



Value of the term: Respect

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Summer Term 2026! It was lovely to start by launching our value of the term. Our focus was on how we can respect our school and the equipment within it. Through communication partners, the children came up with a plethora of excellent ideas and I have seen children modelling these ideas as they tidy up from 'wonder play' and ensure all the equipment is ready for learning.

On Wednesday, we held our annual PSA Spring Hat parade. I have to say that there were some amazing entries and the children had clearly spent a significant amount of time on their creations over the Easter break. I'm so glad that I wasn't given the responsibility of judging the hats and what better way for Mrs Bridges to get to know 'life at Howe Dell' than being a judge with Miss Christmas!



I'd like to say a huge thank you to the 'PSA team' who make events such as these possible. Thank you.

I know many of you have said 'hello' to Mrs Bridges when you have seen her on the playground. Thank you for giving her a warm 'Howe Dell' welcome.

Over the next two weeks, leaders are meeting with teachers to review the attainment and progress of children in our 'Pupil Outcome Meetings'. We review the progress of every child in the class and identify what needs to be implemented to ensure all children make strong progress over the Summer Term. Next week, we have Parent Consultations where you will be able to discuss with your child's teacher their 'next steps' for the Summer Term. If you haven't managed to arrange an appointment, please speak to your child's class teacher or contact them using the year group email address.

Over the Easter holidays, I received an email from HCC on behalf of Cllr. Mark Watkin, Chair of Hertfordshire's Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) regarding examples of good practice. The local Authority are planning to use our RE website page as an example of good practice to support other schools as the Local Authority have identified that our RE section on the website is of high quality. It is lovely to be recognised for our commitment to high quality provision and I would like to thank Mrs Kiely, our RE subject leader, for ensuring that our RE website page reflects our Curriculum.

<https://www.howedell.herts.sch.uk/page/?title=RE&pid=57>

Finally we have some exciting 'baby news'. Miss McPherson and her partner have welcomed baby Noah into the world on 28th March 2026. He was a healthy weight of 7lb 6oz and mum and baby are doing well. I have to say Noah looks totally scrumptious and we can't wait to meet him.

You may have noticed that our baby family continues to grow with Miss Wood heading off on maternity leave in May and Mrs Griffiths in June. I'm sure you will wish to join me in congratulating Miss Wood and Mrs Griffiths on their exciting news.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Kind Regards

Tracy Prickett

SPRING HAT COMPETITION WINNERS

Congratulations to our Spring Hat competition winners! Thank you to our judges for making these extremely difficult decisions and thank you to all the children who took part and parents/carers/grandparents who came along to the parade. Winners were announced in today's assembly and prizes have been delivered to class.



Day Care	Tianna
Nursery	Brody
Reception	Poppy (R.2)
Year 1	Rayan (1.2)
Year 2	Ailin (2.1)
Year 3	Bella K (3.2)
Year 4	Zara (4.1)
Year 5	Medhansh (5.1)
Year 6	Maddison (6.1)
Miss Prickett's Choice	Mark (3.1)

WEDNESDAY 22ND APRIL IS EARTH DAY!

This year's theme is "**Our Power, Our Planet,**" which spotlights renewable energy and collective action for a cleaner future.

Please access this link to learn more: <https://www.earthday.org/earth-hub/>

Here are more fun activities you can do with your loved ones at home https://earthwatch.org/stories/seven-ways-celebrate-earth-day?gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=1813446849&gbraid=0AAAAAD82lViq2vTmtsMKCSbjrF511rs49&gclid=EAIaIQobChMIO_fQ_q3ykwMV5pJQBh1vxDYkEAAYASAAEgKcg_D_BwE

More information can be accessed here too: <https://talk.economistfoundation.org/lesson-bundles/earth-day/?page=1>

We are encouraging children at home to complete a series of challenges to raise awareness and celebrate our beautiful planet:

Challenge 1: Write lyrics to a song or a rap about our planet and why we need to look after it.

Challenge 2: Create a poster or a flyer informing people how to best look after our planet.

We look forward to seeing your work and hearing about what you have learnt!



FUTSAL CLUB

Today we welcomed Noel Sritharan to our celebration assembly to talk about his 'Super Skills' Futsal club that will run after school at Howe Dell on Fridays between 24th April -10th July, 3.15pm - 4.25pm. This club is available to children in Years 2-6.

Futsal is the indoor format of Football. It improves football skills and boosts the confidence of every young player. Physical and mental development is the essence of Super Skills. They achieve this through engaging, inclusive and challenging sessions whereby they maximise the time every child spends with a Futsal ball, a heavier smaller ball which improves dribbling and control, at their feet.

£80 per child for the Summer Term (x10 sessions at £8 per session) To book: email the following info to info@superskillssoccer.co.uk

- Your child's name
- Year & class
- Contact number

STATIONERY SUPPLIES

We wanted to take a moment to express our gratitude to one of our Year 1 parents, Mr Gandhi, for his remarkably generous donation of stationery supplies. Each class teacher was absolutely thrilled to receive a fabulous pack of essential and exciting stationery that will certainly come in handy!



UPCOMING DATES FOR DIARIES

21.04.26 & 22.04.26	Parent Teacher consultations (class 2.1 consultations will take place on 21 st & 23 rd April)	3.30pm – 6.30pm
23.04.26	2 nd 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
29.04.26	Nursery & Reception Craft Party	3.15pm – 4.30pm
01.05.26	Nursery places for September 2026 to be accepted by today	
04.05.26	May Bank Holiday	
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	
14.05.26	Year 4 Big STEAM event at the University of Hertfordshire	
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
20.05.26	Visit from Team GB Paralympic skier Sean Rose Eco club climate action plan – bug hotel build	3.15pm – 4.30pm
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
	25.05.26 – 29.05.26 – Half Term	
01.06.26	INSET day	
02.06.26	Children return to school	



REMINDERS

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.

PSA NEWS

NURSERY & RECEPTION CRAFT PARTY - Wednesday 29th April

Howe Dell PSA are organising a CRAFT PARTY for children in Nursery & Reception on **Wednesday 29th April 2026** from **3.15 - 4.30pm**. This event will be tailored to this age group with fun crafts and games. Entry costs **£5.00** (this price includes a drink and snacks) and bookings are available until **11.55pm on Friday 24th April** at www.pta-events.co.uk/howedellpsa.

If this is your first time using PTA Events you will need to register an account to access our site. Alternatively, you can book at one of our playground sales at 3.15pm on Monday 20th and Thursday 23rd April. Should you prefer to pay using this option - we will be accepting both cash and card payments.

As this event is straight after school, a list of attendees will be given to each class teacher. You **DO NOT** need to collect your child at 3.15 to take them to the party. Children will remain in their school uniform - we have picked uniform-safe craft activities!

If your child normally only attends Nursery in the mornings, you are able to bring them back to school at 3.15pm to attend the party.

Finally, we cannot run these events without your help! Any parents/carers/grandparents who can spare the time to help on the night, please complete the volunteer section on PTA-Events. (Unfortunately, older/younger children are unable to accompany you to the event).

Thank you for your continuing support. If you have any questions, please get in touch with us at psa@howedell.herts.sch.uk.

Signs of the Week

Pen Paper

The image displays a grid of hand signs for the alphabet, from A to Z. The signs are arranged in four rows: Row 1 (A-I), Row 2 (J-M), Row 3 (N-Z), and Row 4 (A-Z). In the center, there are two larger images: a woman on the left and a man on the right, both performing specific hand signs. Below the woman is the word 'Pen' and below the man is the word 'Paper'. The man's sign for 'Paper' includes two red arrows pointing outwards from his hands.

BEACON PUPILS

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

Nursery	Milan	For following carpet session expectations and joining in with Nursery Rhymes
Year R1	Arielle	For fantastic behaviour and attitude to learning
Year R2	Ethan	For working hard to follow our Golden Expectations throughout the week and working hard on his communication and language skills
Year 1.1	Maya-Rae	For improved focus during lessons
Year 1.2	Theo	For his progress this year, following instructions and his positive attitude to learning this week
Year 2.1	Jay	For excellent explanation and clear, confident speaking during our class assembly
Year 2.2	Albert	For sharing his ideas confidently in class
Year 3.1	Daniel	For his brilliant focus and thoughtful contributions to class discussions
Year 3.2	Josef P	For consistently following the Golden Expectations and always trying his best
Year 4.1	Alexa	For always working well with her partner or group and for always having a positive attitude to learning
Year 4.2	Scarlett	For her fantastic effort and enthusiasm in Maths
Year 5.1	Eva	For her excellent effort in Maths this week
Year 5.2	Amari	For his focus since coming back to school. He has worked very hard, particularly in English
Year 6.1	Raya	For her positive and resilient approach to learning
Year 6.2	Ishaan	For his motivation and enthusiasm towards his learning

MERITS

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

Isobel	1.1	Luna	4.2
Elizabeth	1.1	Lakshmi	4.2
Anastasia	1.1	Erik C	4.2
Niko	1.1	Mukhil	5.1
Danish	1.1	Oliver	5.1
Jason	2.1	Baran	5.1
Razela	2.2	Suhailah	5.2
Ryaan	4.1	Daniel	5.2
Anashe	4.1	Kaylee	5.2
Arielle	4.1	Millie	5.2
Jedidiah	4.2	Amari	5.2
Keonna	4.2	Raghava	5.2



FAB FRIDAY

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

R.1	Anji	R.2	Muskaan
1.1	Ryan	1.2	Nyana
2.1	Emmanuel	2.2	Atenea
3.1	Elikai	3.2	Aathira
4.1	Avia	4.2	Shehryar
5.1	Jayden	5.2	Suhailah
6.1	Rayansh	6.2	Laiken-Jules

ATTENDANCE OF THE WEEK 23rd – 27th March 2026	WINNERS Year 1.2
Reception 1	94.1%
Reception 2	89.7%
Year 1 Class 1	93.4%
Year 1 Class 2	99.7%
Year 2 Class 1	96.0%
Year 2 Class 2	94.3%
Year 3 Class 1	96.4%
Year 3 Class 2	97.6%
Year 4 Class 1	95.5%
Year 4 Class 2	93.9%
Year 5 Class 1	96.0%
Year 5 Class 2	97.0%
Year 6 Class 1	93.1%
Year 6 Class 2	94.0%
Weekly Attendance	95.1%