Henham & Ugley Nursery and Primary School

Newsletter:
Friday 27th November 2026

Message from Mrs Brogan

It was lovely to have a whole school discussion with the children on Monday in our assembly about our new school - the children screeched with excitement. I made an agreement that we will answer 5 questions each week about our new school. Amongst this week's questions were, are we having a swimming pool and will there be an astro, flood lit football pitch? .... expectations are high! The children seemed very happy that we are remaining a one year intake school. It's lovely to hear their views, we will certainly be involving them in this unique journey together and incorportaing our pupil voice.

Thank you for attending the parent consultation meetings, a first for us in the school hall.
We had really positive feedback (particulalry the speed dating/wine bar vibes! 🤣)
Thank you to those that completed a questionaire - amongst the feedback people commented on the relaxed atmosphere, the privacy yet more whole school feel. I will continue to read your replies and reflect on the evenings. If you didn't complete a questionaire, please feel free to email me your feedback.

Could I please gently remind parents, that you cannot park in the staff car park when collecting from after school clubs. It is a very tight space, very dark with children around. Please park in the road and walk in to collect. Thank you.

Remember

Monday 30th November
is an
INSET DAY

Have a wonderful extended weekend, I hope you enjoy the rest and we will see you on Tuesday 1st December.

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
Freya has loved making her pot and will be painting it today.
Fletcher said that he is really enjoying maths this week

Year 5
Willow has particularly enjoyed writing her viking saga!
and
Franky has learnt so much about friction in science and enjoyed writing his leaflet in English.

Reception
Marnie has really enjoyed playing with her friends
and
Grace loves playing with Mrs B on the playground at lunchtime.



Year 3
Zoe is really enjoying her art project and making her Christmas stocking
and
Frankie is loving writing his story and creating his own villauin!



Year 4
Finn has been absorbed in his guided reading lesson this week
and
Grace has particularly liked her continued times table practise in class.



Year 6
Olivia has learnt lots this week and enjoyed the challenge of long division and all the steps that go with it!
and
Sam has loved DT and creating his dream playground!

Year 1
Jude is enjoying English and the story 'One Snowy Night' he liked describing the wintery scene.

Phoebe has enjoyed making her clay pot.



Nursery
Thea has really loved colouring this week in nursery
and
Henry enjoyed the diamond treasure!

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 extending your learning and using it at home, when making a soft toy.

For tackling the multiple steps in year 6 long division!

For renewed focus in her learning

For using her new Science vocabulary in her writing.

For showing a real 'love of learning'

For being Mrs Espie's mathematician and counting the team points.

Our GOLDS are...

Nursery -Archie, Charlie
Reception -William, Hallie.
Year 1 - Cobey
Year 2 - Jude, Charles.
Year 3 - Bluebell
Year 4- Freddie, Henry, Poppy.
Year 5 - Jesse P, Franky, Natalie, George F, Ethan M
Year 6 - Vinnie, Toby, Ronnie, Olivia, Eban, Freya, Elise.



Mrs B's kindness award



Henry (Nursery) for helping a friend to make the right choice.

Hallie (Rec) for offering to hold open the door for the whole class

Charles (Yr2) for literally being Mrs Bryant's voice when she lost it this week.





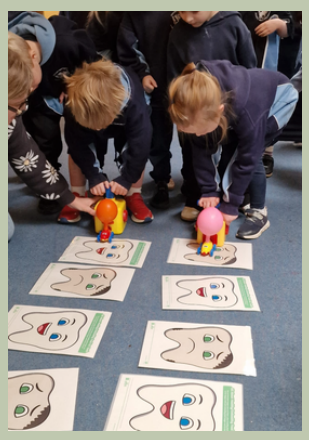




Thank you to Linzi (lovely Mummy to Jed (yr4) Obi & Ava (Yr1) for giving her time to come in and talk to our reception children about the importance of tooth care. You were so engaging Linzi, the children loved you!











Diary Dates

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

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






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.



Winter Illness and School Attendance

As we move into the winter months, we know that coughs, colds and runny noses become much more common. While we completely understand that children should stay at home when they are genuinely unwell, we would encourage families to send children into school whenever they are well enough to attend.

Our team are experienced in supporting children with the usual winter sniffles, and school remains the best place for learning, friendships and routines. Every day in school counts, and strong attendance makes a real difference to children's progress and wellbeing.

Please be reassured that if your child becomes unwell during the school day or their condition worsens, we will always contact you promptly so that arrangements can be made for them to be collected if necessary.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us achieve the best possible attendance for all our pupils

Click on this text - for a helpful guide.

Shine Bright

Finn (yr6) has certainly been shining bright outside school with an audition for the Royal Ballet School' WOW!!!! what a proud moment.



HENHAM HOUSE POINTS

BLUE HOUSE	1180
GREEN HOUSE	1023
RED HOUSE	1059
PURPLE HOUSE	901



Autumn Term Winners!

BLUE HOUSE
8148

GREEN HOUSE	7867
RED HOUSE	7456
PURPLE HOUSE	6616

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 3 V Yr 5

Yr 4 V Yr 6

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:

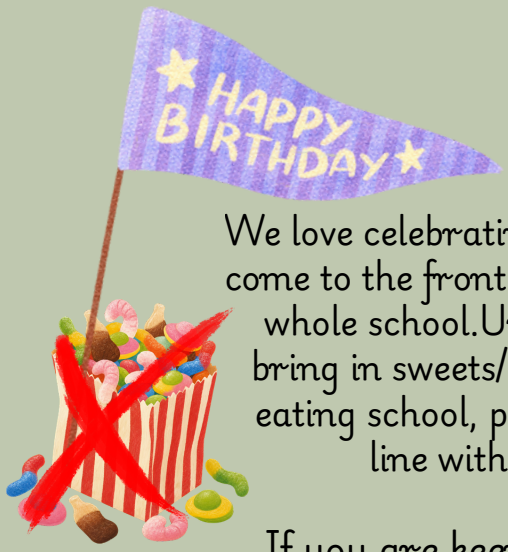
We are not permitted to tape ears for PE lessons and earrings are not allowed during our PE sessions. Could we please ask that on your child's PE day, earrings are taken out at home. If your child wears earrings, unfortunatley they will not be able to take part in their lesson, missing out on an important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



Thank you for your support and understanding.







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.