



December 2025

Head Teacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of a fantastic term, I want to take a moment to celebrate all the incredible learning and memorable events we've shared. From the excitement of Bonfire Night to the joy of our Christmas celebrations and productions, it has truly been a season filled with community spirit and achievement.

Thank you for your continued support and for the wonderful feedback following Parents' Evening—it means so much to our staff. We've also been delighted by the positive response to our renewed focus on uniform expectations, which has helped maintain our high standards.

We would like to take this opportunity to celebrate and thank Mrs Rosie Armitage for her incredible dedication and service to Talbot Primary School. Rosie has worked tirelessly as a Teaching Assistant and HLTA for an amazing 20 years and one term, supporting countless pupils and staff. We wish Rosie the very best for a happy and fulfilling retirement – you will be missed!

Wishing you all a safe, happy, and restful holiday season. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in 2026 for another year of learning and growth!

Kind Regards,

Mrs Curtis





UPDATES FROM AROUND TALBOT

EYFS

This term, the children have loved exploring the outdoors during Forestry school. From building dens to discovering nature's treasures, they've shown curiosity, teamwork, and resilience in every session. We had lots of giggles rescuing veggies from the mischievous Evil Pea—including capturing him in jelly! The children showed great imagination and bravery in their superhero missions.

Cooking and storytelling came together as we made pumpkin soup and found the duck from the story. The children enjoyed tasting, stirring, and retelling the tale with enthusiasm.

We are so proud of how hard the children have been working on their reading and writing skills. Their progress and determination have been wonderful to see—well done, everyone!

A big thank you to all who joined our NCETM workshop. It was fantastic to share strategies and activities that support children's mathematical learning at home and in school.

The highlight of the term must be the Nativity performance. What a magical moment! The children shone brightly, sharing songs, lines, and smiles with confidence. Thank you to families for supporting costumes and rehearsals—it made the performance truly special. As we come to the end of this busy and joyful term, we'd like to thank you for your continued support.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! 🎄 ✨

YEAR 1

As we wrap up the Autumn 2 term, we are thrilled to share the wonderful achievements and learning experiences our Year 1 students have enjoyed. This term has been filled with engaging activities that have fostered both academic growth and creativity. Our recent NCETM Maths Parent workshop was a resounding success, highlighting the vital role parents play in their children's education.

In Maths, our students have been diving into additive structures, discovering how numbers can come together in exciting ways. The children participated in interactive games that made learning fun and engaging. In English, they have been applying adjectives to describe characters, inspired by the enchanting story of 'Billy and the Beast.' This not only enhances their vocabulary but also encourages imaginative thinking. We also celebrated creativity in art, where students created self-portraits, experimenting with various techniques to express their individuality.

As we look forward to the Christmas break, we want to take this opportunity to reflect on the progress our Year 1 students have made. Their hard work and enthusiasm have been truly commendable, and we encourage parents to continue supporting their learning at home. Engaging in simple activities, such as reading together or exploring nature, can reinforce the skills they have developed this term.





YEAR 2

We have had a super start to the school year in Year 2 - the children have been working hard and have earned a well-earned rest!

We have crammed so much in since September. Amongst the highlights have been some fantastic artwork. The children have been learning all about cool and warm colours and how to create tints and tones, they have really impressed us with some fantastic artwork inspired by Paul Klee.

We have also been impressed by their growing knowledge of tourism in our local area as part of our beaches topic. Sadly, we had to postpone our trip to Bournemouth Beach but hope to reschedule it for a dry day in the new year.

We wish the children and the families in Year 2 a peaceful break over the festive period and look forward to welcoming you back in 2026!

YEAR 3

How busy we have been in Year 3 this Autumn! We are so proud of everything the children have achieved and the enthusiasm they have shown in all areas of their learning.

We have absolutely loved our Forest School sessions this term. The children had the opportunity to use a bow saw to cut and create their own Christmas decorations from hazel wood, made toast over an open fire, and even learned how to light a fire ourselves using steel and flint. These hands-on experiences were both exciting and confidence-building, and the children approached each challenge with great care and curiosity.

In the classroom, we have been busy learning all about the Ancient Romans. The children discovered why the Roman army was so successful and explored some of the incredible things we still have today thanks to the Romans. This learning culminated in a fantastic Roman Day, where everyone dressed up and explored Roman life further through role play and creative crafts. What fun was had!

One of the most exciting highlights of the term was our visit to Stonehenge. The children were fascinated by this iconic site, and we were even treated to a special appearance from our very own resident Stonehenge enthusiast, Mr Johnstone who shared lots of fascinating facts! It was a truly memorable experience that brought our history learning to life.

In Design & Technology, the children had great fun designing and making their own pencil cases. They dusted off their Year 2 sewing skills and put them to excellent use, learning to sew using two different stitches. The pride they felt in their finished products was lovely to see. Look out for these at the Arts Evening in the Summer term.

We were incredibly lucky to have the support of so many parent and family volunteers this term, both during our DT lessons and on our trip to Stonehenge. We cannot thank you enough for taking the time to help us—your support makes such a difference and is hugely appreciated. A special thanks to Dr Sally Reynolds for her wonderfully engaging Stone Age work shop at the start of the Autumn. We really enjoyed handling all the artefacts and hearing all about the Stone Age from a real life archaeologist!

Thank you for your continued support. We hope you have a restful and enjoyable break, and we look forward to another exciting term ahead.





YEAR 4

What an incredible term it has been for Year 4!

We have thoroughly enjoyed diving into the fascinating world of Ancient Egypt. From exploring the mysteries of the pyramids to learning about the process of mummification, the highlight for many was mummifying a member of each class—an unforgettable experience that brought history to life!

In English, we've had great fun reading *Until I Met Dudley* by Roger McGough and Chris Riddell. This imaginative book takes everyday household appliances and explains how they work in the most wonderfully silly ways—before revealing the real science behind them. Inspired by this, the children wrote their own quirky explanations, featuring stars and fireflies inside torches and even volcanoes in kettles! They then switched gears to write clear, factual descriptions of how these appliances work. The creativity and enthusiasm shown have been amazing!

As we approached the festive season, the excitement grew with Christmas Jumper Day and some truly spectacular singing during our Christmas celebrations. The children's energy and joy have made this term extra special.

We are incredibly proud of all the hard work and creativity Year 4 has shown. Thank you for your continued support, and we hope everyone enjoys a restful and joyful holiday break.

YEAR 5

Year 5 have had an amazing and action-packed year, full of learning, laughter and unforgettable memories!

One of the biggest highlights was our exciting overnight stay at Winchester Science Museum. Spending a whole night sleeping among the stars and space displays was a truly magical experience, and many of us felt like real astronauts!

We also welcomed a special visitor who taught us important first aid skills. We learnt how to stay calm, help others and respond safely in emergencies, which was both interesting and very useful.

In our English lessons, we travelled back in time through stories, writing about the epic adventures in *The Odyssey* and exploring myths, monsters and heroic journeys. In reading, we were inspired by the incredible characters in the book *Hidden Figures*, learning about determination, teamwork and how these remarkable individuals helped change history.

Year 5 have worked incredibly hard this year and should be very proud of everything they have achieved. We've made great memories, learnt new skills and had lots of fun along the way.

We're excited to see what adventures and opportunities 2026 has in store for us!

Best wishes and Merry Christmas from Mrs Coulling and the Year 5 Team.



YEAR 6

We couldn't be prouder of the lovely Year 6 children.

The demands have been high this term: two extended pieces of writing based on two different books (The Promise & The Arrival), multiplication, division & fractions in maths, reading 'Fly Me Home', discovering how farming is different over the world, canvas artwork, understanding light in science; another practice SATs.

Combine this all with many students representing the school in sporting activities, a third of the year group involved in the brilliant Christmas concert, all year group classes being in the top 10 TTRS classes in the whole of the southwest and students delivering whole school assemblies. Unbelievable. What a fantastic cohort they are!

We wish you all a healthy and happy Christmas together. We hope that the new year is kind to you and we look forward to welcoming you all back in 2026!



TERM DATES

2025/2026 ACADEMIC YEAR

AUTUMN TERM 2025

Wednesday 3 rd September	SCHOOL CLOSED (INSET DAY)
Thursday 4 th September	School Reopens
Friday 10 th October	SCHOOL CLOSED (HAMWIC INSET DAY)
Friday 24 th October	Break for half term
Monday 3 rd November	School Reopens
Friday 19 th December	Break for Christmas

SPRING TERM 2026

Monday 5 th January	SCHOOL CLOSED (INSET DAY)
Tuesday 6 th January	School Reopens
Friday 13 th February	Break for half term
Monday 23 rd February	School Reopens
Friday 6 th March	SCHOOL CLOSED (HAMWIC INSET DAY)
Friday 27 th March	Break for Easter

SUMMER TERM 2026

Monday 13 th April	School Reopens
Monday 4 th May	SCHOOL CLOSED (BANK HOLIDAY)
Thursday 21 st May	Break for half term
Friday 22 nd May	SCHOOL CLOSED (INSET DAY)
Monday 25 th May	SCHOOL CLOSED (BANK HOLIDAY)
Monday 1 st June	SCHOOL CLOSED (INSET DAY)
Tuesday 2 nd June	School Reopens
Friday 3 rd July	SCHOOL CLOSED (INSET DAY) – SUBJECT TO CHANGE
Wednesday 22 nd July	Break for Summer

BANK AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2025 – 2026

Christmas Day - 25/12/2025

Boxing Day - 26/12/2025

New Years Day – 01/01/2026

Good Friday – 03/04/2026

Easter Monday – 06/04/2026

May Day Bank Hol – 04/05/2026

Spring Bank Hol – 25/05/2026

Summer Bank Hol – 25/08/2026

SCHOOL CLOSED / INSET DAYS 2025 – 2026

03/09/2025 - Training

10/10/2025 – Hamwic Education Trust Training

05/01/2026 – Training

06/03/2026 – Hamwic Education Trust Training

22/05/2026 – Training

01/06/2026 – Training

03/07/2026 – Training (subject to change)



Admissions Consultation: Hamwic Infant/Primary and Junior School Admissions Policy 2027 – 2028 BCP Partnerships

Hamwic Education Trust are consulting on the Hamwic BCP Partnerships Admissions Policy for 2027 – 2028. The consultation runs from **08 December 2025 – 24 January 2026**.

If you have any comments you would like to make about the policy, please send them to Claire Shaw, Education Access Officer, at claire.shaw@hamwic.org

Hillbourne Primary School, Livingstone Road Infant School, Springdale First School, Talbot Primary School and Livingstone Road Junior School have no proposed changes to PAN and no changes to their oversubscription criteria.

Proposed changes from 2026 – 27 Admission Policy:

Bearwood Primary & Nursery School

1. The school's admissions policy has been added to the Hamwic BCP Partnerships consolidated policy
2. Have added oversubscription criteria 2 – children with a significant medical or psychological condition.

Bishop Aldhelm's Church of England Primary School

1. The school's admissions policy has been added to the Hamwic BCP Partnerships consolidated policy
2. Oversubscription criteria 2 has been changed from 'vulnerable' children to children with a significant medical or psychological condition. This means children with refugee status are no longer given priority.
3. Children who have a sibling on roll at the school and who will still be attending the school in the following academic year has been given a higher priority at oversubscription criteria 3; previously this was oversubscription criteria 9 (living in catchment) and

oversubscription criteria 13 (living outside the Parish and catchment area).

4. The catchment area of the school has been redefined, and it has merged the Parish of St. Aldhelm's Church and a historic geographical catchment area defined by the LA. The catchment has been redefined. An updated catchment map/addresses will be shared on the school website and will accompany the proposed policy.)
5. Children who are eligible for the Early Years Pupil Premium attending the pre-school at Bishop Adlhelm's have been given a higher priority at oversubscription criteria 5 (in catchment) and oversubscription criteria 9 (outside catchment).
6. Children of qualified teaching staff was previously oversubscription criteria 15 whereas now they are oversubscription criteria 6 (live in catchment) and oversubscription criteria 10 (live outside catchment).

Twin Sails Infant & Nursery School

1. The school's admissions policy has been added to the Hamwic BCP Partnerships consolidated policy
2. Proposed reduction in PAN to 90 from 120.
3. Have added oversubscription criteria 2 – children with a significant medical or psychological condition
4. A catchment area of the school has been re-introduced. A catchment map/addresses will be shared on the school website and will accompany the proposed policy.
5. Children who are eligible for the Early Years Pupil Premium attending the nursery at Twin Sails have been introduced as oversubscription criteria 4 (inside catchment) and oversubscription criteria 8 (outside catchment).
6. Priority is still given to children of qualified teaching staff at the school but these children are now divided into those who live in catchment (oversubscription criteria 5) and those who live outside of catchment (oversubscription criteria 9).
7. Priority is still given to children who are eligible for service premium but these children are now divided into those that live in catchment (oversubscription criteria 6) and those who live outside of catchment (oversubscription criteria 10).

Hamworthy Park Junior

1. The school's admissions policy has been added to the Hamwic BCP Partnerships consolidated policy
2. Have added oversubscription criteria 2 – children with a significant medical or psychological condition
3. A catchment area of the school has been re-introduced. A catchment map/addresses will be shared on the school website and will accompany the policy.
4. Priority is still given to children of qualified teaching staff at the school but these children are now divided into those who live in catchment (oversubscription criteria 5) and those who live outside of catchment (oversubscription criteria 9).
5. Priority is still given to children who are eligible for service premium, but these children are now divided into those that live in catchment (oversubscription criteria 6) and those who live outside of catchment (oversubscription criteria 10).

Hamwic Education Trust are now consulting on the Infant/Primary and Junior School Admissions Policy, BCP Partnerships for 2027 – 2028. The consultation ends on 24th January 2026. There are no changes to PAN or oversubscription criteria for Talbot Primary. The policy requires a consultation due to changes made for other schools linked to the policy as detailed in the document titled 'Admissions Consultation for Hamwic BCP Admissions Policy 2027 – 2028 – Proposed Changes.'

If you have any comments you would like to make about the policy, please send them to Claire Shaw, Education Access Officer, at claire.shaw@hamwic.org

Please follow link below:

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