



Value of the term: Kindness

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy half term! Looking back to the start of term we have not stopped!

Our School Council have been incredibly busy reviewing lunchtime activities and resources as we move towards the 'winter plans'. PALs (Playground Leaders) are looking forward to leading new activities after half term including some of the new activities we undertook at Kingswood.

I was privileged to spend an afternoon in Year 4 last week as their target audience. I have to say they are incredibly persuasive and their written work was well structured and their passion was clear. I was incredibly impressed by their delivery presentation skills which enhanced their persuasion. This unit of study is from the recently implemented Writing ESSENTIALS which focuses on writing for a purpose audience.

It was lovely to welcome Father Darren as part of our Harvest celebration. Year 4 confidently shared their learning about 'harvest carnival' which was about harvest in the Caribbean. Thank you so much to the Year 4 parents who joined us for this celebration and to everyone who generously donated essential items for the foodbank. We talk considerably about our Kindness value and this was reflected through your kind donations. The foodbank is supporting more and more families so thank you.



On Friday 18th October we welcomed Andrew Lewin MP for Welwyn Hatfield to Howe Dell. We toured the school and he was impressed by our broad Curriculum.

We talked at length about funding and how important Teaching Assistants are as part of improving outcomes for young people. We also discussed our Day Care model and he is planning to speak with the Secretary of State for Education on our structure as this is very much part of the Government's vision for high quality childcare. Who knows, we may have a visit from the Rt Hon Bridget Phillipson MP to see our provision in action.



Tuesday 22nd October was full of visitors! Miss Foster popped in to see us and we met her beautiful little man. Miss Foster and Jacob are thriving and I know she is enjoying having this special time with him and her family.

Louise Alce our Early Years Advisor worked with our Early Years team and the whole staff team to provide subject leaders with high quality professional development when 'dropping in' to Early Years.

Louise was really pleased with the high-quality interactions she observed and the deep levels of play. She was also impressed with the implementation of 'Drawing Club' (early writing strategy) and is looking forward to returning in the Spring Term to see the impact of this strategy.

The Early Years team, under the great leadership of Miss Wood, have worked incredibly hard and reflected on their practice to provide strong foundations – well done Early Years.



Miss Christmas and I had the opportunity to visit a local Little Wandle 'championer school'. It gave us a first-hand opportunity to see the various aspects of Little Wandle in practise and how we can shape our practice to enable more children to be great readers. Miss Christmas and I thoroughly enjoyed this professional development visit and will be tweaking our practice going forward.

This morning I was treated to our 'Author of the Month' assembly. I have to say I felt very proud of the children who shared their writing confidently with the school community. The progress children have made over this half term is clearly evident.

As I write to you there is a rather decadent aroma filling the office. It must be the doughnuts ready for our PSA sale. Thank you for supporting our PSA events, without this support we would not be able to raise funds that enable us to provide those little extras.

Thank you so much for your kindness and support over the half term. I look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 5th November. Main doors open from 8.30am.

Kind Regards,

Tracy Prickett

STAFF UPDATE

Mr Gardner our Sports Apprentice will be heading onto pastures new after half term. His 13 month apprenticeship has concluded and he is taking on an exciting role to continue his learning journey. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Gardner for the difference he has made at Howe Dell.

I know many questions will be asked about the football team. Football activities will be placed in the safe hands of Mr Ellis and Mr Bone who have a wealth of football experience.

AUTUMN 1 2024: 96.1%

As we know, attending school everyday enables children to access the teaching sequence and maintain their friendship groups. We all know from time to time children are ill and require 48 hours before returning to school which is why the Government's expected attendance statistic is 96%.

Attached to this newsletter is our recently ratified Attendance Policy which is based on a model policy written by Hertfordshire County Council.

SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS 2024

Please be reminded that the deadline for applications to secondary and upper schools is **Thursday 31st October 2024**. But we would recommend that parents complete their application by Tuesday 29th October, so that if there are any queries, they can be dealt with by the Admissions Team ahead of the deadline.

Parents should apply online at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions

YEAR 2 TENNIS

Last week Year 2 enjoyed a tennis lesson from a professional tennis coach from Gosling. They learnt lots of new skills on how to control the ball with their racket.



MEET THE INCLUSION TEAM

Sheryl Wall and Jenny Field would like to invite parents of children with SEND to a Coffee Morning on Friday 8th November at 9am, where you will have an opportunity to get to know the Inclusion team and ask questions. Further Coffee Mornings will be organised throughout the school year which will include visitors from HPCI, HAND, DSPL 5 Transition Support and a support session for parents sharing tips on forms and services such as Blue Badges and DLA forms.

RECEPTION LOCAL WALK

Last week our Reception children enjoyed a walk in our local area to look at different types of houses. They noticed bungalows, town houses and detached houses with bay windows. The children were very well behaved, showed fantastic listening skills and knew how to keep safe on our outing.



WELLINGTON BOOTS

Reception & Nursery are asking for donations of old wellington boots that would fit 3-6-year-old children (approximately size 7 – 12). If you have any you are able to donate, please take them along to Early Years or drop them into the school office. Thank you.

POPPY APPEAL

When we return from half term the Year 5 team will be leading a Poppy Appeal on behalf of the Royal British Legion by selling a collection of Poppy Appeal merchandise in the school foyer. The appeal raises funds for veterans, the armed forces community and their families, whilst giving our community the opportunity to remember. Thank you in advance for your support.

PSA NEWS

DISCOS & CRAFT PARTY

Tickets are still available for the following events, tickets cost £5 and can be purchased at: www.pta-events.co.uk/howedellpsa

Nursery & Reception Craft Party

Thursday 14th November 3.15pm – 4.30pm (Online bookings close 4th November)

Years 1, 2 & 3 Glow Disco

Friday 22nd November 3.15pm – 5pm (Online bookings close 8th November)

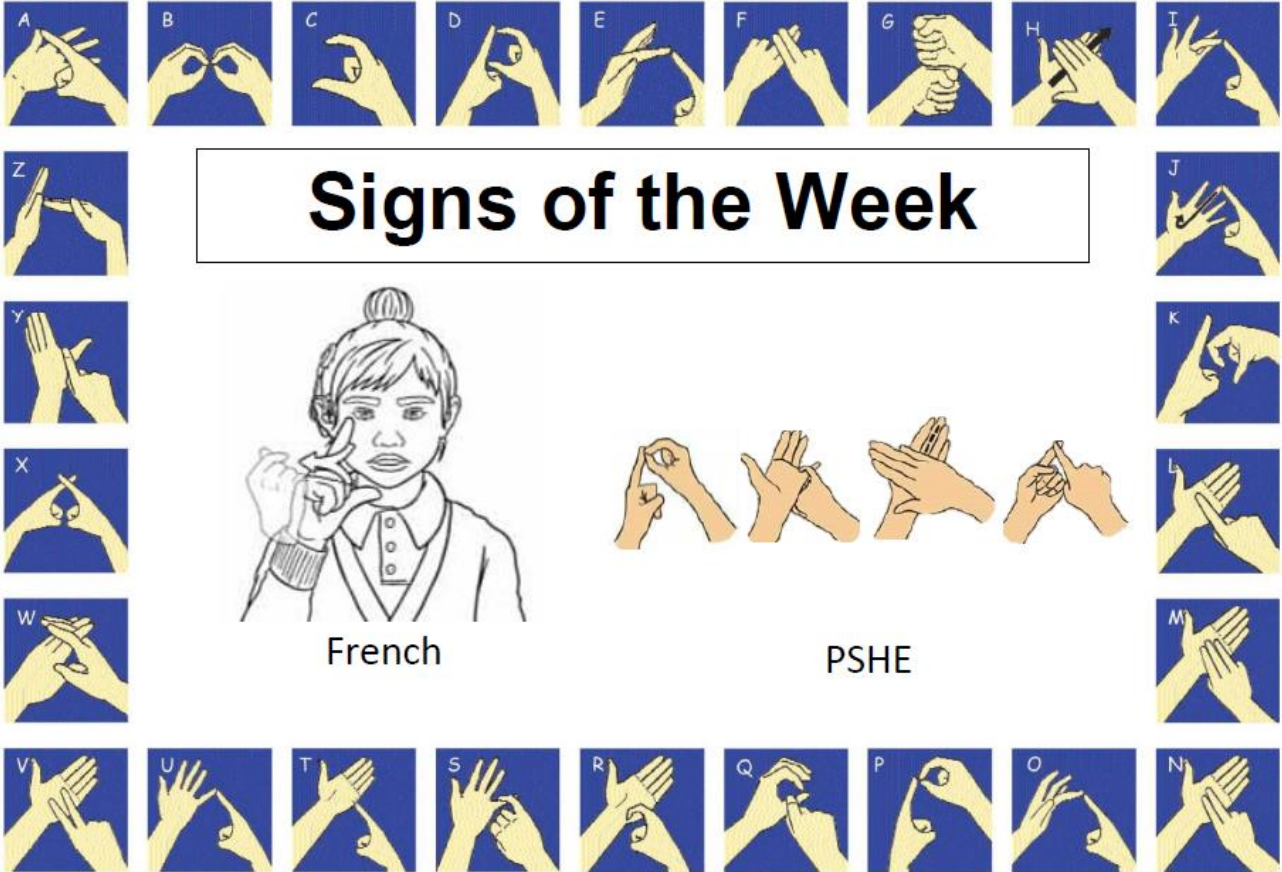
Years 4, 5 & 6 Glow Disco

Friday 29th November 3.15pm – 5pm (Online bookings close 8th November)

CHRISTMAS CARDS

A reminder that the deadline for ordering your child's Christmas card design from IQ cards is Monday 4th November.

Any questions regarding these events please contact psa@howedell.herts.sch.uk



Signs of the Week



French



PSHE

REMINDERS

INSET DAY

Monday 4th November is an INSET day. Children return to school on Tuesday 5th November.

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.

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.



UPCOMING DATES FOR DIARIES



Date	Event	Time
28/10/2024 – 01/11/2024 – Half Term		
04/11/2024	INSET day IQ Card Deadline for Christmas Card Orders	
06/11/2024	Year 6 NCMP Height & Weight Screening	9.30am
08/11/2024	Meet the Inclusion Team Rocksteady Assembly & Workshops	9.00am – 10.00am
11/11/2024	Remembrance Assembly – Year 5 Parents Invited	9.00am
12/11/2024	Year 5 & 6 Parent Coffee Morning Year 3 Maths Live Learning – Parents Invited	8.45am – 9.45am 9.15am – 10.00am
14/11/2024	PSA Craft Party for Reception & Nursery	3.15pm – 4.30pm
19/11/2024	Flu Vaccinations Year 4 Galleria Odeon Cinema Trip	8.30am – 12.30pm 11.00am
20/11/2024	Year 5 Trip to Natural History Museum (drop off and collection at Hatfield Train Station) Year 3 Galleria Odeon Cinema Trip	9.00am – 4.00pm 1.00pm
21/11/2024	Nursery Local Sound Walk Reception Screening – Children born up to end of Feb	9.30am
22/11/2024	Author of the Month Assembly – Parents Invited PSA Non-Uniform for a Rainbow Raffle Donation PSA Glow Disco – Years 1,2 & 3	8.55am 3.15pm – 5.00pm
W/C 25/11/2024	Nursery Stay & Plays	11.00am – 11.30am 2.30pm – 3.00pm
27/11/2024	Year 2 Great Fire of London History Workshop	
28/11/2024	Year 2 Galleria Odeon Cinema Trip	11.00am
29/11/2024	SEND Coffee Morning – Supporting Parents PSA Glow Disco – Years 4,5 & 6	9.00am – 10.30am 3.15pm – 5.00pm
03/12/2024 & 04/12/2024	Parent Teacher Consultations	3.30pm – 6.00pm
09/12/2024	PSA Christmas Shopping Day	
11/12/2024	Flu Vaccinations – Catch Up Session Christmas Dinner	8.30am – 10.30am
12/12/2024	M&M Productions Beauty & the Beast Pantomime	
13/12/2024	PSA Rainbow Raffle Draw	
16/12/2024	KS1 Production	2.00pm
17/12/2024	KS1 Production	9.15am
18/12/2024	Christingle – Year 3 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 Last Day of Term – School closes at 1:30pm	8.55am
23/12/2024 – 03/01/2025 – Christmas Holidays		
06/01/2025	INSET day	

LINKS AND ATTACHMENTS

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

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

- Attendance Policy
- Inclusivity Football at Harvesters FC
- Halloween at Church Farm Ardeley
- Meet Father Christmas - Church Farm Ardeley
- AVA Against Violence & Abuse

ATTENDANCE OF THE WEEK 14 th - 18 th October 2024	WINNERS Year 4.1
Reception 1	93.7%
Reception 2	97.0%
Year 1 Class 1	98.0%
Year 1 Class 2	91.3%
Year 2 Class 1	93.1%
Year 2 Class 2	94.8%
Year 3 Class 1	94.0%
Year 3 Class 2	95.7%
Year 4 Class 1	99.0%
Year 4 Class 2	98.3%
Year 5 Class 1	98.0%
Year 5 Class 2	96.0%
Year 6 Class 1	98.7%
Year 6 Class 2	94.0%
Weekly Attendance	95.8%

AUTHOR OF THE MONTH

Well done to the following children for being selected as Author of the month:

- 1.1 Jason
- 1.2 Kacper
- 2.1 Joseph O
- 2.2 Dea
- 3.1 Deborah
- 3.2 Kane
- 4.1 Ava
- 4.2 Megan
- 5.1 Benjy
- 5.2 Millie
- 6.1 Joshua
- 6.2 Thadhi



MERITS

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

Yasmin	1.1	Tudor	3.1	Alecia	5.1
Maisie	1.1	Tiana	3.1	Mufaro	5.1
Imran	1.2	Erik C	3.1	Sayo	5.1
Kaushiki	2.1	Joshua	3.1	Rola	5.1
Luna	3.1	Arielle	3.2	Sienna	5.1
Wanaka	3.1	Alexa	3.2		



BEACON PUPILS

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

Nursery	Kevin	For remembering our carpet expectations and contributing to whole class discussions
Year R1	Clementine	For always being a kind friend to others and showing a fantastic attitude to writing
Year R2	Arohi	For working hard on her phonics, letter formation skills and always giving learning 'a go'
Year 1.1	Ridhita	For consistently following the Golden Expectations and having a super first half term of Year 1
Year 1.2	Mahad	For following our Golden Expectations and always being ready to learn
Year 2.1	Bella K	For using phonics resources more to support her spelling attempts
Year 2.2	Connie	For being a kind and considerate class member
Year 3.1	Keonna	For showing kindness by helping all of her friends when the learning gets tricky
Year 3.2	Brendan	For his fantastic efforts towards his reading
Year 4.1	Kayden	For always trying his best and never giving up no matter the challenge
Year 4.2	Grace	For giving everything 'a go' and sharing some brilliant ideas with the class
Year 5.1	Luca	For always bringing joy and laughter into the school and putting a smile on everyone's faces every single day
Year 5.2	Oliver	For being extremely focused this week and for producing some wonderful writing in English
Year 6.1	Lucas	For challenging himself in Maths lessons
Year 6.2	Jake T	For his dedication and perseverance during Maths lessons