reminder, holidays will not be authorised during term time.

Staff Training Days 2026-2027

Tuesday 1st September 2026

Monday 2nd November 2026

Monday 4th January 2026