



Friday 3rd May 2024

Issue No. 21

WONDER, AWE, CURIOSITY: HEARTS AND MINDS INSPIRED FOR LEARNING

Message from Mr Davey

This week, it was so lovely to take our Year 4 children to a Rapid fire cricket event against the other local schools. We had three teams from Henham. The Yellow team were competing for the 'Cup'. Henham Blue and Henham Red team were both competing for the 'plate'. Our Yellow team finished 4th in their competition. Our Blue team finished 1st and our Red team finished 2nd in the plate competition. We are very proud of our children's sporting achievement. Go Team Henham.

Just a reminder that there is no school on Monday as it is a bank holiday. We hope you all enjoy the 3 day weekend.

Team points

These points were collected this week, you can find the rolling totals on our school website.



1508

Attendance

Reception– 96.43%

Year 1– 98.29%

Year 2– 98.86%

Year 3– 95.0%

Year 4– 95.67%

Year 5– 96.59%

Year 6– 95.0%

Children who achieved gold this week:

James (Rec)

Frankie (Rec)

Seth (Y3)

Eban (Y3)

Elise (Y3)

Samuel (Y4)

Thea (Y4)

Thomas (Y4)

Evie (Y4)

Maxwell (Y5)

Ariana (Y5)

Ava (Y5)

Kelsie (Y5)

Isaac (Y5)

Wren (Y5)

Remi (Y5)

Millie (Y6)

Liv (Y6)

Bertie (Y6)

Leah (Y6)



1525

Dates for your diary

Monday 6th May– Bank Holiday (no school)

Monday 13th–Thursday 16th May– Year 6 SATs week

Friday 24th May– Break up for half term (3:15 finish)

Monday 3rd June– INSET Day (no school)

Tuesday 4th June– children back to school

Wednesday 5th June– D-Day 80th anniversary special day

Wednesday 19th–21 June– Year 6 Residential

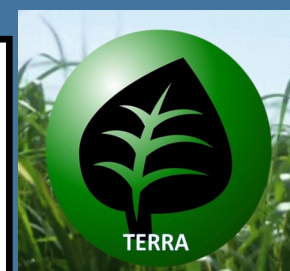
Wednesday 3rd July– Whole School Trip

Tuesday 9th July– Y5/6 Production- (9:15am and 4:30pm)

Wednesday 10th July– Sports Day

Friday 12th July– Henham Transition Morning (children with their new teacher)

Friday 19th July– End of Year Reports out to parents



1585



1551

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

We have booked a session with the very well known e-safety gurus "The Two Johns" They will be talking to each class of children on 18th July delivering very important training regarding being safe online. In the evening they will be delivering a training session to parents, please make sure you tune in.

Miss Katrina Branch

Miss Branch, who worked at Henham since September 2014, has made the decision to take a break from teaching and concentrate on her family.

As headteacher, I never got the privilege of working with Katrina but I know she worked incredibly hard and will be greatly missed by all of our Henham family.

Katrina wants to express her gratitude and thanks for all the support and love she received from the children she taught.

You may remember that at the beginning of the year I put out a questionnaire to parents to find out your opinions of the school when I first started. Between now and the end of the year what I thought would be good for you to see is how I have addressed the results of that survey.






I will highlight each question one by one

Back in October, Our Survey said!

3. This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved

[More Details](#)

 Insights

 Strongly agree	15
 Agree	18
 Neither agree nor disagree	5
 Disagree	6
 Strongly disagree	0

The actions we have taken to improve this since October

1. New behaviour policy introduced.
2. Children understand that there will be a clearly defined consequence for their poor behaviour choices.
3. We also foster a positive respectful school culture where compassion and listening to each other is key.
4. Redesigned our lunchtime activities
5. Ensured we have engaging activities should there be 'wet play'
6. Ensured a sufficient number of adults are on duty during playtime/lunchtime

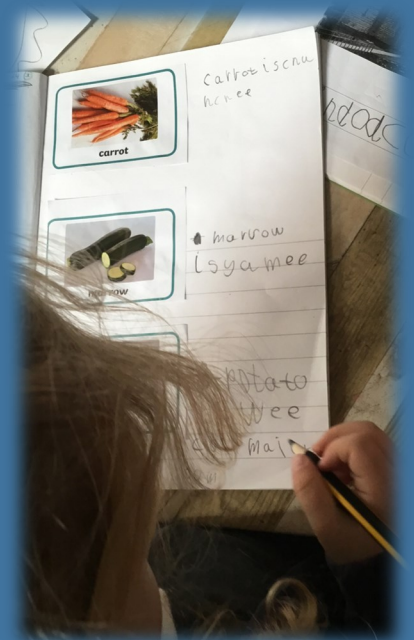
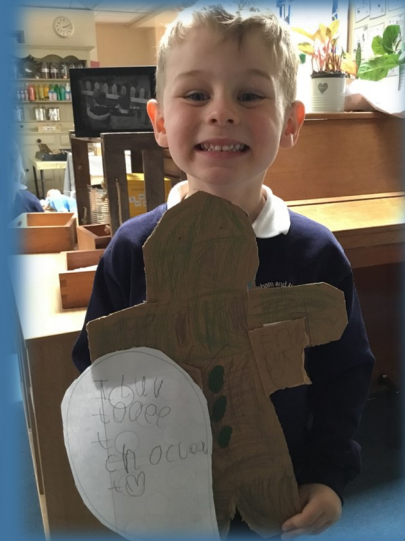
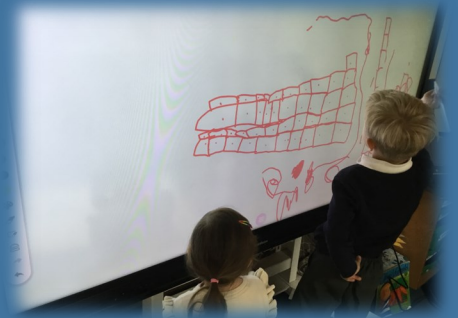
Class in the spotlight

Each week, we will focus on a different class and share all the creative and fun lessons they have been doing. This week we are focussed on our Early Years children.

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Since coming back from the Easter holidays, our learning has been very vegetable themed. We have learnt to tell the beginning of the story of The Enormous Turnip using Talk 4 Writing, and have now moved onto Oliver's Vegetables.

Take a look at the exciting learning taking place...



Look at all our mark making opportunities!

We love to print, paint, write, chat, talk, share, dig, cut and colour!

Term Dates for 2024/2025

Essex County Council School Term and Holiday Dates for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools - Academic Year 2024-2025

September 2024							October 2024							November 2024							December 2024												
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S						
					1		1	2	3	4	5	6						1	2	3					1								
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30					2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31											9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
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January 2025							February 2025							March 2025							April 2025												
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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May 2025							June 2025							July 2025							August 2025												
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= Schooldays
 = School holidays
 = Bank holidays
 = Weekends

Sports Day

Due to the District Sports event on the 26th June. We have had to move our School Sports Day to 10th July.

Our new reserve date (in case of bad weather) is going to be the 15th July.

SCHOOL PARKING

I have noticed that a small number of parents have been driving onto the school site during drop off and pick up. Please can I ask that this stops immediately as our school car park is for staff only. If this request continues to be ignored, the school gates will have to be shut at school drop off and pick up time and we will have no moving cars on site whilst the children are coming in or leaving school.

Secondary Transition Days

We have called the secondary schools and they have informed us that these are the dates of 'moving up days'

Joyce Frankland— **28th June**

Boys High— **11th July**

SWCH— **27th and 28th June**

Hockerill— **8th June**

Herts and Essex— **3rd July (pm) and 11th July**

Birchwood— **11th July**

Avanti- ?

Helena Romana— **27th and 28th June**

Forest Hall— **27th June**

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SOCIAL MEDIA & MENTAL HEALTH

An estimated one-third of children have a social media account, so it's important that trusted adults know what content young people are consuming, what they're posting and the interactions they're having. On social media, it can be easy to go down 'rabbit holes' that aren't beneficial to our wellbeing. As platforms grapple with managing such 'legal but harmful' content, lives are being impacted – sometimes to tragic effect. We might be daunted by the scale of the tech giants and their content which so enravels young people, but we can still help children to be aware of their mental wellness: recognising when something isn't OK... and knowing what to do about content that upsets them.

1. UNDERSTAND THE ALGORITHM

Algorithms rank content by user interest: someone who regularly interacts with sports news, say, will see the latest results at the top of their feed. Likewise, if a user browses content that can cause harm, that's what will be recommended to them in future. Someone who's had a bad day and looks for posts which reflect their mood will find similar content being suggested to them more and more.

2. AVOID THE MAIN FEEDS

Avoiding the default feeds on social media platforms limits the amount of recommended content that's shown. Users can opt to only scroll through the accounts they follow, use restricted modes, or highlight posts that they don't want to see more of. Explore the platform safety settings to see how you can take control of what your child's phone shows them when they open the app.

3. DISCUSS WHAT THEY'VE SEEN

Chatting about what your child's seen online keeps you aware of the content they're interacting with. Don't assume that platforms are screening out inappropriate material, or even that your child would recognise content as being harmful. Discuss who they follow, what posts they like and what comes up in their feeds: if alarm bells ring, it could be time for a more in-depth talk or to seek support.

4. LEARN HOW TO HIDE CONTENT

If your child stumbles across unsuitable content on social media, there's the option to hide that post as well as indicating you'd prefer any similar material not to be suggested in future. On some platforms, you might also be able to block posts that contain specific words, which is an excellent way to start taking control of what your child sees online.

5. SET DAILY LIMITS

Phones and most apps can tell you how much they're being used. Spending too long online can mean a child misses out on other activities that are important to all-round wellbeing. You could set some family rules – for everyone to follow – around device use, such as screen time limits and tech-free spaces: involving your child in creating this agreement makes them more likely to stick to it.

6. MONITOR THEIR ACTIVITY

Keeping a discreet eye on how your child is using social media can help ensure they're not entering potentially dangerous situations. As they grow up, of course, children need space to exercise their independence – but you can still occasionally ask to see what they're looking at. Be transparent about your own social media use and try not to sound judgemental about your child's.

7. TURN OFF PUSH NOTIFICATIONS

Even for adults, it's tempting to check an email or message as soon as the alert sound pings. Push notifications encourage people to open their apps and spend time on their device, so turning them off will help your child to practise mindful use of tech. Most of us have other things that we need to focus on as a priority – and those notifications will still be there later, when we have more time.

8. USE DEVICES TOGETHER

Giving children internet-enabled devices and complete freedom to explore platforms on their own can result in exposure to hugely damaging content. You could consider making a particular area at home a designated space to use phones, tablets and so on – making it much easier to monitor what content your child is viewing and (if necessary) steer them away from any potentially harmful paths.

9. ENCOURAGE OTHER ACTIVITIES

Mental health professionals often highlight the importance of exercise, quality time with loved ones, a balanced diet and restful sleep for our mental wellbeing. Spending hours on social media can cause us to sacrifice other activities that our brains need to feel well – so encouraging your child to put down their phone and enjoy something that doesn't involve a screen can be immensely beneficial.

10. TALK ABOUT PEER PRESSURE

Most platforms default children's accounts to private, so only people they've accepted as friends can see their posts. This reduces the risk of bullying or unkind comments, but – just like offline life – the digital world can still make children feel as if they need to act or look a certain way to fit in. Talk to your child about peer pressure, and listen to any concerns so you can provide the support they need.

Meet Our Expert

Shazia Sarwar-Azim is executive headteacher at a specialist primary school and, as an emotional therapy coach, works with school leaders to focus on the SEND, mental health and wellbeing agenda. A passionate advocate for vulnerable learners, Shazia is a Fellow of the Chartered College of Teaching and the author of *The Rainbow Within*, a book which supports children with SEMH needs.



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<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/3adac9a6-8d28-4a07-b7f1-7171>

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