



Homer First School & Nursery

Homer News – February 2026

Message from the Headteacher

It's hard to believe we are already halfway through the academic year - each term seems to get busier than the last! I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to all our staff, who work tirelessly to make Homer a vibrant and nurturing learning environment for our whole school community. We are incredibly proud of our children and the progress they are making across all areas of school life. Your support as parents plays a vital role in helping us create positive outcomes for every pupil, and we truly appreciate the partnership we share. Throughout the term, we have welcomed several external professionals, including an Early Years Link Adviser, our School Improvement Partner, a Literacy Specialist from the English Hub, and members of our Governing Body. All our visitors have remarked on the positive atmosphere within the school and the children's enthusiasm and engagement in their learning.

We'd like to thank Friends of Homer for funding the purchase of 10 additional computers for pupils to use in their computing lessons.

You'll be pleased to know that Mr Harrold is on the mend, thank you to those who have asked after him, we will pass on your well-wishes and we look forward to seeing him in the car park very soon!

Here are few highlights from the term:

The Year 4's took part in Anti Racism workshops and we were so impressed with their maturity and understanding.

Nursery and Reception enjoyed a visit from Little City, it was lovely to see such engagement in the children's play.

Garnet Class enjoyed their Gym Competition at Dedworth Middle School. Well done to Garnet Class for your super participation and representing Homer at this event.

Key Stage One had a brilliant trip to Oxford Science Museum, it was a wonderful day enjoyed by all. Thank you to the parent helpers who joined us for the day

Nursery and Reception had fun at their Valentines Stay & Play, it really was a fantastic afternoon. Thank you to those parents who were able to join us.

This week we have taken part in Children's Mental Health Week promoting emotional well-being and a sense of belonging.

Thank you to Friends of Homer for organising the Valentines Disco for Key Stage 1 and 2.

Have a lovely half term break!

Mrs Sharma

Attendance

The Government has issued statutory guidance on attendance for all schools. We will continue to monitor attendance and punctuality.

Our overall school attendance is currently 94.2%.

If we break this down by year group, the numbers are:-

EYFS- 94.2% YEAR 1- 89.4% YEAR 2- 95.5% YEAR 3- 94.7% YEAR 4- 95.6%

Our target is 96%

Please see checklist link below if you are unsure whether to send your child into school due to illness.

[Should I keep my child off school checklist poster \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/672212/Should_I_keep_my_child_off_school_checklist_poster.pdf)

Updates & Curriculum News

Class teachers are busy updating classes pages on the school website. Please use the link below. Here you will find information about what has been taught in school this term and what is coming up after half term.

[Class Pages | Homer First School & Nursery](#)

Diary Dates

Monday 23rd February	Children return to school
Tuesday 3rd March	West End dance workshops (Pinocchio) for children in Reception, KS1 & KS2.
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day mufti. Children can come to school dressed as their favourite book character.
Tuesday 10th March	FoH Mother's Day shop
Wednesday 25th March	RockSteady concert, 9.15am. For parents of children attending RockSteady band lessons.
Friday 27th March	Last day of term, 1.30pm finish.
Thursday 21st May	Singing picnic/Alexander Devine fundraiser. All parents are invited to attend - details to follow.
Friday 5th June	Sports Day followed by family picnic - details to follow.
Thursday 25th June	Reserve Sports Day
Friday 10th July	Year 4 Leavers Evening - details to follow.