



Weekly Newsletter

1st May 2026

Making learning a lifelong adventure

*Our school value this week is **resilience***



Dear Parents/Carers

Today is May Day and the school is closed on Monday for the Early May Bank Holiday. May Day is traditionally a day to celebrate the glory and vitality of spring, with various traditions traceable back to Roman times and more recent links to a global labour day, celebrating workers' rights. Although we do not have a May Pole dancing tradition at High Beeches, it is a nice moment to reflect on the changing of the seasons and the fact that spring now seems to be in full swing, and an opportunity to take a break from work for most of us. I do hope that there will be opportunities for children and families to enjoy and appreciate this over the long weekend.



Roll Up for Class Assemblies

We enjoyed the first of our class assemblies yesterday, with both Birch and Redwood Classes performing their assemblies to parents and peers at either the beginning or end of the school day. Our class assemblies take place throughout the summer term, mostly on Thursdays with one class just after morning drop-off and the other just before afternoon pick-up. This will be the case for all the children in Years 1 to 5, with both Year 6 classes doing their own farewell assembly as a year group on the last day of the summer term.

The Year 3 performances took us to the Gladiators' Arena with presentations showcasing their curriculum from the spring term from multiplication tables in maths to line dancing in PE and all subjects in between. The children performed wonderfully and it was brilliant to see the breadth and depth of provision articulated so clearly. I feel sure parents found it engaging and informative.

Love that Uniform (Shop)!

As you will have seen from parent reps' WhatsApp comms and today's FoHBS News, the new HB Pre-loved Uniform Shop is now up and running. Mr Halsey will be opening up the shop during drop-off and pick-up times each day and parents are free to help themselves and to make an honesty payment using the QR code provided in the shop.

Thank you to all those who have helped to resurrect it and especially to parents Nikki Kennedy and Tesia Payne who lead the second-hand uniform project.

Top-rated Kitchen

Congratulations to Kelly and the Team from HCL in our school kitchen who were once again awarded the top grade (5) in an unannounced Food Standards Agency inspection yesterday.



Yours faithfully

Jonathan Walker
Headteacher

Headteacher Awards

Congratulations to the following children for their achievements this week.

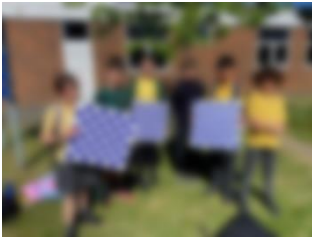
- **Reception Chestnut Class**
 - Zachary For always being ready to learn.
 - Alfie For being so focused when writing independently.
 - Arlo For trying really hard with his writing and spelling HRSW accurately! (some)
- **Reception Oak Class**
 - Charlie For trying hard with his reading every day with Miss Thrale.
 - Flossie For working independently and always trying her best in all of her learning. Well done!
- **Year 1 Cedar Class**
 - Willow For showing resilience when programming a robot in computing.
- **Year 1 Elm Class**
 - Oliver For being motivated and completing some lovely work.
 - Sophie For writing some descriptive sentences in English.
 - Benjamin For having a fantastic start to the summer term. You have been really calm and settled and friendly to all classmates and adults.
- **Year 2 Hazel Class**
 - Isaiah For making a big effort with reading more at home. You have made big leaps and strides recently. Keep it up!
 - Charlie For following steps carefully and using arrays well in maths. Well done!
- **Year 2 Willow Class**
 - Isabella For a super science food chain diagram. Well done!
 - Laila For being an excellent and supportive learning partner this week. Well done!
- **Year 3 Birch Class**
 - Mubarak For showing resilience in English lessons this week when writing a persuasive letter. Well done!
 - Elise For sharing your wonderful ideas relevant to our learning across the curriculum.
- **Year 3 Redwood Class**
 - Sophie For her conscientious attitude, great listening and participation.
 - Josie For making a fantastic start to her persuasive letter in English.
- **Year 4 Maple Class**
 - Seb For working hard and showing resilience when learning column multiplication in maths.
 - Inaaya For challenging herself on all the activities at Paccar last week.
- **Year 4 Pine Class**
 - Molly For her insightful contributions in history when learning about the Magna Carta.
 - Jack For creating such a detailed plan in preparation for writing an explanation text.
- **Year 5 Ash Class**
 - Luca For persevering in maths when working with division work problems.
- **Year 5 Hawthorn Class**
 - Harry For being insightful and engaged during our DT lesson on cams.
 - Casper An excellent introduction paragraph to your explanation text.
 - Arisha For her positive attitude and determination to master areas in maths she missed or needed revisiting.
- **Year 6 Rowan Class**
 - Cadiz For developing a richer vocabulary bank and looking to up level her writing.
 - Oscar For persevering with his learning this week even though he's not been feeling 100%
- **Year 6 Sycamore Class**
 - Ama For working hard to revise topics in mathematics and taking responsibility for her learning.
 - Xander For great resilience and accomplishment in our hurdles practices. Well done!
- **PE Awards Infants**
 - Ella For excellent work with her throwing and accuracy when aiming at a set of cricket stumps. Well done!
- **PE Awards Juniors**
 - Harry L For some super work in our practices for javelin. Well done!
 - Harry A For showing incredible grit and determination in our running races. Excellent effort! Well done!

Sports Desk

Ten of our Year 4 pupils competed in a TriGolf competition on Tuesday this week. Mr Lamb, who kindly accompanied them along with Mrs Izzard, said,

'High Beeches came in a middle ranking 7th position in what were very difficult windy conditions.

The team all were very well behaved and had a great time.'



And finally, six children from Years 5 and 6 attended the annual Chess Jamboree at Crabtree Junior School, some completing for the first time. Although we did not bring home the trophy, we won 7 of our games, drew one and lost 8. Congratulations to them all.

Community Matters

FoHBS Colour Run – Sunday 17 May 2026

FoHBS have already sold quite a number of tickets for this exciting new event. They will be turning the High Beeches school field into a high-energy, colour-packed fun zone the children won't forget. See this week's FoHBS News for more information, or [click here](#) to book.

Hertfordshire Essex Rapid Transit

Parents may wish to go on from the colour run to the following Hertfordshire County Council event, promoting a new sustainable transport system.

Supporting Parents

Please see flyer attached about support sessions about mental health in families form Carers in Hertfordshire.

The Future of Transport in Hertfordshire

Hertfordshire County Council is introducing HERT (Hertfordshire Essex Rapid Transit) – a new, electric public transport system designed to make travel across the county quicker, easier and more sustainable. Families can see a HERT vehicle up close and learn about greener travel at events across Hertfordshire this May.

HERT Vehicle Visit Dates:

- Watford – 9 May (High Street, 9am–4pm)
- Hertford – 10 May (Hartham Common Ecofest, 12–4pm)
- Hatfield – 12 May (University of Hertfordshire, 10am–4pm)
- Hemel Hempstead – 14 May (The Marlowes, 9am–4pm)
- St Albans – 17 May (Victoria Street Spring Festival, 12–6pm)

HERT
HERTFORDSHIRE | ESSEX RAPID TRANSIT

Hertfordshire

Further Information and Reminders

Attendance

Congratulations to Cedar and Birch classes who have the best attendance this week, with 99.6% and 100% attendance. More information can be found on the [Attendance and Leave of Absence page](#) of our website.

May half-term, APEX Sports Camps:

For May half term, sessions will run Tuesday–Thursday (26th–28th May) with the following options:

- 9:00am–3:00pm (£27.50)
- 9:00am–5:00pm (£37)
- Early drop-off from 8:30am (+£5)

These new booking options are being introduced as a trial, based on parent feedback, and we will review how they work before confirming plans for the summer holidays.

To book, please email apexpeandsport@gmail.com with your child's name, preferred days, and booking option(s)."

Diary Dates <i>New or amended events</i>	
Monday 4 May 2026	<i>School closed for Early May Bank Holiday</i>
Tuesday 5 May 2026	<i>Last day of Book Fair</i>
Thursday 7 May 2026	<i>Year 4 class assemblies: 9am Maple Class, 2:45pm Pine Class</i>
11-14 May 2026	<i>KS2 Tests</i>
Friday 15 May 2026	<i>Y2 class assemblies: 9am Hazel, 2:45pm Willow</i>
Friday 15 May 2026	<i>Y6 Hemel Snow Dome</i>
Sunday 17 May 2026	<i>FoHBS Colour Run</i>
Monday 18 May 2026	<i>Year 1 Knebworth House and Gardens Visit</i>
Thursday 21 May 2026	<i>Year 5 class assemblies: 9am Ash Class, 2:45pm Hawthorn Class</i>
Thursday 21 May 2026	<i>Burger Day</i>
20-22 May 2026	<i>Year 6 Residential - Paccar</i>
Friday 22 May 2026	<i>School closes for half-term break at normal time</i>
Monday 1 June 2026	<i>FoHBS Legoland Trip</i>
Tuesday 2 June 2026	<i>School opens for summer term 2</i>
2 – 12 June 2026	<i>Y4 Multiplication Tables Check</i>
2-5 June 2026	<i>Special Curriculum Week – STEM</i>
Thursday 4 June 2026	<i>Class Group Photographs</i>
8-12 June 2026	<i>Y1 Phonics Screening Check</i>
Tuesday 9 June 2026	<i>Reception trip to Hertfordshire Zoo</i>
Thursday 11 June 2026	<i>Y3 Kew Gardens Visit</i>
Tues 16 June '26, 1:30pm	<i>Y3/4 Sports Day</i>
Friday 19 June 2026	<i>Music on the Field event</i>
Tues 23 June 26, 1:30pm	<i>Y5/6 Sports Day</i>
Wednesday 24 June 2026	<i>Class Group Photographs</i>
Thurs 25 June 2026, 9:15am	<i>YR/1/2 Sports Day</i>
Friday 26 June, 2:50pm	<i>Reception Sit Together and Read event</i>
Monday 29 June 2026	<i>Y5 Young Mariners Visit</i>
Tuesday 30 June 2026	<i>Year 1 class assemblies: 9am Elm Class, 2:45pm Cedar Class</i>
Monday 6 July 2026	<i>Y1 Woburn Safari Park Visit</i>
Thursday 9 July 2026	<i>Transition Day</i>
Friday 10 July 2026	<i>Pupil reports out to parents</i>
Saturday 11 July 2026	<i>FoHBS Summer Fair</i>
14 & 15 July 2026, 6:00pm	<i>Year 6 leavers' production</i>
Mon 20 July 2026, 6pm	<i>Year 6 leavers' event (TBC)</i>
Mon 20 July 2026, 9:30am	<i>HB's Got Talent</i>
Tues 21 July 2026, 9am	<i>Year 6 leavers' assembly</i>
Tues 21 July 2026, 1:30pm	<i>school closes for summer holiday</i>

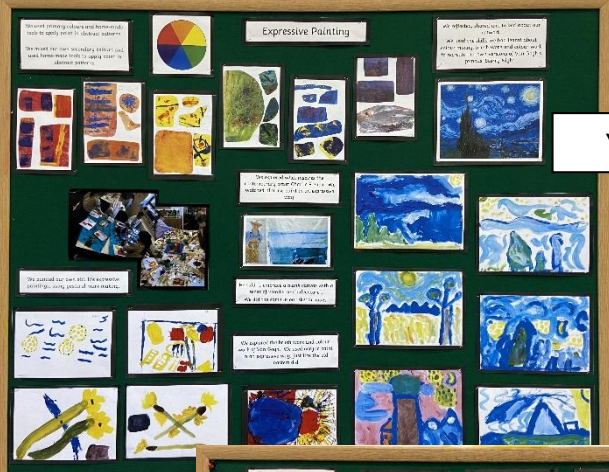
HIGH BEECHES ART SHOWCASE APRIL 2026



Reception



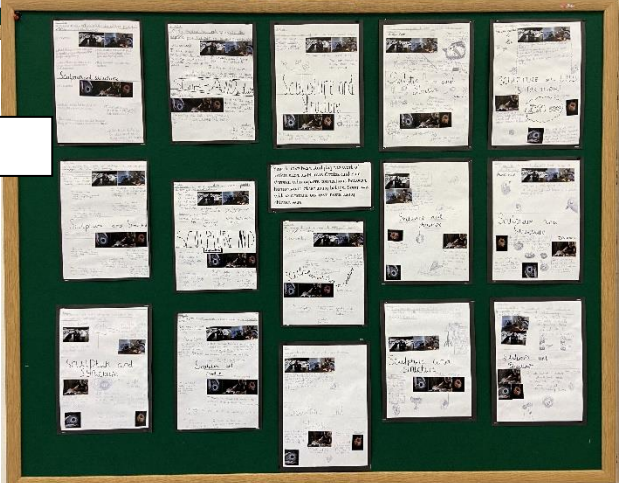
Year 1



Year 2



Year 4



Year 5



Year 6

