Newsletter Issue 48 May 2026

HCCPS Times

May in Full Bloom

As we reach the end of a wonderfully busy — and at times tiring — half term, it has been fantastic to see the children throwing themselves into every learning opportunity with such enthusiasm and resilience. From focused classroom work to lively outdoor events, they have shown great energy, spirit and a real willingness to make the most of every experience.

We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 children for the determination, maturity, and positivity they showed while completing their SATs last week. They approached each test with real focus and resilience, supporting one another and demonstrating the excellent learning habits they've built throughout their time in school. We also want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our dedicated staff team, who prepared the children so well and supported them every step of the way. Whatever the results in July, their effort, teamwork, and attitude are what truly matter — and on that front, they have excelled. A huge well done to all of them, and thank you to families for your encouragement and support at home.

Our Reception children had a wonderful time on their trip to West Lodge Farm, where they threw themselves into learning all about the animals. They were fascinated to discover that cows have four stomachs, and they loved getting hands on by feeding a range of animals — including bottle-feeding the baby lambs, which was a real highlight. The excitement continued with a bumpy tractor ride around the farm, giving them a brilliant view of the fields and animals they had been learning about. It was a fantastic day full of curiosity, confidence and new experiences.

One of our pupil governors has been working closely with me and the governing body to explore the return of Taco Tuesdays, which were hugely popular with the children. Although it hasn't been possible to bring them back permanently due to other constraints, he showed real strength, determination and leadership by proposing the idea, presenting it confidently in his speech to the children, and helping to organise a special one-off Taco Tuesday meal for everyone to enjoy together. This is a fantastic example of pupil voice in action and a reminder of how powerful it can be when our young leaders see an idea through from start to finish.

We would like to wish all our children and families a wonderful half-term break. After a busy and hardworking few weeks, we hope everyone enjoys some well-earned rest, time together and plenty of sunshine. We look forward to welcoming the children back feeling refreshed, relaxed and ready for the exciting — and always very busy — final stretch of the academic year. School reopens after the half term on **Tuesday 2nd June at 9am**

Staffing News

I am delighted to share that Sam Bareham will be joining us at Hardwick in September as our new Key Stage 2 Leader, working with our Year 3/4 team. Sam brings a wealth of expertise in English and PE, and he is already looking forward to becoming part of our school community. The children are equally excited — so much so that they have begun writing their own “initiation guides” to make sure he knows all the most important things about life at Hardwick! We are confident that Sam will be a fantastic addition to the team and will settle in quickly.

I am also pleased to announce that Elliott Lyon will be joining the Cambourne teaching staff team in September. Elliott is currently completing his PGCE with us and has quickly become a valued part of school life, building strong relationships with children and embracing every aspect of our community with enthusiasm. We are thrilled that he will be joining us permanently, and we know he will fit in brilliantly as he continues to grow and flourish in his teaching career.

Safeguarding Spotlight—Cycle Helmets

We are increasingly concerned to see a number of children arriving at school without wearing a cycle helmet. As a school, we **insist** that all pupils who travel by bike wear a properly fitted helmet every time. Helmets significantly reduce the risk of head injury and are a simple but vital way to help keep children safe on their journey to and from school. We ask all parents and carers to support us by ensuring your child leaves home with their helmet on and understands why this matters. Together, we can build safe habits that will protect them for years to come.

Message from the Office—School Dinners

It is important that all **school dinner accounts** are kept in credit before children order their lunch, unless families are paying monthly. While the system will technically allow accounts to slip into debt, it is school policy that parents and carers ensure this does not happen. Unfortunately, the school does not have the funds to cover outstanding balances to our lunchtime provider, so keeping accounts topped up is essential. Thank you for your support in maintaining this expectation.

Term Dates

Here are the term dates for next academic year:

	First day for the children	Last day for the children
Autumn Half Term 1	Thursday 3rd September 2026	Friday 23rd October 2026
Autumn Half Term 2	Monday 2nd November 2026	Friday 18th December 2026
Spring Half Term 1	Tuesday 5th January 2027	Friday 12th February 2027
Spring Half Term 2	Monday 22nd February 2027	Thursday 25th March 2027
Summer Half Term 1	Tuesday 13th April 2027	Friday 28th May 2027
Bank Holiday	**Monday 3rd May 2027**	
Summer Half Term 2	Tuesday 8th June 2027	Wednesday 21st July 2027

Term dates for 2027–2028 are now available on the school website, helping families plan holidays well in advance and ensure they fall outside of term time.