HALLFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Executive Head: Mr Aaron Sumner

Friday 11th September 2026

Dear families of Hallfield,

Welcome back after the summer holidays! And a big welcome to any new families beginning their journey with Hallfield. As we begin another exciting year at Hallfield Primary School, we are proud to reflect on a year filled with achievement, enrichment and community spirit. Pupils benefited from a wide range of memorable learning experiences, including educational visits, creative arts projects, sporting opportunities, environmental initiatives and curriculum enrichment activities that showcased their enthusiasm, talent and curiosity. **The Hallfield Blog** highlights the breadth of these experiences across all year groups and celebrates the high levels of engagement and achievement demonstrated by our children throughout the year.
https://hallfieldblog.wordpress.com/
For new families look out for events in our calendar like topic launches, Food festivals and topic celebrations where we invite you in to school and to classrooms to get involved with children's experiences and celebrate. Our food festivals are a wonderful way to get to know other families. We invite you to bring in dishes that are meaningful to your family or culture so we can celebrate to fabulous diversity of our school through food.

You will have noticed that there are building works happening at school. This includes the replacement of the roof for better insulation and waterproofing in line with goals for environmental sustainability. We also have work happening to extend our specialist provision, including 4 therapeutic space for the children.

Academically, Hallfield continued to perform strongly. The school's published performance information shows that pupils achieved outcomes in Key Stage 2 SATs, the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) and the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check that were above national averages, reflecting the hard work of pupils, staff and families and the school's continued commitment to high standards. As we look ahead, we are excited to build on these successes, embrace new opportunities and continue working together to ensure every child thrives, achieves and enjoys their learning journey at Hallfield. Details can be found on our website.

Year 6 SATs outcomes

	School	School GDS	National (2025)
Combined (Reading, Writing, Maths)	78%	17%	62%
Reading	87%	52%	75%
Writing	78%	17%	72%
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling	87%	65%	%
Maths	83%	43%	74%

Phonics

Reception Good Level of Development (GLD)

Hallfield	National 2026
81%	80%

Reception Good Level of Development (GLD)

Hallfield	National 2025
68%	68%

Specialist Resourced Provision Updates

To all our families in the SRP, we are delighted to welcome you to a new and exciting academic year. We are especially thrilled to be expanding our SRP provision and would like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding during the recent delays and disruptions. We are confident that the improvements will soon provide a wonderful, nurturing environment where all our children can learn, grow and thrive.

A very warm welcome goes to the new parents and children joining us in Acorns Class. We are excited to begin this journey with you and look forward to getting to know your families. We would also like to warmly welcome back all of our returning children and families (Chestnut, Sycamore and Cedar) who have been part of the Hallfield community for some time. We are looking forward to another year filled with exciting learning experiences, memorable moments, and many opportunities for every child to achieve their full potential.

Finally, we are pleased to welcome the new members of staff who have recently joined our team. Their skills, enthusiasm and dedication will be a valuable addition to our school community. Together, we look forward to creating an inclusive and inspiring environment where every child feels valued, supported and encouraged to flourish.

Welcome to new staff

We also have lots of new faces at school We are excited to have the following staff join our team.
In Elm Class Miss Silvia Marri
Miss Talia Hazlewood as lead teacher for The Woodlands (Specialist Resourced Provision)
In Acorns Mr Joseph Amarh
In Olive Class Miss Maya Kuijper
In Chestnut Miss Jessica Budd and Mr David Oyelate
In Sycamore Mrs Hannah Harding and Mrs Jinan Al-Shatri
We recently extended our classes to include Cedar class and our new teacher will be Miss Sanai Ansah.
In Maple class we have Miss Rebecca Kay
In Walnut class we have Miss Asia Ahmad
And in Alder class Miss Libby Gaskin.

The School day

- 8.40am school gates open for drop off by no later than 8.55am. The register is taken at 8.55am
- 3.25pm gates open for collection.
- All children will enter and exit via the back gate on Porchester Terrace.
- All children will be expected to be at school, unless medical evidence is provided.
- We will continue with breakfast club and **we will also be continuing after school care through – Junior Adventure Group, which is located at St James and St John's**.

Helpdesk



Please be reminded that for safeguarding and security reasons, Westminster City Council have advised us that it is best to restrict access to school premises during the children's lunchtime – **from 11.30am to 1.30pm**. **Therefore, the Helpdesk will be closed during these times and you will not be able to gain access to the school unless you have an**

appointment or an emergency. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this, the children's safety is of paramount importance to us.

School Uniform

Wearing the correct uniform really instils in the children a sense of pride in being part of the Hallfield community and in how they take care of themselves. On days your child has PE, they may come to school wearing their PE kits. If your child has shoes with laces, please ensure that they know how to tie them by themselves. The uniform is purchased online directly from our uniform supplier (Price and Buckland) and you can request school delivery to avoid postage charges (**www.pbuniform-online.co.uk/hallfield**). They have other customised items like PE kits, school bags etc.

The school uniform is at follows:

Nursery Pupils: • School v-neck jumper in navy* • Grey trousers/skirt /shorts in the summer • White polo shirt • Grey or Navy socks/tights • Black shoes (no trainers)	**Reception, Year 1 and 2 Pupils** • School v-neck jumper in navy* • School tie (optional)* • White smart shirt • Grey trousers/skirt (shorts also in the summer) • Grey or Navy socks/tights • Black shoes (no boots or trainers) • *Optional: School navy blazer* *
Key Stage 2 Pupils (Years 3-6): • School navy blazer* • School tie (optional)* • White smart shirt • Grey trousers/skirt (shorts also in the summer) • Grey or Navy socks/tights • Black shoes (no boots or trainers) • *Optional: School v-neck jumper in navy**	**The PE uniform for all children consists of:** • Navy blue jogging pants or shorts • White T-shirt • Black pumps or Trainers

* items with the school logo are available online from Price & Buckland, our uniform supplier. The other items are widely available in clothing stores.

Just as a reminder, please remember our new school uniform is as follows:

Attendance



Attendance has been given a lot of coverage in the media and guidance for schools has been put in place since September 2024. This includes rules that all schools must consider giving a penalty notice to a parent when a child has missed 10 or more sessions (5 days) for unauthorised reasons within a 10 school week period. Penalty fines have also increased to £80 within 21 days and £160 within 28 days of notice. Last year attendance continued to remain below our previous standards of 96% and above.

We want to work with families to ensure that all support is in place for children to attend school. Term dates and a copy of the school's attendance policy can be found on the website, please take time to read it and follow school's protocol around attendance. **Please remember that any requests for holiday leave during term time will not be agreed.** Absences of 3 days or more require evidence to be provided to the school. Appointments should be made outside of the school hours.

Guidance for parents can be found here:
https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/back-into-school/resources-for-families/

Reporting pupils' absence

To report your child's absence, please remember to call the school phone (selecting option 1) or email attendance@hallfieldschool.org.uk **by 9am,** giving the child's name, class and reason for the absence.

Contact details

Please make sure your contact details are up to date. This includes any changes of address or phone numbers, including emergency contacts.

Privacy Notice

We are required, by law, to pass certain information about our pupils to our local authority and the Department for Education, and other bodies as per our policies. If you wish to know more about the type of information we collect, store and share, please read our Privacy Notice which is available on the GDPR | North Westminster Federation. It is also circulated with this newsletter.

Selecting secondary schools for children in Year 5 and 6



Although the year has just begun, very soon for children in **Year 6, parents** will need to make a choice about which secondary school you would like your child to attend **Friday 31 October 2025 is the deadline for applications.** There are leaflets available with more information. Look out for the open days for local schools. Information can also be found here School admissions | Westminster City Councilhttps://www.westminster.gov.uk/children-and-families/education/school-admissions/starting-secondary-school-september-2024

On Monday 28th of September 2.50pm, we will be running an information session about what you need to do in order to make your secondary applications**. This is open to parents of children in Year 5 and Year 6.**

Coffee Mornings

There are lots of opportunities to come into school and participate in coffee mornings. There will be different themes and speakers. Check the website and the noticeboards by the school gate for information.

Reception places

Children born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023 are due to start attending Reception in September 2026. Closing date for applications is
Friday 15 January 2027. Please apply online: Starting primary school from September 2027 | Westminster City Council

We will be running Prospective Parents Information Sessions on Wednesday 4th November at 9am or 5.30pm.

Medical conditions and allergies

If your child has a medical condition, including any allergies please bring **evidence from your GP** with instructions on any medication that they may need and how this is administered. This can be given in at the Helpdesk.

PE days

Your child's PE lessons will be on the following days. On these days children may come to school wearing their PE kits. This must be the school PE kit.
Monday – Year 5
Tuesday – Year 3, Year 2
Wednesday – Year 4
Thursday – Year 1, Year 6, Reception (Olive)

Back to School: Check Your Child's Vaccinations – Primary Schools

- As children return to primary school, it's important to make sure their vaccinations are up to date.
- Vaccines protect against serious illnesses like measles and whooping cough, which can spread easily in primary schools.
- The Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine is especially vital as cases of measles are rising in London.
- Other important vaccines at this stage include the 4-in-1 pre-school booster (against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough and polio).
- Vaccinations are free on the NHS and are the best way to protect your child and others around them.
- If your child is not vaccinated, they are not protected. If you're not sure what vaccinations your child has had contact your GP. If they have missed any vaccines, it's not too late to catch up.

On **Thursday 1st October** the school will be hosting the NHS for their Flu vaccination clinic. This is managed through an online process called **MAVIS**. This system connects directly with NHS England and GPs and has been designed to simplify the consent process, reduce administrative workload for schools, and improve the efficiency of vaccination recording.

Parents will receive information and a link to complete a response to consent or decline the offer for the Flu vaccination from the new digital platform **MAVIS** directly via email and/or text message.

Free School Meals application

We would like to inform you of an important change to Free School Meals (FSM) eligibility.
Over the past few years, FSM entitlement has been protected, meaning that pupils remained eligible even if their family circumstances changed. This protection will end at the close of the current academic year.
From September 2026, FSM eligibility will be confirmed on an annual basis. Once approved, pupils will remain entitled to FSM for the full academic year, but **schools are now required to carry out yearly checks to confirm ongoing eligibility.**

In some cases, especially if you originally applied to the council direct or via another school, we will need to ask you to complete a new FSM application form. We will be in touch if that's the case.
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.
Thank you for your continued support.

If you think you are entitled to Free School Meals please make an online application via www.westminster.gov.uk/education/free-school-meals or come to our helpdesk to complete a paper form (also available on our website Offline FSM checker form).

Free Breakfast Club

A reminder that our free Breakfast Club is available every morning for children from Reception to Year 6.

🕗 Time: 8:20am till school starts. No admission after 8:30am.



Children can enjoy a healthy breakfast and start the day ready to learn in a calm and welcoming environment.

We encourage families to make use of this fantastic offer. New commers, please complete the enrolment form .

After School Clubs

The school is securing our club offer, working with local providers and our own staff. We will notify you of the available clubs and how to sign up when this is confirmed. **The sign up for clubs will be online via School Gateway**. Please look out for the email.

Screen Time and Healthy Balance

The government has recently published new guidance to help parents support young children in developing a healthy relationship with screens. You can read the full guidance here: Screen time guidance for under 5s

The guidance highlights that while screens are a normal part of modern life, it is important to strike a balance. For younger children, this includes limiting screen time where possible (for example, avoiding it for under 2s except for shared activities, and keeping it to around an hour a day for children aged 2–5), choosing age-appropriate content, and ensuring screen use does not replace sleep, play or interaction with others.

There are several practical ways parents and carers can support a healthy balance at home:

- **Set clear boundaries** – for example, keeping mealtimes and bedrooms screen-free and avoiding screens before bedtime.
- **Use screens together** – talking about what children are watching helps support language and understanding.
- **Choose calm, age-appropriate content** – slower-paced programmes are better suited to young children's development.
- **Offer engaging alternatives** – children are more likely to move away from screens when there are appealing options available, such as:
    - painting or drawing
    - puzzles and board games

- Lego or construction toys
- play dough or craft activities
- reading and storytelling together

- **Encourage play and interaction** – activities such as outdoor play, games and conversation support children's development far more than passive screen use.
- **Lead by example** – children often mirror adult habits, so reducing screen use as a family can have a positive impact.

By making small, consistent changes, families can help children develop healthy habits that support their learning, wellbeing and overall development.

Important Dates



There are lots of important upcoming dates for the autumn term, which you can find below. Be sure to add them to your diary! You can check or subscribe to our Website calendar to have most up-to-date information (Calendar | Hallfield Primary School (hallfieldschool.org.uk)

September

16th Year 1 and Year 2 topic launch and parents meeting 9am
17th Year 5 and Year 46topic launch and parents meeting 9am
18th Year 3 and Year 4 topic launch and parents meeting 9am
24th Times Tables Rockstars launch with parents Year 3 and Year 4 - 2.30pm
28th Secondary school applications – session for Y5 and Y6 parents – 2.50pm

October

6th Parents Evening 3.30pm – 6pm
7th Parents Evening 3.30pm – 6pm
8th Mental Health Awareness Parent Workshop
13th Nursery and Reception Food Festival
14th Year 1 and Year 2 Food Festival
15th Year 5 and Year 6 Food Festival
16th Year 3 and Year 4 Food Festival
19th Poet, Neal Zetter visiting with book sale after school
20th Parent taster session of school lunch menu 2.45pm
23rd School closes for half term 3.25pm

November

2nd School returns after half term
4th Reception 2027 Prospective Parents Information at 9am and 5.30pm.
5th Parent workshop: Self-care and relaxation
16th – 27th Year 5 Bikeability

December

3rd Parent workshop: Sleep Hygiene
10th Nursery and Reception Nativity
10th Movie Night
14th Year 3 and Year 4 Topic presentation 9am
15th Year 1 and Year 2 Topic presentation 9am
16th Year 5 and Year 6 Topic presentation 9am

PIANO LESSONS AVAILABLE

Stage 1: Weekly 20-minute paired lesson – £9 per lesson (10 lessons Per Term)

Stage 2: Weekly 20-minute individual lesson – £18 per lesson (10 lessons Per Term)

Stage 3: Weekly 30-minute individual lesson – £27 per lesson (10 lessons Per Term)

SIGN UP ONLINE: www.pianofunclub.co.uk/parent-page

Hallfield Primary School

Hallfield Estate, Porchester Gardens, London, W2 6JJ | 020 7087 4960 | Email: stayandplay@hallfieldschool.org.uk

JOIN US FOR STAY & PLAY!



A fun and friendly session for babies and toddlers (0–3 years) and their parents, carers or guardians.



THURSDAYS

(TERM TIME ONLY)

2.15pm – 3.25pm

STARTING THURSDAY

17TH SEPTEMBER 2026

HOW TO BOOK:

Booking is essential to help us plan for a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Email stayandplay@hallfieldschool.org.uk to reserve your place.

BOOK TODAY!

SPACES ARE LIMITED!

PLAY – Explore, learn and have fun!

CREATE – Get creative with lots of activities!

CONNECT – Meet other families and build new friendships.

ENJOY – Quality time together.

Everyone is welcome

September 2026

Children and Young People's Newsletter

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Happy September everyone! In this month's newsletter, we are discussing how to settle in to the new school year and the new season, how we did over the past academic year and some new workshops developed for young people aged 16-25.

Welcome back!

1. Get back into a routine



After the summer holidays, it can take a little time to get used to school routines again. Now that you are back to school, try to keep a regular bedtime and wake-up time to help your body to adjust. Having regular mealtimes and getting your school bag and uniform ready the night before can also make your mornings feel calmer and less rushed.

2. Quiet your mind



It is normal to have thoughts or worries about going back to school. Try giving yourself a few minutes to slow down and relax. You could practise slow breathing, listen to calming music, do some colouring or try a short mindfulness exercise.

3. Talk about how you are feeling



You might feel excited, nervous, worried or a mixture of different emotions about returing to school. Whatever you are feeling, you do not have to keep it yourself. Try talking to a parent, carer, friend, teacher or adult you trust. Sharing your worries can help you feel supported and may make things seem less overwhelming.

The start of a new school year does not have to be perfect.
Give yourself time to settle in, notice the small things that are going well.
We hope you have a great year of learning, friendship and new experiences!



World Letter Writing Day



Celebrate World Letter Writing Day on 1st September by writing a letter to a friend. You could share your favourite summer memories or something new you tried. It's a lovely way to reflect, connect and start the new term positively.