



### Value of the term: Growth

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have all successfully made it to the end of the Spring Term and I know the children and staff are looking forward to a well-earned break!

As always at Howe Dell our fortnight has been filled with a plethora of events and activities. I would like to thank Miss Davis for leading our neurodiversity celebrations week. I know that the children and staff really enjoyed the activities and highlighted how embedded 'No outsiders' has become at Howe Dell.

I'm sure you are all excited to see our new outdoor area completed. We shall be setting this up at the start of the Summer Term to deliver indoor/outdoor learning opportunities for Year 1.

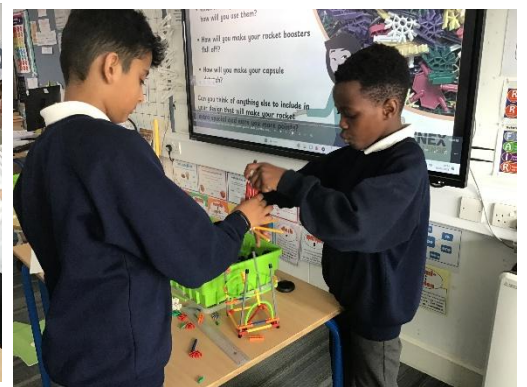


It has been lovely to welcome parents to our 5.1 and 6.2 class assemblies. I'm sure you saw how hard your children have been working and I know they were incredibly keen to share their new and consolidated learning with you.

We also welcomed Year 2 parents in for their 'live learning' session. I hope you enjoyed learning alongside your children.

The theme of working hard continues. The Year 6 children have worked incredibly hard in their mock SATs practise along with children across the school who have been undertaking a range of assessments to enable us to identify gaps in learning and to fill those gaps in the Summer term.

To end the week, Year 6 participated in the 2026 'GoConstruct' K'NEX challenge. This was a great STEM activity and I know the children thoroughly enjoyed the challenge.



The final week of term included my most favourite time of the year – the Early Years ‘Spring Spectacular’. I have to say, the Early Years children did not disappoint! Word perfect, pitch perfect, confident young ladies and gentlemen took to the stage and put on a ‘spectacular’ performance to Goldilocks and the Three Bears. I would like to thank Miss Wood, Mrs Parker, Mrs Gula and the Early Years team for all their hard work.



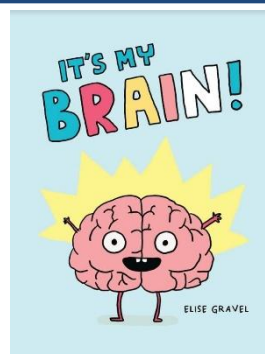
I know the PSA have been very busy selling hats for our annual Spring ‘hat parade’. I am looking forward to admiring your creations on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

We have had an incredibly busy Spring Term and the Summer Term looks equally as busy. I look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026. Main doors open from 8.30am.

Wishing you all a lovely Easter break.

Kind Regards

Tracy Prickett



### **NEURODIVERSITY CELEBRATION WEEK**

During Neurodiversity Celebration Week, the whole school used the book *This Is My Brain* by Elise Gravel to examine all of the wonderful things our brains do. Children and adults from around the school thought about what makes their brains special and created a picture inspired by the book to share with others.



It has been lovely to hear children of all ages celebrating the weird and wonderful things that arise from thinking uniquely and confidently linking this all to the fact that there are No Outsiders at Howe Dell.

### **YEAR 5 MATHS CHALLENGE FINAL**

Our brilliant Year 5 Maths Challenge team represented Howe Dell with enthusiasm, teamwork, and determination at the 2026 HFL Maths Challenge Final. Although they did not place in the top three this time, they tackled every task with resilience and a fantastic attitude. We are incredibly proud of how hard they worked to reach the final and for demonstrating such impressive mathematical thinking throughout the competition. Well done to our amazing team!

## **ROCK STEADY CONCERT**

What a wonderful day it was on Wednesday as our incredibly talented Rock Steady children took to the stage to showcase all the amazing skills they've been honing this term!

The atmosphere was electric, as the children dazzled their parents and carers with their performances. It was truly heart-warming to see the joy on faces as our budding stars showed off everything they have learnt. Their hard work has truly paid off!

A massive thank you for being such a supportive audience – we hope you enjoyed the show just as much as we did! We're already looking forward to more delightful performances in the future!



## **GO CONSTRUCT K'NEX CHALLENGE**

Last week, Year 6 took part in the GoConstruct K'NEX Challenge. They were introduced to the idea of STEM: science, technology, engineering and maths. The challenge required the children to develop their problem-solving skills, use creativity, manage their time and work successfully with their peers.

This year's task was to create a rocket, with a detachable capsule and blasters. Each pair, equipped with their K'NEX set, had 60 minutes to create the moving model which was evaluated one by one, supported by the creators' explanation. After an incredibly difficult deliberation and rankings across multiple areas, the winners were Milly and Carter from 6.1 and Prateek and Dilith from 6.2.



## **SPRING SPECTACULAR & HAPPILY EVER AFTER**

Our topic in Early Years this term has been fairytales. We have read stories such as Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack and the Beanstalk and the Three Little Pigs.

Throughout the term we have been busy practising our Spring show - Goldilocks. The children have worked hard on learning the songs and actions and performing with confidence. In Reception it was wonderful to see them develop their oracy and drama skills. We are so proud of them all!

Thank you to our fantastic Early Years team for putting the show together and Mrs Rosu for our amazing set. Thank you to all the parents and carers who came to watch the show, the children were so excited to share all their hard work with you.

We concluded our learning by hosting a 'Happily Ever After' day where the children in Nursery & Reception were invited to come into school dressed up as a fairytale character and create their own story. We loved seeing all their fantastic costumes.



## **YEAR 5 PERSUASIVE WRITING PROJECT**

Year 5 recently completed a persuasive writing project, where pupils wrote letters that were sent via post. We are delighted to share that we have received a response from Sports Direct following Tanaka's letter. In their response they wrote *'Thank you for your wonderfully enthusiastic letter, it certainly brightened our day!' 'Keep being active, keep being creative, and whatever you do, keep writing, because that was a joy to read.'*

We are incredibly proud to announce that, as a result of his excellent writing, the company kindly awarded the school a £200 voucher to spend at Sports Direct. What a fantastic achievement!

## **GIRLS FOOTBALL - Howe Dell v St Marys – 19/03/2026**

Well done to the girls earning a hard fought 2:2 draw. There were two outstanding Howe Dell goals from Sayo and our player of the match - Raya.

I'd like to say a massive thank you to parents who are able to offer lifts to children. It means so much that they are able to take part.

Mrs Worsley

## UPCOMING DATES FOR DIARIES



<b>30.03.26 – 10.04.26 Easter holidays</b>		
13.04.26	Children return to school	
14.04.26	Year 2.1 class assembly – parents invited	9.15am – 9.45am
15.04.26	PSA Spring hat parade – parents invited Eco club climate action plan survey	9.00am 3.15pm – 4.00pm
21.04.26 & 22.04.26	Parent Teacher consultations (class 2.1 consultations will take place on 21 <sup>st</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup> April)	3.30pm – 6.30pm
23.04.26	2 <sup>nd</sup> day of Parent Teacher consultations for class 2.1	3.30pm – 6.30pm
24.04.26	SEND parent coffee morning – ADVANCE / meet INCO Deadline for year 6 parents to order a leavers hoody	9.00am – 10.30am
28.04.26	Year 4.1 class assembly – parents invited	9.15am – 9.45am
01.05.26	Nursery places for September 2026 to be accepted by today	
<b>May Bank Holiday</b>		
05.05.26 – 08.05.26	Nursery stay and play – parents invited	
05.05.26	Year 5.2 class assembly – parents invited	9.15am – 9.45am
11.05.26 – 14.05.26	Year 6 SATs	
18.05.26- 23.05.26	Walk to school week	
18.05.26	Class group photograph day	
19.05.26	Year 6.1 class assembly – parents invited	9.15am – 9.45am
21.05.26	Reception Screening – children born after 1st March	9.00am
22.05.26	PSA Yes Day Author of the month assembly – parents invited	8.55am
<b>25.05.26 – 29.05.26 – Half Term</b>		
<b>INSET day</b>		
01.06.26	Children return to school	
04.06.26	Sports Day – Year 1-6 with family picnic	Times TBC
09.06.26	Year 3.2 class assembly – parents invited	9.15am – 9.45am
11.06.26	Sports Day – Nursery and Reception	Times TBC
15.06.26 – 18.06.26	Travelling Book Fair	8.30am – 8.45am & 3.15pm – 3.30pm
15.06.26 - 19.06.26	Food Festival week	
16.06.26	Reception 1 class assembly – parents invited	9.15am – 9.45am
18.06.26	Clean Air Day	
19.06.26	PSA School Fete	3.30pm – 6.00pm
23.06.26	Reception 2 class assembly – parents invited	9.15am – 9.45am
25.06.26	Key Stage 2 Celebration of Music – parents invited	9.15am
30.06.26	Year 1.1 class assembly – parents invited	9.15am – 9.45am
03.07.26	Author of the month assembly – parents invited	8.55am
07.07.26	Year 6 production	1.45pm 6.00pm
09.07.26	Secondary transition (Year 6) New to Reception parent meeting Whole school transition afternoon	1.15pm 1.30pm – 3.15pm
14.07.26	Year 1.2 class assembly – parents invited	9.15am – 9.45am
20.07.26	Year 6 prom	Times TBC
22.07.26	Year 6 leavers assembly	Times TBC
<b>Last day of term – School closes at 1.30pm</b>		
23.07.26	<b>INSET day</b>	

## **REMINDERS**



### **EASTER HOLIDAYS**

Our Easter holidays run from 30<sup>th</sup> March to 10<sup>th</sup> April. Children return to school on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April.

### **SPRING HAT PARADE**

Parents/Carers are invited to the PSA Spring Hat Parade on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April at 9am. All children are invited to take part in the parade, hats purchased through the PSA will be eligible to win the Spring Hat Competition.

### **PARENT TEACHER CONSULTATIONS**

Parent/Teacher Consultations are being held on Tuesday 21st April and Wednesday 22nd April\*. Appointments can be made through the Parent Portal or Arbor App. They will be available to book until Wednesday 15th April at 12 noon.

(\*Class 2.1 Parent/Teacher Consultations with Miss Bigginton will be on Tuesday 21st April and Thursday 23rd April)

### **SUMMER TERM CLUBS**

Bookings are open for our summer term clubs. A copy of the Summer Term clubs list, along with flyers from our externally run clubs, can be found here on our website: <https://www.howedell.herts.sch.uk/page/?title=Clubs&pid=77>

### **YOUNG CARERS AT HOWE DELL**

We would like to know if your child is registered as a Young Carer – please let us know on this link <https://forms.gle/SCjGCwaaVkgmFxsF6>

### **STAY & READ**

Nursery and Reception parents/carers are invited to our 'Stay and Read' sessions every Tuesday from 8.40am - 8.55am.

### **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.

Unless your child requires a Halal meal to due religious reasons, please do not select it. If you do select it and it is not for religious reasons your child will be given the vegetarian option.

### **UNIFORM & 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. All children should have a pair of plimsolls kept in school for indoor use.

### **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 and pick up times.

<b>ATTENDANCE OF THE WEEK</b> 16 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	<b>WINNERS</b> Year 2.1
Reception 1	94.0%
Reception 2	92.3%
Year 1 Class 1	92.1%
Year 1 Class 2	91.7%
Year 2 Class 1	95.7%
Year 2 Class 2	88.3%
Year 3 Class 1	94.6%
Year 3 Class 2	93.1%
Year 4 Class 1	95.5%
Year 4 Class 2	92.0%
Year 5 Class 1	92.7%
Year 5 Class 2	93.7%
Year 6 Class 1	94.7%
Year 6 Class 2	93.7%
<b>Weekly Attendance</b>	<b>93.1%</b>

### AUTHOR OF THE MONTH

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

Nursery	Larissa	3.2	Freya
R1	Arielle	4.1	Kamari
R2	Aden	4.2	Ada
1.1	Annie	5.1	Hafsa
1.2	Clementine	5.2	Millie
2.1	Jay	6.1	Maddison
2.2	Kacper	6.2	Eliana
3.1	Kevin		



### FAB FRIDAY

Well done to the following children for being selected to sit at the Fab Friday lunch table:

R.1	Noor	R.2	Maximilian
1.1	Rian	1.2	Rayan
2.1	Jason	2.2	Mariyam
3.1	Advika	3.2	Ifeanyi
4.1	Adira	4.2	Rosie
5.1	Nnamdi	5.2	Raghava
6.1	Daniel	6.2	Yasmine

## Signs of the Week

Question

Answer