

Welcome back to school and we hope that all the children had an enjoyable summer break. We warmly welcome all the new starters and hope you will be very happy during your time at Hempshill Hall Primary School. As always our doors are always open; if you have any questions or concerns please come and speak to us. We look forward to getting to know all our new families. A Senior Leader will be welcoming children at the Armstrong Road gate entrance on a daily basis if you should wish to speak to someone.

We will be holding 'Meet and Greet' sessions after school so parents have an opportunity to hear specific information about the new year group your child will be entering and ask any questions you have. Teachers will have an information handout for anyone unable to attend. We have split the sessions across two days and hope you will be able to attend. Children are welcome to sit and listen with their parent/carer.

Meet and Greet sessions		
Date	Classes	Time
Wednesday 3rd September	F2, Y1,Y2 and Y3	3.30pm – 4pm
Thursday 4th September	Y4, Y5 and Y6	3.30pm – 4pm

Please remember to look at the class pages on the school website to find out what your child will be learning about this half term (these should be uploaded by the end of next week). We warmly welcome parent helpers in school and are always very appreciative if anyone has time to spare and would like to support with reading, sewing, cooking or the school garden.

A huge thank you to everyone who attended the end of year summer fair celebration event. The weather was kind to us, and the fair raised just over £2,000 which is incredible. Money raised by such events goes into our school fund and helps pay for and subsidise additional activities such as visiting theatre groups, trips and providing additional playtime equipment etc.

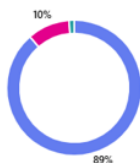
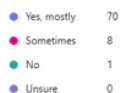
We will be starting the new academic year with a whole school project called 'It's Cool to be Kind'. Children will be involved in lots of different activities around this theme and they will all have an opportunity to decorate a t-shirt. On Friday 5th September the children will wear their t-shirts and be involved in a whole school parade (including nursery) on the playground and field. This will happen straight after registration and parents are invited to stay and watch. The event will be finished by 9.30am. Each week there will be a special 'kindness theme' and children will be recognised when they are seen doing things that link to that particular week's theme.



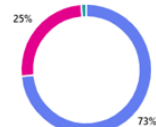
Your opinions matter to us – Parent feedback

Thank you to all parents who completed the online parent questionnaire. It was lovely to read so many positive comments and suggestions for how to improve our school offer. Here are the responses to key questions. We will always listen to feedback and we strive to maintain positive working relationships with all parents. Please speak to us as issues arise and we will always try and address them.

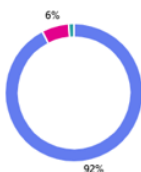
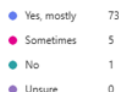
3. Do you think your child is happy at school?



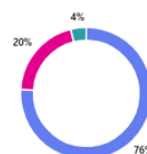
5. Do you think pupils at Hempshill Hall are well behaved?



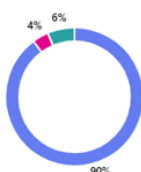
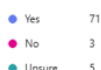
4. Do you think your child feels safe at school?



6. Do you feel well informed about what your child is learning and the progress that they are making?



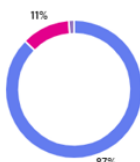
7. If you felt the need to raise concerns, do you feel they would be dealt with properly?



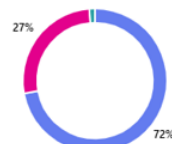
9. Do you think our school supports your child's wider personal development (e.g educational visits, clubs, keeping safe, emotional well-being)?



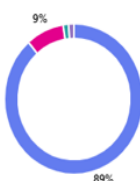
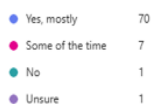
8. Do you feel your child makes good progress at Hempshill Hall?



10. Did your child have an opportunity to take part in an after school club this year?



11. Do you feel the school is inclusive and understands our diverse community?



What we did well

She loves coming to school. She has made great progress in her learning and her confidence has really grown

After school clubs. They have enjoyed attending these and learning / doing extra activities.

The teachers have been really supportive, enthusiastic and have inspired my daughter's imagination. And I have loved being able to come in and share learning experiences with her, such as the recent science morning.

X has loved coming to school and has had such amazing support from his teachers who have gone above and beyond for him. He loved going to the library for visits and the space station and joined in in his class assembly which we never thought he would.

School has really brought X out of her shell. She loves it and the teachers are brilliant.

She absolutely loves school, her teachers & her friends 💛 so keep doing what you're doing.

Been an absolute pleasure. Will miss the daily commute to school. Trips, plays, clubs, sports day.

You name it.

My son started nursery here in January and since then has started thriving in many different areas of development. He's been referred to speech and language but whilst waiting to hear from them, school have worked alongside me by giving me picture and words to sound out and pronounce with my child at home.

The way the teacher has described my child is incredible! He has come on leaps and bounds and his report shows that!

Things which were raised by parents

I think communication is still an area that needs a lot of work. Emails the day before or the morning of school trips and events is not enough notice for parents especially when sometimes they use breakfast club or use a childminder/ relative for pick-ups and don't see messages on the white boards outside classes. The set up of Arbor giving parents login access before the admin staff were trained was also a very confusing period.

Would like to know a bit more about what they do and learn during lessons.

Class room too hot and child complaining saying she's sat near a heater they can't turn off I found when doing parenting activities classrooms are too full with tables and no space to move. During hot weather I think children should have access to their water at all times.

Allow packed lunch children and school dinners to share lunch time.

I believe juice or water shouldn't matter especially in a dark cup so no other children can see it at least they are getting fluids especially in hot weather as milk is more of a food than drink and shouldn't be changed by a teacher.

You said...We did...2025

We continue to work hard to improve communication and in general there should always have been letters sent out about trips etc before the day of event. Notices on boards and emails the day before should only be reminders. Changing over to Arbor was a tricky time in the school office and unfortunately the training schedules and migration dates were not in our control. Hopefully, things are now well established and should run smoothly.

The school website provides a lot of information about the children's current learning. We are also increasing opportunities for parents to come into school and watch lessons being delivered. Please see the class pages which give a week-by-week overview, and the subject knowledge organisers provide extra details. This year there will be more information sent out via Tapestry for EYFS. We will continue to send completed exercise books home.

On some of the exceptionally hot days some of classrooms do get very warm throughout the day due to the design of the school building. Staff try and ensure children are kept as cool as possible and this may mean they move into a different work space. Unfortunately, we do not have the budget/funding to install air conditioning units. During the summer months the heating is not switched on. The school was built over 50 years ago and our classrooms were deemed to be the correct size at the time. Teachers try hard to ensure the classrooms are set up to allow children enough space to move around as needed. Additional adults in the room are always going to be difficult to manage but it would be a shame not to be able to invite parents into classrooms for one off events. Children are encouraged to drink water often, especially on hot days.

The catering team serve over 300 meals a day. Lunchtime is spread over a 1 hour and 15 period and this is how long it takes for all the children to be served and eat. We do not have enough room in the school hall for packed lunch children to be in there as well.

We are a water only school and we ask that parents support us with this. We encourage children to drink water as it is a life skill and sipping juice throughout the day is proven to rapidly increase tooth decay. Also, sticky juice spills and bottles encourages ants and other insects in the classrooms. If teachers notice a child who is not drinking, they will always talk to a parent and try and find a suitable compromise to ensure they are drinking enough.

Continue to raise attendance and encourage all children to arrive on time and to attend school as often as they can so they achieve well.

In reading we want to all children have access to high quality texts which inspire them to love reading.

In Maths we want to help more children become confident and capable mathematicians who can recall times table and number facts quickly.

In Writing we want to make sure children are presenting their work neatly and ensure letter formation is correct and handwriting is neat and preparing all children to correctly join their handwriting.

What are we doing to improve our school this year?

We will continue to find ways for children to enjoy a wide range of experiences in and out of school which help build cultural capital, resilience and ensure they know how to keep themselves safe and physically and mentally well.

We would like more children to attend the after school wrap around care club and we will be offering a range of different 'one off' themed nights and split session pricing.

The Primary Parliament will be talking to children in their classes and reviewing the lunchtime menus with the school cook and finding out what children think about the meals.

Teachers in the Foundation Stage want to make sure that the children make very good progress in all areas of the EYFS curriculum so EVEN more children achieve GLD (good level of development at the end of F2).

Safeguarding

As we begin the new academic year, we will remind the children about how to keep themselves safe including when they are online and using the internet. We will continue to support parents by offering advice and training so you can help protect your children (please look at resources on the website). Children know that they can talk to any of these adults if they are worried about something or someone. Posters are displayed around the school. If you have a concern about a child or family who you think may need support, please let us know and we will always try and find the correct help.

Meet the Hempshill Hall Safeguarding Team

Designated Safeguarding Leads

Our safeguarding team is made up of the following members of staff:

				
Sally Dakin DSL (Headteacher)	Steph Postgate DSL	Ruth Bond <u>SENCO DSL</u> (Deputy Head)	Jon Wright DSL (Deputy Head)	Emily Gowans DSL (LKS2 Lead)

If you have any concerns about the welfare of a child or if you are concerned about their health and safety, you should share this with a DSL or the headteacher immediately.

If you are worried about a child in our school or if you see something that concerns you in the community, you can report concerns yourself.

MASH (Nottingham City) – 0115 876 4800

NSPCC – 0115 960 5481

If you think a child is at immediate risk of harm, you can also call the police.

[An important message from Nottingham City Council](#)



LET'S KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Very sadly, over the last school year, three children were injured after being knocked over by cars outside Nottingham schools. So, as the new term begins, we're asking for your co-operation to keep the roads outside school calm and safe for everyone.

We're asking all parents or carers who drive children to school, can you...

BE TIMELY – Can you try to get to school in good time, so that you can park away from the school, especially the zig-zag lines, and walk your child/children up to the school gates? This will mean better visibility and a safer environment for everyone.

BE CONSIDERATE – Please can you park considerately; not blocking the pavements or resident's driveways and turning off your vehicle's engine whilst waiting, to reduce pollution?

BE PATIENT – Can you please drive carefully and be patient whilst driving away from the school? We appreciate everyone has busy lives, however this has been the main cause of previous accidents.

As we go into the new school term, let's do all we can to keep our children safe. Thank you.

Councillor Linda Woodings, Executive member for road safety, Nottingham City Council.

Clubs

The children were consulted at the end of last year about the types of clubs they would like to attend after school. We are aiming to provide each year group with at least one club each half term. Letters will be sent out very soon with the details.

Behaviour

At Hempshill Hall Primary School, we promote excellence through our school values. Children are encouraged to do and be these things:

Hardworking -We encourage children to work both independently and collaboratively to achieve their best.

Helpful hands - We expect children to make positive contributions in our diverse and multicultural community and wider society.

Push ourselves- We encourage children to develop enquiring minds and a spirit of curiosity. We build resilience in preparation for life's challenges and equip our children to be lifelong learners.

Show understanding - We recognise and celebrate strengths and differences and show respect and compassion to all.

Children are rewarded through our positive behaviour system when any adults witness any of these values. Children receive 'super stamps or stars' which accumulate and enable them to earn bronze, silver and gold badges. The children are very proud when they achieve these. We hold a fortnightly 'Celebration Assembly' where children will receive certificates and recognition for their contributions in that week. For further details please see the full Behaviour and Relationships Policy on the school website.

Harvest Festival and Bulwell Food Bank

We know that many in our community are struggling. We would like to support the Bulwell Food Bank by making a collection of food in school as part of a Harvest Festival assembly on Monday 29th September. If you are able, please send in a donation of toiletries, tins, jars or packets of food. This assembly will be just for children. There is a Food Bank donation box in the school entrance where staff and parents may make donations throughout the year. We will ensure this is regularly taken to the food bank. Please note that Hempshill Hall can refer families to receive help from the food bank. If you need us to do this, please call at the school office.



Attendance

A huge thank you to all the parents who work with us to ensure their children attend school as often as possible. Please come and talk to us if you are having issues around any aspect of school attendance and we will be able to offer support. One of the key areas we now need to improve is lateness. Registers are taken at 9am and at 9.20am children are marked as absent for the whole morning session even though they may be in school from 9.30am. Lateness is disruptive for the class, the teacher, the office staff and it is embarrassing for the children to have to walk in during the middle of a lesson or assembly. At times, we appreciate things can happen which are out of parents control but regular lateness is not acceptable. Please help us reduce the number of children arriving late.

School Times:

	School Starts	School Ends
Nursery <u>30 hour</u> children Classroom doors open 8.45 am and close at 8.55am	8.50 am	3.30 pm
<u>Nursery</u> am children as above	8.50 am	11.50 am (doors open 11.45am)
Foundation – Year 6 Classroom doors open 8.55 am and close at 9.05am	9.00 am	3.30 pm

Please note that holidays taken in school time continue to not be authorised and new fines have been imposed (please see table below the newsletter).



Attendance Matters! Newsletter July 2025

Welcome to our attendance newsletter. Each half term we will be updating you on school attendance and which year groups and classes are working hard to help school achieve their target. We will also share tips and information with you around illness and punctuality.



In Summer 2, 132 children were late on one or more occasion.

Please ensure your child arrives to school on time as learning starts straight away.

The gate will be closed at 9.05am and children will need to be signed in at the office after this time.

If your child arrives after 9.20am, this will be recorded as unauthorized.



Well done to our stars for attendance for Summer 2 - **Year 2 and Year 5** were the year groups with the highest attendance and **Class Beeby** was the stand out class.

In total, **two classes had attendance over 95%**! Well done!



Our aim is for all children to achieve 95%+ attendance. Keep trying to come to school on time every day!

Summer 2 Attendance

F1	86.89%
F2	92.39%
Y1	93.02%
Y2	94.58%
Y3	93.36%
Y4	93.5%
Y5	94.48%
Y6	94.09%



Attendance Officer: Mrs Tideswell

Class	Post/Hal	Belton	Gibbs	Uppal	Ashdown	Beeby	Rushton	Cunliffe	Brown/Slan	Gow/Yaz	Taylor	Kendall	Chamb	Burton	Romeo
%	86.89%	92.16%	92.63%	94.54%	91.54%	96%	93.26%	91.67%	95.32%	93.7%	93.29%	94.43%	94.53%	94.03%	94.15%

Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing!

With the introduction of The National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice fines issued after 19th August 2024

Per Parent, Per Child	First Offence
Penalty Notice fines will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent. <u>For example:</u> 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.	The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time leave of irregular attendance the amount will be: £160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days

5 consecutive days of term time leave

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time leave of 5 or more consecutive days, inset training days are school days and can be included in the 5 or more consecutive days where there was intent to be absent for term time leave.

10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period

Penalty Notice fines will be considered when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period

Second Offence (Within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time leave or irregular attendance the amount will be £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time leave or irregular attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child

Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parents future DBS certificate, due to a 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.

Uniform

Most children come to school looking extremely smart and wearing the correct uniform. Please help us maintain this by ensuring children do not wear jewellery (unless a key religious item). Stud earrings are acceptable but must be removed for swimming and covered for PE. We ask that hair accessories are small (we have noticed some very large bows creeping in) and in school colours and that children do not come to school with dyed hair or excessive shaved patterns. Nail varnish and makeup is not permitted, and children will be asked to remove it if they wear it in school.

We continue to have a large stock of free preloved uniform so please ask if there is anything your child needs. We will continue to put uniform out on the playground for parents to take throughout the year.

Wrap around

We are delighted to announce that we will be continuing the after-school club to support working families. The club will run in term time 3.30-5.50pm and is open to all children in Reception to Y6. The children will receive a snack, a drink and they can enjoy a range of activities including

- Arts and crafts
- Cooking and food preparation
- Group games and sports
- Construction, role play and board games

Throughout the year we will be running a range of themed nights which will be open to children to attend as one-off sessions. Please contact the school office for more details about the price (we are now offering split pricing and time sessions) and information on how to book a space. Miss Dexter and Mrs Bhogal look forward to welcoming your children into the club.

We hope your child/children enjoy being in their new classes and have a very successful and happy time at school.

Sally Dakin
Headteacher

Diary Dates

The first INSET days was Monday 1st September and remaining dates are:

- **Friday 21st November 2025**
- **Monday 13th February 2026**
- **Wednesday 8th July 2026**
- **Monday 27th July 2026**

School will be closed to children on these dates so we can complete staff training.

Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th September – Meet and Greet (see above for classes and date)

Tuesday 9th September – Year 6 Safety Zone trip

Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th – Music Band Camp (invitation only)

Wednesday 10th September – Y1 'Your Child's Reading Journey' 9.10 -9.40am

Wednesday 17th September – F2 'Your Child's Reading Journey' 9.10 -9.40am

Friday 19th September - Y3 Walk to Bulwell town am

Wednesday 24th September – Y2 'Your Child's Reading Journey' 9.10 -9.40am

Friday 26th September - Y3 Local Countryside Walk

Monday 29th September Harvest Celebration – please send in any food or toiletry items you can donate to Bulwell Foodbank

Tuesday 30th September – Y4 Trip to Nottingham Train Station

Wednesday 8th October individual school photographs- more details will follow.

Thursday 9th October 3.30- 6pm – Parent's Evening

Thursday 9th October - Flu immunisations (more details to follow)

Tuesday 14th October 3.30- 6pm – Parent's Evening
 Friday 17th October - last day of half term – Wear it Pink for Breast Cancer non uniform and cake sale
 Monday 3rd November – Return to school
 Monday 10th November - Anti Bullying Week
 Tuesday 11th November – Remembrance assembly in school (children only) – children can wear uniforms from cubs, brownies, etc.
 Friday 14th November – Children in Need (non-uniform)
 Friday 21st November – INSET Day
 Monday 24th November– Monday 8th December – Talent show auditions
 Friday 5th December – Interim reports sent home.
 Monday 8th December 2.15pm – KS1 Christmas Performance- to be confirmed asap
 Tuesday 9th December 9.15am – KS1 Christmas Performance- to be confirmed asap
 Tuesday 9th December – KS1 visit to 'Winter Wonderland' at Bulwell Forest Gardens – date to be confirmed asap.
 Thursday 11th December – Travelling to Bethlehem and Christmas Lunch
 Monday 15th December 2.45pm – Year 3/4 Christmas Carol Concert
 Wednesday 17th December Y5/6 Christmas Carol Concert
 Wednesday 17th December 3.30pm Christmas Fair event
 Thursday 18th December – Party Day
 Friday 19th December – Talent Show and last day of school
 Monday 5th January – School reopens

If you have children in Year 6 or nursery you will need to apply for their next phase of schooling. This should be done online to Nottingham City School Admissions

<https://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/information-for-residents/education-and-schools/school-admissions/>

Monday 1st September 2025 applications for secondary places open
 Friday 31st October closing date for secondary school applications
 Monday 2nd March 2025 secondary school offers sent out
 November 2025 application packs distributed for 2026 Primary School Reception class (Foundation 2)
 Thursday 15th January 2026 Applications for Primary School close
 Thursday 16th April 2026 offers sent out for Primary School places.

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU APPLY FOR A SCHOOL PLACE WITHIN THE DEADLINE.

Keep in touch

If you need to speak to a member of staff, if convenient, you may do this at the end of the school day or please write a note in the home/school diary telephone or email to make an appointment and someone will respond as quickly as possible.

admin@hempshillhall.nottingham.sch.uk

foundation1@hempshillhall.nottingham.sch.uk

foundation2@hempshillhall.nottingham.sch.uk

year1@hempshillhall.nottingham.sch.uk

and so on up to year 6.