



Value of the term: Kindness

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an amazing start to the term! It has been so exciting to open the doors to such fabulous children. As I walk around the school I see and hear children who are eager to learn. Our children are great kindness ambassadors and they have been modelling kindness in all aspects of their school day.

We have some new team members for September and I am delighted to welcome Mrs Wall (Assistant Head Teacher for Inclusion), Miss Longstaff (Year 5), Mrs Mehmet (Year 4), Miss Davis (Year 4), Miss Burt (Year 3) and Miss Redwood (Year 3). The team have settled quickly into their new roles and it feels like they have always been part of the 'Howe Dell family'.

I am hoping that many of you had the opportunity to meet them at 'meet the teacher'. If you were unable to attend the slides will be available on the class page on the website.

We have had an incredibly busy fortnight which has included the Autumn Term visit from our School Improvement Partner. Helen Jones 'dropped in' to classes across the school and undertook a thorough scrutiny of our end of 2024 data. She was pleased with the improving data outcomes for the school and has provided the school with lots of food for thought to continue our improvement journey.

We have also held our 'pupil set up meetings' This is where we meet with teachers and discuss their new cohort based on the outcomes from July 2024. These 'set up' meetings enable the teachers to accurately target children and make adaptations to their practice as required.

On Tuesday Year 4 and Year 5 spent part of their morning working with the Pro Quartet Youth singers from St Etheldreda's. The feedback from Will and the team was incredibly positive and they were very impressed by the quality of singing. Further collaboration projects are in the pipeline for the Spring term.

I am aware that St Etheldreda's are recruiting some choristers and a letter has been sent to parents in Year 4 and 5 so if you are interested, please email the director of music.

You may have heard some new voices from our school office. Miss Brinkley and Mrs Connery have joined our admin team. They are quickly learning about 'life in the school office' so please bear with us if they need to get further clarification to answer your questions.

I'd like to finish with some 'baby' news. Miss Palmer's baby safely entered the world in August. Baby George made a guest appearance at our INSET day. Miss Palmer was looking radiant and baby George was just gorgeous. I'm sure you will join us in congratulating Miss Palmer and her partner as they commence their lives as a family of three!

Our family is growing! Children in Year 6 were greeted on their return to school with the exciting news that Miss Lass is expecting a baby. We are all delighted by this lovely news.

Next week Year 6 are off to Kingswood. I am very excited to be accompanying the group with Miss Christmas, Mr Ellis and Mrs Micklewright. We are all under the leadership of Mrs Joo.

Should you need to contact/speak to leaders in our absence, Mrs Ritchie and Mrs Wall are on site to support you. All general enquiries are in the safe hands of Mrs Allgood.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Tracy Prickett

CHORAL SINGING WORKSHOP

On Tuesday, Years 4 and 5 thoroughly enjoyed a special visit from the Pro Quartet Youth Singers who delivered a choral singing workshop. The children learnt about and had a go at singing in parts/harmonies and singing in rounds. They also learnt some new musical vocabulary including the names for each of the four singing parts in a quartet: soprano, alto, tenor, bass. The children all got involved, enjoyed themselves and did a fantastic job!



GOLD AT KUNG FU CHAMPIONSHIPS

We wanted to share with you the success of one of our Year 6.2 students - Thadhi. In July she competed in the British National Traditional Kung Fu Championships, representing Shaolin Temple Martial Arts and Cultural Centre. In a very short time of training, she participated in one of the biggest Martial Arts competitions and won three medals including Gold for 'Empty Hand Performance'. Well done Thadhi, what a fantastic achievement!

ASDA CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

Every time you shop with Asda Rewards from 2nd September to 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!

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 students.

Children in year 3 or older can get a free school meal if you receive any of the following:

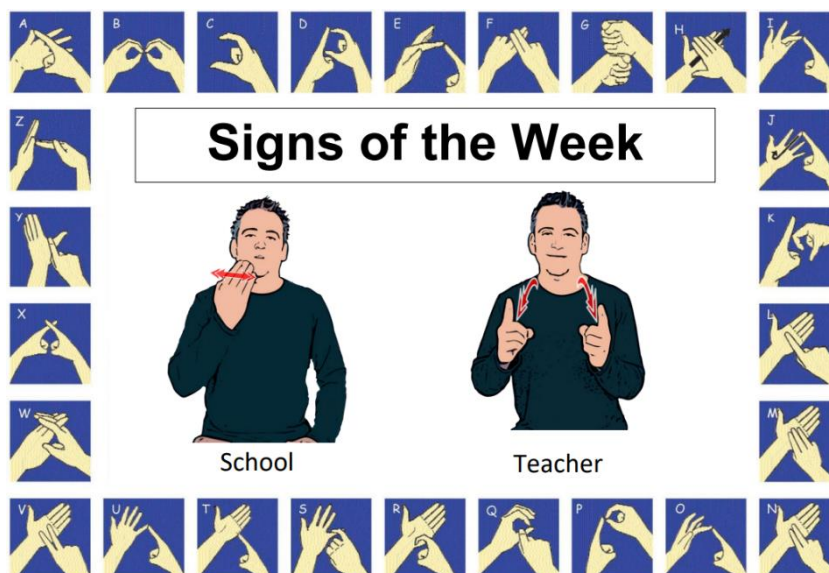
- **Income Support**
- **Income-based Jobseekers Allowance**
- **Income-related Employment and Support Allowance**
- **Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999**
- **The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit**
- **Child Tax Credit** (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you don't get more than **£16,190** a year)
- **Working Tax Credit run-on** (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- **Universal Credit** (with annual earned income of no more than **£7,400** after tax and not including any benefits you get).

Apply today on the below link if you receive any of these benefits. It takes **5 mins** and in most cases you will be told straightaway if your child can get free meals at school.

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

SIBLING PHOTOS

On Monday 30th September children across the school will be having their individual school photos taken. You will 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.



5 STARS


Congratulations to Mrs Worsley and her team for her 5 star rating in their recent food hygiene inspection.

FOOD HYGIENE RATING

0 1 2 3 4 **5**

VERY GOOD

UPCOMING DATES FOR DIARIES



Date	Event	Time
18/09/2024 – 20/09/2024	Year 6 Residential to Kingswood	
30/09/2024	Sibling Photos (Parents to bring in children prior to school) Individual School Photos	8.00am – 8.30am
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
	28/10/2024 – 01/11/2024 – Half Term	
04/11/2024	INSET day	

LINKS AND ATTACHMENTS

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

- Hatfield Town Council - Community Day Flyer
- Potential Kids – September 2024 Activities

REMINDERS

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.

BEACON PUPILS

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

Year R1	Henry	For showing an improved attitude to learning and behaviour and trying his best with new tasks
Year R2	Isobel	For developing her independence and being a fantastic role model during tidy up time
Year 1.1	Adele	For giving everything a go even when she finds it tricky
Year 1.2	Evelyn	For a great attitude during our English learning this week
Year 2.1	Giulia	For her thoughtful ideas and keen participation in whole class guided reading
Year 2.2	River	For putting so much effort into all his work
Year 3.1	Lakshmi	For her lovely handwriting she has been practising this week
Year 3.2	Henry	For his determination to try his best in all lessons
Year 4.1	Medhansh	For his valuable contributions during all lessons
Year 4.2	Freddie	For always being a kind and supportive learning partner
Year 5.1	Alexander	For having such a positive and enthusiastic attitude in everything he does and being a fantastic role model for the Golden Expectations
Year 5.2	Sebastian	For working extremely hard across all curriculum areas. He produced an excellent piece of art work in our drawing and painting unit
Year 6.1	Prince	For his fantastic contributions to class discussions
Year 6.2	Ben	For his contributions during English lessons

ATTENDANCE OF THE WEEK 3rd – 6th September 2024	WINNERS Year R Class 2
Reception 1	95.0%
Reception 2	100.0%
Year 1 Class 1	99.6%
Year 1 Class 2	96.6%
Year 2 Class 1	96.3%
Year 2 Class 2	92.0%
Year 3 Class 1	93.1%
Year 3 Class 2	92.5%
Year 4 Class 1	93.1%
Year 4 Class 2	92.5%
Year 5 Class 1	95.3%
Year 5 Class 2	95.4%
Year 6 Class 1	90.8%
Year 6 Class 2	92.1%
Weekly Attendance	94.6%