



Value of the term: Respect

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the penultimate week of the 2024 ~ 2025 Academic Year concludes, I like to take this opportunity to reflect back and I can only say that this has been a year that has kept on giving!

We wanted to increase the curriculum enrichment opportunities this year through visitors and visits and we have certainly achieved that. The whole school community has been immersed in a plethora of activities whether that be sporting, musical, historical, geographical, technological - the list is endless.

We commenced the final fortnight with Year 6's production 'School-O-Vision'. I'm sure the Year 6 parents would agree this was an absolutely fabulous flawless production to an extremely high calibre. The singing, acting, comical timing and production team fully reflected the amazing ability of our Year 6 cohort. I would also like to thank the Year 6 team: Mrs Joo, Mrs Mehmet, Mrs Micklewright, Mr Ellis and Mrs Pupla for co-ordinating such an amazing production.



Also performing were our Year 4 children who have been learning a stringed instrument this year. The children have made a significant amount of progress since their journey commenced in February and for those of us who have learned a stringed instrument, we all know how much purposeful practise is required.



On 10th July we had our final transition sessions where we welcomed our new children who are joining reception in September. All the children seemed really excited about their session with their new teacher and I know that the teachers and teaching assistants were full of news.

As we look towards the end of term, there are always mixed feelings for the changes ahead. Our Year 6 leavers will be heading off to the next chapter of learning. I know each and every child will thrive as they are resilient and academically ready for their transition. I'm sure you will be pleased to hear how well they have all performed in their SATs and they can target themselves towards those high GCSE outcomes over the next few years.

There is also staffing changes at this time. Miss Lass is returning from her maternity leave which means that Miss Longstaff (who was covering Miss Palmer's maternity leave and subsequently Miss Lass' maternity leave) will be leaving us at the end of term.

I would like to thank Miss Longstaff for her hard work, energy and commitment during her time at Howe Dell. I would especially like to thank Miss Longstaff for her contribution as our music subject leader. The choir has really benefited from her musical expertise and the range of musical events and experiences she has organised have fully enriched the children at Howe Dell. One of the 'deep dives' during Ofsted was music and the inspectors were impressed with our curriculum and enrichment offer.

I'm sure you will join me in wishing Miss Longstaff every success and happiness in the future.

This week we have had a double celebration. On Monday we held our 'festival of language' where we transported ourselves to France for the day where we explored the French culture and practised our French vocabulary skills.



I would like to thank Mrs Griffiths and Miss Foster for organising such an enjoyable day – très bien!

On Wednesday we all "Rocked out" with "Rock Steady". Since January 2025, children have participated in these peripatetic sessions and showcased their talents to their parents.



On Thursday, we held our 'Celebration of Music'. This is a new event on the Howe Dell calendar where children in KS2 could share their musical expertise. The children sung with gusto and I was exceptionally proud of the children who have instrumental lessons (both in and out of school). It is lovely to hear the progress the children have made this year.



Next week, we have more days and the spotlight turns to Year 6. On Monday we have the Year 6 prom and Tuesday is the Year 6 leavers assembly.

Term concludes on Tuesday 22nd July at 1.30pm. Over the next few days your children will be bringing home their books to share with you all the work they have covered over the year; they may need a large bag as there is a lot to share!

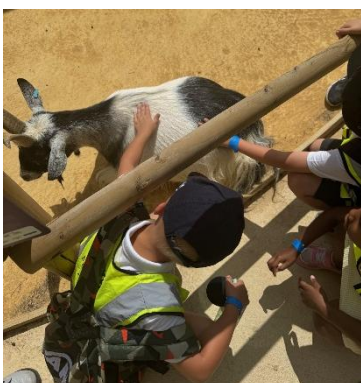
Wishing you all a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing you all next week.

Kind Regards,

Tracy Prickett

YEAR 1 ZOO TRIP

On Friday 4th July, Year 1 visited Hertfordshire Zoo. We attended a 'Fur, Feathers and Scales' workshop which helped us to learn more about mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish. It was super hot but we still really enjoyed getting to see all the different animals and enrich our Science knowledge.



YEAR 4 CAROUSEL DAY

On 4th July, a group of year 4 children attended the Inspire and Engage Activity Carousel Day at Oaklands College Sports Centre. The children had a fantastic opportunity to try out eight different sporting activities including: - Drumba, Fencing, Circus skills, Skip 2B Fit, Dance and Football Freestyle. The weather was amazing and the children thoroughly enjoyed trying out new things. We were also lucky enough to meet inspirational guest speaker 'Nitro' from Gladiators who shared his journey into sport and then impressed us with his strength! A truly fabulous day!



YEAR 6 PRODUCTION

Last week, our talented Year 6 pupils took to the stage for their end-of-year production, School-O-Vision. With enthusiasm, humour and plenty of catchy songs, the children dazzled the audience in a fun-filled show. From creative costumes to incredible performances, it was a fantastic celebration of their time at primary school. A huge well done to all the year 6 children. Your dedication made the performance truly unforgettable.



YEAR 4 STRINGS CONCERT

4.2 have been attending weekly strings lessons for the last half term. They have worked hard to develop their understanding of rhythm and pitch, as well as playing as part of an ensemble and managing to stay together! On Tuesday 8th July, their parents and the current year 3s (who will be having strings lessons next year) attended a concert that showcased their hard work.



FESTIVAL OF LANGUAGE

On Monday 14th July (Bastille day in France) the whole school celebrated our festival of languages day. Students were invited to wear their own clothes as is done in French schools. We immersed ourselves in French culture with the day kicking off with a café experience, where the children got to order and eat a croissant.

Throughout the day, the students took part in many fun activities such as playground games like pétanque. They learned about the artist Matisse and created collages inspired by his work and everyone took part in an orienteering activity where we used map skills to find information about various French speaking countries around the world.

As our big finale, we held a sharing assembly in the hall, each year group performed a French song that they had learned that day. Many children expressed how much they enjoyed having the opportunity to use some of the French they had learnt.



ECO-SCHOOLS GREEN FLAG AWARDED WITH DISTINCTION

Thanks to the incredible efforts of the Eco-Committee this year, Howe Dell have been awarded their Eco-Schools status for another consecutive year, this year with Distinction! The children have worked hard to ensure that the school is making positive steps to improve the environment and teach others about sustainability. We look forward to receiving our new flag and wall plaque to proudly display around the site, celebrating their achievements.



UPCOMING DATES FOR DIARIES



21/07/2025	Year 6 Prom	5.30pm – 7.00pm
22/07/2025	Year 6 Leavers Assembly Last Day of Term – School closes at 1:30pm	9.00am
23/07/2025 to 02/09/2025	Children on Summer Holidays	
03/09/2025	INSET Day	
04/09/2025	Children Return to School	8.40am – 3.15pm

REMINDERS



EARLY FINISH ON TUESDAY

The last day of Term is next Tuesday 22nd July. Children finish at 1.30pm.

MILK FOR SEPTEMBER

From September 2025, parents will order milk online directly with Dairy Link. www.dairylink-uk.com
Please refer to the 'September 2025 Teacher allocation' list to ensure you select the correct class for your child - the class they will be in in September.

AUTUMN TERM CLUBS

Our Autumn Term Clubs list can be found here on our website:

<https://www.howedell.herts.sch.uk/clubs/>

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.

CHILDREN TRANSITIONING TO YEAR 3 IN SEPTEMBER

From **Year 3**, unless you are entitled to Pupil Premium **you will have to pay for your children's school meals**. The cost of a school meal is £3.45 per day which is paid on School Grid. Orders cannot be made unless there is money on your child's account.

You will also need to provide your child with a snack once they start in Year 3. This is no longer funded for children in Year 3 and above.

If you think you may be entitled to Pupil Premium, please apply using the link below.

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/at-school/free-school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx>

BEACON PUPILS

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

Nursery	Isaac	For fantastic participation in our phonics sessions
Year R1	Tristan	For increased participation during class discussions and becoming more confident and independent in his learning
Year R2	Maya	For always being kind to her peers
The whole of Year 1		For exceptional progress and having a positive attitude towards their learning
Year 2.1	Ifeanyi	For making the right choices, asking for help and being honest
Year 2.2	Kemle	For being a kind, respectful and positive member of the class this year
Year 3.1	Tiana	For her bravery and resilience
Year 3.2	Timi	For his continued determination in all his learning
Year 4.1	Jayden	For being kind and for using his words to express himself
Year 4.2	Brodie	For his enthusiastic attitude towards French day
Year 5.1	Shashwat	For making some really big, positive steps towards demonstrating the Golden Expectations all of the time
Year 5.2	Rheon	For working really hard on himself and his learning behaviour this year. This week he has helped lots of people in the school, including year 2 with their sewing
Year 6.1	Dotty	For always doing the right thing and following the Golden Expectations. Dotty sets a wonderful example for the whole class
Year 6.2	Kai	For showing a more mature attitude in his behaviour

MERITS

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

Kristina	1.1	Yalina	2.2	Niko	5.1
Ailin	1.1	Ameya	2.2	Rose-Marie	6.1
Aria	1.1	Rocco	2.2	Max	6.1
Esther	1.1	Aditi	2.2	Aida	6.1
Geraldine	1.1	River	2.2	Robert-Daniel	6.1
Hanan	2.1	Atarah	2.2	Joshua	6.1
James	2.1	Angelo	2.2	Lucas	6.1
Ifeanyi	2.1	Daniel	2.2	Jawad	6.1
Ashley	2.1	Henry	3.2	Isabella	6.2
Noah	2.1	Anika	3.2	Hadleigh	6.2
Jeneru	2.1	Jayden	4.1	Jake	6.2
Jingxiang	2.1	Maddison	5.1	Piajoyce	6.2
Aathira	2.1	Ariella	5.1	Shayan	6.2
Vinuli	2.2	Alecia	5.1		

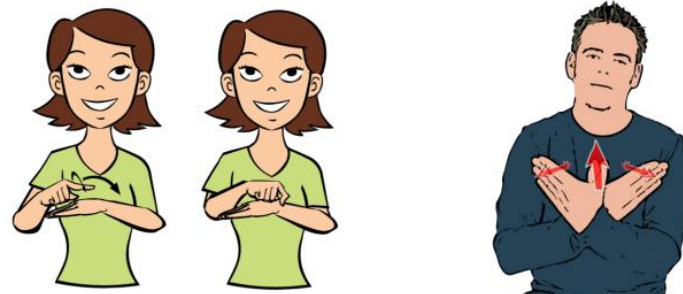


ATTENDANCE OF THE WEEK 7 th – 11 th July 2025	WINNERS Year 1.1
Reception 1	96.8%
Reception 2	93.3%
Year 1 Class 1	100.0%
Year 1 Class 2	98.6%
Year 2 Class 1	95.9%
Year 2 Class 2	98.0%
Year 3 Class 1	95.8%
Year 3 Class 2	94.0%
Year 4 Class 1	98.0%
Year 4 Class 2	98.0%
Year 5 Class 1	97.9%
Year 5 Class 2	98.6%
Year 6 Class 1	97.6%
Year 6 Class 2	94.7%
Weekly Attendance	96.9%

FAB FRIDAY

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

R.1	Praise	R.2	Harmony
1.1	Maisie	1.2	Marvellous
2.1	Sanmita	2.2	Lexi
3.1	Paris	3.2	Anashe
4.1	Nate	4.2	Brodie
5.1	Melvin	5.2	Millie
6.1	William	6.2	Jake T



Signs of the Week

Caterpillar Butterfly

The image displays a grid of 26 hand signs, each labeled with a letter from A to Z. The signs are arranged in four rows: Row 1 (A-I), Row 2 (Z, J), Row 3 (Y, X, W), and Row 4 (V, U, T, S, R, Q, P, O, N). The signs for 'Caterpillar' and 'Butterfly' are specifically highlighted with illustrations of children and an adult demonstrating the signs.