

Dear Parent/Carer

Foodbank

The foodbank has moved please find attached a poster with more details.

Parent Survey – Your Voice Matters

We are pleased to share this year's Parent Survey with you. To make it easier and more manageable, the survey has been divided into three, the first section being sent in February, followed by April and June.

We would like to find out about our values, these are ... (school to personalise)

Your feedback is incredibly valuable to us. Last year's survey had a key impact on our school development. For example, we were able to [insert one or two examples of changes made based on last year's feedback]. These improvements were possible because of your input.

Once this survey is complete, the responses will be carefully reviewed by the Headteachers and Senior Leadership Team (SLT). Your views help shape our priorities and ensure we continue to provide the best possible experience for our children and families.

We appreciate the time you take to share your thoughts and look forward to hearing from you. Please look out for the survey links and complete them at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your continued support.

Hedgehogs Class Assembly - Change of date

We would like to let you know that the date of the Hedgehog Class assembly has changed. It will now take place on **Tuesday 21st April** at 9:00am in the Infant School Hall.

Grandparents' Festival

The Infant Schools annual Grandparents' Festival will take place on Friday 20th March from 1.30–3.00pm.

A form will be sent to you shortly so you can let us know whether your child's grandparents will be attending.

Please note that this event is for **grandparents only**, and for safeguarding reasons only those who have been signed in via the form will be able to attend.

WhatsApp

I'm writing to raise awareness of the increasing concerns we are seeing around children's use of **WhatsApp**. Although often used with good intentions, group chats can quickly lead to unkind messages, misunderstandings, and worries that affect children's **emotional wellbeing**.

Please remember that **WhatsApp has a minimum age of 16**, and this restriction is in place to help protect younger children, who may find online communication difficult to manage.

We kindly ask for your support in **restricting access to WhatsApp** for primary-aged children so we can work together to keep them safe, happy, and focused on positive friendships.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

HSA

Quiz Night Reminder:

Ticket sales for our ultimate brain-busting Quiz Night end this Sunday 1st March, at 10:30 pm – don't miss out!

When: Friday, 13 March, 7:00 – 9:30 pm

Where: The Hermitage Junior School Hall

Who: Adults only (18+) – teams of up to 8

Register your team now at www.pta-events.co.uk/hsa Pre-order drinks by the and order your pizza from Hermitage Coffee House.

Gather your crew, lock in your spots, and get ready for a night of trivia, pizza, and plenty of friendly competition!

Business Sponsorship – Put Your Brand in Front of 440+ Families

We love to showcase the local businesses that keep our community thriving. Whether you're a tutor, gardener, baker, plumber, or any trusted service, you can reach our

families through affordable sponsorship slots on the PTA website —from a simple directory listing to a full-year or event-specific partnership. Our site attracts more than 22,000 visits each year and our newsletters go to 850+ households, giving your name maximum exposure.

Please see the attached flyer for the options available.

Help the Hermitage Schools Association double the impact of every pound you give—ask your employer about Matched Giving

What is Matched Giving?

Matched Giving (sometimes called “matched funding”) is a straightforward programme that lets your employer match the money you raise for our charity. In practice, for every £1 you donate, your workplace contributes an additional £1, instantly doubling the support for our schools.

Why it matters

Our fundraising fuels essential projects: new playground equipment, upgraded outdoor learning spaces, and better indoor resources for students. When donations are matched, the value of every contribution triples—more equipment, more lessons, more opportunities for our children.

How it works

1. **Check with your employer** – Ask your HR or finance team whether the company runs a Matched Giving scheme.
2. **Complete the paperwork** – If a scheme exists, you’ll receive a short form to confirm your donation amount.
3. **Submit your pledge** – Send the form back, and the company will match your contribution.
4. **Spread the word** – Ask friends and family to request matched giving from their employers to support our PTA!

What if my workplace doesn’t have a scheme?

Many organisations are open to launching a Matched Giving programme when employees ask. We can provide a ready-made letter to help you make the case.

The impact of matching

- 84% of donors are more likely to give when they know their gift will be matched.
- One-third of those donors increase their pledge.
- Matched donations are on average 250 % larger than unmatched ones.

Take the next step – Talk to your employer today, fill out the matching form, and watch your contribution turn into twice the resources for our playgrounds, classrooms, and outdoor learning areas.

In other news:

We're thrilled to announce that the Hermitage Schools Association is now a certified member of both the Fundraising Regulator and the Charities Excellence Commission. These endorsements confirm that our fundraising is legal, transparent and respectful—key ingredients for building lasting trust with donors and the wider community, and for sharpening the effectiveness of every campaign we run. We're also helping PTA Events celebrate their landmark 50 million milestone achievement; as a newly appointed ambassador, HSA looks forward to deepening that partnership to amplify our fundraising reach and impact over the coming year.

Kind Regards

The Hermitage Schools