



Value of the term: Respect

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have been in communication with the Year 6 children quite a bit this week talking about their last... at Howe Dell and it made me think that this is my last newsletter of the year. I took the opportunity to browse through the newsletters over this academic year and it is hard to comprehend how we have managed to fit so many exciting events in one year!

Particular highlights for me have been the successful development of 'learner leaders' and the introduction of 'wonder play'. Watching children interact in purposeful play activities with their peers of all ages has been magical. Our value of 'growth' has been highly evident this year.

The penultimate weeks of the term have of course been busy. Year 6 took to the stage and entertained us with 'We're all going on a Summer Holiday'. We were fully immersed in a story where the characters stepped out of their comfort zone and 'gave it a go' which is one of our Golden Expectations. I have to say that the Year 6 children put on an exceptional performance with more solos than I can ever recall! Thank you Year 6 for your hard work and professionalism.



Remaining on a singing theme, Year 4 headed to St Albans Cathedral to sing with the 'Electric Umbrella' and a plethora of other schools in the local area. Howe Dell absolutely shone as they immersed themselves in music.



Music continued with our annual Key Stage two 'Celebration of Music'. Every week I have the pleasure of leading singing with Key Stage two and we have worked really hard to develop part and harmony singing. It was lovely to share with parents our achievements. We also had the opportunity to celebrate the children who have music lessons in and out of school. We were treated to a range of instrumental and vocal performances which we all thoroughly enjoyed. It was fabulous to watch the pride in the faces of the children as they watched their peers perform.



The weather has certainly been a challenge this term with torrential rain in June and glorious sunshine (with extreme heat) in July. Our Sports Days have been thwarted by the weather. We did however manage to hold our Early Years Sports morning with family picnic. It was lovely to see so many parents and grandparents join us for what will be a 'first' for our children in Nursery and Reception.



On Thursday 9th July we had our transition sessions. Our Year 6s spent the day in their new Secondary schools, children met their new teachers and we were joined by our new Reception cohort. It was lovely to see familiar faces as well as welcome new parents to Howe Dell School. On return to their current classes, the corridors were filled with excitement as children wanted to share their experience with their current teachers.

At this time of year there are lots of mixed emotions. The excitement of the year concluding however it is also important to acknowledge the change ahead and the emotions they bring. Not only do we have children heading off to the dizzy heights of Secondary school, we have team members who are also heading off to new ventures.

Mrs Payne has been at Howe Dell for 15 years. She is an absolutely amazing teacher who unlocks the very best of every child. Having loved being a teacher, Mrs Payne is stepping up to a new challenge and is currently training to be a baby sleep coach. I know that Mrs Payne will be highly sought after and she will offer families the support they need to enable them all to sleep! Thank you Mrs Payne for everything you have done for the children at Howe Dell.

Also stepping into a new teaching role is Miss Brewster. She is going to be working across the border in Cambridgeshire which will significantly reduce her morning commute. I'm sure she will settle in quickly and her radiant smile will melt the hearts of her new class.

Also moving on are Miss Mercy who is concentrating her time on her academic studies, Miss Williams who is commencing her teaching journey, Mrs Chierico who is relocating to spend more time with her children and Mrs Yung who is going to be supporting learners within an internal 'alternative provision' in a school in Welwyn Garden City.

I would like to take this time to thank these team members who have helped shaped the lives and futures of our young people at Howe Dell.

This is the term that keeps on giving and our final days are firmly focussed on our Year 6 cohort who have their 'prom' and leavers' assembly. Added to the list of 'lasts' will be our Sports morning for Years 4 to Year 6 on Tuesday morning at 9.15am.

With the end of the Academic Year drawing ever closer, I want to say 'thank you' to my staff team for their commitment and dedication, to all the parents and carers who have ensured that your children have arrived to school on time, with all the correct equipment fully motivated to learn and to the children and young people at Howe Dell for always being curious and loving learning.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a lovely summer break. School will finish at 1.30pm on Wednesday 22nd July and I look forward to opening the doors (from 8.30am) on Wednesday 2nd September as we commence the 2026-2027 academic year.

Kind Regards

SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE

We are really excited to announce that Howe Dell is moving into the 21st Century and we are now 'live' on Instagram and Facebook.

We are looking forward to safely expanding our social media presence and sharing with the world our amazing school.



YEAR 6 PRODUCTION

Last week, our talented Year 6 pupils took to the stage for their end-of-year production, 'We're All Going on a Summer Holiday'. With enthusiasm, humour and plenty of catchy songs, the children amazed the audience during their two fantastic performances. From the amazing props made by the Year 6's themselves to their outstanding performances, it was a fantastic celebration of their drama skills and musical talent. Well done to all of the amazing Year 6's for their hard work and effort that led to such a brilliant outcome!



ROCKSTEADY CONCERT

We were treated to our very own rock concert on Wednesday, where children who participate in Rock Steady lessons showcased their talents and progress they have made throughout the year. Well done to all the bands who put on a wonderful show. If you are interested in signing up for Rocksteady please visit their website for further details: <https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/>



YEAR 4 VISIT TO ST ALBANS CATHEDRAL WITH ELECTRIC UMBRELLA

On Tuesday 7th July, our Year 4 pupils had the wonderful opportunity to visit St Albans Cathedral to perform alongside Electric Umbrella. The atmosphere throughout the day was incredibly positive, with every child enthusiastically joining in with the singing, dancing and performances. It was a joyful celebration of music, inclusion and togetherness, the smiles on everyone's faces said it all! The experience helped to build the children's confidence, encouraged teamwork and showed them the power of music to bring people together.



EARLY YEARS SPORTS DAY

Thank you so much to those of you who attended our Early Years Sports Day and picnic. We hope you enjoyed yourselves, I think the children certainly did! We are so proud of them all!



ECO COMMITTEE UPDATE

Eco committee met on Monday to discuss how we can continue to improve the air quality around our school. We are pleased to announce we will continue our walk, bike or scoot to school initiative in the next academic year!

We have also explored our school grounds, upkeeping our bug hotel as well as finding out what trees and plants grow on site. We have begun to create QR codes that will help people learn about our amazing wildlife and plants that we have on our school grounds.



YEAR 6 FOOTBALL MATCH

Boys and girls from Year 6 headed off to Hatfield Community Free school yesterday to take part in one last friendly football match.

Congratulations to our Boys, who won 6-5, and our Girls who won their match 2-1!

We are so proud of both teams for their team work and support they showed each other. Special mentions to our top scorer Carter, Rachel who was brilliant in defence and Andrew for making some fantastic saves in goal.

AUTUMN TERM CLUBS

Our Autumn Term Clubs list was sent out to parents/carers today. A copy of the Autumn Term clubs list, along with flyers from our externally run clubs, can be found here on our website:

<https://www.howedell.herts.sch.uk/page/?title=Clubs&pid=77>

We are excited to announce there will be brand-new Choir and Romanian Clubs for the Autumn Term. Romanian club is for children of all nationalities - the aim of the club is to help Romanian children better understand their heritage as well as teach others about the Romanian culture.

We are also really looking forward to welcoming back Mr Sritharan of 'Super Skills', who will be taking over our football club offering for boys and girls in Year 4-6 on Wednesdays and Year 1-3 on Thursdays.

Autumn Term clubs will start week commencing 14th September.

UPCOMING DATES FOR DIARIES



20.07.26	Year 3 poetry reading in class – parents invited Year 6 prom	2.50pm 5.30pm – 7.00pm
21.07.26	Sports Day – Year 4, 5 & 6 PSA pre-loved uniform sale	9.15am – 12.00pm 3.15pm – 3.35pm
22.07.26	Year 6 leavers assembly – Yr 6 parents invited Last day of term – School closes at 1.30pm	9.00am
23.07.26	INSET day	

PSA NEWS

We will be holding a Pre-Loved uniform sale after school at 3.15pm on Tuesday 21st July. We have lots of high-quality items with plenty of life left in them. Prices range from 50p - £2. Please come and have a look to see what we have on offer. We will be accepting both cash and card payments.

REMINDERS



EARLY FINISH NEXT WEDENEDAY

A reminder that school will finish at 1.30pm on Wednesday 22nd July.

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

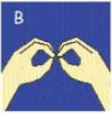
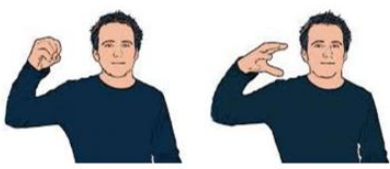
Please remember to order your child's lunch through school grid. If lunch has not been ordered, you will need to bring in a packed lunch which must not contain hot food.

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.

								
	Signs of the Week  Hot  Sunny							
								
								
								
								
								

FAB FRIDAY

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

R.1	Matias	R.2	Tomos
1.1	Joys	1.2	Millie
2.1	Ailin	2.2	Posi
3.1	River	3.2	Giulia
4.1	Ollie	4.2	Nikan
5.1	Marvelous	5.2	Millie
6.1	Niko	6.2	Daniel

BEACON PUPILS

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

Nursery	Kacie	For her growing confidence and following our Golden Expectation
Year R1	Margaux	For developing independence and becoming more confident when applying her phonics to her writing
Year R2	Aden	For showing good sportsmanship on sports day
Year 1.1	Elijah	For excellent participation in all lessons
Year 1.2	Oscar	For his creative thinking during computing and making an interesting sequence
Year 2.1	Troy	For working hard on following the Golden Expectations. In particular, being honest and showing respect to others
Year 2.2	Sydney	For always being ready to learn and being a helper in the class
Year 3.1	Connie	For always trying her best and working hard this year
Year 3.2	Yousif	For improved confidence, participation and effort in all our lessons this year
Year 4.1	Zara	For growing in confidence in Maths and believing in herself and always being kind and respectful to peers and adults
Year 4.2	Nikan	For working hard to improve his reasoning and using our oracy strategies to improve his explanations
Year 5.1	Hafsa	For always being a role model to others and following the Golden Expectations within our school
Year 5.2	Suhailah	For always showing respect, kindness and growth. For building her oracy skills and using sentence stems to articulate her ideas
Year 6.1	Philip	For his positive attitude and support of peers
Year 6.2	Kristian	For his great work ethic and exemplary behaviour

MERITS

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

Isobel	1.1	Theo	1.2	Daniella	4.2
Oluwadamola	1.1	Dana	1.2	Samantha	4.2
Nevaeh	1.1	Mashal	1.2	Scarlett	4.2
Nellie	1.1	Aria	2.1	Amie	4.2
Rian	1.1	Atenea	2.2	Rosie	4.2
Annie	1.1	Mariyam	2.2	Chace	5.1
Mia	1.1	Giulia	3.2	Oscar	6.2
Muslimah	1.1	Bahar	3.2	Emilia	6.2
Danish	1.1	Zainab	3.2	Eliana	6.2
Millie	1.2	Kaushiki	3.2	Ishaan	6.2
Rayan	1.2	Fatima	3.2	Kristian	6.2
Samuel	1.2	Alexa	4.1	Harley	6.2
Clementine	1.2	Erin	4.1	Tiffany	6.2
Neal	1.2	Isa	4.2	Bella	6.2
Fatima	1.2	Genevieve	4.2	Daniel	6.2
Oscar	1.2	Jedidiah	4.2	Dilith	6.2
Nyana	1.2	Tudor	4.2	Ebunoluwa	6.2
Elizabeth	1.2			Oliver	6.2



ATTENDANCE OF THE WEEK 29th June – 3rd July 2026	WINNERS Year 6.1
Reception 1	95.7%
Reception 2	95.3%
Year 1 Class 1	95.4%
Year 1 Class 2	93.3%
Year 2 Class 1	95.7%
Year 2 Class 2	92.6%
Year 3 Class 1	97.8%
Year 3 Class 2	95.2%
Year 4 Class 1	91.7%
Year 4 Class 2	92.8%
Year 5 Class 1	97.0%
Year 5 Class 2	93.7%
Year 6 Class 1	98.0%
Year 6 Class 2	97.0%
Weekly Attendance	95.1%

ATTENDANCE OF THE WEEK 6th – 10th July 2026	WINNERS Year 4.1 & 6.1
Reception 1	92.3%
Reception 2	96.7%
Year 1 Class 1	91.4%
Year 1 Class 2	94.3%
Year 2 Class 1	92.7%
Year 2 Class 2	93.5%
Year 3 Class 1	94.4%
Year 3 Class 2	96.2%
Year 4 Class 1	97.0%
Year 4 Class 2	96.9%
Year 5 Class 1	96.0%
Year 5 Class 2	95.3%
Year 6 Class 1	97.0%
Year 6 Class 2	95.0%
Weekly Attendance	94.9%