



Value of the term: Kindness

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had such a busy fortnight and looking ahead to the remainder of the term there is lots more to come!

It is lovely to have the school filled with the sound of young singing voices as the choir has commenced their Christmas rehearsals and our Year 1 and Year 2 children are rehearsing for their production. We cannot forget Day Care who also join us in the hall and treat us to their singing.

The smart school council have been busy and have written to me requesting a plethora of equipment for the playground. The great news is that thanks to the funds from the PSA we are restocked and the PALs are busy leading some great activities – thank you PALs!

We have had lots of ‘out and about’ with Years 2, 3 and 4 all attending a variety of film screenings at the Galleria as part of the Into Film Festival. This links exceptionally well with our English focus of writing for an intending audience. I know that the children thoroughly enjoyed this experience.



We had a whole year group first at Howe Dell as Year 5 headed to the Natural History Museum via train and tube. As an Eco-school we are always looking at ways of reducing our carbon footprint and walking / using public transport is one of those ways. The Year 5 children had an amazing day and many members of the public commented upon their impeccable behaviour.



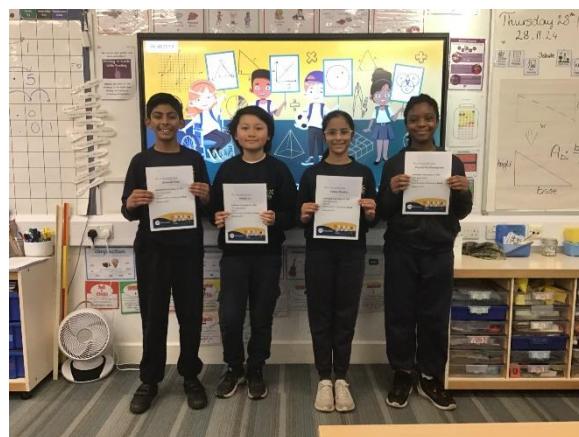
Not only have we been 'out and about', Year 2 had their Great Fire of London enrichment day where their learning was brought to life. I would like to thank all the parents who volunteered as this enabled the children to have a variety of hands-on activities.



Year 5 also participated in a road safety workshop where children were able to embed their understanding of staying safe and they were given strategies to keep themselves safe.

Our monitoring focus for this half term is Maths and Mrs Joo our Maths Subject Leader along with myself and other leaders have been 'dropping in' to Maths lessons across the school. It has been fabulous watching your children in action and they are so engrossed they didn't even notice us there. These 'drop ins' enable us to identify our strengths and our next steps. We have recently invested in class sets of manipulatives and it was great to see these in action; there are so many uses for a bead string and the children could confidently explain to me how they were using this to deepen their understanding.

Staying on the Maths theme our Year 6 Mathematicians have excelled themselves. We were really proud that they had reached the final of the Year 6 Maths challenge where they were competing with the top 20 schools in Hertfordshire and beyond. They gave up a significant amount of their own time to practise and prepare and I'm delighted to announce they came second! The winning school were just five points away.



This is a huge achievement for the Year 6 Maths team and I want to thank Mrs Joo for her time in preparing the team to enable them to achieve so highly. Well done Nishka, Peculiar, William and Devansh.

It was lovely to see so many excited faces who participated in the Futsal Soccer Skills session led by Noel and his team. Many years ago my brother, as a child, participated in a similar scheme. His confidence in football grew and he is now a qualified UEFA A coach working within the football industry, so who knows where these sessions could take your child!

As I write this newsletter, I am just dusting down my dancing shoes and practising the routines ready to dance the early evening away at the Year 4 – Year 6 PSA glow disco. We had a really enjoyable disco last week and I'm sure tonight will be equally enjoyed. Thank you PSA for organising these events as I know the children absolutely love them! I'd also like to thank the staff who have also given up their time as without this team approach, we would not be able to offer so many enrichment opportunities.

Wishing you all a great weekend and I look forward to seeing you back ready and raring to learn on Monday 2nd December. Main doors open from 8.30am.

Kind Regards,

Tracy Prickett

HOWE DELL PROSPECTUS

I am delighted to share with you our school prospectus. We are really proud of the document and feel it really reflects life at Howe Dell.

Please browse the document attached to this newsletter or head to the website. It is located under the 'parent section'.

GREAT FIRE OF LONDON

Year 2 had a fantastic enrichment opportunity this week where they were transported back to the time of the Great Fire of London. They tried their hand at candle making, writing with ink and quills and many other hands-on experiences to re-enact life in London during 1666.



NURSERY LOCAL SOUND WALK

Last week Nursery went on a sound walk around our local area and identified sounds such as cars, birds and aeroplanes. Thank you to all the parent volunteers who gave up their time to come with us.



YEAR 5 NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM TRIP

Last week Year 5 went to the Natural History Museum as part of our Science learning. We travelled by tube and train to get there and for some of us this was the first time! We enjoyed looking at all the exhibits, particularly the mammals exhibit and the dinosaurs.



ENGLAND ROCKS

This week, children from Year 3 – Year 6 took part in England Rocks, the online times table competition to boost Maths confidence alongside accuracy and recall speed. The 3-day competition challenged children to answer as many multiplication and division questions correctly as they can. The class with the highest average number of correct answers per pupil is 5.1, followed by 6.1 and 5.2. The top 3 on the student leader board were William (6.1), Om (5.1) and Andrew (5.2). Fantastic results and great participation from everyone.

CUSP SPOKEN LANGUAGE FESTIVAL

On Thursday, Howe Dell took part in the CUSP Spoken Language Festival. The aim of the day was to get all children talking and playing with language. Without language, pupils cannot make sense of important concepts and communicate their thinking to the world around them. Activities children took part in included learning and telling a joke, performing a poem, explaining a new invention and some very emotive debates in Years 5 and 6 on mobile phones and the voting age. Please talk to your child about the activity they took part in during the day to give them the opportunity to share their ideas at home.

Howe Dell School Nursery Admissions 2025/26 are now open!

WE NOW OFFER 15 AND 30 HOURS

If your child is born between **01/09/2021** and **31/08/2022** they will be due to start Nursery in September 2025. The school Nursery offers 15 hours and 30 hours funded. There is also the option for 15 hours funded to be 'topped up' with 15 hours paid.



Applications can be found on line on our website under

<https://www.howedell.herts.sch.uk/admissions/> or paper copies are available from the school office

Monday 25th November 2024: Applications for September 2025 Nursery places open

Friday 28th March 2025: Applications for September 2025 Nursery places close

SPORTS UPDATES

TAP EVENT AT ONSLOW

Eight students from across Years 5 and 6 spent the morning at Onslow St Audrey's School where they participated in a range of different sporting activities. From archery to handball there were many opportunities for all involved! The children threw themselves in and they quickly made some new friends whilst learning new skills. All those involved had a great time and could not stop talking about the amazing morning that they had!

BOYS FOOTBALL MATCH VS OAKVIEW 14/11/24

A close fought game throughout with the Howe Dell team working their socks off. Howe Dell were just edged out by a physical Oakview side. 3-2 the final score.

Goals – Jeremiah x 2

MOTM - Saim

BOYS FOOTBALL MATCH VS COUNTESS ANNE 21/11/24

Report by Alex 5.1: It was a very tough match, however we still dominated. Countess Anne were really competitive but our teamwork was vital to us winning the game. 2-1 the final score.

Goals - Jeremiah & Oliver

MOTM – Reuben



Here are the boys proudly displaying their 'No Room for Racism' logo.

CHILDREN IN NEED TOTAL

After many hours of counting coins, we are thrilled to announce that Howe Dell School raised a total of **£516.84** for Children in Need. Thank you to all the families who donated.

CHRISTMAS DINNER AND CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Our Christmas Dinner Day will be held on Wednesday 11th December. Please log into School Grid and place your child's Christmas Dinner order. There are two options; Turkey (which comes with a pork sausage) or Vegetarian. Please note there is no halal on this day.

Children are welcome to come to school on Wednesday 11th December in a Christmas themed jumper instead of their school jumper. Please ensure that they still wear the rest of their school uniform.

UPCOMING DATES FOR DIARIES



Date	Event	Time
03/12/2024 & 04/12/2024	Parent Teacher Consultations	3.30pm – 6.30pm
05/12/2024	Santa Visiting Early Years	
09/12/2024	PSA Christmas Shopping Day	
11/12/2024	Flu Vaccinations Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day	8.30am – 12.30am
12/12/2024	M&M Productions Beauty & the Beast Pantomime	
13/12/2024	PSA Rainbow Raffle Draw	
14/12/2024	Choir Christmas Concert Rehearsals Choir Performing at St Etheldreda's Church	2.00pm 6.00pm
16/12/2024	KS1 Production	2.00pm
17/12/2024	KS1 Production Choir Performing at ASDA Hatfield	9.15am Times TBC
18/12/2024	Christingle – Year 3 Parents & Choir Parents Invited	2.00pm
19/12/2024	Nursery & Reception Songs in Classroom – Parents Invited	Times TBC
20/12/2024	Author of the Month Assembly – Parents Invited	8.55am
	Last Day of Term – School closes at 1:30pm 23/12/2024 – 03/01/2025 – Christmas Holidays	
06/01/2025	INSET day	
07/01/2025	Children Return to School	

PSA NEWS

Thank you for your generous Rainbow Raffle donations! They will be used to build colourful Rainbow Hampers that can be won through our December 'Rainbow Raffle'.

Your children will come home with an envelope containing 2 raffle books. Each book contains 5 tickets. Tickets are £1 each. You can collect cash from your ticket sales, or should you wish to pay by card, you will be able to make payment online up until 11.55pm on Tuesday 10th December at: www.pta-events.co.uk/howedellpsa

There is a Rainbow Raffle post box situated in the school foyer for you to return your envelopes. All tickets need to be returned by the morning of Wednesday 11th December.

Please return your envelope with the following:

Any sold ticket stubs - completed with the adult purchasers' details.

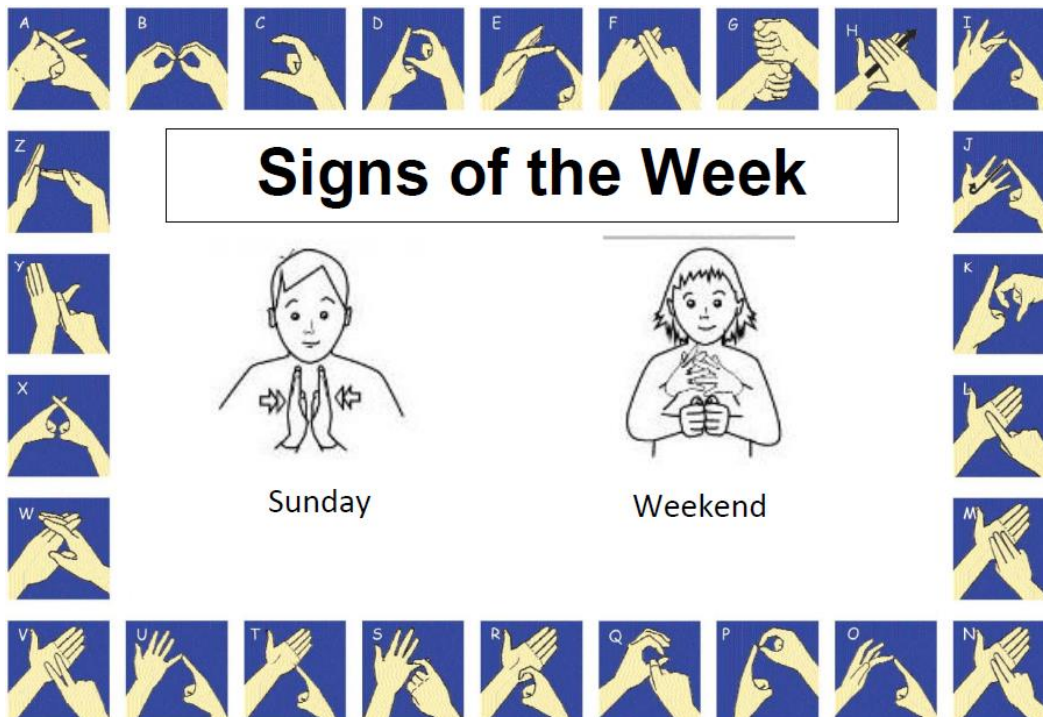
Any cash you have from your ticket sales.

Any unsold tickets.

Please put the name & class of your child on the envelope.

Please tick the relevant boxes about payment – if you have paid online, please write the name of the adult who is registered with PTA Events.

Our Rainbow Raffle will be drawn on Friday 13th December, with hampers available to collect between 16th - 18th December. We will contact the winning ticket holders to arrange collection.



REMINDERS

SPRING TERM MILK

If you would like to order milk for your child for the Spring Term, please complete the survey emailed out to parents and make payment, if applicable, on Arbor by 6th December.

EARLY YEARS READING

Every Tuesday morning (8.40am – 8.55am) Reception and Nursery classes would love parents/carers to join them in a shared reading session. For afternoon Nursery the session is 12.20pm – 12.40pm.

BIKES & SCOOTERS

For everyone's safety please ensure bikes and scooters are not being ridden on the school premises. Once on-site children should be dismounting and wheeling their bikes and scooters to the designated storage areas. Please ensure your child is wearing a helmet as this protects their heads should they fall off their bikes/scooters.

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 AND 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. Orders will be completed on a weekly basis. All children should have a pair of plimsolls kept in school for indoor use. Earrings should be studs.

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 or pick up times.

LINKS AND ATTACHMENTS

(Can be found under Newsletter Attachments on our school website)

<https://www.howedell.herts.sch.uk/newsletter-attachments/>



- Howe Dell School Prospectus 2024

BEACON PUPILS

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

Nursery	Jason	For always coming into school with a smile on his face
Year R1	Millie	For taking care of the learning environment by helping to tidy up and showing increased engagement within lessons
Year R2	Annabelle	For showing great enthusiasm during our learning and being a fantastic performer during our spoken word festival event
Year 1.1	Geraldine	For being super helpful and trying really hard with her story in English
Year 1.2	Aaliyah	For her creative English writing and sentence structure
Year 2.1	Freya	For her enthusiasm and participation throughout our Great Fire of London enrichment day
Year 2.2	Atarah	For great engagement and enthusiasm when learning
Year 3.1	Wanaka	For her fantastic progress with her reading this week
Year 3.2	Aarshi	For being a superstar reader and sharing extra RE work that she has done at home
Year 4.1	Hafsa	For always working hard and being kind to everyone
Year 4.2	Thomas	For challenging himself during writing lessons and publishing his work beautifully
Year 5.1	Sayo	For being such a positive and cheerful member of the class, always going out of her way to help others and showing perseverance and determination in her learning
Year 5.2	Maysa	For working extremely hard with her writing by using some excellent vocabulary to create description
Year 6.1	Saharsh	For his fantastic oracy skills
Year 6.2	Isabella	For her engagement and contributions in lessons

MERITS

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

Adele	1.1	Raya	5.1
Atanas	1.1	Ruby	5.1
Malik	1.1	Alex O	5.1
Oliver	1.2	Millie-Rose	5.1
Zakary	3.2	Divine	5.1
Ryaan	3.2	Sophie	5.2
Jeremiah	3.2	Jakub	5.2
Isaac	4.1	Tanaka	5.2
Niko	5.1	Peculiar	6.1
Modesire	5.1	William	6.1



ATTENDANCE OF THE WEEK 18th – 22nd November 2024	WINNERS Year 4.1
Reception 1	99.3%
Reception 2	95.1%
Year 1 Class 1	99.0%
Year 1 Class 2	89.0%
Year 2 Class 1	95.7%
Year 2 Class 2	95.7%
Year 3 Class 1	99.3%
Year 3 Class 2	96.0%
Year 4 Class 1	99.7%
Year 4 Class 2	99.3%
Year 5 Class 1	95.3%
Year 5 Class 2	98.7%
Year 6 Class 1	99.0%
Year 6 Class 2	95.0%
Weekly Attendance	96.9%