



Value of the term: Respect

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can hardly believe that another fortnight has flown by! Year 1 have undertaken their phonics screening checks and Year 4 their multiplication tables check. I have to say how proud I am of all the children. Their resilience was second to none and because they felt well prepared, they gave it 'a go'. Well done team 'Year 1' and team 'Year 4'!

It was lovely to see so many parents joining us for Year 3.2 and Year R.1 class assemblies. I know that the children really enjoy sharing with you their learning and I hope you enjoy this time with your child's class to see what we get up to and how hard the children are working.



There has been a plethora of curriculum enrichment activities this fortnight. Year 5 experienced a Mayan Lego workshop and Year 3 were transported back in time to be fully immersed in the life and times of Romans. There were several safeguarding calls to the office informing them that we had a Centurion on the school field with a sword! This will be a memorable learning experience for many!



On Monday the CUSP food festival commenced. This year, we are celebrating Japanese cuisine. The live opening assembly was led by Master chef's Chef Koj. Children in Early Years to Year 3 have been creating some amazing culinary delights and next week children in Year 4-6 will also have a similar opportunity.



Also on Monday, we had our Year 6 External Writing Moderation led by a trained HFL moderator. Schools are moderated every four years. Throughout the year, Mrs Joo and Miss Davis have attended a range of moderation events, and the moderator was highly impressed by the rapid progress the children have made. It was evident throughout the samples of writing that children were using and accurately placing subject specific vocabulary learnt across the curriculum which shows the broad curriculum experience our children have.

Moderation is a highly thorough exercise, and I want to thank Mrs Joo and Miss Davis for their thorough preparation as this was noted by the moderator.

It has been a busy week for leaders as the Governing Board held their annual 'working party' session. There was lots of sugar paper and 'thinking outside the box' as they worked with school leaders to shape the priorities going forward. It was a productive session, and it was a great opportunity to have those strategic conversations.

Mrs Bridges and I had a lovely afternoon on Thursday where we were rehearsing with the children who will be performing in our KS2 'celebration of music'. We have mapped out the running order, and we look forward to you joining us where KS2 will be showcasing their singing expertise and children who have instrumental tuition (in and out of the school) will also be performing. I am probably biased however you are in for a treat!



On Wednesday 18th June it was 'thank a teacher' day. Mrs Ritchie surprised all the teachers with all your fabulous comments on our lobby screen. I got to have a sneak peak the night before and I have to say your comments made my eyes leak. Thank you. Teaching is one of the best professions in the world and for me it is all about making a difference. Staff at Howe Dell certainly do this!

Please follow the link to see the messages on our website:

<https://www.howedell.herts.sch.uk/page/?title=19th+June+Newsletter+attachments&pid=197>

As I proofread this newsletter, I can hear a very busy team of dedicated volunteers setting up for the annual PSA school fete. This event has been in the planning for many months, and I am looking forward to seeing you all very shortly as the profit from this event enables the school to purchase much needed resources.



As the 'Amber' heat warning commences, please ensure you stay safe in the sun and keep hydrated.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday. Main doors open from 8.30am.

Tracy Prickett

MAYAN LEGO WORKSHOP

Year 5 took part in a Lego workshop last week linked to the Maya's, which has been their history topic during the Spring and Summer term. It was amazing to see the team work in both year 5 classes as they worked on creating a Mayan village after independently building their temple structures. Year 5 could discuss many different things that they would have seen during the Mayan times, including, ball courts, rivers, the rainforest, temples and so much more. They loved bringing their knowledge of Mayan's to life with a hands-on experience.



ROMAN BRITAIN SCHOOLS WORKSHOP

Our field turned into ancient Britain this week as our Year 3 learners took part in an action-packed Roman Britain Schools Workshop. From marching like legionaries to examining real and replica artefacts, pupils explored what life was like under Roman rule. The workshop sparked fantastic questions and lively discussions, and the children left buzzing with new knowledge. Everyone really enjoyed the day!



FOOD FESTIVAL

Food festival got off to a great start with Kazari in Early Years, lettuce rolls in Year 1 - 2 and Maki rolls in Year 3. Learning how to use sticky rice, and not get covered, has been a fun challenge! In the opening assembly we heard from Chef Koj, a master chef finalist, telling us about his journey to become a chef, and the importance of vegetables and seaweed. Perhaps you could try out some of the recipes at home. More cooking to continue next week, with Maki rolls and gyoza!



CLEAN AIR DAY

Yesterday was Clean Air Day!

In class we discussed what a pledge is - what can we do to cut down emissions and keep the air around us 'clean'. Each class has made a pledge! Here are some of our ideas:

- Walk/bike etc to school at least x times a week
- If a child cannot walk, can they run x amount of laps around the field?
- Encourage engines to be turned off when dropping off. Make a pact to turn off lights, screens etc when leaving a room to save energy
- Reduce Waste - does everyone have a reusable water bottle? Can we recycle better in class?

Travel around Hertfordshire County with us this June as we learn about the air around us and how it can be healthier. You can access the activities via the following web link:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/clean-air/media/healthier-air-month-activity-sheet.aspx>

Remember that we are continuing to find alternative ways of travelling to school to cut down the emissions in our local area. Keep walking, scooting, biking or park&striding!



UPCOMING DATES FOR DIARIES

22.06.26	Year 1 Trip to Hertfordshire Zoo	8.40am – 3.00pm
23.06.26	Reception 2 class assembly – parents invited	9.15am – 9.45am
25.06.26	Key Stage 2 Celebration of Music – parents invited	9.15am
30.06.26	Year 6 Food and Farming Day Year 1.1 class assembly – parents invited	All day 9.15am – 9.45am
03.07.26	Author of the month assembly – parents invited	8.55am
07.07.26	Year 4 Electric Umbrella event at St Albans Abbey Year 6 production Year 6 production	9.30am – 12.30pm 1.45pm 6.00pm
09.07.26	Secondary transition (Year 6) New to Reception parent meeting Whole school transition afternoon	1.15pm 1.30pm – 3.15pm
10.07.26	Sports Day – Year 1, 2 & 3 Family Picnic Year 1 - 6 Sports Day – Year 4, 5 & 6	9.30am – 11.50am 12.00pm – 1.00pm 1.00pm – 3.15pm
14.07.26	Year 1.2 class assembly – parents invited	9.15am – 9.45am
15.07.26	Sports Day – Nursery and Reception Nursery & Reception family picnic	10.00am – 11.15am 11.30am – 12.30pm
20.07.26	Year 6 prom	Times TBC
22.07.26	Year 6 leavers assembly	Times TBC
	Last day of term – School closes at 1.30pm	
23.07.26	INSET day	

REMINDERS



MOBILE PHONES IN SCHOOL

Please be reminded that mobile phones should not be used whilst on the school premises. Parents/carers and children seen using their phones on site will be asked to put them away. Thank you for your support in this safeguarding matter.

STAY & READ

Nursery and Reception parents/carers are invited to our 'Stay and Read' sessions every Tuesday from 8.40am - 8.55am.

LUNCH ORDERS

Please remember to order your child's lunch through school grid. If lunch has not been ordered, you will need to bring in a packed lunch which must not contain hot food.

Unless your child requires a Halal meal to due religious reasons, please do not select it. If you do select it and it is not for religious reasons your child will be given the vegetarian option.

UNIFORM & CLOTHING

Please ensure children's clothing and uniform is named. PE tops are available to order, please come to the school office to collect an order form. All children should have a pair of plimsolls kept in school for indoor use.

PARKING

Please ensure you are being considerate when parking and are not stopping on double yellow lines or by the front barrier. Spaces in our car park are very limited. We have no capacity for parents to use the school car park at drop off and pick up times.

MERITS

Well done to the following children for achieving their merit certificate this week:

Muslimah	1.1	Aathira	3.2
Geraldine	2.1	Avia	4.1
Bella	3.1	Zakary	4.1
Sofia	3.1	Theo	4.2
Jonathan	3.1	Luna	4.2
Nicolas	3.1	Lakshmi	4.2
Vinuli	3.1	Shehryar	4.2
Yalina	3.1	Kayden	5.1
Kian	3.2	Tanvi	5.2
Noah	3.2	Kaylee	5.2



FAB FRIDAY

Well done to the following children for being selected to sit at the Fab Friday lunch table:

R.1	Oscar	R.2	Ireoluwa
1.1	Nellie & Harley	1.2	Isabel
2.1	Geraldine	2.2	Roshita
3.1	Archie	3.2	Josef
4.1	Arielle	4.2	Keonna
5.1	Ethan	5.2	Amari
6.1	Milly	6.2	Andrew

BEACON PUPILS

On the recommendation of the class teachers, we would like to celebrate our Beacon Pupils this week.

Nursery	Tadeu	For improved focus during phonics sessions
Year R1	Shanti	For showing kindness to others
Year R2	Noah	For persevering with structuring sentences and practicing teen numbers in explore and learn time
Year 1.1	Neveah	For persevering in English
Year 1.2	Romil	For using scientific vocabulary during independent tasks and focusing on his handwriting
Year 2.1	Othniel	For his kind-hearted thanks to the kitchen staff at lunchtimes and a fantastic effort publishing correct letter formation
Year 2.2	Mariyam	For her enthusiasm during our food festival week
Year 3.1	Adhrit	For being a good role model of the Golden Expectations
Year 3.2	Joseph O	For being an excellent role model to his peers and is trying really hard with his learning
Year 4.1	Adriel	For showing kindness to others and making a fantastic effort in his learning
Year 4.2	Erik C	For demonstrating a more positive and proactive approach to learning
Year 5.1	Noah	For his excellent attitude toward learning
Year 5.2	Isla	For her continuous positive attitude and her contributions in class discussions
Year 6.1	Alexander U	For a consistently positive attitude to challenges and always following the Golden Expectations
Year 6.2	Eliana	For her participation and excellent work completion during Guided Reading sessions

Signs of the Week

Sand

Sandcastle

ATTENDANCE OF THE WEEK 8th – 12th June 2026	WINNERS Year 6.1
Reception 1	92.0%
Reception 2	96.3%
Year 1 Class 1	92.1%
Year 1 Class 2	96.7%
Year 2 Class 1	96.7%
Year 2 Class 2	97.0%
Year 3 Class 1	95.7%
Year 3 Class 2	92.1%
Year 4 Class 1	98.0%
Year 4 Class 2	95.0%
Year 5 Class 1	98.0%
Year 5 Class 2	96.3%
Year 6 Class 1	99.0%
Year 6 Class 2	98.3%
Weekly Attendance	95.9%