Henham & Ugley Nursery and Primary School

Newsletter:
Friday 20th November 2026
Message from Mrs Brogan

We are proud of your children every day, but this week they have shown such maturity as we practised our lockdown procedure. Thank you to the teachers too for making it so calm and organised - teachers & children...what a Henham Team we all are! All the children bagged some extra playtime as a reward.

Last week in our Monday assembly we started talking about our school values, exploring 'Curiosity' what it means to be curious and how we can be curious in our learning and questioning of the world. The children contributed so articulately around the discussion. This week we focused on 'Healthy body and minds' with the children discussing how we can look after our mental health as well as being fit and active, We thought about our diets and how taking care of our bodies is so important - even Mrs B has started doing park runs (very slowly!).
We really appreciate your support with our commitment to healthy eating and providing your child with a 'healthy snack'. Relacing crisps and sugary snacks with fruit, vegetables, healthy cereal bars etc.. really supports our school value.

Have a lovely weekend all - Mrs B will be putting up her Christmas tree, Yay!!!!

It's getting colder and colder - please remember coats etc... everyday!

I have sent you an email but thought I would share the news here too....

IMPORTANT!

Dear Parents, Carers, staff and Members of our Local Community,

We are delighted to share some wonderful news with you: it has been confirmed that our school is going to be rebuilt!

Our current building has served generations of Henham children well, but it has well and truly passed its sell-by date, and it is ready to be recreated. We are thrilled to be working in partnership with the Department for Education (DfE) and Essex on this project, and we see it as a real honour to be part of the next chapter in Henham's story.

We are at the very early stages of the project and have recently had our first meeting with the DfE, which confirmed that the rebuild will go ahead. We do not yet have any dates or timelines, all we know is that the build, when it begins, will take approximately 18 months. We have been advised that we will be heavily involved in the design, the look and feel of the new school, and in making sure the needs of our children and our wider community are fully met. We can also confirm that we will remain as a one-year intake school, retaining our beautiful village primary school feel. During the build time, we are determined that school life will be 'business as usual', working hard to make the build as smooth possible.

We appreciate that this news will bring a great deal of excitement, and no doubt lots of questions too. That is completely understandable, and we will do our very best to answer them as soon as we are able. We are committed to keeping you closely involved and up to date, and as and when we receive information, we will share it with you. We plan on building a FAQ section on our website that will keep you and our community abreast of information.

Please be assured that at the heart of every decision will be the wellbeing, happiness and needs of our children and our community. They are, and always will be, what matters most.

We are already full of ideas about the learning spaces, the outdoor areas and the environment we want to create, and we hope you share in our enthusiasm for what lies ahead. At some point soon we will be setting up a dedicated 'School Rebuild' email address, so that you have a place to send any questions. I will let you know as soon as it is ready.

Thank you, as always, for your support. we cannot wait to begin this journey together.

Warm regards,

Nicky Brogan.

Limelight on learning...

Year 2

Shumaiza has said that Miss Jeremy has been her favourite thing about her week!

Grayson has loved his friends.

Year 5

Both Annabelle & George F have loved DT this week (I guessed they would say that!!).

Reception

Clover has loved playing with the playDoh and Pippa has really enjoyed her lunch..

Year 3

Arthur has loved his lesson on volcanoes.

Finn said "everything's been so fine & making up villain's in English has been great".

Year 4

Kayleigh has loved learning about the human body in scieence & Evan liked learning new vocabulary in his gymnastics PE lesson.

Year 6

Davey loved PE with Mrs Harris and Zach has enjoyed the tag rugby trip

Year 1

Aspen has enjoyed her phonics and playing with her friends and Sadie has enjoyed drawing spirals "I love the really nice, smooth crayons".

Nursery

Thea loves colouring, Vivvy loves the baby dolls and Maisie loves playing with the animals

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 using the grammar taught this week in his WW2 paragraph in history.

For renewed focus in her learning

For 'OOZING' the Henham values!

For the great use of a subordinated clause. .

For being so proud of your friends work - it 'warmed your heart'

Our GOLDS are...

Nursery - Savannah, Theo
Reception -William, Lilah, Rupert H
Year 1 - Ava, Beauden.
Year 2 - Toby W, Grayson.
Year 3 - Marla-Mae, Mia
Year 4- Grace, Chloe
Year 5 - Reece, Isla, Sophia, Ethan M, Abel, Brooke.
Year 6 - Harrison R



Mrs B's kindness award

Poppy (Yr5) for sharing your personal resources in DT with a friend..

Finnley (Yr3) for holding the door open for the whole school.

Zoe (yr3) for being so kind when a friend was upset.

Lilah and Marla-Mae for cleaning a very mucky lunch trolley

Rosie B (yr 1) for making space on the carpet for her friend when she couldn't see the board.

Oliver (yr1) for returning a coat to a friend that was left on the playgrou nd



Dylan (Yr6) for showing kindness to a friend in need.

Sadie (Yr1) for offering up your orange to a friend who didn't like her pear.

Mabel (Rec) for asking Mrs Espie "are you ok" when she poked herself in the eye!

We extend our kindness award to 'Keith and John' who VERY KINDLY gave up their time and funded new sleepers for our allotment. We really appreciate their time and kindness.

Diary Dates

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

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

Monday 30th November - INSET DAY

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.

Friday 4th December -PSA Christmas Fete after school

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.

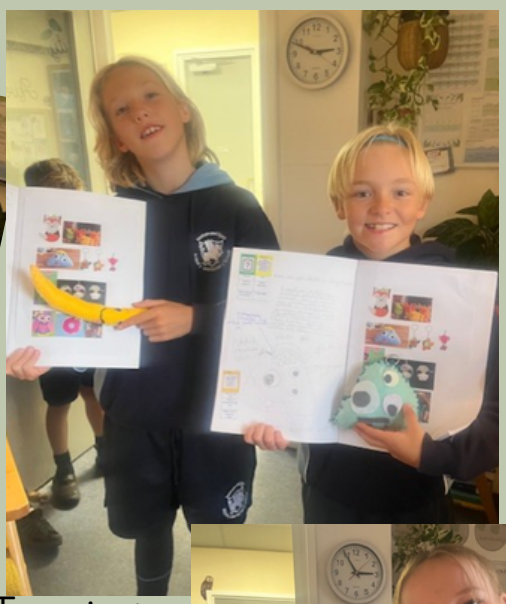
Friday 18th December - last day of term FINISH at 1.15pm





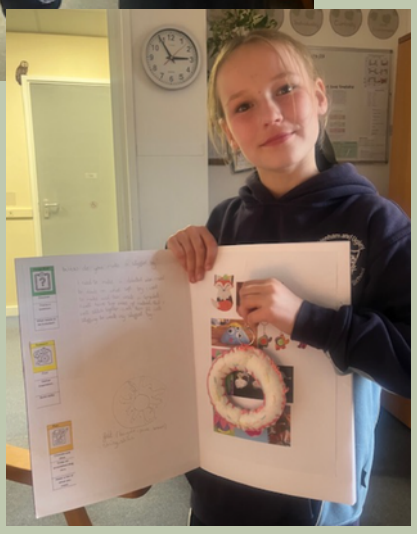




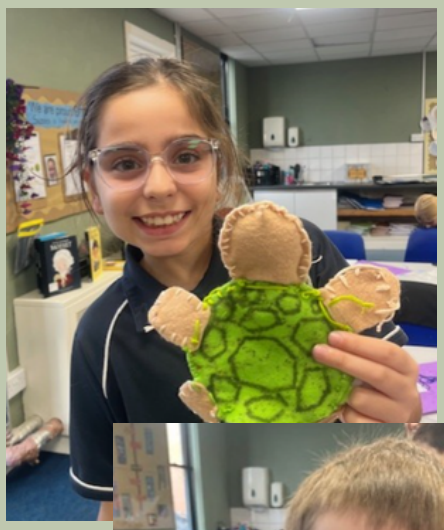


Year 5 have LOVED their DT project, planning, creating templates, learning and practising new sewing skills and completeing their soft toy project this week. They are all so unique. Mrs Pope and Mrs Fleming (Art & DT lead) are very proud of you year 5.

















Your child was sent home with the sheet for designing their own Christmas card.....please note, the DEADLINE is: 25th November. Please return to your class teacher.



Admissions - reception 2027



PLEASE NOTE - admissions are now open for 2027 reception places. Please spread the word. If you are applying for a place at our school, you need to apply via Essex www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. We do not have any involvement in admissons.

TAG RUGBY NEWS



Well done to our fantastic Rugby team who made it all the way to the finals!!!! We may not have won the league but we are so proud of your play, your sportmanship and grit!

Thank you for representing our school so beautifully.

Shine Bright

We love that Amberley has a book written about her! Amberley's Daddy has written this adventure story and she was very proud to share it to her Caterpillar friends.



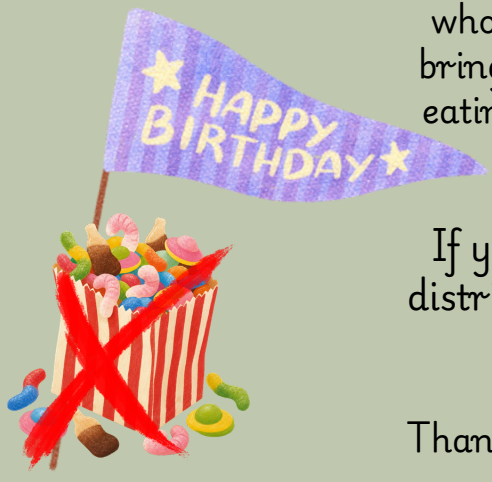




Super work to Max (yr1) and Fletcher (yr2) both being picked as the 'man of the match' in their football teams! What an achievement!

HENHAM HOUSE POINTS

GREEN HOUSE	1119
BLUE HOUSE	998
RED HOUSE	952
PURPLE HOUSE	889



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!


Christmas Carols
Around the
Henham Village
Christmas Tree
Monday 14th December · 2pm
Crow Street, Henham
HENHAM
Parents and family members welcome for this annual festive celebration
If the weather is very bad this event may be cancelled.


Folies
FIELDS
Folies Fields,
CM24 8SX
Trees, Gifts,
Wreathes
and More
£5 back
to your
school!
Christmas

£13/pp
Booking
Essential

Make Your Own
Christmas Cracker

ART. COMMUNITY

CHRISTMAS CRACKERS
Create a personalised cracker

CONNECT WITH OTHER FAMILIES
Tea, Coffee and Hot Chocolate served with a Gingerbread

MAKE YOUR OWN
Christmas Hat
Write your own joke!



SATURDAY 12TH DECEMBER
Henham Village Hall £13/pp
To book contact Laura
07961271734

The Art of Rest



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 4 V Yr 6

Yr 2 V Yr 3

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.

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.