



Weekly Newsletter

3rd July 2026

Making learning a lifelong adventure

respect...responsibility...resilience...kindness...confidence...honesty

Dear Parents/Carers

This week in school has been quite a busy one with our Year 5 children enjoying a day of water-based outdoor and adventurous pursuits at the Herts Young Mariners Base Outdoor Centre in Cheshunt and Year 2 visiting the Grove Infant School on Wednesday for their music festival.



On Wednesday our Woodwind Teacher, Mrs Walton, directed an informal concert by our school orchestra for the children in Years 1 to 6, showing and demonstrating a number of the woodwind instruments that she teaches in school. Hopefully this will have provided some inspiration for the non-instrumentalists in the audience and parents are invited to consider requesting woodwind lessons for their child from September. More information in the separate message sent to parents of children in Years 2 to 5.

Today, our Year 2 pupils visited Batford Springs as part of their geography study, the Year 3 children went to Sir John Lawes School for a French workshop and Year 5 had a visit from a representative of the Sikh community to support their learning in RE.

Next week the Year 1 children will be visiting Woburn Safari Park on Monday to learn about animals for the science topic and the Year 5 children will be attending a Secondary Taster Day at Katherine Warington School on Tuesday. In school, Years 4 and 6 will be taking part in debating workshops led by St George's School and Year 1 girls will have an extra football session led by members of Harpenden Colts Football Club. We are all looking forward to our transition morning on Thursday when the children will be visiting their new classrooms and meeting their new teachers and teaching assistants.

Yours faithfully

Jonathan Walker
Headteacher



Headteacher Awards

Congratulations to the following children for their achievements this week.

• Reception Chestnut Class	George	For being so productive in learning through play.
	Alfie	For challenging his learning in learning through play. He always wants to write.
	Daphne	For always being ready to learn in phonics and making super progress this year.
• Reception Oak Class	Astrid	For being a great role model and always being ready to learn.
	Cooper	For some excellent descriptive sentences about mini beasts in English this week.
• Year 1 Cedar Class	Finn	For a wonderful performance in our assembly.
• Year 1 Elm Class	Amelia	For working really hard on her presentation in English.
	Eden	For showing excellent learning behaviours and a willingness to challenge himself.
• Year 2 Hazel Class	Imogen	For working hard and ignoring distractions
• Year 2 Willow Class	Noah N	For excellent use of subordinating conjunctions in English
	Henry	For making a huge effort when working with right angles.
	Isabella Elliot	For making a huge effort while working in small groups in the heat
• Year 3 Birch Class		For enjoying learning about grid references and sharing his knowledge enthusiastically.
	Ian	For increased independence in writing producing ideas and structuring his own work.
• Year 3 Redwood Class	Sienna	For including prepositions, conjunctions and adjectives in her writing about a celebration.
	Sadie S	For a beautifully presented and clear explanation of the process of pollination in Science.
	Omar	For writing a beautiful poem based on 'Through my Window' by Valerie Bloom in English.
• Year 4 Maple Class	Elliott	For excellent skills and effort during our rounders match this week in PE.
• Year 4 Pine Class	Amelia	for her well-written poem featuring figurative language about someone special
	Joshua	for his beautifully-crafted poem to describe his best friend
	Yusuf	For completing additional writing outside of class for your engaging weekly newspaper.
• Year 5 Ash Class	Flossy	For excellent learning in maths working on shape and missing lengths.
	Eva	For your hard work and resilience when working on regular and irregular polygons this week
• Year 5 Hawthorn Class	Rafi	Challenging yourself to take part in all of the activities at young mariners
• Year 6 Rowan Class	Evie	for creating powerful, beautifully crafted poems in the style of our author
	Harper	for her determination in mastering the concept of the nth term
	Charlie I	for the excellent work he is putting into developing his stage presence in our End of Year 6 production.
• Year 6 Sycamore Class	Charlie V	For the energy and enthusiasm he brings to the singing and dancing element of the End of Year 6 production.
	Theo	For showing a great – and super helpful – attitude to learning during our PE session this week. Well done!
• PE Awards Infants	Hudson	For excellent work on his targeted throwing in preparation for sports day. Well done!

Sports Desk

Congratulations to Sophie, Sadie and Zoey from Year 3 Redwood Class who, together with their Harpenden Colts Williamson team won the U8 Ickenham football tournament last weekend and we were able to present the massive trophy to them in celebration assembly yesterday!

Thanks go to Mr George, Mrs Shewbridge, Miss Pike and Miss Ellis took a group of Key Stage 2 children to the annual District Sports event at Sir John Lawes School on Tuesday. It was a very successful evening with High Beeches being awarded 3rd place in the Large Schools competition. Highlights below:

- ✓ All HB relay teams qualified for the final
- ✓ Year 4 girls relay 1st place
- ✓ Year 4 Boys - 3rd place relay
- ✓ Year 5 Girls 3rd place relay
- ✓ Both Year 6 relay teams finishing 3rd place
- ✓ Year 3 Isla P - 3rd place sprint race final
- ✓ Year 5 Ellie - 2nd place sprint race final
- ✓ Year 5 Amelie - 1st place 400m long distance
- ✓ Year 5 Henry - 1st place 400m long distance
- ✓ Year 6 Edward - 3rd place 400m long distance
- ✓ Year 5 Oscar - 2nd place Javelin
- ✓ Year 5 Reenie - 3rd place Long Jump

Staying Safe

Heatwave Conditions

It looks likely that there will be a return to heatwave conditions next week. See Met Office forecast below. Although it is difficult to be completely black and white about how the school responds to such conditions (as there are usually additional contextual considerations), we thought it would be helpful to outline the measures the school will usually take to help keep the children and staff safe and as comfortable as possible in a heatwave.

Stage 1. Measures when temperatures are 25 to 29°C

- Ensure children have sun cream, sun hats and water bottles, and give regular reminders to keep drinking
- Children encouraged to use shaded areas when outside
- PE sessions modified to avoid sun/heat exposure
- No jumpers/cardigans. Polo-shirts may be untucked and buttons left undone
- Fans in classrooms and use of ventilation and blinds to increase air flow and/or reduce direct sunlight
- School will consider cancelling or postponing events such as sports days or parent meetings and reducing large group activities in school

Stage 2. Additional measures for Extreme Heat Warning/Heat Health Alert conditions and/or predicted temperatures of 30°C or above

- Relaxed uniform rules - children may wear their summer uniform, school PE kit or other suitable cool, loose-fitting clothes and secure sandals (not flip-flops, sliders or crocs and trainers on PE days)
- Use of additional gazebos/shades where possible
- Limited outdoor play. Children directed to use areas of shade and to avoid physical activity
- Postpone/cancel events such as sports days or parent meetings and assemblies or other large group events in school
- Classroom lights and devices kept off where possible
- Optional early finish to school day, enabling children to be more comfortable at home and those who cannot go home to use cooler spaces in school

The forecast for next week does not currently meet the threshold for an *Extreme Heat Warning* or a *Heat Health Alert*, so we are not, at this stage, expecting to bring in the Stage 2 measures. However, as an additional support, children may wear sandals next week, as long as these are secure (not flip-flops, sliders or crocs and they must wear trainers on PE days please). We will also need to take a view on whether or not it is appropriate to hold our Infant and Year 5/6 sports days on Wednesday and will aim to confirm this on Monday.



Further Information and Reminders

The following outlines the school policy with regard to email communication between home and school.

The school endeavours to provide clear information for parents in a timely manner, consistent with our school values, particularly kindness and respect, and parents are expected to do the same. Mail merge emails are sent via Arbor (the school's management information system) to parents by the school office team and by year group teams. However, the school may email parents directly where a need arises on a more individual basis and as a response to individual email enquiries from parents.

Parents should use the year group emails (reception@ highbeeches.herts.sch.uk, yearone@ etc) for curriculum related information and queries and to advise year group staff of any non-urgent pastoral matters. However, parents are reminded that school staff spend the great majority of their time working directly with the children and have limited time to spend replying to emails. Urgent messages (such as last-minute changes to end of the day collection arrangements) should be conveyed via the school office, in-person, by telephone or, as a last resort, email.

Parents should use the school office email (admin@highbeeches.herts.sch.uk) for more general enquiries and information (for example, those relating to attendance, school lunches, off-site visits, other events etc).

School staff are not expected to monitor or respond to emails outside of their normal working hours.

Where possible the school will:

- acknowledge receipt of emails within 48 hours (Monday to Friday, during school term time).
- provide a response to emails by telephone or in writing/email within 5 working days (during school term time). This may include informing the sender that more time is required to provide a full response. If this is the case, the school will indicate a timeframe in which a response should be expected.
- inform the sender if the email needs to be referred to another member of staff, where the original recipient is not the best person to deal with the enquiry.

Attendance

Congratulations to Elm and Maple classes who have the best attendance this week. More information can be found on the [Attendance and Leave of Absence page](#) of our website.

Summer Holiday Clubs

- ✓ [Apex Sports](#) – Sports Activities with Mr George – 22nd-24th July, 27th-29th July, 3rd-5th Aug, 26th-28th Aug.
- ✓ [Baking Buddies](#) – Baking with Mrs Shafer – 10th-14th Aug, 17th-21st Aug, 24th and 25th Aug.
- ✓ [Sewing Club](#) – Sewing with Mrs Ward – 23rd July, 4th Aug and 20th Aug.



Diary Dates *New or amended events*

Monday 6 July 2026

Y1 Woburn Safari Park Visit

Tuesday 7 July 2026

Autumn Clubs Portal Opens 6.30pm (external providers book directly)(*Timetable emailed out 3rd July*)

Wednesday 8 July 2026

Postponed Sports Day for Infants (9:15am) and Y5/6 (1:30pm)

Thursday 9 July 2026

Transition Day

Friday 10 July 2026

Pupil reports out to parents

Saturday 11 July 2026

FoHBS Summer Fair

14 & 15 July 2026, 6:00pm

Year 6 leavers' production

Mon 20 July 2026, 6pm

Year 6 leavers' event (TBC)

Mon 20 July 2026, 9:30am

HB's Got Talent

Tues 21 July 2026, 9am

Year 6 leavers' assembly

Tues 21 July 2026, 1:30pm

school closes for summer holiday

Groups and workshops

Autumn 2026

Bringing Up Confident ADHD/ASD Children (6 weeks) Online group

**Monday 5th October to 16th November, 7pm to 9pm OR
Friday 6th November to 11th December, 9.30am to 11.30am**

If your child has ADHD/ASD, or you think they might, join our online 6-week group where you will receive support from other parents and gain a comprehensive understanding of ADHD/ASD and learn strategies to improve life at home and at school.

Less Shouting, More Cooperation (6 weeks) Online group

Tuesday 6th October to 17th November, 9.30am to 11.30am

Do you feel you are constantly nagging or shouting at your child to get what you need? Are you tired of losing your cool and want a calmer house? Join our free online 6-week group to learn how you can change the way you communicate with your child, respond better, and feel more in control.

Dads Together (6 weeks) Online group

Wednesday 4th November to 9th December, 7pm to 9pm

Are you a dad who feels you are constantly nagging or shouting at your child to get what you need? Are you tired of losing your cool and want a calmer house? Join our free online 6-week group to learn how you can change the way you communicate with your child, respond better, and feel more in control.

Anxiety around ADHD Online Workshop

Wednesday 21 October 9.30am to 11.30am

Sibling Rivalry Online Workshop

Monday 9 November 9.30am to 11.30am

Reducing Conflict Online Workshop

Wednesday 25 November 7pm to 9pm

It's a Dad's Life Online Workshop

Thursday 26 November 7pm to 9pm

Navigating the Storm (Teens) Online Workshop

Wednesday 2 December 9.30am to 11.30am

For more info, please contact **Louise** on **0204 522 8700/8701** or email **services@coramfamilylives.org.uk** or scan the QR code for our online form.

All our programmes provide support, information and resources to parents, carers and adult family members in Hertfordshire so they can help their children reach their full potential.



We build better family lives together

www.coramfamilylives.org.uk  **@coramfamilyliveshertsandbeds**

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FREE ONLINE AUTUMN 2026 WORKSHOPS FOR HERTS PARENTS/CARERS

Online Workshops funded by Hertfordshire County Council	Day	Date	Time
Identifying ADHD and/or Autism	Mon	7.9.26	19:00 - 20:30
Understanding Autism	Wed	9.9.26	10:00 - 11:30
Understanding Autism for Parents/Carers of Girls	Mon	14.9.26	19:00 - 20:30
Understanding ADHD and Autism in the Early Years	Wed	16.9.26	10:00 - 11:30
Understanding PDA	Mon	21.9.26	19:00 - 20:30
Understanding ADHD	Wed	23.9.26	10:00 - 11:30
Understanding Neurodivergent Teens	Mon	28.9.26	19:00 - 20:30
Supporting Siblings	Wed	30.9.26	10:00 - 11:30
Understanding Challenging Behaviour	Mon	5.10.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Manage Anger	Wed	7.10.26	10:00 - 11:30
Understanding Sensory Differences	Mon	12.10.26	19:00 - 20:30
Tips & Tools to Manage Sensory Differences	Wed	14.10.26	10:00 - 11:30
Preparing for Adulthood (14+)	Mon	19.10.26	19:00 - 20:30
Understanding Self-Harm	Wed	21.10.26	10:00 - 11:30
Half Term			
Support for Dads and Other Male Carers	Mon	2.11.26	19:00 - 20:30
Applying for an EHCP	Wed	4.11.26	10:00 - 11:30
Understanding Anxiety	Mon	9.11.26	19:00 - 20:30
Tips & Tools to Manage Anxiety	Wed	11.11.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Manage School Absence	Fri	13.11.26	10:00 - 11:30
Working in Partnership with School	Mon	16.11.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools for Toileting	Wed	18.11.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Support Communication	Mon	23.11.26	19:00 - 20:30
Tips & Tools to Support Social Skills	Wed	25.11.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Build Self-Esteem	Mon	30.11.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Support Emotional Development	Wed	2.12.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools for Positive Behaviour	Mon	7.12.26	19:00 - 20:30
Tips & Tools to Manage Everyday Changes	Wed	9.12.26	10:00 - 11:30

"What a fantastic workshop - thank you so much!
I've taken away a wealth of information"

"Absolutely incredible workshop, it has
been extremely beneficial to my child"

01727 833963

herts@add-vance.org

<http://www.add-vance.org/>

Book your FREE ticket on <http://add-vance.eventbrite.com/> or visit our website

These workshops are funded by Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund and are open to residents of Hertfordshire only

Recordings are sent to all registered participants to view for 7 days, even if you don't attend live.







UNDERSTANDING ADHD & AUTISM IN THE EARLY YEARS

FREE INTRODUCTORY 6-WEEK COURSES
FOR PARENTS/CARERS

ABOUT THE COURSE	TIME AND PLACE
This interactive course is designed for parents & carers of children aged 2 to 5 yrs with a diagnosis or suspected diagnosis of ADHD and/or Autism. ALL SESSIONS MUST BE ATTENDED	Dates: Mondays, 14/9 to 19/10 Time: 9.30 to 11.30 am ONLINE VIA ZOOM

01727 833963 | herts@add-vance.org | <http://www.add-vance.org/>

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UNDERSTANDING ADHD & AUTISM IN THE PRIMARY YEARS

FREE INTRODUCTORY 6-WEEK COURSES
FOR PARENTS/CARERS

ABOUT THE COURSE	TIME AND PLACE
This interactive course is designed for parents & carers of children aged 5 to 11 yrs with a diagnosis or suspected diagnosis of ADHD and/or Autism (or 4 & already in reception). ALL SESSIONS MUST BE ATTENDED	Dates: Thursdays, 10/9 to 15/10 Time: 10 am - 12 pm ONLINE VIA ZOOM Dates: Wednesdays, 4/11 to 9/12 Time: 10 am - 12 pm ONLINE VIA ZOOM Dates: Wednesdays, 4/11 to 9/12 Time: 7 to 9 pm ONLINE VIA ZOOM

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Book your FREE ticket on <http://add-vance.eventbrite.com/> or visit our website <http://www.add-vance.org/>

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UNDERSTANDING ADHD & AUTISM FOR PARENTS/CARERS OF GIRLS

FREE INTRODUCTORY 6-WEEK COURSES
FOR PARENTS/CARERS

ABOUT THE COURSE	TIME AND PLACE
This interactive course is designed for parents/carers of girls aged 5 to 14 yrs (or 4 and already in reception) with a diagnosis or suspected diagnosis of ADHD and/or Autism. ALL SESSIONS MUST BE ATTENDED	Dates: Tuesdays, 8/9 to 13/10 Time: 10 am to 12 pm ONLINE VIA ZOOM Dates: Thursdays, 5/11 - 10/12 Time: 10 am to 12 pm ONLINE VIA ZOOM

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UNDERSTANDING ADHD & AUTISM FOR DADS

FREE INTRODUCTORY 6-WEEK COURSES
FOR PARENTS/CARERS

ABOUT THE COURSE	TIME AND PLACE
These interactive courses are designed for dads /male carers of children aged 5 to 14 with a diagnosis or suspected diagnosis of ADHD and/or Autism. ALL SESSIONS MUST BE ATTENDED	Dates: Wednesdays, 9/9 - 14/10 Time: 7 - 9 pm ONLINE VIA ZOOM Dates: Tuesdays, 3/11 - 6/12 Time: 7 - 9 pm Sopwell Family Centre, Mandeville Dr, St Albans, AL1 2LE

01727 833963 | herts@add-vance.org | <http://www.add-vance.org/>

Book your FREE ticket on <http://add-vance.eventbrite.com/> or visit our website <http://www.add-vance.org/>

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