HARSTON AND NEWTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Headteacher: Mrs Siobhan Rouse

Thursday 1st May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

<u>Arrangements for starting school in September 2025</u>

I am delighted to give you an official welcome to Harston and Newton Primary School. I want to thank you for choosing our school for your child.

We currently expect 15 children to join Reception in September. Their teacher will be **Mrs Pluck and Mrs Chapman** is the teaching assistant assigned to the class.

I know that September seems a long way off, but there are some key dates that I want to share with you, that will support your child's transition to school

I would be delighted to see you at our May Fayre, which will take place on **Saturday 17th May, from noon onwards**. It will be a great way to see the school and meet staff and possibly other families in a friendly, relaxed setting. The school choir will be singing and there will be various stalls, games and raffles so please do come along.

<u>Parent information meeting</u> - We will be holding a meeting for new parents on **Thursday 26**th **June at 6.00 p.m**. to explain more about starting school. The meeting will be held in the school hall. It will give you an opportunity to meet Mrs Pluck and Mrs Chapman and to visit the classroom and also to meet other new parents. There will also be an opportunity to purchase second-hand school uniform on the evening (more details will be included in a second letter in June).

<u>School visits for new Reception</u> children - We hope that your child will be able to visit the school and meet the other new Reception children on **Friday 27**th **June 9.15 – 11.00 a.m.**The session will give children the opportunity to explore the classroom and to get to know Mrs Pluck and Mrs Chapman. **Friday 18**th **July 9.15 – 11.00 a.m.** will be our whole-school move-up morning when children all visit their new classes and spend the morning with their next teachers. Your child is invited to come and spend the morning with their new classmates.

<u>Registration forms</u> - There are **five** key forms that we need all parents to complete and return to school:

- Admission form with personal information, contact details, medical needs, etc.
- Application for Pupil Premium funding (if you are eligible)
- Consent form for local visits and photographs







- Parental email details
- Consent for the use of Tapestry, our online learning journal for the children.

Most of the forms are Word documents, so you can type into them and return them to the school office via email (office@harstonnewton.org). The exception is the application for Pupil Premium funding, which should be made online at

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals and will have the added benefit of giving applicants an instant result. If you would prefer paper copies of the forms, please email or phone the office on (01223) 870345 and we will post them to you. All forms must be returned by **Friday 20**th **June**.

All key documents (including a copy of this letter) will be on the Parent Information tab of the school website, on a page entitled "Starting School in September 2025" – see link below.

Starting school | Harston and Newton Community Primary School

Autumn Term

<u>Home visits</u> - We carry out a home visit to all our children at the beginning of the school year. This will take place on **Wednesday 3rd September** or **Thursday 4**th **September**. A home visit usually lasts for about 20 minutes; it is an opportunity for parents to ask questions and for your child to meet Mrs Pluck in a setting that is familiar to them. We group the visits geographically, to minimise travel time, so please keep to the allocated appointment time, if possible. The date and time of your home visit will be included in a letter in the pack given out at the new parents meeting on **26**th **June**. This letter will also include details of your child's start date.

<u>Starting school</u> - The children are split into two groups, to allow us to settle them in slowly. They attend for the morning only (8.50–12.00 p.m.) for the first three days, and then stay for lunch.

Group 1 starts: Friday 5th September.

Group 2 starts: Monday 8th September. (Group 1 children also attend)

Tuesday 9th all children attend morning only (08.50-12.00 p.m.).

Wednesday 10th, Thursday 11th and Friday 12th September: All children stay for lunch

(8.50-1.30 p.m.)

Monday 15th September: All children attend full-time (8.50-3.20 p.m.)

I hope all this information is helpful and will support you in preparing your child for this important step. Do contact us if you have any questions.

Regards

S. Rouse

Siobhan Rouse <u>Headteacher</u>