

— Autumn 1 2025 —

Newsletter

*A newsletter contributed to by the staff and children of Hayeswood
and Colehill First Schools*



Fresh Air Club

INSIDE, WE ALSO TALK ABOUT:

Reading
Our Team
Pupil Progress
Relational Practice
Community
House Points
Diary Dates

Message from Mrs Staddon

Dear Families,
Thank you all for the warm welcome back. It was lovely seeing everyone after the summer break. A particularly warm welcome goes out to all our new families! For the third year running, we are delighted to have new children joining us across the year groups. I hope you are all beginning to feel at home and that your children are enjoying a smooth and successful start, at what we affectionately nickname 'The Woodhills'.
Our community is always ready to welcome new members into the fold and take great pleasure and pride in doing so. I can honestly say that both Reception classes have settled better than any year previously, and I am thoroughly enjoying getting to know them all.



Celebrating Our Team

We are delighted to formally welcome Miss Self into her new role as Teaching and Learning Lead and Mrs Jones as our Inclusion Lead. We are already seeing the positive impact of their work across the school.

The beginning of a new school year is always a very special time—full of excitement, anticipation, and opportunity. Educating your children remains a privilege, and my team and I promise to do all we can to ensure your child is supported to flourish. Please remember, if you ever have any concerns, do not hesitate to discuss them with the school.

"Ensuring every child makes progress from their own starting points."

Academic Focus: Closing Gaps and Deepening Knowledge

We know that education is in an interesting and uncertain period, with planned curriculum changes and a new Ofsted Framework. However, the core of school life remains the same: ensuring every child makes progress from their individual starting point.

In a class of 30 children, there is always a significant range of ability and learning needs. Our teachers are exceptionally adept at supporting all children. We have undertaken significant training across the Trust on identifying learning gaps and the small steps needed to bridge them.

Support and Progress Monitoring

During this half term, we have been ably supported by Miss Self, and together we have completed several 'Drop-Ins' to lessons. These are followed by coaching and progress review meetings. I am continually amazed at how well the teachers know your children—in every aspect, not just academically—and how carefully they plan to deepen their knowledge and understanding. Staff have been planning specific strategies, interventions, and targets for every child.

Inclusion

MESSAGE FROM MRS JONES

Thank you! Thank you to all children, families and staff for making me feel so welcome in my first term working with Witchampton, Pamphill, St John's, Hayeswood and Colehill First Schools. I already feel incredibly lucky to be part of such an amazing team and am super-excited to work alongside you all!



HALF TERM ACTIVITIES

- Here is a link to a website that has lots of free activity ideas for families during half term:
- <https://bcp.mumbler.co.uk/free-things-to-do-with-kids-this-october-half-term-in-bournemouth-christchurch-poole/>



CONTACTING MRS JONES

Mrs Jones

Email your school's office if you would like to arrange a call or a meeting to discuss your child.

SUPPORT DURING HALF TERM



Support is out there - Here is a link for the Dorset Local SEND offer where you can find a network of support:

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/children-families/sen-and-disability-local-offer/dorsets-local-offer/a-network-of-support-in-send>

Parent Consultations

You will have had your parent consultation in the last week. Thank you so much for engaging with these in such a positive, constructive manner. These meetings are invaluable, and the targets shared are key to supporting your child to be their best. You will be sent a copy of these.

I cannot emphasise enough how much your support at home helps your child. Short, regular practice makes a massive difference. Over the year, we will be sharing specific things your child finds tricky— it might be the 'Ph' blend or struggling with the 9 x 7 times table. Please make a concerted effort to work on these as a family.

The Critical Role of Reading Aloud

Regular reading aloud (even if your child can already read independently) is crucial. While many of our children have a high reading age, they can sometimes struggle to comprehend what they read. Reading aloud allows you to:

- Monitor what is being read.
- Discuss vocabulary.
- Explore tone and inference.
- Support predictions.

All of these practices help boost their overall comprehension skills.



*"Reading aloud allows you to:
Monitor what is being read
Discuss vocabulary
Explore tone and inference
Support predictions. "*

THE MILLION WORD GAP

New research shows the different numbers of words kids will have heard by age 5 based on how often parents read to them:

Never read to: 4,662 words

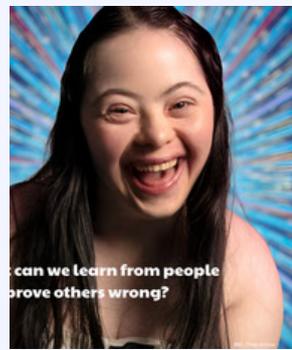
1-2 times per week: 63,570 words

3-5 times per week: 169,520 words

Daily: 296,660 words

Five books a day: 1,483,300 words

Community Impact



Community Impact

- Open Mornings: Our October open morning for prospective parents were very well attended. The Year 4 children were amazing ambassadors—super confident and wonderfully frank!
- Picture News: Each week, I lead an assembly on current affairs using 'Picture News'. The children's ability to put themselves in another's shoes, be reflective, and remain open-minded always impresses me. It reflects the conversations and effort you put in at home.
- Harvest Celebration: Both schools enjoyed visiting St Michael's Church to celebrate Harvest. A huge thank you to Mrs Hayley Everett for organizing the services; the donated foods were very gratefully received by Wimborne Food Bank.
- Fresh Air Club: This has gone down a treat with staff, children and parents at Hayeswood and I am delighted to say that it will continue, but we are taking turns. Next half term Colehill get to enjoy the fun. Paul is in high demand!



"The children's ability to put themselves in another's shoes, be reflective, and remain open-minded always impresses me."



Community Impact

Community Impact

Every half term we hold a small tournament. It's simply a couple of hours at Poole Grammar School indoors, where we set up mini handball courts. Players enter as school club teams or as individuals and we make up the teams on the day. It's been wonderful to see Hayeswood getting so involved over the last year or so, and for them to win the Year 3/4 competition this time was fantastic! The participants were: Isabelle W, James E, Marc L S, Olivia W, Phoebe R, Sophie C

Message from Mini Handball after-school club



"The children's ability to put themselves in another's shoes, be reflective, and remain open-minded always impresses me."



Hayeswood and Colehill Eco Poster Competition winners. Congratulations to all, a fine achievement.

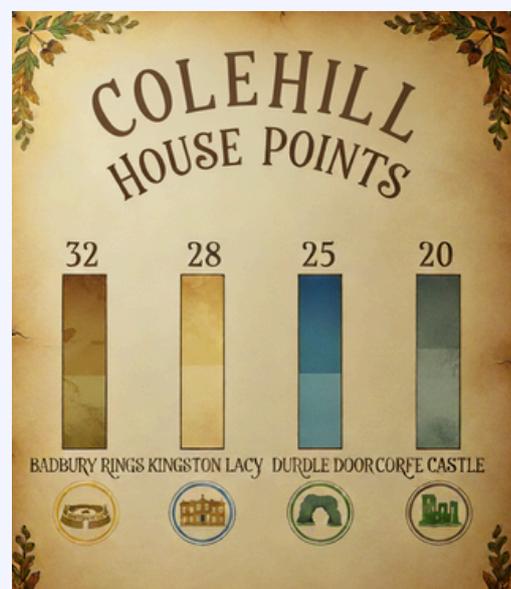
Behaviour and Relational Practice

Behaviour and Relational Practice

You may remember I am a big fan of Paul Dix; I was delighted to meet him at a conference. His philosophy and beliefs align perfectly with my core values for children, and this relational practice has influenced all our behaviour policies, language, and understanding of children's needs.

His book, *When the Adults Change*, sums it up well. For more information, please use the link below and click on the 'Parents'

tab:<https://www.whentheadultschang.com/events>



Getting Involved: Pupil Voice and Leadership

We are incredibly proud of the numerous opportunities for children to take on responsibility:

- Play Leaders: Now fully trained and will be leading playground activities after half term.
- Year 4 Buddies for Reception children.
- Year 4 Hall Helpers (milk duties, registers, and more).
- NEW Anti-Bullying Champions (coming soon)
- Eco Club and School Council members.
- Wimborne School Council Reps.

These groups play a massive role and are helping us to have our say in Wimborne and beyond. We are currently working with the Town Council to shape the plan for Wimborne Town of Culture 2026 and are also involved in working with the planners at Victoria Hospital. Watch this space!

Practical Reminders and Final thoughts

Farewells

We say goodbye to Magda at Colehill. Magda has been with us for a long time cooking up delicious hot meals and keeping our kitchen in ship shape! We wish her all the best in your role.

Drop-off Procedures

A timely reminder of the school's expectations for the children to be as independent as possible at this time of the day. Please wave your child off from the playground or gate. We will be encouraging the Year 4 Buddies to support their Buddy. Together, we will support all children to achieve.

Missing School Reading Books - post half term 'amnesty'!

We seem to be missing lots of our reading books. Please use half term to search bedrooms, under car seats and anywhere else they might be, so we can have enough to give to the children.

Drive with Caution

We have had some complaints from members of the public about cars speeding off from drop-offs, parking inconsiderately and dangerously. We are part of this community and work hard to build relationships. We should support each other to ensure that all our children are safe and can flourish.

There has been some mention of the Ice Cream vans outside school, at a time when families are feeling the pinch and trying to be healthy. We have looked into this on your behalf, and there is nothing that we can do. Ultimately though, if there isn't a market they won't come, and the weather is changing...

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please raise them. These should be raised with the class teacher in the first instance. The main thing is not to carry on concerned or uncertain. Talk to someone—there aren't many things that can't be helped by a conversation. Where possible, conversations are recommended, but if you need to, email works too.

I hope you all have a very relaxing , fun time together over half term.

We look forward to a successful second half of the term

Sharon Staddon



Dates for you diary

Please note that we have tried to give as much notice as possible for events and they may change. We will show any changes in or additions in a different colour going forward.

See below...

Colehill First School Parent Calendar Dates 2025/26

27.10.25 - 31.10.25	HALF TERM
03.11.25	INSET DAY
04.11.25	Pupils return to school
10.11.25	CFSA AGM at 3.30pm
11.11.25	Joint COL & HAY Open Morning - 0915 - 1015
14.11.25	Children in Need
14.11.25	CFSA and Children in Need Mufti Day - Bottle Tombola
24.11.25	Flu immunisations
28.11.25	Vikki Slade MP visit
01.12.25	CFSA Christmas Shop
05.12.25	CFSA Mufti Day - Chocolate tombola
05.12.25	CFSA Christmas Fair
09.12.25	Christmas Performance 2.15pm - Years 2, 3 and 4 ONLY
10.12.25	Christmas Performance 9.15am - Years 2, 3 and 4 ONLY
11.12.25	Christmas Performances 9.15am and 2.30pm - Reception Class and Year 1 ONLY
12.12.25	Christmas Jumper Day
17.12.25	Christmas Lunch
17.12.25	Christmas Disco
18.12.2025	Last day of term
19.12.25	INSET DAY
22.12.25 - 02.01.26	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
SPRING TERM	
05.01.26	INSET DAY
06.01.26	Pupils return to school
Jan 26 (exact date TBC)	Trip to Museum of East Dorset - Year 1 ONLY
20.01.26	Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) Parent Meeting 9am - 9:30am - Year 4 ONLY

22.01.26	MTC Parent Meeting 3:15pm - 3:45pm - Year 4 ONLY
11.02.26	Trip to Kimmeridge Bay - Year 3 ONLY
13.02.26	Last day of term
16.02.26 - 20.02.26	HALF TERM
23.02.26	INSET DAY
24.02.26	Pupils return to school
05.03.26	World Book Day
12.03.26	Young Carers Action Day
17.03.26 & 19.03.26	Parent Consultations 3.30pm - 6pm
20.03.26	Red Nose Day
26.03.26	Marwell Zoo trip - Year 4 ONLY
26.03.26	Easter Egg Hunt
27.03.26	Last day of term
30.03.26 - 10.04.26	EASTER HOLIDAYS
SUMMER TERM	
13.04.26	INSET DAY
Summer Term (exact date TBC)	Iron Age Day
14.04.26	Pupils return to school
04.05.26	BANK HOLIDAY
14.05.26 & 15.05.26	Bikeability - Years 3 & 4 ONLY
11.05.26	Pond dipping trip to Dumpton - Year R ONLY
22.05.26	Sponsored Walk
22.05.26	Last day of term
25.05.26 - 29.05.26	HALF TERM
01.06.26	Pupils return to school
03.06.26	New Reception Parents Evening
03.06.26	Trip to Winchester Science Museum - Year 4 ONLY
17.06.26	Class photos

18.06.25	Trip to Hengistbury Head - Year 2 ONLY
22.06.26	SPORTS DAY
26.06.26	Transfer Day
29.06.26	BACK UP SPORTS DAY
10.07.26	Wimborne Minster Leavers' Service - Year 4 & Children ONLY
10.07.26	End of Year Reports sent home
10.07.26	Summer Fair
15.07.26	Summer Disco
16.07.26	Celebration of Learning
17.07.26	Year 4 Leavers Assembly
22.07.26	Last day of term