

Headteacher's Report May 2026

Staffing:

Miss Hill is due to complete her Early Career Teacher programme in the next few weeks. She has also resigned as a teacher in order to go travelling in the near future and as a result will leave the school at the start of the summer holidays.

Mrs Leng has announced that she will be retiring in the summer and therefore will be leaving us in July.

Mrs Chada has resigned from her Nursery TA role, from July, in order to dedicate herself to full-time teacher training which she will be completing at Harlyn.

Following the requests for reduced hours these contract changes began at the start of the Summer Term:

- Miss Quigley – dropped from 5 days to 4 days/week (no longer working Wednesdays).
- Mrs Ivory – dropped Tuesday afternoons.
- Mrs McDonald – dropped Thursdays.
- Mrs Tania – dropped Mondays.
- Mrs Tanner – dropped Wednesdays.
- Mrs Lawer – dropped Thursdays.

These departures and reduced hours fit in with the school's deficit reduction plan submitted to the LA before Christmas. *Note - we have received no communication about the plan since submitting it!*

We are currently hosting a parent, Judy Hughes, as she completes hours towards her TA training course/qualification.

Miss Quigley has also announced that she is pregnant and will therefore be on maternity leave from October 2026.

Staff Development:

S Quigley -VAT/Budget package
T Harris – Attendance Cluster meeting
A Blakeley-Cox – EYFS Writing
S Trotter – ELSA (Speech and Language)
R Smith – Handwriting workshop
S Jones – Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) network
S Mistry – DSL network
S Quigley – Finance/Admin meeting
S Mistry - Deputy Head Network

D Fox - Y6 Moderation
E Andrews - Y6 Moderation
L McGlaughlin – Art Subject Leader meeting
S Tosdevin – Cluster SENCo meeting
V Verma – 1st Aid

Curriculum

Y4 completed their Swimming programme at Highgrove pool. The pool staff were very complimentary about our school and the way the staff and children presented themselves at the pool.

The whole school participated in the Schools Mini London Marathon, ahead of the main marathon. Mr Brown set up a course around the whole site on the last day of the Spring Term that children had to complete seven laps of. It was the first time that we have done this event, and it was a great success.

In late April we had an LBH SEN Review. This consisted of a SEN officer auditing our practice, suggesting areas for development alongside celebrating our highly successful practice and systems. She was extremely complementary about our systems, ethos and practice.

All teachers have been, or are, undergoing lesson observations in line with the school's Performance Management policy.

Year 6 completed their SATs tests in early May.

Termly assessments were completed in Maths and English across the school before the end of the Spring Term.

We held two Parent's Evening in March which were well attended by parents. Some appointments were held by phone and parents who did not attend were contacted directly with a view to arranging a phone call or after school meeting at other times.

Curriculum Enhancements since the last report:

Nursery - Librarian visit
Y5 - Haydon School 'Wizard of Oz' performance
Y3/5 – Virtual Reality headset experience
Y4 – London Zoo
All – World Book Day
All – Mini Marathon

Year 6 are due to embark on their residential weeks in Devon over the next few weeks.

Other:

A Book Fair was held to coincide with World Book Day, where children were encouraged to come to school dressed as a book character to take part in a variety of literary activities.

A group of parents of children with Autism completed the 'Cygnets' training course. This was hosted here to allow parents to gain a greater knowledge and understanding of their child's diagnosis and give them strategies to use at home.

The school Nursing service administered Hearing & Vision Checks for the children in Reception.

We supported the annual Comic Relief appeal by having a dressing up in red day.

Our new Health & Safety Advisor, Sarah Wood (EFM Ltd), completed her first site tour and inspection during the Easter holidays. She remarked how clean, tidy and organised the school is when compared to most other schools that she visits.

Sarah Tosdevin and I sat on a local authority panel to determine whether children from other schools should be given the 'go ahead' for assessments to be carried out in order to progress their applications towards gaining an EHCP. This was a useful panel to experience once again and will help us keep up to date with our own EHCP applications.

'Give Space' leaders from the Young Carers organisation came into school to support our children classed as carers.

A child who was permanently excluded from Coteford Junior School, for behavioural reasons, has been issued with place here in Year 4. At the time of writing, it is thought that, if the placement is confirmed, he will be integrated into the school using a gradual build up of time and will be accompanied by his tutor (funded by LBH). Regular reviews will be held to increase the time up to half term.

The FRA held a variety of events including Mother's Day, Disco and a Non-uniform day.

Lower KS2 Concert performed their concert on 24th March.

You are invited to Y5&6's summer concert on 14th July & Sports Days on 24th/25th June. Please let me know if you would like to attend any of these.

Pupil Numbers:

N – 30

Rec – 26

Y1 – 46

Y2 – 53

Y3 – 50

Y4 – 51

Y5 – 53

Y6 – 58

I have had meetings with LBH Admissions (Place Planning) to maintain the 'unofficial' cap on the current numbers of spaces in the current Reception cohort as they move into Y1. I have also asked them to monitor the number for the new Reception intake in order to hopefully limit the spaces there to a financially usable number.

Safeguarding

There is one child subject to Social Services involvement via a Child in Need Plan.

Current Whole School Attendance - 95.4%

Behaviour – Nothing significant to report. No serious breaches of the Behaviour Policy have occurred. There has been one racist and no bullying incidents since the last report.

Simon Jones

May 2026