

Hermitage Schools Association



September 2025

Welcome Back!

A new year of fun and fundraising with the HSA

We hope your families had a wonderful summer break and are now happily settling into the new school year. The HSA team has been buzzing with excitement, planning a vibrant calendar of events and initiatives designed to enrich our children's experience at Hermitage Schools. Get ready for a year packed with community spirit, exciting projects, and plenty of fun!

Our Fundraising Focus: Big Goals for a Better School Year!

This year, the HSA is setting ambitious goals to directly enhance our children's learning and school life. Our main fundraising efforts will be targeting two fantastic new projects, alongside our ongoing essential commitments:

- **Bike & Scooter Shed Modernisation:** We're kicking off by replacing and upgrading the existing bike and scooter sheds. This project will create safer, more organised, and modern spaces, encouraging more children to cycle and scoot to school!
- **School Mini-Bus Appeal:** You spoke, and we listened! Alongside the bike shed upgrades, we're incredibly excited to launch fundraising for a school minibus. This will vastly simplify logistics for school trips, sports competitions, and tournaments, making life easier for everyone. Looking ahead, the school hopes to acquire multiple buses to not only benefit our students but also potentially generate income for the school when not in use.
- **Ongoing Commitments:** Rest assured, we'll also continue our vital annual support, including eco-friendly veg-ware and crackers for Christmas lunch, funding the Year 6 leavers' gifts, and contributing to essential library services.

Ready to contribute? Every donation, big or small, makes a real difference!

- Donate securely by card through the HSA
Website: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/hopa/>

Upcoming Events: Mark Your Calendars

Get ready for an exciting line-up of activities designed for all ages!

- **Sept 23rd, 3:30pm-4:30pm: Nursery Tea Party!** Nursery children and their families are invited to a magical tea party on the school field, complete with fun activities and a very special princess guest!
- **Sept 30th, 7:30pm: HSA Annual General Meeting (AGM) - Via Zoom** Join us from the comfort of your home to hear about our plans, review our finances, and discover how you can get involved. All parents are welcome!
- **Oct 10th, 3:30pm - 5:15pm: Years 5 & 6 Movie Night!** Popcorn at the ready! Help us pick the film – share your suggestions with your class rep. The top three will go to a final vote!
- **Oct 17th, 3:30pm - 5:15pm: Years 3 & 4 Movie Night!** Another movie night for our junior students! Tell your class rep your film ideas – the favourites will be put to a vote!
- **Nov 7th: Non-Uniform Day for Christmas Fair** Infants: Please bring a donation (details to follow). Juniors: £1 contribution towards the fair.
- **Dec 5th: Non-Uniform Day for Christmas Fair** Infants: £1 contribution towards the fair. Juniors: Please bring a donation (details to follow).
- **Dec 6th: Annual Christmas Fair!** Get into the festive spirit with game stalls, visit Santa in his grotto, win big on the raffle, browse unique third-party stall holders, and much more! A highlight of the school year!

Shop Smarter, Fundraise Easier:

Support HSA While you Shop

Did you know you can raise funds for our school just by doing your regular shopping? Check out these fantastic schemes that donate to HSA without costing you a penny extra:



Easyfundraising: Download the plugin to your devices, and a percentage of your online purchases from over 7,500 brands will automatically be a FREE donation to

HSA! These donations truly add up and make a BIG difference. Sign up today: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/hopa/>



Easy2Name: A total win-win! When you purchase your child's name labels from Easy2Name, you get **10% OFF** your order AND HSA receives **10% commission** on every sale! That's a whopping 20% of your order value directly benefiting our school. They offer uniform labels, lunchbox stickers, shoe labels, and more. Simply use our unique school code: **HSA** at checkout! Shop here: www.easy2name.com



Stampastic: Ready to banish lost property forever? Label EVERYTHING with Stampastic's super-durable, wash-proof ink that lasts through 50 washes! Plus, you can help HSA at the same time! Use PTA Code: **GU218WT** at checkout and we earn **15%** from every order. Shop Link: <https://bit.ly/STAMPGU218WT>



My Nametags: Order personalised labels for clothing and equipment, and My Nametags will contribute a generous **24%** to Hermitage and Oaktree Schools! Help prevent lost property and boost our funds. Visit mynametags.com and use school ID **35536** at checkout.



MySchoolLottery: Join our school lottery for a weekly chance to win fabulous cash prizes, including a £25,000 jackpot! Not only does HSA receive a donation for every ticket purchased, but our school also has a guaranteed cash winner every week. Play today: <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/hermitage-and-oaktree-schools>

Second-hand Uniform:

Save Money, Help the Planet, Support the School!

Looking for affordable uniform items, or keen to recycle? The Hermitage Second-Hand Uniform Shop is here to help!

- **Order Uniform:** Simply message Sarah via our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100090616008455>. Her wonderful team will get your items ready for convenient pick-up from designated collection points on the school grounds.
- **Donate Uniform:** Recycle your pre-loved uniform! Drop clean, good-condition items at the School Office. You'll not only be helping the environment but also raising funds for HSA.

Logo Competition: Design Our New HSA Identity!

The HSA needs a fresh new logo to reflect our vibrant community! We're inviting all students to unleash their creativity and design a logo that represents the Hermitage Schools Association. Submit your entries via the blue HSA box outside the Acorn Centre doors by Friday 3rd October. Good luck!

Get Involved: Your School Needs You!

Volunteering with the HSA is a fantastic way to meet other parents, use your skills, and directly benefit our children. We have roles for everyone, whether you can offer a little time or a lot:

- **Join the Committee:** Be part of the core team shaping our fundraising and events.
- **Event Team:** Help plan and run exciting events like the upcoming Christmas Fair.
- **Raffle Team:** Got a knack for securing prizes? Help us gather fantastic items for our biggest raffle!
- **Admin Team:** Support behind the scenes with organizational tasks.
- **Eco Lead:** Are you passionate about sustainability? We're looking for an 'Eco Champion' to help align our practices with the school's eco vision.

Interested in any of these roles, or just want to offer an hour or two? We'd love to hear from you! Please contact your Class Rep to find out more.

Stay Connected: All the Ways to Keep Up with HSA!

Never miss an update! Here's your easy guide to staying in the loop with all things HSA:

- **Class WhatsApp Groups:** Step into our digital chatrooms and connect with fellow parents, moderated by your class representative.
- **Facebook Group:** Follow us for the latest updates, upcoming meetings, events, fundraising efforts, and volunteer requests: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/257671714681>
- **HSA Website:** Your one-stop shop for event bookings, key information, and more: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/hopa/>
- **Newsletter & ParentMail:** Look out for our half-termly newsletter and important updates in the Friday Post sent via ParentMail.
- **School Noticeboard:** Find important updates and announcements by the blue automated gates near the reception block.
- **Occasional Paper Notices:** While we prioritise digital communication, sometimes we'll send essential printed materials home in your child's bookbag.

We Value Your Feedback!

As we plan for exciting future events like the Christmas Fair, your input helps us make them the best possible experience for everyone. Please share your preferences with your class rep on these key points:

- **Raffle:** Do you prefer an online raffle or traditional paper tickets?
- **Cashless Payments:** Which cashless solution do you find easiest: a token scheme or QR code payments?