

HEMINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Term 6 - June & July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

As the final quiet settles over our beautiful school field, I find myself looking back on the past academic year with an immense sense of pride and gratitude. It is hard to believe that another year has flown by, but what a wonderfully vibrant, busy, and memorable year it has been.

As a small village school, we often talk about being a family, and this year that spirit has shone brighter than ever. From the rainy-day mud kitchen triumphs in Hornbeams to the proud smiling faces of our Year 5/6 children returning from camp, and from the quiet moments of breakthrough in the classroom to the brilliant applause at our school play, The Lion King, our children have shown incredible resilience, determination, kindness, and curiosity. They are, as always, the absolute beating heart of everything we do.

To our wonderful Year 6 leavers: today marks the end of one chapter and the exciting beginning of another. We are so incredibly proud of the mature, thoughtful, and capable young people you have become. You leave us with our very best wishes, and we know you will shine incredibly bright as you step into secondary school.

An academic year like this does not just happen; it is built on the dedication, love, and hard work of a whole community.

- **To our staff:** Thank you for your tireless dedication, your creativity, and for always going the extra mile to make learning magical for our children.
- **To our governors and volunteers:** Thank you for your invaluable support behind the scenes.
- **To our PTA:** Thank you for all of the amazing social events and fundraising events organised across the year from the disco, quiz night to our amazing Hemfest. Vital funds are raised that enrich our children's school experience but just as importantly these social events bring us even closer together.
- **And our parents and carers:** Thank you for your partnership, your trust, and your constant support. We simply could not do this without you.

Looking Ahead to September

We wish you all a safe, restful, and wonderfully sunny summer holiday. Whether you are heading off on adventures or enjoying a peaceful time closer to home, we hope you make memories to cherish. We look forward to welcoming our returning families and our brand-new pupils back to school on **Monday 7th September**.

Until then, take care, enjoy the sunshine, and have a wonderful summer break.

Warmest regards,
Alun Randell
Head Teacher

Attendance

Attendance

Attendance Term 1 - Term 5 93.3%

Average national attendance 94.84%.

This is estimated to place us in only the 12th percentile out of 100 nationally - very near the bottom.

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6	Term 1-6	National average
95.45%	93.48%	93.33%	93.38%	90.63%	92.3%	92.7%	94.84%

Percentage of children persistently absent (attendance below 90%)

Hemington	Nationally
26.5%	13.78%

Good attendance makes a huge difference. A child whose average attendance is 90% will miss a total of 126 days which is equivalent to 70% of a school year. Clearly this will make a difference to a child's progress in school academically and socially. We recognise that children when ill may be absent from school; however, if your child is 'under the weather' please bring them in. Usually children feel better as the day goes on. We will ring if necessary.

Punctuality

Good punctuality also makes a difference. Learning starts at 8:45 with staff working 1-1 with children on key skills before the first lesson at 9:00am. Children who regularly are 5 minutes late miss out on these sessions. This can impact their fluency in reading and times tables and consequently their confidence in English and Maths.

Number of instances of children late by more than 10 minutes in Term 6: **37**

Parent Questionnaire 2025 - 2026

For anyone who hasn't sent us their responses there is still time.

This questionnaire will help us gain a better understanding of what you believe are the strengths of the school and give us an indication of what we need to improve on.

Please complete a Google Form for each of your children, your responses may differ from one child/class to another. The Google Form is completely anonymous and your cooperation would be greatly appreciated to assist us with school improvements.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeNCdPM51h-jFcQqsmRnvRWNhVmNmQXv29PfBddQI_fR-JbDQ/viewform

Governors

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of a busy school year, I am writing to update you on the activity of Hemington and Leigh on Mendip joint Local Governing Body (LGB) since September 2025.

The governors have continued to monitor the educational provision at Hemington through visits to look at English, Maths, EYFS and RE, where we have been pleased with the continued progress. Writing has remained a focus this year, with staff receiving further ideas from the MNSP team. We were pleased to hear in detail about the delivery of Maths at one of our meetings and note the positive increase in Doodle maths uptake this year. Visits have also been undertaken to discuss inclusion, health and safety and safeguarding, where we have been satisfied that the school is meeting all requirements.

At our termly meetings, the governors have discussed attendance, pupil attainment and continued school progress, as well as approving an exciting array of school trips for the pupils. Attendance does remain a focus across MNSP schools, and we were pleased to note an improvement at the beginning of this school year.

I have experienced the wonderful community spirit at Hemington during my most recent visits. At Hemfest, I was very impressed with the range of stalls created by the pupils. There was definitely something for everyone. Watching the whole school production of The Lion King was truly a delight! The talent and enthusiasm on display throughout the cast was outstanding. The work put into the performance was clearly evident and it was wonderful to see the pupils confidently take part.

If you would like to contact the Local Governing Body, you are very welcome to email me at Catherine.Farmer@msnpartnership.com. Alternatively, Mrs Katie Payne, the Clerk to the Governors, can provide further information and contact details. Her email address is katie.payne@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk

We currently have a vacancy on the LGB for a parent governor. If you are interested in becoming a governor, please do not hesitate to contact me or Mrs Payne to find out more about this rewarding role.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support of the school and wish you and your children a relaxing summer break.

Kind regards,
Catherine Farmer
Chair of Hemington and Leigh on Mendip LGB

Diary Dates

2026 - 2027 Term Dates & INSET Days

Daily: Breakfast Club from 8am, normal school arrival 8:30am - 8:45am, learning starts promptly at 8:45am

Thursday & Friday - 3rd and 4th September 2026 - INSET days - school closed to pupils

Monday 7th September - Welcome Back! School opens to pupils

Last day of term for children Wednesday 21st October

INSET Day Thursday 22nd October (school closed to children)

INSET Day Friday 23rd October (school closed to children)

Half Term School Holiday Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October

Term starts Monday 2nd November

INSET Day Wednesday 25th November (school closed to children)

Last day of term Friday 18th December

School Holidays Monday 21st December - Friday 1st January

INSET Day Monday 4th January (school closed to children)

Term starts Tuesday 5th January

Last day of term Friday 12th February

Half Term School Holidays Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February

Terms starts Monday 22nd February

Last day of term Thursday 25th March

School Holidays Friday 26th March - Friday 9th April

Term starts Monday 12th April

Bank Holiday Monday 3rd May (school closed to all)

Last day of term Friday 28th May

School Holidays Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June

Term starts Monday 7th June

Last day of school year and last day of term Friday 23rd July

PTA

Summer Term: Grow Your Pound & HEMFEST 2026

Grow your pound: £543.76

HEMFEST: £574.24

Fundraising grand total: £1118.00

Thank you to everyone for their support with our efforts this year whether as organiser, volunteer or by coming along to events. HEMFEST 2026 was a wonderful experience for all from the great hot dogs (thanks Mr Randell & Miss Stiff!) to the amazing array of stalls created by the children.

Big thanks to all those who were able to support their child in the Grow Your Pound fundraising activities. What an enterprising school community we have!

Especially thanks to Amanda Bottle for leading and coordinating throughout the year.



Did you know, you can get the #easyfundraising Donation Reminder to find free donations for Hemington Primary School, Radstock, no matter how you shop online? The handy shopping assistant is available for your laptop or computer, and on iOS and android devices. This means Hemington Primary School, Radstock won't miss out on any donations as you're shopping online.

Find out more here:

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Photos from Term 6 - 2026

Brunel's visit to The Newt - enhancing and deepening their Roman history learning





Our visit to the Frome Art Trail - we are so fortunate that our lovely neighbours in Ennox Barn were able to welcome us to see the art on display and take part in our own art activity creating a Treasure Box



Jamie Woodland's visit - an inspirational martial arts demonstration and careers workshop from local entrepreneur and owner of www.radstockmartialarts.com



The weather disrupted our actual Sports Day(s!) but we had fun preparing for it...

Sadly no last welly wanging competition for our Year 6's but a new Hem tradition has begun with space hopper racing...



Community Notices

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

TICKET BRICK FESTIVAL TICKET

26TH JULY
WELLSPRINGS LEISURE CENTRE

MORE LEGO THAN YOU CAN DREAM OF

TAUNTON BRICK FESTIVAL



**09:00
- 15:30**



**Years
R - 6**



SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

St John's C of E Primary School

1

Mon 20th July
Tues 21st July
Wed 22nd July
Thurs 23rd July
Fri 24th July

**Gymnastics
Summer Sports
Nerf, Dodgeball & Archery
Dance OR Football
Musical Theatre**



2

Mon 27th July
Tues 28th July
Wed 29th July
Thurs 30th July
Fri 31st July

**Nerf, Dodgeball, Archery & Football
Summer Sports
Dance OR Multi-Sports
Musical Theatre OR Multi-Sports
Nerf, Dodgeball, Archery & Football**



3

Mon 3rd Aug
Tues 4th Aug
Wed 5th Aug
Thurs 6th Aug

**Nerf, Dodgeball & Archery
Summer Sports
Football
Dance OR Multi-Sports**



4

Mon 10th Aug
Tues 11th Aug
Wed 12th Aug
Fri 14th Aug

**Football
Summer Sports
Nerf, Dodgeball & Archery
Dance**



5

Mon 17th Aug
Fri 21st Aug

**Nerf, Dodgeball, Archery & Football
Dance**



6

Mon 24th Aug
Tues 25th Aug
Friday 28th Aug

**Nerf, Dodgeball & Archery
Summer Sports
Football**



Tues 1st Sept

Nerf, Dodgeball, Archery & Football



BOOK NOW!



www.ignite-sport.co.uk