



Value of the term: Respect

Dear Parents and Carers,

I had forgotten how much I love to see the blossom on the trees and feel the warmth of the sun on my face. With this warmth, the field has been opened and the children are participating in a plethora of different games at lunchtimes. 'Wonder lunch' is simply wonderful where children of different ages are coming together, participating in meaningful conversations and expanding their friendship groups. Our monitoring data has shown a significant decrease of lunchtime incidents which has enabled children to return to class after lunch calm and ready to learn.



It was lovely to see so many of you at our Parent Consultations. From the interactions I had it was lovely to hear the constructive feedback you had received about your child. I would also like to thank you for stopping to complete the Ofsted Parent View Survey. When reviewing the data, I was overwhelmed by the positive responses where 97% of parents would recommend the school to another parent, so thank you.

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/parent-view-results/survey/result/12697/17>

As you are aware, the birth rate in the UK is dropping significantly and for the first time in a significant period of time we have Reception places available for September 2026. If you know of anyone who would like to join us in Reception in September, I would love to show them around.

ADD-vance joined us for our half termly parent coffee morning. I found the session highly informative and all their resources have been placed on the website. It was also an opportunity for you to meet Mrs Bridges, our new Assistant Head for Inclusion, who has been incredibly busy getting to know everyone in our school community.

Mrs Ritchie has also been working hard. Her NPQH assessment assignment was released and Mrs Ritchie has had a short period of time to complete this task. This is the final piece of work of her eighteen month qualification. Mrs Ritchie has been working incredibly hard and we are all looking forward to hearing her outcomes in a few months time.

On Tuesday I was greeted with Year 4 carrying glockenspiels to the hall; music to my ears! I do hope that you enjoyed 4.1's class assembly and gained an insight into the jam-packed curriculum.

I would like to thank the 'PSA team' for leading such a fabulous 'Craft Party' for our Early Years children. The event as so well organised and the children thoroughly enjoyed all the activities. I was speaking to Miss Wood, commenting upon how accurately children were holding their brushes, pens and pencils.



As I write this newsletter, Mrs Ritchie has headed down to Year 4 to be their 'intended audience' and Year 3 are heading off to the post box to post their published letters.

As April gives way to May, we are all treated to a long weekend with school resuming on Tuesday 5th May. Do think of me as I drive to Kent for the next gymnastics competition!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.
Kind Regards

Tracy Prickett

GIRLS FOOTBALL TEAM

St Phillip Howard 1 : 0 Howe Dell

Last week our girls team played a very even game against St Phillip Howard filled with superb skill from both sides. In the closing minutes, St Phillip Howard scored, adding to the excitement!

I would especially like to highlight the incredible performance from our goalkeeper, Victoria. She made some outstanding saves throughout the match, truly showcasing her talent and dedication. It's no surprise that she was named our Player of the Match!



Oakview 2 : 1 Howe Dell

Yesterday, the girls took on Oakview. It was another close game with the girls demonstrating their strength and resilience. After only a few matches you can see they are really starting to come together as a team.

Our player of the match was Rachel for her solid defending.

We're so proud of all our players for their hard work and sportsmanship.

MUGA UPDATE

We have had a site visit from Hatfield planning and the school has provided further documentation to support the application. For those of you who live in the locality, you will have received a leaflet through the door. All fingers crossed that all consulted parties support the application to enable construction in mid to late September.



GREAT ATHLETES FUNDRAISING EVENT - WEDNESDAY 20TH MAY

We are thrilled to be able to share some information about our upcoming Great Athletes event on Wednesday 20th May. We are excited to announce that the athlete who will be visiting us will be Paralympic Skier **Sean Rose**.

On the event day, all pupils from Reception - Year 6 will take part in a sponsored fitness circuit run by Sean, a terrific way to get all children excited about sport and realise that getting moving is really fun! Sean will then share his incredible sporting journey, a story of resilience and determination in a fun and interactive assembly. There will also be an opportunity to ask any burning questions in a Q&A session at the end!

Fundraising for the event is starting now! The money raised for the event will help us to purchase new sports equipment for PE lessons and Wonder Lunch as well as improve levels of physical activity in our school!

You can sponsor your child by visiting: www.greatathletes.org and clicking on the button "Set up a Fundraising Page". This can then be shared with your friends and families to make the process of sponsoring your child quick and easy.

Please also make sure that your children come to school on the event day with their PE Kits!

Thank you in anticipation of creating a terrific and memorable event.



EARLY YEARS VALUE LEADERS

We are pleased to announce our new EYFS value leaders for the Summer Term. These young leaders will be modelling and supporting their peers with their school value.

Nursery	R1	R2
Growth – Kareem Kindness - Isla Respect - Jamie	Growth – Oscar & Scarlett Kindness – Anji & Frankie Respect – Ashleigh & Kalada	Growth – Emily W & Demilade Kindness – Jason & Nathan Respect – Rabail & Maximilian

MAY HALF TERM PLAYScheme


We will be running Playscheme for 4 days during May half term (Tuesday 26th to Friday 29th May). Open to children in Reception – Year 6, from 8am – 6pm. £41 per child, siblings £40. Price includes breakfast which is served until 9.15am.

Activities will include: Tile painting, baking, spring walk, science experiments, jewellery making, nail and face painting, sensory play and more!

If you wish to enrol your child for one or more days, please return the booking form to us as soon as possible (latest Friday 15th May) to book your place. Forms can be found on our website, following the link below, or you can collect a paper copy from the school office:

<https://www.howedell.herts.sch.uk/page/?title=Playschemes&pid=83>

UPCOMING DATES FOR DIARIES



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	Great Athletes Event – Children to wear PE kit to school 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	
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

REMINDERS



MOBILE PHONES IN SCHOOL

Please be reminded that mobile phones should not be used whilst on the school premises. Parents/carers and children seen using their phones on site will be asked to put them away. Thank you for your support in this safeguarding matter.

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 – YES DAY

Howe Dell PSA are holding a 'YES day' on **Friday 22nd May**.

For a **£1 donation** per child, Howe Dell School are saying '**YES**' to all of the following:

- Nail Varnish
- Temporary tattoos
- Crazy, colourful hair styles and accessories (no permanent colours)
- Pyjamas
- Funky tights/odd socks
- Backwards clothing
- Football kits
- Fancy dress
- General non-uniform

Children will be carrying out their usual learning throughout the day, therefore we ask that outfits are suitable for this as well as outdoor play. There are a few exceptions - Children are not permitted to wear crop tops, jewellery or smart watches and please no weapons, masks or accessories.

Please bring in your £1 donations in cash the morning of Friday 22nd May. Members of the PSA will be available to collect your donations as you arrive at school.

If you have any questions regarding YES DAY, then please get in touch with us at psa@howedell.herts.sch.uk.

BEACON PUPILS

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

Nursery	Ami	For becoming more independent and fully joining in with songs
Year R1	Kalada	For fantastic contributions in class discussions
Year R2	Noah	For showing fantastic growth and perseverance with his blending in phonics
Year 1.1	Anastasia	For good participation in phonics and Maths
Year 1.2	Ethan	For his progress with English, giving it 'a go' and becoming a more independent writer
Year 2.1	Ridhita	For always being an excellent role model to others in following the Golden Expectations
Year 2.2	Atenea	For being more resilient in her learning
Year 3.1	Dea	For her consistent kindness and being a good communication partner
Year 3.2	Maryam	For improved engagement during lessons and giving everything 'a go'
Year 4.1	Zakary	For being a hardworking pupil who always tries his very best and consistently follows our Golden Expectations
Year 4.2	Theo	On working really hard to improve his writing
Year 5.1	Marvelous	For being a role model to her peers and following our Golden Expectations
Year 5.2	Daniel	For his constant positive attitude towards learning, being an excellent learning partner and the growth he has made this year
Year 6.1	Ariella	For showing resilience when revisiting topics in Maths
Year 6.2	Rachel	For her enthusiasm and participation on every lesson

MERITS

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

Elizabeth	1.2	Jeremiah	4.1
Imran	2.2	Daniella	4.2
Isabella	2.2	Cansu	4.2
Kaan	2.2	Thomas	5.2
Posi	2.2	Luwi	5.2
Ifeanyi	3.2	Isla	5.2
Hamza	3.2		

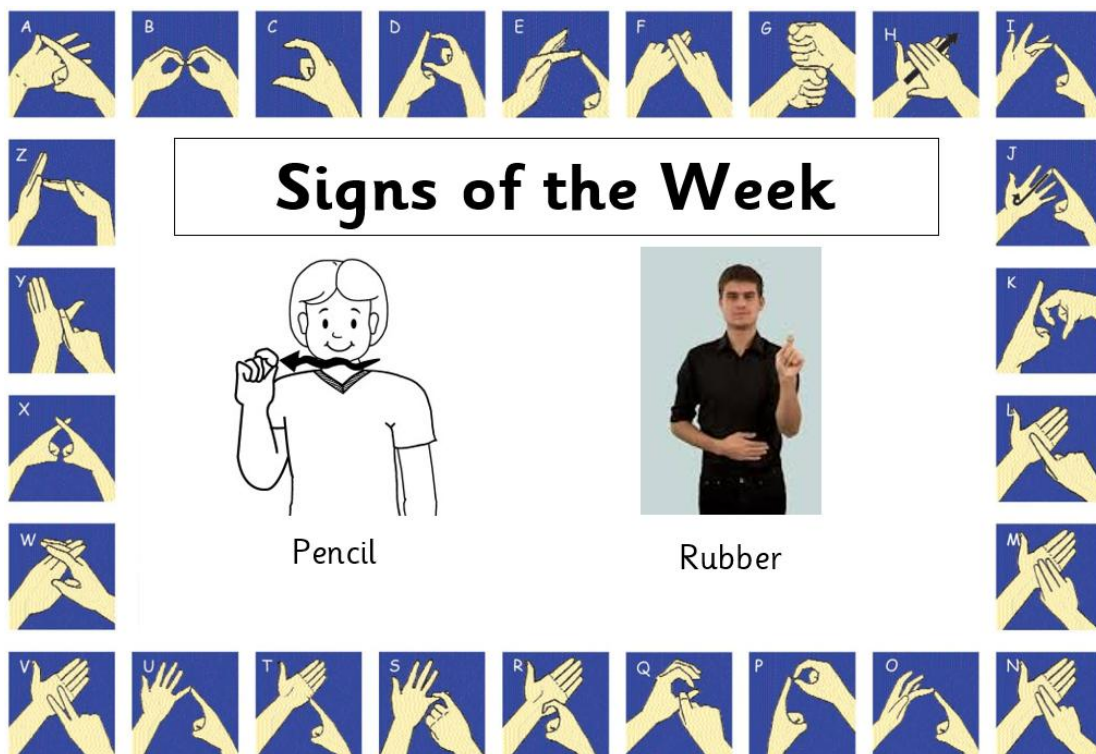


FAB FRIDAY


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

R.1	Kalis	R.2	Ethan / Adeline
1.1	Anastasia / Zidane	1.2	Oscar
2.1	Ridhita	2.2	Isabella
3.1	Lexi / Nicolas	3.2	Sanmita
4.1	Imogen	4.2	Joshua
5.1	Shruthi	5.2	Victor / Amelie
6.1	Milly L	6.2	Kristian


ATTENDANCE OF THE WEEK 20th – 24th April 2026	WINNERS Year 5.1
Reception 1	94.7%
Reception 2	95.7%
Year 1 Class 1	90.3%
Year 1 Class 2	95.5%
Year 2 Class 1	97.0%
Year 2 Class 2	97.3%
Year 3 Class 1	95.0%
Year 3 Class 2	97.2%
Year 4 Class 1	98.7%
Year 4 Class 2	97.2%
Year 5 Class 1	99.0%
Year 5 Class 2	95.7%
Year 6 Class 1	98.6%
Year 6 Class 2	96.7%
Weekly Attendance	96.3%



Signs of the Week



Pencil



Rubber