Henham & Ugley Nursery and Primary School Newsletter:
Friday 6th November 2026

Message from Mrs Brogan

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn term and dare I say it, the run up to Christmas! The festive season will soon be upon us and already, as I write this newsletter, I can hear reception class singing Christmas carols (its beautiful!). I hope you all enjoyed a restful half term break and some family time. It has been a busy and very speedy first week back. We had multiple visitors to the school as we welcomed parents of potential new families for our 2027 intake. Showing off our beautiful school is one of my highlights and I could not have been prouder to hear from our children who articulate so wonderfully about why they love Henham - a huge highlight of my week!
Enjoy your weekend and the fireworks if your visiting a display!

Reception

Rupert has loved exploring and making friends.

Pheobe has loved playing with Grace in the kitchen area.

Year 5

Natalie has learnt how to work out a squared and cubed number this week.

Ethan M has loved making 3D maps in his DT/Art lesson.

Year 3

Marla-Mae is loving her DT lesson, sewing Christmas stockings.

Leo is enjoyng learning about earthquakes and volcanoes in Geography.

Year 6

Lily & Eban have really oved painting poppies with Mrs Miley this week.

Year 4

Hayden has been throwing himself into Maths and enjoying his topic 'rounding' topic

Teddi has loved going outside for their Writing 'hook' lesson.

Year 1

Ned and Heidi have enjoyed learning their Christmas songs for their production

Year 2

Ottilie has loved her PE lessons as they have been learning a dance.

Maxwell has enjoyed his art lesson in Curiosisty Copse, using natural materials to make designs.

SCHOOL RULES

1. We listen to each other.

2. We make good choices.

3. We are polite, helpful and respectful

4. We are gentle with kind hands, actions and words

5. We value and encourage each other.

6. We look after everyone and everything.

7. We try our best with our learning.

Some of our golden behaviour.....



For overcoming some tricky barriers.

For representing our school so well and articulating your learning with such clarity.

For perseverance!

For including such great adjectives in your writing.

For beautiful art work

Our GOLDS are...

Nursery - Amberley, Matilda.
Reception -Stella, Sienna.
Year 1 - Aurora, Beauden, Elsie
Year 2 - Ellie, Eric
Year 3 - Finnley
Year 4- Cali, Mila.
Year 5 - Harrison, Abel, Riley, Annabelle, Brooke.
Year 6 - Eban, Lily, Sophia, Iris.

SUPER GOLD AWARD
To the WHOLE school.
We had parent tours for our perspective 2027 reception families. WOW the children, the teachers and the school shone! We could not have been prouder of our wonderful school.

Mrs B's kindness award

Ethan R (Yr4) for being such a gentleman and opening doors for people.

Willow (Yr5) for being such a kind friend.

Savannah (Nursery) for being such a kind friend to one of youngest members of Nursery.



Teddy (Rec) for voluntarily picking up paper when it blew away!

SHINE BRIGHT!



Clara has been identified as a 'high flyer' in her football group and has progressed to the U11 grouping! What a wonderful achievement Clara - we are proud of you.



What an achievement for Noa (Yr2) who flew independently to Holland - that is such a huge step. We are ever so proud of you Noa!

Diary Dates

Please note: These dates are subject to change and new dates can be added.

Friday 6th November Individual and Sibling Photos

Tue 24th & Thur 26th November - Parent Consultation Meetings

Thursday 3rd December 9.30am - Nursery & Reception Nativity Production in school hall.

Thursday 3rd December 2pm - Year 1 & 2 Christmas Carol Service in Henham Church.

Monday 14th December 2pm - WHOLE SCHOOL Carols around the Henham Christmas Tree (opposite OSCA Hall Crow Street) - all are welcome!

Tuesday 15th December 8-9.30pm - The 2 John's on line safety training

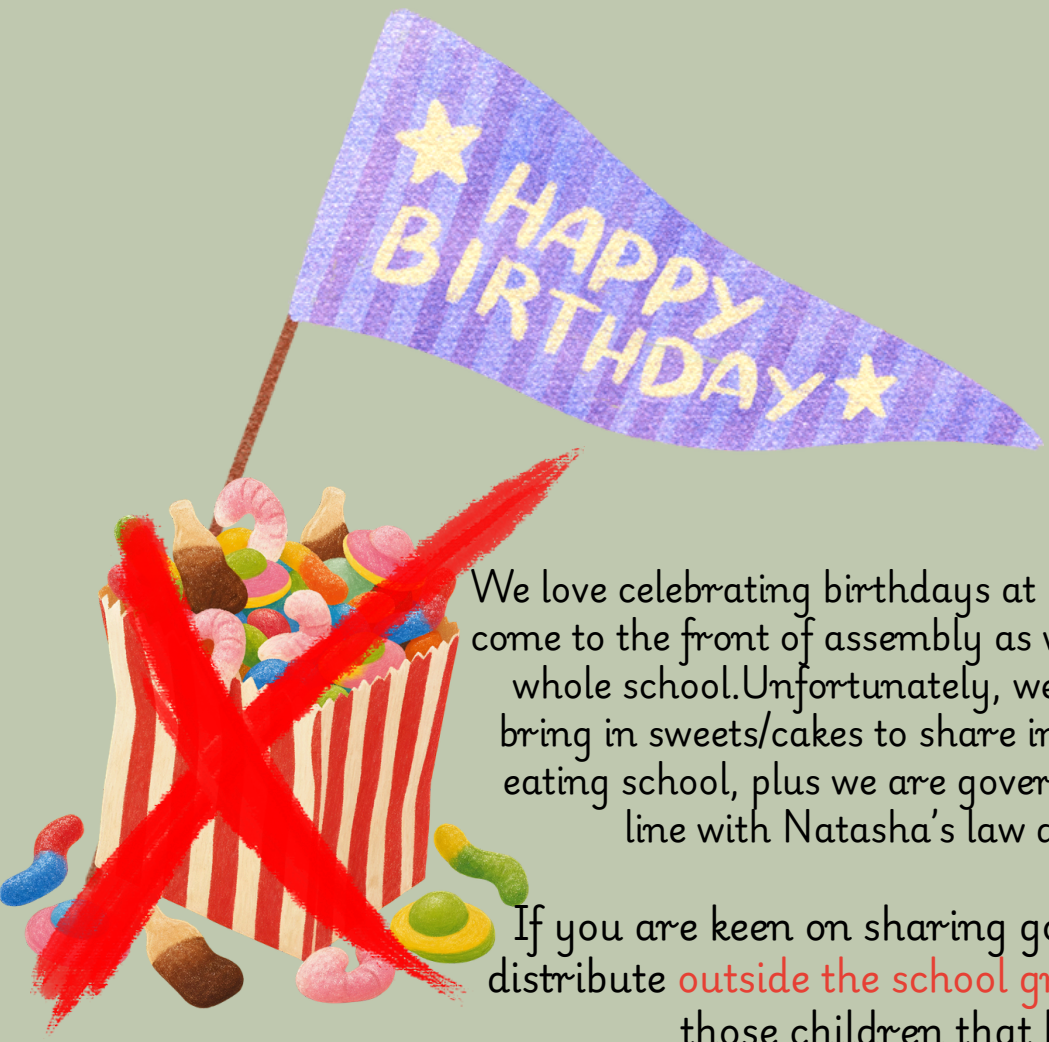
Wednesday 16th December - Christmas Jumper day and Christmas dinner day.








Year 6 made this stunning poppy wreath ready to be laid at the Henham remembrance service on Sunday. We love how unique it is and represents the children's individual style. Please join us if you are around.



We love celebrating birthdays at Henham, asking children to come to the front of assembly as we sing happy birthday as a whole school.Unfortunately, we cannot allow children to bring in sweets/cakes to share in school. We are a healthy eating school, plus we are governed by statutory policy in line with Natasha's law and Benedict's law.

If you are keen on sharing goodies, please could you distribute outside the school grounds and be mindful of those children that have allergies.

Thank you so much for your support and understanding.

The 2 John's





TUESDAY 15th DECEMBER 8-9.30pm

The 2 John's are two former police officers dedicated to keeping children safe online. They have been involved in numerous community events and workshops, sharing their expertise on online safety, particularly concerning online child sexual exploitation. They work with schools and organisations to educate children about online risks, such as gaming sites, privacy settings, and the importance of reporting suspicious activities. Their approach emphasises open conversations with children about their online activities and the need to be cautious of strangers online.

We have paid for all children, staff and parents to receive their training. They are experts in their field with lots of helpful guidance. Please keep this date/time free.

Further details, together with the on-line joining code will follow nearer the event.

We hope you find it useful





Please note some important information

REPORTING ABSENCE & CHANGE TO PICK UP ARRANGEMENTS:

Could we ask that parents PHONE school and choose the absence option to report sickness etc... please ensure you leave a reason for absence. You do not need to email.

If there is going to be a change to who is collecting your child from school - please inform the class teacher in the morning.
If the change occurs during the school day, please PHONE school and leave a message giving your permission and communicationg who will be collecting your child. You do not need to email.

EARLY PICK UP's & COLLECTION FROM SCHOOL OFFICE.

We ask that you endeavor to make all appointments outside of school time, early pick ups mean your child misses out on parts of the curriculum and can cause an element of disruption to the class.

If you are having to collect during the school day, can we remind you that we ask for you to wait outside the office door and we will bring your child to you.



Thank you for your support and understanding.


Henham Primary School
PSA presents
CHRISTMAS
BAZAAR
Everyone Welcome!
Friday 4 December 2026
After school
Support our school
Join us for a magical afternoon of festive fun, treats and gifts!
Santa's Grotto
Tombolas
Games & Activities
Christmas Crafts
Bake Sale
Festive Refreshments (including a bar for adults!)
Raffle
Let's come together to make it a very special Christmas!

Thank You



PSA - you really do rock!!!

I think we would all agree that the halloween disco was absolutely brilliant. The time, effort, love and organisation was amazing.
All the children were buzzing with excitement. Thank you for helping make wonderful memories for our families.



Sport is so important to us at Henham and we pride ourselves on our commitment to providing diverse opportunities for our children to enjoy a wide variety of sporting events. Mr Harris and Mrs Stock work hard to organise and plan a calendar of sporting events either 'in-house' or out of school in competitive events. Unfortunately, the funding for PE is significantly changing, which is putting a pressure on us as a school to fund transport to and from events (which is very expensive). This is where you maybe able to help! We are determined to continue our winning streak and take part in as many events as we possibly can. We have been awarded a gold award for sport at Henham and we would love to continue our work towards PLATINUM!

Would you be able to help with transport?

If your child is picked for an event, we may call upon you to be a volunteer driver. This could save on coach costs and hopefully we will be able to enter more competitions. If you are able to support us, that would be amazing.
Thank you.



Smart phone free

Supporting Childhood in a Digital Age

From this year onwards, we will be a smartphone-free school for pupils from our current Year 4 cohort and younger. We have made this decision thoughtfully and with children's wellbeing at its heart. We recognise that smartphones can bring significant challenges for children, including increased exposure to social media pressures, online risks, cyberbullying, inappropriate content, and difficulties maintaining healthy sleep patterns and attention. By encouraging children to enjoy a little longer without a smartphone, we aim to support their emotional wellbeing, friendships, confidence, and focus on learning.We understand that some families may wish their child to have a phone for safety and communication purposes when travelling independently. Therefore, children are welcome to bring a basic mobile phone (sometimes called a feature phone or "brick phone"), which can be used for calls and texts but does not provide access to the internet, social media, or apps.We believe this approach helps children develop safely and confidently, while giving families peace of mind that they can remain in contact when needed. Together, we can give our children the gift of a childhood that is rich in real-world experiences, relationships, play, and learning.

This weeks challenge:

Yr 5 V Yr 4

Yr 2 V Yr 6



We are experiencing an increase in children wearing 'smart watches' to school. If your child has a watch that is linked to a phone, we ask that in year 4 down, they do not wear them to school. In year 5 and 6 they will need to take them off and have them stored safely in the schools safe and returned at the end of the day.

Thank you for your understanding.

Please be mindful

We fully appreciate that our class WhatsApp groups are a great form of communication and a speedy way to update each other!
Please be mindful sharing information about our children to other adults outside our school community that are not on your group.

Thank you.

Supporting Your Child: How We Manage SEN Meetings and Communication

At Henham, we are proud of the inclusive support we offer to children with additional needs, and we know that strong communication between home and school is central to that. We want to take this opportunity to explain how meetings and communication around SEN support are organised, so that every family knows exactly who to speak to and what to expect throughout the year.



Your first point of contact: the class teacher

Your child's class teacher works with them every day and knows them best. If you have a question or a concern, they should always be your first port of call. Teachers are well placed to answer most queries directly, and where something needs specialist input, they will refer it on to our SENCO on your behalf. This keeps communication clear and ensures the right person is involved at the right time.



Meetings for children with a One Plan

For children with a One Plan, we hold two review meetings each year, one in the Autumn term and one in the Spring term. These take place in the school hall and replace the usual parent consultation meeting, giving us dedicated time to focus properly on your child's progress and next steps.

This academic year they will be held on : Tuesday 20th October (Autumn Term) and Tuesday 9th February (Spring Term). Please note: dates can be subject to change reflecting unforeseen circumstances.

Should your child's circumstances change and the class teacher feels an additional meeting would be helpful, they will be in touch to arrange one. Outside of these planned reviews, we are not able to offer further ad hoc meetings, as our staff's time and capacity need to be carefully managed to ensure every child receives the support they need.



Children with an EHCP

For children with an Education, Health and Care Plan, our SENCO will contact you directly to arrange your child's Annual Review meeting.

Trusting our approach

We understand how important it is for parents to feel heard, and we will always listen. At the same time, we hope families will feel confident in the training, expertise and experience of our teaching and SEN team, and in the systems we have put in place to support every child well. These structures exist not to create distance, but to make sure the support we offer is thoughtful, consistent and sustainable for all our pupils.

Thank you for your continued trust and partnership as we work together to give every child the best possible start.

CLUBS



After school clubs are in the process of being set up and organised - watch this space. You will be informed when clubs are available to be booked.

If you would like to run an after school club, please do let us know.

IMPORTANT!



Early Collection / Late drop off's

We are noticing an increase in parents/carers wanting to collect children early or coming in late due to medical appointments.

Leaving class early or coming in late can be extremely disruptive to your child's learning and can interrupt the flow of teaching. Whilst we appreciate that at times it's unavoidable, we urge you to try to book all appointments in advance and outside school hours.

Thank you for your support and understanding.



Polite reminder:

We are not permitted to tape ears for PE lessons and earrings are not allowed during our PE sessions. Could we please ask that on your child's PE day, earrings are taken out at home. If your child wears earrings, unfortunatley they will not be able to take part in their lesson, missing out on an important part of the curriculum.



Thank you for your support and understanding.





Every Day Counts

Growing brighter futures, one day at a time

Henham & Ugley Primary & Nursery School

95%
= 10 days missed a year (2 weeks of learning)

90%
= 19 days missed a year (almost 4 weeks)

85%
= 29 days missed a year (nearly 6 weeks)

80%
= 38 days missed a year (over 7 weeks)

Attendance	Days Absent / Year	Lessons Missed
100%	0 days	0
97%	5 days	~25
95%	10 days	~50
90%	19 days	~100
85%	29 days	~150
80%	38 days	~200

Just 5 minutes late every day adds up to over 3 lost school days a year!

Our goal is **at least 95% attendance** for every child. Being in school every day helps friendships bloom, confidence grow, and gives every child the best chance to flourish.

Be here. Grow here. Thrive here.