

26.9.2025

Hopefully you have seen the letter sent out this morning regarding our next steps to becoming part of the [Mulberry Schools Trust](#). I have had a number of meetings with the teams from Mulberry over the past few weeks and am excited by the next steps taking Silverdale forward with them. Their values sit very closely with those of Silverdale and they are keen to help enhance the children's experiences whilst here, not make significant changes! Please take a moment to read through, I have attached alongside this newsletter just in case you cannot find the letter from earlier.

The week has flown by, it would be fair to say the children are now in the learning groove, routines are in place and the calm sense of learning is permeating throughout. We will be releasing times for our first parent consultations soon alongside booking information, I know the staff are looking forward to celebrating the children's early successes with you.

ATTENDANCE.

We continue to use the direct email for our Attendance Officer. If your child is absent, please report this via attendance@silverdaleprimaryacademy.org.uk rather than phoning the office.

Group	Present		AEA		Authorised		Unauthorised		Possible		%Attend	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
Olive Tree	140	140	0	0	5	5	0	0	145	145	96.6	96.6
Apple Tree	136	133	0	0	8	11	1	1	145	145	93.8	91.7
Cherry Tree	136	138	0	0	7	7	2	0	145	145	93.8	95.2
Maple Tree	135	135	0	0	4	4	1	1	140	140	96.4	96.4
Holly Tree	153	153	0	0	2	2	0	0	155	155	98.7	98.7
Elm Tree	142	143	0	0	3	2	0	0	145	145	97.9	98.6
Aspen Tree	148	148	0	0	1	1	1	1	150	150	98.7	98.7
Pine Tree	129	129	0	0	6	6	0	0	135	135	95.6	95.6
Sycamore Tree	144	146	0	0	5	4	1	0	150	150	96.0	97.3
Whitebeam Tree	137	135	0	0	10	12	3	3	150	150	91.3	90.0
Rowan Tree	137	132	0	0	3	8	0	0	140	140	97.9	94.3
Cedar Tree	141	143	0	0	11	11	3	1	155	155	91.0	92.3
Elderflower Class	138	137	0	0	3	4	4	4	145	145	95.2	94.5
Juniper Tree	141	140	0	0	2	3	2	2	145	145	97.2	96.6
Lime Tree	142	143	0	0	1	1	2	1	145	145	97.9	98.6
Beech Tree	142	114	0	30	5	5	3	1	150	150	94.7	96.0
Hornbeam Tree	144	118	0	29	3	3	3	0	150	150	96.0	98.0
Hazel Tree	140	112	0	29	2	2	8	7	150	150	93.3	94.0
Elder Tree	134	150	17	0	4	5	0	0	155	155	97.4	96.8
Magnolia Tree	129	140	8	0	5	4	3	1	145	145	94.5	96.6
Blackthorn Tree	123	129	3	0	7	6	2	0	135	135	93.3	95.6
Totals	2911	2858	28	88	97	106	39	23	3075	3075	95.6	95.8

CENSUS DAY

Thursday 2nd October is 'school census day'. On this day, the government record how many school dinners are served - and this has a significant impact on our school meal funding for the following year. The school already have to effectively subsidise every school meal served in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2, which costs £1000s, so it is especially important that we maximise school dinner uptake on this particular day to help ensure we receive the maximum government funding possible.

Thursday 2nd October will therefore be our ever-popular 'fish fingers and chips day'. This is a one-off change, as fish and chips us usually on a Friday. **If you have already booked for that day, or the Friday, then apologies, as you will need to re-book. All other bookings are unaffected.**



It would be fantastic to see as many children have school dinners that day as possible. Remember, ALL children in Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 can receive a free school meal every day. There is always a great variety of options - along with a delicious main and vegetarian option every day, we also offer jacket potato with a choice of toppings, a school packed lunch option and a panini option too. If you are having any trouble booking your child's school dinners, please let the office know so they can help you with this.

If your child is in EYFS, Year 1 or Year 2, and hasn't yet given school dinners a try, then this would be the perfect opportunity to do so - as well as fish fingers and chips there is also a delicious Quorn nuggets vegetarian option, jacket potatoes, cheese panini or ham sandwich.

SCHOOL DINNERS



At Silverdale, our school dinner service is provided by Chartwells Catering. As you can imagine, preparing and cooking for perhaps upwards of 300 servings in a single lunch sitting can be a challenging task!

HASTINGS NEIGHBOURHOOD PROJECT

The Hastings Neighbourhood Board is inviting local residents to share their views on how up to £20 million of government funding should be spent to improve our neighbourhoods over the next ten years. This is a significant investment in our community, and your voice matters.



The money can go towards a wide range of local improvements – such as new parks and playgrounds, bus shelters, bins and benches, restoring buildings and public spaces, better footpaths, or enhancing leisure and sports facilities, including support for arts, culture, and local history.

One exciting possibility we'd like to raise is the rejuvenation or complete rebuilding of the Silverdale swimming pool, which would benefit not only Silverdale children, but also pupils from other local schools and community groups. The site at Silverdale could also be considered for further development as a leisure hub, with facilities such as changing rooms and a 5G sports pitch – offering a valuable resource for local clubs and community organisations.

To make these ideas a reality, we need your input. Please take a few minutes to complete the short questionnaire and share your thoughts: [Click here to complete the survey](#) The more people who take part, the more likely it is that the funding will be used in ways that reflect the needs and hopes of families in our area. Let's make sure our voices are heard.



TESCO GROUNDWORKS: CHANGING PLACES CHANGING LIVES

Project Title - Back to the Roots

We are delighted to inform you that our application to Tesco Stronger Starts has been successfully selected for the customer vote in Tesco stores. Voting will commence in store from the first week in October 2025 until mid-January 2026.



Our project engages children in sustainability through hands-on gardening, Forest School activities, and club programmes to enhance wellbeing. The project with the highest number of votes across the region will receive up to £1,500, the second placed project up to £1,000, and the third placed project £500.

You will be able to vote in the following stores across Hastings and St Leonards

Battle Express – TN33 0BN

Hastings Little Ridge Avenue Express – TN37 7LR

Hastings Lacuna Express – TN34 1BP

St Leonards-On-Sea, Fernside Express – TN38 0UU

Hastings Extra – TN38 9RB

Old Road Express – TN35 5BH

Every Little Helps!!

APPLYING FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Reminder for Parents and Carers: If you are in receipt of any of the following benefits, your child may be eligible for additional support through Pupil Premium (PP). This includes Free School Meals for children in Year 3 and above, half-price school trips, and holiday HUGGG vouchers. Eligible benefits include: Universal Credit (with an annual income below £7,400 after tax or monthly income under £616.67), Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA), income-based Employment and Support Allowance (ESA), support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, the Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit, or Child Tax Credit (with an annual income below £16,190). From the start of the 2026/27 school year, all children from households receiving Universal Credit will be entitled to free school meals. To check your eligibility and apply, please visit [this website](#)

SCHOOL GATES

Following up on our message earlier this week, we would like to remind everyone that starting from [insert date], our gates will be closing at 8:00 AM. While staff will still be able to drive onto the site, we kindly request that parents and carers refrain from driving onto the site after this time. This will allow us to accommodate the 8:00 AM breakfast club drop-off. If dropping off please park considerately as both staff and other visitors are accessing the site, please do not block the driveway. Our primary goal is to ensure the safety of everyone in our community—children, parents, and staff from both the school and FSN Silverdale Nursery. We ask that, unless you are a blue badge holder, all parents park locally on the street and walk onto the site. This will help us maintain a safe environment for everyone. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

SCHOOL DINNERS

At Silverdale, our school dinner service is provided by Chartwells Catering. As you can imagine, preparing and cooking for perhaps upwards of 300 servings in a single lunch sitting can be a challenging task!



It is essential that all dinners are ordered on ParentPay in advance of the school day – by 8am at the latest. This is to ensure the kitchen have the correct amount of ingredients, and also have the time to prepare the food in the morning before lunchtime. In addition, it means you, as a parent, get to decide what school lunch your child has from the range of options. **This is equally important if your child is in Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 and is entitled to a free school meal.**

You can book a whole week, month or even term's worth of dinners all at once through ParentPay.



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If school dinners are not ordered in advance, we will of course do our best to ensure they receive a school meal. However, we cannot guarantee that they will be able to choose from the whole menu and may need to choose from a more limited range of options depending upon availability. **In addition, if your child is in Years 3-6, we may need to call you to ask you to bring in a packed school lunch if a school dinner hasn't been ordered.**

We also use ParentPay for school trip permissions – so it is essential that you have access. If you don't, please contact our school office in person, via telephone (01424 448100) or via email (office@silverdaleprimaryacademy.org.uk)

PTA UPDATE

Bonfire night volunteers meeting on Monday 20th October 3.30pm at Silverdale

PTA legendary Bonfire and fireworks night

Saturday 8th November

A big thankyou to those who have signed up to help towards bonfire night, we have half the number of volunteers we need for the event to go ahead. For our event to take place, we need a minimum of 20 volunteers to run the event itself and BBQ and refreshments if we have more then we can have additional stalls too; so if you're able to help in any way please look out for the volunteers form - thanks.

We will be holding a bottle & chocolate donation mufti day on Friday 7th November for our tombola at the event.

Silverdale's Got Talent 3

The deadline for any new clips is this Sunday 28th September please send in your child's clip to silverdalesgottalent3@gmail.com with their name, age and class thankyou

PTA AGM Bingo Night

Day and time TBC soon

Our AGM will be followed by a Bingo Bubbly & Buffet evening - look out for the poster soon with details on how to book!

Tickets £10 will include your books, glass of bubbles (or soft drink) and light buffet.

Hope to see you there!

Year 6 Leavers 2026

A group of parents have set up a WhatsApp chat for anyone who is able to be involved in helping towards the year 6 party, fundraising for it, the yearbook & hoodies. Please email with any queries or to be added to the chat on silverdaleyear6group@gmail.com, thankyou.

WARM HOME CHECK SERVICE

What is a warm home check?

This free service provides:

- telephone advice for anyone struggling to keep warm at home
- advice on financial support

If you are on a low income, you may also be eligible for a home visit which includes:

- an assessment of your home with advice on keeping warm
- small home improvements
- larger home improvements (depending on funding)
- emergency temporary heating



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How to apply

Text **WARMHOME** to 88440

Call 0800 464 7307

 [online](#)

Who is eligible?

To receive a home visit, you must:

Live in East Sussex.

Own or privately rent your property (and have the owner's permission) and either:

- be on a low income and have a long-term health condition or a disability (the income limit depends on the size of your household); or

-receive one of the following benefits:

Universal Credit

Pension Guarantee Credit and/or Pension Savings Credit

Income Support

Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)

Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)

Child Tax Credit

Working Tax Credit

If you claim Child Tax Credit, Working Tax Credit or Universal Credit then your eligibility will depend on your income.

Have a great weekend

Mr Morris & the Silverdale Team

Dates for your diary 2024 – 25

29.9.2025 – Whole school influenza vaccinations

3.10.2025 – National Child Measurement Programme (Year 6)

6.10.2025 – Individual Photos (Year EYFS – Year 4)

7.10.2025 – Individual Photos (Year 5 – Year 6 & siblings)

w/c 3.11.2025 – Parent Consultations (Specific year group dates TBC)

7.11.2025 – PTA Non-uniform day – Bring chocolate or a bottle for the tombola

8.11.2025 - #legendary PTA Bonfire and Fireworks

11.5.2026 – 14.5.2026 – Year 6 SATS Week

10.7.2026 – 13.7.2026 – Year 6 Residential to PGL Osmington Bay



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Silverdale Primary Term & Holiday Dates 2025-26

	SEPTEMBER 2025	OCTOBER 2025	NOVEMBER 2025	DECEMBER 2025
Monday	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29
Tuesday	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30
Wednesday	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31
Thursday	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
Friday	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26
Saturday	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27
Sunday	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
	JANUARY 2026	FEBRUARY 2026	MARCH 2026	APRIL 2026
Monday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Tuesday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Wednesday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Thursday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Friday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24
Saturday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Sunday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
	MAY 2026	JUNE 2026	JULY 2026	AUGUST 2026
Monday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31
Tuesday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Wednesday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Thursday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Friday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Saturday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Sunday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30

-  Staff training (INSET day)
-  End of term for pupils
-  School holidays

- Key
-  Start of term for pupils
 -  Public holidays
 -  Transition week (from primary to secondary school)

