



Value of the term: Kindness

Dear Parents and Carers,

I cannot believe we are at the end of week 4; where has that time gone? The beautiful sunsets seem to have evolved into monsoon season.

I had the pleasure of joining Year 6 children on their residential to Green Park. We had glorious weather and I was so proud to see children giving activities 'a go' and overcoming their barriers. I love a residential as we get to see children through a different lens. Your children were an absolute delight and were great ambassadors of Howe Dell School. I would also like to thank Mrs Joo for her expert leadership. As you can imagine, much planning and preparation occurs in advance of such an activity and Mrs Joo had ensured that no stone had been left unturned. Thank you Mrs Joo – we are all looking forward to Kingswood 2025!

This week has also been full to the brim. Year 3 enjoyed a visit from Cemex ahead of their visit to site next week.

I know lots of Reception parents attended the Little Wandle (phonics) workshops with Mrs Christmas. I do hope you found these sessions supportive and informative.

This morning we celebrated our 'Authors of the Month'. It was lovely to be joined by so many parents to celebrate their writing achievements for our children.

Mrs Ritchie was delighted to share how she saw the progress in the learning journey across the school. From mastering accurate sentence construction to writing additional chapters for a story. Many of the pieces shared focused on our whole school Explore and Engage text 'Hermelin'



During our teacher professional development session this week we completed our Little Wandle training pathways, this equips our teachers with a secure knowledge of how best to support our early writers across the school. They are eagerly awaiting our session next week which will be delivered by our Maths subject leader Mrs Joo and focus on how to support our early mathematicians with securing their number facts.

I am pleased to inform you that the Governing Board have ratified our School Improvement Plan for 2024-2025. We have two key priorities

- To implement HFL Essential Writing and Early Writing Strategy
- To sustain the correct upward trend in Maths outcomes by deepening teacher knowledge and pedagogy Maths

Please see the poster in our links and attachments section which we shall be sharing with the children next week.

Next week I am away at the annual HFL Head Teachers' conference and I am delighted to be introducing Colin Tapscott as a guest speaker.

Colin has worked with the Howe Dell team as part of our professional development and his sessions have always been warmly received.

Should you have any questions or concerns I know the team will be able to support you in my absence.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Kind Regards,

Tracy Prickett

GOOD TRAVEL PLAN

Modeshift STARS is a national scheme acknowledging schools that have excelled in encouraging active and safer travel. We are delighted to share that we have received a 'good' accreditation.



OCTOBER HALF TERM PLAYScheme

We are pleased to announce that we will be running a Playscheme in the October half-term from Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November.

Our Playscheme is open to both Howe Dell and non Howe Dell children from 8am-6pm.

Spaces are limited so please book early.

Booking and registration forms can be found on our website under Parents > Playschemes, or can be collected from the office.

YEAR 6 KINGSWOOD RESIDENTIAL

On the 18th of September, 43 children from Year 6 embarked on a 2-day residential trip to Kingswood Green Park with the aim of developing independence, trying out new activities and learning new skills. During these days, the children built shelters, learnt to light fire with a flint, trusted each other on low level ropes and challenged themselves in the heights of the climbing wall. Fuelled by generous amounts of delicious food and fun activities everyone had a great time. Big thank you to Miss Prickett, Mrs Christmas, Mrs Micklewright and Mr Ellis for being there and providing the children with an unforgettable experience.



X

You can follow Howe Dell on X (formally known as twitter) where teachers and staff post weekly pictures and updates of children's learning and achievements. Search for @HoweDellSchool.



PUPIL PREMIUM – FREE SCHOOL MEALS

All children in Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 are entitled to a free lunch at school. However, if you register using the link below, our school could get extra funding (called 'Pupil Premium') to pay for additional staff time, extra computers, books and trips for your children.

Children in Year 3 to Year 6 can get a free school meal if you receive certain support allowances or credits.

Apply today on the below link. It takes **5 mins** and in most cases you will be told straightaway if your child can get free meals at school. If you need any help do pop to the office.

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/Schools-and-education/At-school/Free-school-meals/Free-school-meals.aspx>

SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL

Thank you to Peter, our School Crossing Patrol, for designing this poster to help with the safety outside school during drop off and collection times:

Please dismount bikes and scooters before crossing the road with the patrol

Please cross in front of the patrol, not behind.

Please wait at the side of the road until the patrol indicates it is safe to cross.

Please do not park or drop off on the yellow lines and zigzags outside the school. this is not only dangerous but causes traffic delays and blocks the school entrance

Please do not walk over the cross road to get to school. Use the patrol to help you cross safely.

Please cross the road safely



DISABILITY LIVING ALLOWANCE

If your child is in receipt of Disability Allowance (DLA) please let us know as we may be entitled to a small amount of additional funding to support your child.

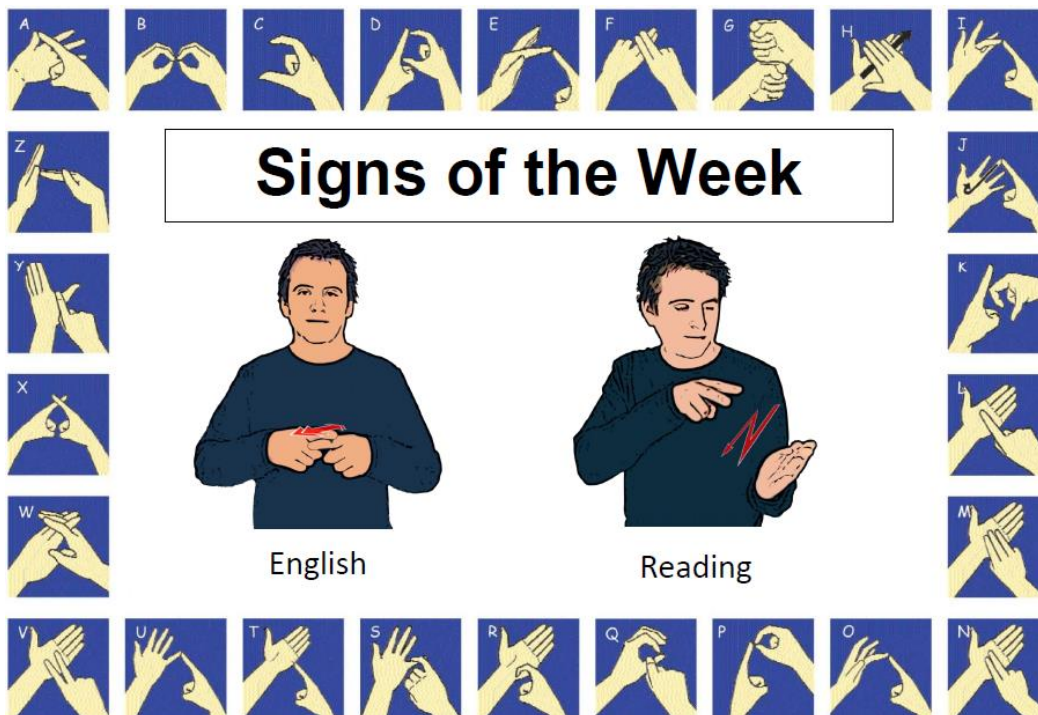
PSA NEWS

Reminder: Howe Dell Parent/Staff Association Annual General Meeting Friday 27th September 2024 8-9PM.

We are looking forward to welcoming you this evening at our Annual General Meeting (AGM) being held in the Grosvenor Room at the Comet Hotel, St Albans Road West, Hatfield, AL10 9RH. The room is available from 7.30pm for Tea and Coffee, with the meeting starting promptly at 8pm. I have attached the agenda to this email.

Whilst the meeting is a mandatory requirement of being a charity, our AGM is a chance to meet the committee members (volunteers), find out more about what we do and how your support has helped the school in the last year. As we mentioned in our previous email, we have had a number of committee members move on as their children have now gone to secondary school and it would be great to add to the core team of volunteers who plan, organise and run the fundraising events in school.

We look forward to you joining us this evening.



LINKS AND ATTACHMENTS

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

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

- FACE - Supporting a child with ADHD
- FACE - September/October Timetable
- Age UK Home Helper Advert
- 2024-2025 Key Priorities

UPCOMING DATES FOR DIARIES

| Date | Event | Time |
|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 30/09/2024 | Sibling Photos (Parents to bring in children prior to school) Individual School Photos Little Wandle Year 1 Parent Workshop | 8.00am – 8.30am 2.45pm – 3.15pm |
| 01/10/2024 | Year 3 Trip to Hatfield Quarry | 8.35am – 12.00pm |
| 02/10/2024 | Little Wandle Year 1 Parent Workshop EYFS Google Classroom Information & Support Session | 9.15am – 9.45am 2.45pm |
| 08/10/2024 | Year 3 Trip to Amwell Nature Reserve | 8.35am – 12.00pm |
| 15/10/2024 to 18/10/2024 | Scholastic Book Fair | 8.30am – 8.45am & 3.15pm each day |
| 17/10/2024 | Harvest Festival – Year 4 Parents Invited | 9.00am |
| 22/10/2024 | Parent Ambassador Meeting | Time TBC |
| 25/10/2024 | Author of the Month Assembly – Parents Invited | 8.55am |
| | 28/10/2024 – 01/11/2024 – Half Term | |
| 04/11/2024 | INSET day | |

REMINDERS

INDIVIDUAL & SIBLING PHOTOS

On Monday children will be having their individual school photos taken. Please can children come to school in uniform and not PE kit. You also have the opportunity to bring your children in prior to school opening to have a sibling photo taken. Please arrive from 8.00am – 8.30am. Parents are to accompany their children to the sibling photos and to remain with them after their photo until the main doors open from 8.30am.

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.



| ATTENDANCE OF THE WEEK 16th – 20th September 2024 | WINNERS Year 5 Class 2 |
|--|---|
| Reception 1 | 93.3% |
| Reception 2 | 96.3% |
| Year 1 Class 1 | 85.0% |
| Year 1 Class 2 | 89.3% |
| Year 2 Class 1 | 95.3% |
| Year 2 Class 2 | 99.0% |
| Year 3 Class 1 | 98.0% |
| Year 3 Class 2 | 93.0% |
| Year 4 Class 1 | 96.0% |
| Year 4 Class 2 | 95.7% |
| Year 5 Class 1 | 95.3% |
| Year 5 Class 2 | 99.6% |
| Year 6 Class 1 | 98.7% |
| Year 6 Class 2 | 96.7% |
| Weekly Attendance | 95.1% |

MERITS

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

Sophie 5.2



AUTHOR OF THE MONTH

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

- 1.1 Geraldine
- 1.2 Eryn
- 2.1 Chester
- 2.2 Andreas
- 3.1 Mayumi
- 3.2 Avia
- 4.1 Isaac
- 4.2 Millie
- 5.1 Melvin
- 5.2 Hamza
- 6.1 Robert
- 6.2 Nishka



BEACON PUPILS

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

| | | |
|----------|----------|--|
| Nursery | Frankie | For settling in so well to our routines |
| Nursery | Gowri | For doing some excellently detailed drawings of her loved ones |
| Year R1 | Harley | For being a helpful member of the class who takes pride in looking after the learning environment |
| Year R2 | Rian | For great contributions to our class discussions and showing high levels of engagement across our curriculum |
| Year 1.1 | Othniel | For trying really hard with his learning |
| Year 1.2 | Oliver | For showing resilience, following instructions and having a positive attitude to his learning |
| Year 2.1 | Joseph O | For his critical thinking and thought provoking questions around our Guided Reading extracts |
| Year 2.2 | Aditi | For applying her English skills during our Science lesson |
| Year 3.1 | Erik F | For his growth mindset towards all of his learning this week |
| Year 3.2 | Ella | For challenging herself in all her work |
| Year 4.1 | Hafsa | For being an exemplary student and always following the Golden Expectations |
| Year 4.2 | Ellydia | For being a kind and supportive learning partner in all lessons |
| Year 5.1 | Philip | For being a great learning partner and putting 100% into all lessons |
| Year 5.2 | Sophie | For working very hard this week and producing some very descriptive writing in English |
| Year 6.1 | Joshua | For his fantastic work in Science - working with and drawing scientific diagrams of circuits |
| Year 6.2 | Saim | For his enthusiasm and contributions during lessons |