



Hunningley Primary Academy
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

Hunningley Primary Academy
Hunningley Lane
Barnsley
South Yorkshire
S70 3DT
Telephone: 01226 284867

Thursday 10th September 2026

Autumn Term Newsletter



Dear families,

What a wonderful start we have had to the new school year! It has been fantastic to welcome our children back to Hunningley and we have been incredibly impressed by the positive attitudes, enthusiasm and determination they have already shown in their learning. Classrooms have been full of excitement, curiosity and smiles as everyone has settled back into their routines.

This newsletter will help you stay informed about everything taking place across school during the Autumn Term. Inside, you'll find important dates, upcoming events and key information for the weeks ahead. We are looking forward to a term packed with memorable experiences, celebrations and opportunities for our children and we cannot wait to share these with you along the way.

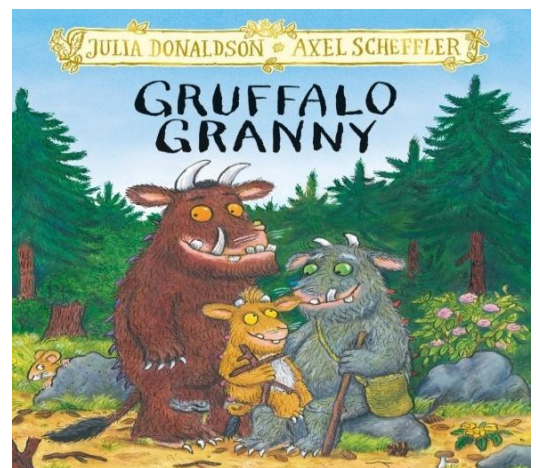
Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Together, we look forward to making this a successful and enjoyable term for every child.

Gruffalo Day (EYFS-Y2) – Tuesday 15th September 2026

To celebrate the launch of Julia Donaldson's new book, *Gruffalo Granny*, our children from Nursery through to Year 2 will be celebrating our very first 'Gruffalo Day!'.

The children will meet the Gruffalo in our school's woodland area and they will all spend some time outdoors before sitting down to listen to Julia's brand-new story for the first time.

It's going to be a great experience for all the children involved.



Hunningley Bake Off! – Thursday 24th September 2026

In support of Macmillan Cancer Support, we are delighted to be hosting our annual Hunningley Bake Off!

All children are invited to take part by bringing a homemade baked creation into school on Thursday 24th September. Entries will be judged by our children, with a winner chosen from each year group.

All cakes and bakes will then be served at our Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 25th September to help raise money for this fantastic charity.



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Macmillan Coffee Morning – Friday 25th September 2026

To support Macmillan Cancer Support, we will be hosting our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning in school.

Parents and carers are warmly invited to join us for coffee, cake and conversation while helping to raise money for this fantastic charity. All donations will go directly to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Further information, including event timings, will be shared soon.



Harvest Festival – Wednesday 14th October 2026

Hunningley will be celebrating Harvest Festival on Wednesday 14th October 2026.

As part of our celebrations, we kindly ask that children bring in a small cupboard food donation for our school food bank to help support families during the colder months ahead. Please ensure that all donations are sealed and within their expiry date.

We are delighted that Father Pete from St Andrew's Church will be joining us for a special Harvest assembly, where children will learn about the importance of Harvest Festival, gratitude and supporting others within our community.

Dolly Fest! – Thursday 15th October 2026

As part of our Musical Genre of the Month, children will be exploring Country and Western music and we are excited to host our very first Dolly Fest! On the 15th of October 2026.

Families are invited to join us for one of three performances throughout the day as children showcase their learning and musical talents.

Show Time!	Time
Performance 1	9:15am
Performance 2	10:30am
Performance 3	2:00pm

Each child will initially be allocated up to two tickets. Any remaining tickets will then be sold on a first come, first served basis once numbers have been confirmed.

Tickets are priced at £1 each and are available to purchase via Arbor. We will also be selling cowboy hats, bandanas and glasses soon!



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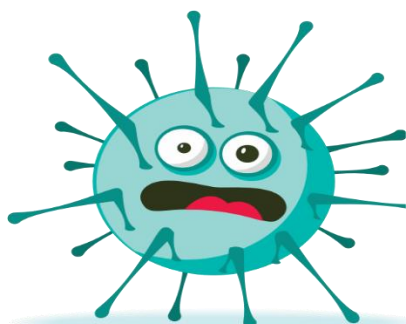


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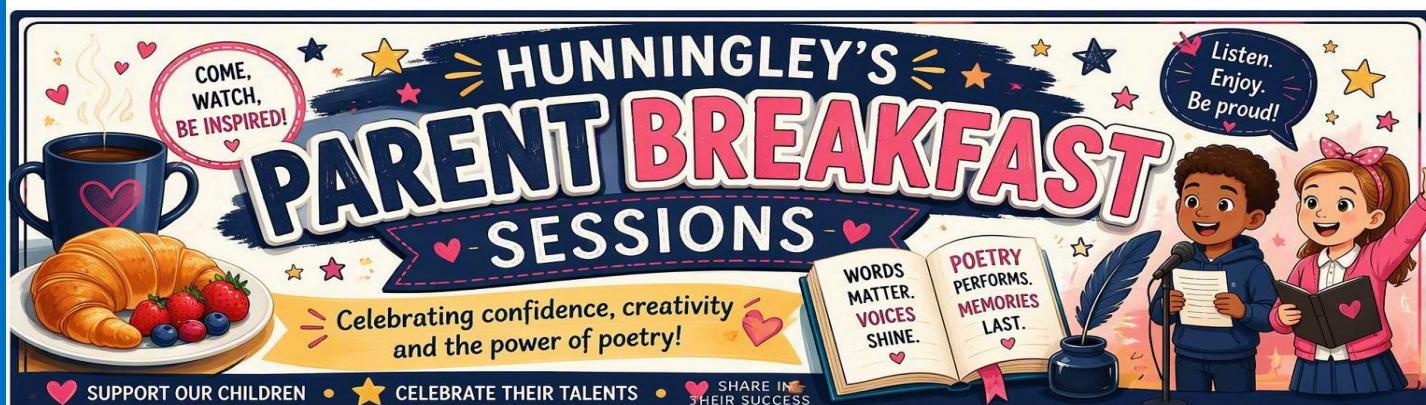
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Nasal Fly Sprays – Monday 19th October 2026

This year's Nasal Flu Spray Vaccinations will take place in school on Monday 19th October 2026. The vaccination is administered as a quick spray up the nose and helps to protect children against flu during the winter months.

We would be grateful if families could help prepare children by talking positively about the vaccination beforehand. It is quick, painless and may feel like a little tickle up the nose, helping children to feel reassured and confident on the day.



Hunningley Parent Breakfast Sessions – October 2026

Our popular Parent Breakfast Sessions are back!

This half term, children will be showcasing their performance poetry during a special breakfast event in our school hall. Parents and carers are invited to enjoy breakfast with their child while celebrating their hard work and confidence.

Due to limited space, we kindly ask that one adult attends per child. Children whose families are unable to attend will still enjoy breakfast with their friends.

A £1 charge is requested to help support the running of the event. Booking will be available via Arbor soon. Please find the timetable for our Parent Breakfast Sessions below:

Year Group	Date
Nursery	Thursday 8 th October 2026
Reception	Thursday 22 nd October 2026
Year 1	Wednesday 7 th October 2026
Year 2	Monday 12 th October 2026
Year 3	Tuesday 20 th October 2026
Year 4	Tuesday 13 th October 2026
Year 5	Monday 19 th October 2026
Year 6	Friday 16 th October 2026

We look forward to welcoming you into school and celebrating the fantastic performance poetry our children have been working so hard to learn.



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Pumpkin Fest! – Wednesday 21st October 2026

We're excited to announce that, for the very first time, we will be transforming our school field into Hunningley's Pumpkin Patch!

Children and families will be invited to enjoy an afternoon of pumpkin picking, pumpkin carving and themed selfie stations, providing the perfect opportunity to celebrate the autumn season before Halloween arrives.

We can't wait to welcome you to this exciting new event. Further information will be shared soon!

October Half Term – Inset Day

A reminder that, for the first time, we will be holding a whole-school INSET Day on Friday 23rd October 2026 to support important staff training and development.

As a result, children will break up for the October half term on **Thursday 22nd October 2026** at the normal end of the school day.

We look forward to welcoming children back to school on **Tuesday 3rd November 2026**, with Breakfast Club resuming from 8:00am.

Thank you for your support and understanding.



Autumn 2 – Inset Day – Monday 2nd November 2026

A reminder that **Monday 2nd November 2026** is a staff INSET Day and school will be closed to pupils.

During the morning, staff will be taking part in important training and professional development. In the afternoon, they will be preparing for something very exciting that we can't wait to share with our school community...

Let's just say, you might be seeing us sooner than you think! 📞 ✨



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Firework Festival! – Monday 2nd November 2026

Following the incredible success of last year's event, we are delighted to announce that Hunningley's Firework Festival is back for its second year and it's bigger and better than ever!

Please note that **Monday 2nd November 2026 is a school INSET Day**, meaning school will be closed to all children during the day. However, we will be opening our doors in the evening and welcoming families back to school for what promises to be a spectacular community event.

Tickets will be priced at **£12 per family** and are available to purchase via **Arbor**. Further details will be shared in the coming weeks.

We can't wait to light up the night sky with our Hunningley community once again! ✨



Parent's Meetings – November 2026

Our annual Parents' Meetings will be taking place in early November. For families new to our school community, our first round of Parents' Meetings are held throughout the school day, rather than just after school, to provide greater flexibility for families.

Appointments will be available to book via Arbor in the coming weeks. Please see the timetable below for all the dates you need to know.

Date	Class	Teachers
Monday 9 th November 2026	6W, 3K, 1P, RH	Mrs Webb, Mr Kelly, Miss Powell, Mrs Hirst
Tuesday 10 th November 2026	6H, 3W, 1O, NK	Miss Hughes, Miss Winton, Miss Ozaylar, Miss Keightley
Wednesday 11 th November 2026	5W, 2M, 4T, RS	Mr Webb, Miss McNamee, Mrs Thorpe, Miss Smith
Thursday 12 th November 2026	5G, 2GC, 4N, NK	Mr Graham, Mr Guest/Miss Collins, Miss Newsome, Miss Keightley

We hope as many families as possible are able to attend. These meetings are a valuable opportunity to celebrate your child's successes, discuss their progress and work together to support their learning journey.

Please note: Nursery families will notice that Miss Keightley has two separate Parents' Meeting dates available. You only need to book **one appointment** on either date.



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We will also be celebrating and acknowledging...

Event	Date	Information
	Wednesday 11 th November 2026	On Wednesday 11th November, the children will take part in a two-minute silence to mark Remembrance Day and to honour those who have served in the war. We will come together as a school community to mark this occasion and will share a special whole-school video on our social media channels for families and the wider community to enjoy.
	Monday 16 th November 2026	Children are invited to come to school wearing odd socks to celebrate Odd Socks Day. This fun event is part of Anti-Bullying Week and is a simple way to remind everyone that it's okay to be different and to celebrate what makes us unique.
 Anti-Bullying Week	Monday 16 th November – Friday 20 th November 2026	All children will recognise and support Anti-Bullying week. All children will take part in PSHE lessons and assemblies with the intention of raising awareness of bullying and how it should be acknowledged and reported.
	Monday 16 th November – Friday 20 th November 2026	During Road Safety Week, children will take part in a range of age-appropriate activities designed to help them stay safe when travelling to and from school. Through assemblies and classroom learning, we will explore the importance of road safety and encourage children to develop safe habits as pedestrians, cyclists and passengers.



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Event	Date	Information
	Thursday 19 th November 2026	On Thursday 19th November 2026, we will be recognising International Men's Day and celebrating the positive impact that the important men in our children's lives have every day. We're currently planning something very special and look forward to recognising the fathers, grandfathers, stepfathers, uncles, brothers and other male role models who support, inspire and encourage our children. Further details will be shared soon!
 Children In Need	Friday 20 th November 2026	On Friday 20th November 2026, we will be supporting BBC Children in Need with a non-uniform day. We kindly ask for a £1 donation from families who are able to contribute. To ensure our fundraising has a lasting impact both nationally and within our own community, 50% of all money raised will be donated to Children in Need to support children and families across the UK, whilst the remaining 50% will be used to support children and families here at Hunningley. Thank you for helping us make a difference to the lives of others
	Monday 23 rd November – Friday 27 th November 2026	During Parliament Week (23rd - 27th November 2026), children will be learning about democracy, voting and how Parliament helps shape the country we live in. Through a range of engaging activities, pupils will explore how their voices can be heard and the important role they play as active citizens. This is always a fantastic opportunity for children to develop their understanding of leadership, decision-making and the values that help our communities thrive.

It looks like we are in for an incredibly busy and exciting November!





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Breakfast with Santa

This year, we are thrilled again to offer Breakfast with Santa for children across all year groups! It promises to be a magical start to the festive season. Below, you will find all the details and dates you need to know to join in the fun.

Year Group	Date
Nursery	Monday 7 th December 2026
Reception	Friday 4 th December 2026
Year 1	Tuesday 1 st December 2026
Year 2	Wednesday 2 nd December 2026
Year 3	Monday 14 th December 2026
Year 4	Tuesday 15 th December 2026
Year 5	Wednesday 16 th December 2026
Year 6	Thursday 17 th December 2026

All sessions will run from 8:45am to 9:30am and you will be able to book your place via Arbor soon!



Christmas Performances: Showtime!

Please find the dates and times for our annual Christmas Performance below. Tickets will be priced at £1, and each child will be allocated x2 tickets. Spare ticket will be sold on a first come, first served basis.

Year Groups	Date	Time
Nursery/Reception	Thursday 10 th December 2026	9:30am & 2:15pm
Years 1 & 2	Wednesday 9 th December 2026	9:30am & 2:15pm
Years 3 & 4	Tuesday 8 th December 2026	9:30am & 2:15pm
Years 5 & 6	Friday 11 th December 2026	9:30am & 2:15pm



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Y1-6 – POLAR EXPRESS! – Thursday 3rd December 2026

On Thursday 3rd December, children in Years 1-6 will be setting off on a magical adventure aboard The Polar Express! To make the day even more special, children are welcome to attend in their pyjamas. For families wishing to join in the fun, Home Bargains are currently selling official Polar Express pyjamas in store and online.

Children will each receive a golden ticket, a hot chocolate, a freshly baked cookie and the magical Christmas 'I Believe' bell from Santa himself!

Whilst Years 1-6 are away on their adventure, our Nursery and Reception children will be enjoying a magical Christmas-themed day in school. We have some exciting plans in store and can't wait to share more details with you soon! ✨ 🎄 🚂

Christmas Jumper & Dinner Day!

On Wednesday 16th December, the children will be taking part in Christmas Jumper Day and are invited to wear their festive Christmas jumpers to school. This is a fun way for everyone to get into the Christmas spirit and celebrate together as a school community.

All children will also have their Christmas Lunch on this day too where they will each have a Christmas cracker to share with their friends and lunch time buddies.



Reindeer Run! – Thursday 17th December 2026

To round off an incredible Autumn Term, all children will take part in our exciting Hunningley Reindeer Run on Thursday 17th December, our final day before the Christmas holidays!

This fun and festive event is completely free of charge and will see children taking part in a special reindeer-themed run around the school grounds. With plenty of Christmas spirit, laughter and festive fun, it's the perfect way to celebrate the end of a fantastic term together before the holidays begin. 🎄 ✨ 🏃 🐇



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Party Day – Thursday 17th December 2026

After completing their Reindeer Run, children will spend the rest of the day enjoying class Christmas parties, festive activities and a very special visit from Santa Claus himself! 🎄 ✨

Please note that school will close early on this day. All children must be collected at 1:30pm on Thursday 17th December 2026.

We kindly ask families to make the necessary arrangements to ensure children are collected promptly.

School will reopen to all children on **Tuesday 5th January 2027** with Breakfast Club resuming from 8am.



As you can see, we have another incredibly busy and exciting term ahead at Hunningley! From community events and family celebrations to educational visits and festive experiences, there is so much for our children to look forward to over the coming months.

We know that many of our parents and carers lead busy lives and often have to rearrange work commitments, childcare arrangements and other responsibilities to attend school events. We would like to sincerely thank you for the incredible support you continue to show our school and children. The memories created through these shared experiences are truly priceless and your attendance helps make these moments even more special for our children.

Please keep this newsletter somewhere safe and refer back to it throughout the term, as it contains many of the key dates and events taking place between now and Christmas. We look forward to working in partnership with you and creating another term filled with learning, laughter and lasting memories.

To make things easier, I have created a one page timetable at the end of this letter for you to refer back to over the coming months ahead.

Thank you, as always, for being part of our wonderful Hunningley community. Here's to an unforgettable Autumn Term!

Mr Parker

Vice Principal

Hunningley Primary Academy

Leader of Education with Character



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Autumn Term Events – Timetable

September 2026:

Event	Date
Gruffalo Day (EYfS-KS1)	Tuesday 15 th September 2026
Hunningley's Great British Bake Off!	Thursday 24 th September 2026
MacMillan Coffee Morning	Friday 25 th September 2026

October 2026:

Event	Date
Harvest Festival	Wednesday 14 th October 2026
Dolly Fest! Country & Western Show!	Thursday 15 th October 2026
Parent Breakfast Sessions	Timetable Included in Autumn Term Letter
Nasal Flu Sprays	Monday 19 th October 2026
Hunningley's Pumpkin Fest!	Wednesday 21 st October 2026
October Half Term	Thursday 22 nd October 2026
Whole School Inset Day	Friday 23 rd October 2026

November 2026:

Event	Date
Whole School Inset Day	Monday 2 nd November 2026
Hunningley's Firework Festival!	Monday 2 nd November 2026
Remembrance Day	Wednesday 11 th November 2026
Parents Meetings	Timetable Included in Autumn Term Letter
Odd Sock Day	Monday 16 th November 2026
Anit-Bullying Week	Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th November
Road Safety Week	Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th November
International Men's Day	Thursday 19 th November 2026
Children in Need	Friday 20 th November 2026
Parliament Week	Monday 23 rd – Friday 27 th November 2026

December 2026:

Event	Date
Breakfast with Santa!	Timetable Included in Autumn Term Letter
Hunningley's Christmas Shows!	Timetable Included in Autumn Term Letter
Polar Express! (Years 1-6)	Thursday 3 rd December 2026
Christmas Jumper & Runner Day	Wednesday 16 th December 2026
Whole School Reindeer Run & Christmas Parties	Thursday 17 th December 2026
Children Finish for Christmas @ 1:30pm	Thursday December 2026



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