



Value of the term: Kindness

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we have now completed six weeks of the Autumn term and the past fortnight has continued to be full to the brim.

On Friday 27th September the PSA held their annual AGM. It was lovely to spend an evening with such a dedicated group of parents who want to do the very best for the school in raising much needed funds. They cannot do this without you so if you would like to help pass the kindness forward, please speak to Katie Purcell or drop an email to psa@howedell.herts.sch.uk. Thank you.

Year 3 have been 'out and about' as part of their Science studies. They visited Hatfield Cemex Quarry and Amwell Nature Reserve. You should have heard the squeals of excitement as the children headed off on a coach.



It was also lovely to have so many Year 4 parents join us to listen to and share writing that the children had undertaken with parents as their selected audience. I am very much looking forward to my time with Year 4 next week as I am their next intended audience.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the amazing staff team at Howe Dell who modelled 'leadership at all levels' as I headed out to the annual Head Teacher conference. There was some great speakers and seminars that has certainly provided me with 'food for thought'.



This action shot was captured by HFL Education as Headteachers worked in collaboration. This was the before picture, we reviewed and refined our practice which enabled us to be more effective and achieve a higher outcome.

On Tuesday, the teaching team travelled to Lordship Farm to gather as part of our termly CUSP cluster. It was a productive session with opportunities for the school to share great practice.

On Thursday, Year 4 headed to St Etheldreda's to experience a string music concert. Year 4, over the year, learn to play stringed instruments. This was an opportunity for them to experience professional musicians playing these instruments and hopefully will inspire the children to practise and refine their skills as they commence their learning journey.

Thank you so much for your generous donations for Harvest Festival. If you are able to donate to support the members of our community then that is incredibly kind.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing you all ready to learn on Monday morning.

Kind Regards,

Tracy Prickett

ECO-SCHOOLS GREEN FLAG AWARD

We are thrilled to announce that we have been awarded the Eco-Schools Green Flag Award. The award is a sign that staff and children are making great efforts to support the health of our planet. Well done to the amazing Eco-squad for embedding positive behaviours and championing sustainability.



ONSLow VISIT

On Tuesday, myself (Mrs Ritchie) and Mrs Joo visited Onslow St Audrey's School. We were invited to visit the Howe Dell students that are now in Year 7 and got to pop into a variety of different lessons. It was fantastic to see how settled the children were and what good ambassadors for Howe Dell they are being. They spoke positively about the teachers and how well they have settled into the school. The children commented that they felt well prepared for secondary school and have given us some feedback about how we can help future year groups be even more 'secondary ready'. While we were there, we had a discussion about the possibility of collaborative work going forward including taster computer science sessions for our older pupils.

CROSS COUNTRY

A few weeks ago, some children in year 5 participated in a cross-country event at Onslow St Audrey's Secondary School. The children have told us that it was very tiring and because of the rain they got their socks wet! Luckily, because of the resilience that they showed, all of the children excelled during the event and some of them even qualified for the finals which took place at Stanborough Lakes yesterday afternoon. Alex (5.1), won his qualifying event, competing against 23 other boys from 5 other schools. Alecia (5.1) placed 3rd in the girl's event when qualifying and both were extremely proud to show off their medals! We would like to say a huge well done to all of the children who took part!



PUPIL REPORT – Raya 5.1

It was really fun at cross country, however there was a lot of running which made it really exhausting. Overall, it was enjoyable though.

YEAR 3 CEMEX PROJECT

Year 3 have taken part in the Cemex project learning all about the life cycle of a quarry. Last week saw us at a working quarry - we got to walk around looking at the machines and the different processes. We then went to see the digging site where they get the sand and stone from. On Wednesday we went to Amwell Nature Reserve that used to be a quarry - we walked along the path looking for signs of otters, dragonflies and bitterns, then used binoculars to spot birds out on the water and tried to identify them.



YEAR 4 MUSIC CONCERT

Year 4 visited St Etheldreda's Church as part of the Hatfield House Chamber Music Festival. They got to watch a performance from the Bechstein Trio, a newly-formed group who played the cello, violin and piano. The concert was of three pieces of music, including a Russian waltz. Between the pieces they explored how music is counted in bars, usually containing 3 or 4 beats, and how music is often played as a 'conversation' between instruments, where different musical motifs are passed between them. They also got the chance to respond to the music by thinking about how it made them feel or of what it reminded them of.



FOOD BANK DONATIONS WANTED

To celebrate Harvest Festival and to support our local community, we are asking for donations for our local foodbank - supporting people in crisis.

Donations are being collected in every classroom so please send them in with your children by Wednesday 16th October. The class with the most donations will be awarded extra marbles for their class jar!

This year, Hatfield food bank is requesting particular items such as:

Tinned soup, tinned meat (especially hotdogs or meatballs), baked beans, tinned tomatoes, tinned vegetables like peas, sweetcorn or carrots, pasta sauce, tinned fruit, tinned custard, pasta, long life juice, long life milk and small jars of coffee.

Harvest Assembly is being led by Year 4 on Thursday 17th October at 9.00am and our Year 4 parents are invited to attend.



PSA NEWS

ASDA CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

Every time you shop with Asda Rewards until 30th November, they will donate 0.5% of your total spend to a primary school of your choice. Plus, Asda will pop £1 into your school's Cashpot every time someone opts in. Simply download and sign up to the Asda rewards app, opt into the Cashpot for Schools campaign and select Howe Dell Primary School - then just shop and scan!

Signs of the Week

Art DT

UPCOMING DATES FOR DIARIES



Date	Event	Time
15/10/2024 to 18/10/2024	Scholastic Book Fair	8.30am – 8.45am & 3.15pm each day
16/10/2024	Deadline for Harvest Festival Food Bank Donations	
17/10/2024	Harvest Festival – Year 4 Parents Invited	9.00am
22/10/2024	Parent Ambassador Meeting	8.45am – 9.45am
25/10/2024	Author of the Month Assembly – Parents Invited PSA Krispy Kreme Doughnut Sale	8.55am 3.15pm – 3.30pm
	28/10/2024 – 01/11/2024 – Half Term	
04/11/2024	INSET day	
06/11/2024	Year 6 NCMP Height & Weight Screening	9.30am
08/11/2024	Meet the Inclusion Team	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

LINKS AND ATTACHMENTS

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

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



- Family Lives – Positive Co-Parenting of Neurodiverse Children

REMINDERS



HARVEST FESTIVAL

Classrooms will be accepting Harvest Festival donations until Wednesday 16th October.

OCTOBER PLAYScheme

Half-term playscheme will run from Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November, 8am-6pm. Booking and registration forms can be found on our website under Parents > Playschemes, or can be collected from the office.

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.

SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS 2024

Please be aware that the deadline for applications to secondary and upper schools is fast approaching. Parents will need to make an application online or on paper by the closing date of **Thursday 31st October 2024**. But we would recommend that parents complete it by Friday 25th 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

MERITS

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

Aria	1.1	Divine	5.1
Eve	1.1	Alexander	5.1
Ailin	1.1	Victoria	5.1



BEACON PUPILS

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

Nursery	Irena	For excellent drawings and playdoh creations
Year R1	Dana	For being a kind and caring member of the class by always helping her peers and adults
Year R2	Regina	For working really hard on her phonics reading and writing
Year 1.1	Kasey	For her resilience and positive attitude in school
Year 1.2	Posi	For his focus on the carpet and attitude to learning
Year 2.1	Yousif	For his positivity and willingness to really 'give it a go' this week
Year 2.2	Samuel	For securing his independent sentence writing skills by accurately using capital letters, full stops and conjunctions
Year 3.1	Millie	For showing resilience and a growth mindset towards her learning all week
Year 3.2	Zara	For always following the Golden Expectations
Year 4.1	Aadam	For showing fantastic learning behaviours in all lessons this week
Year 4.2	Amelie	For being really engaged and challenging herself during times table learning
Year 5.1	Melvin	For working so hard this week and trying his best both in the classroom and at break/lunch times
Year 5.2	Dilith	For his growing confidence in class. He happily shared his writing with us and some art he created at home
Year 6.1	Aida	For being a kind, hardworking member of the class
Year 6.2	Piajoyce	For her engaging opening paragraph for an information text

ATTENDANCE OF THE WEEK 30th Sept – 4th Oct	WINNERS Year 1 Class 1
Reception 1	99.0%
Reception 2	96.3%
Year 1 Class 1	99.7%
Year 1 Class 2	98.7%
Year 2 Class 1	97.2%
Year 2 Class 2	99.0%
Year 3 Class 1	98.7%
Year 3 Class 2	99.0%
Year 4 Class 1	98.3%
Year 4 Class 2	95.6%
Year 5 Class 1	98.3%
Year 5 Class 2	97.9%
Year 6 Class 1	97.7%
Year 6 Class 2	96.3%
Weekly Attendance	98.0%