

# Headteacher's Newsletter

3rd July 2026 - Edition 36



Dear Parents/Carers and Families,



Somehow, we have reached the point in the year where the diary seems to speed up rather than slow down. The final few weeks of term are always full of trips, celebrations, performances, transition events and those little moments that remind us just how much the children have grown over the year. There is certainly plenty still to come, but it already feels as though we are beginning to look back on another busy and successful year at Hurst Green, whilst also starting to look ahead to September and all that a new school year will bring.

## Chess Club – Donations Wanted!

We are delighted to share that Mr South and Chloe, who is in Year 4, will be launching a lunchtime Chess Club next academic year!

The club will provide pupils with the opportunity to develop their strategic thinking, problem-solving skills, concentration and resilience, all whilst enjoying the game of chess with friends.

To help us get the club up and running, we are looking for donations of complete chess sets that are no longer needed. If you have a chess set at home in good, usable condition that you would be willing to donate, we would be incredibly grateful.

Donations can be handed in at the school office at any time.



## Y4 and 5 Athletics Event

On 29th June, 120 children from Year 4 and Year 5 took part in an exciting athletics competition at Leasowes. Every child had a fantastic time, showing great enthusiasm, determination, and teamwork throughout the day. Their behaviour was outstanding and they represented the school brilliantly. Well done to everyone who took part!



## Keep Reading this Summer!

The summer holidays are a great time for children to rest, relax and recharge. It's also a wonderful opportunity to spark creativity and enjoy meaningful moments together as a family.

Reading and storytelling are simple yet powerful ways to help children explore their imagination, build confidence and express themselves. They support wellbeing, encourage communication and create lasting memories.

In this linked resource, you will find three fun and engaging activities designed to help parents and carers of primary-age children support their child's love of reading while helping them feel happy and confident over the summer.

Please share with us via our school email if you carry out any of these activities!



## Parking Around School

Firstly, thank you to families for the significant improvement we have seen in parking around school over recent months. It has been noticeable that many parents have taken on board our requests around parking safely and considerately, and this really does make a difference to the safety of our children and the relationships we have with our neighbours.

Unfortunately, we have recently received a complaint from a local resident regarding double parking and parking on corners close to the school. These practices can reduce visibility for children crossing roads and create unnecessary risks at our busiest times of day. We would therefore ask all families to continue supporting us by parking thoughtfully and considering the safety of everyone in our community.

## My Happy Mind - Parent App

Earlier this week, information was sent home about signing up to the My Happy Mind parent app. We would strongly encourage families to make use of this excellent resource, which helps reinforce at home many of the strategies and approaches children are learning in school around wellbeing, resilience and emotional health. There will also be a My Happy Mind stand at our Summer Fair, where families can find out more about the programme and ask any questions they may have.

We are currently in the process of applying Silver Accreditation in recognition of the work we do to promote mental health and wellbeing across the school. A huge thank you goes to Mrs Edmonds for leading this work and to all staff for the priority they continue to place on this important area of school life. If you need the app information sent out again, please contact the school office.

## Good Luck, Senna!



We would like to wish **Senna** the very best of luck as she prepares to represent England at the **Dance World Cup in Dublin** next week.

Qualifying to represent your country at an international competition is an incredible achievement and reflects years of hard work, dedication and commitment to her sport. We know how proud Senna's family are of her and we are equally proud to have such talented young people representing both their country and our school community on the international stage.

We look forward to hearing all about the competition when she returns and wish her every success in Dublin. Good luck, Senna! 🏆🇬🇧

## Thank You for Your Support During the Heatwave

Thank you to all of our families for your support and understanding last week when we took the decision to close the school due to the extreme temperatures. Decisions like this are never taken lightly, and we appreciate the flexibility and patience shown by parents whilst we managed the situation.

We also received a number of lovely emails from families thanking staff for their efforts and support during the heatwave, which were greatly appreciated and shared with the team. We are fortunate to have such a supportive school community, particularly when unexpected situations arise.

Thanks also to the PTA for buying some additional fans for our classrooms!

# Waste into Wonder Day

Last week, we enjoyed our Art and DT Focus Day, where we used recyclable materials (or, as the children preferred to call it, "rubbish!") and transformed them into pieces of art.

The children researched artists, planned their designs, created their work and evaluated their final pieces. We finished the day by displaying our artwork in classrooms before taking a tour around school to visit our very own whole-school gallery and admire everyone else's creations.

The day was a huge success and was thoroughly enjoyed by children and staff alike. A huge thank you goes to Mrs McFarlane for all of the hard work that went into organising such a fantastic day.



# Ronnie's BMX European Championships 2026



Congratulations to Ronnie, who recently competed at the BMX European Championships in Sarrians, France.

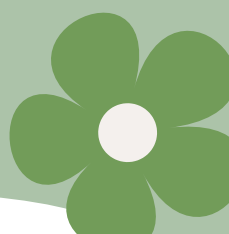
Ronnie travelled to the event hoping to retain his European plate, but with an incredible 123 riders in his category, this was always going to be one of the toughest competitions yet.

Despite temperatures reaching 44°C and an amended race schedule, Ronnie rode brilliantly to progress through to the quarter finals, where an unfortunate slipped pedal brought his competition to an end.

Ronnie finished an outstanding 18th overall in one of the strongest fields the competition has seen, an achievement he should be incredibly proud of.

With the UCI BMX World Championships in Brisbane now just around the corner, we wish Ronnie the very best of luck for his next challenge.

As one of our Year 6 pupils prepares to leave Hurst Green in the coming weeks, we will continue to follow Ronnie's progress with interest and will always be proud of everything he goes on to achieve.





## Library Books – End of Year Reminder

A huge thank you to all of our families for your fantastic support of our new school library this year. It has been wonderful to see so many children enjoying borrowing books and developing a love of reading. Your enthusiasm has played a huge part in making the library such a success. Over the summer, we will be adding lots of exciting new books ready for children to enjoy in September.

As we approach the end of term, please could you check at home and return any library books to school as soon as possible. Reminder letters for any outstanding books will be sent home next week.

If a library book has unfortunately been lost or damaged, we would be grateful if you could either replace it with the same title (where possible) or send a £5 contribution towards the cost of a replacement.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support in helping us keep our library well stocked for all of our children.

## Shuffle Day

This week, children took part in our annual Class Shuffle Day, spending time with their new teachers, classmates and classrooms ahead of September. There was plenty of excitement, a few understandable nerves and, as always, lots of curiosity about where they would be sitting and what their new classroom would look like.

The day was a great success, and it was lovely to see how quickly the children settled into their new environments and embraced the opportunity to begin getting to know their new teachers and classmates. Transition is an important part of school life, and experiences like this help children feel more confident and prepared for the new academic year.

From the conversations we have heard around school since, it sounds as though many children have already started looking forward to September and all the opportunities that a new school year will bring.

# New Reading Nook for KS2

We are delighted to announce that our brand-new Reading Nook will be opening in September!

The Reading Nook has been created to inspire a love of reading and provide our Key Stage 2 children with a calm, welcoming space where they can enjoy a wide range of high-quality books. We hope it will become a place where children can discover new authors, share book recommendations and develop a lifelong passion for reading.

We would like to say a huge thank you to our wonderful PTA for their generous support in purchasing one of our new bookcases. Their continued fundraising and commitment to our school help make exciting projects like this possible, and we are incredibly grateful.

We would also like to recognise the enormous contribution of Mr Lander, who has worked tirelessly to secure grants, source furniture and bring hundreds of new books into school to help create this exciting new space for our children. Our thanks also go to the staff who helped prepare and set up the Reading Nook ready for its opening.

We can't wait to officially open the Reading Nook in September and share this fantastic new reading space with our pupils!



# England Football



Following England's recent World Cup matches, we previously offered families the option of a later start after fixtures that kicked off in the evening and finished late at night

The next England fixture is significantly different, with a kick-off time of 1:00am. Children choosing to watch the match are unlikely to be asleep until at least 3:00am or later, particularly if the game goes to extra time or penalties. In these circumstances, a later start of 10:30am would not meaningfully reduce the impact of such a late night or provide any real benefit in terms of rest and readiness for learning.

**For that reason, school will open as normal the following morning and normal attendance procedures will apply.**

As always, we will continue to consider such situations on a case-by-case basis, taking account of the specific circumstances surrounding each event and making decisions accordingly.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

## Staffing Changes for September

As we begin looking ahead to September, we wanted to share a few staffing updates with families.

Many parents will know Mrs Whittaker, who will be known as Miss Davies from September. Whilst the name on emails and newsletters may change, thankfully the person behind them remains exactly the same!

We are also delighted to welcome several new colleagues to the Hurst Green team. Joining us in September will be a new teacher, Miss Naif (Year 2), and Teaching Assistants, Mrs Taylor and Miss Javid (EYFS), Miss Wheatley (Key Stage 1) and Miss Kirby, who will be joining our Orchard provision. We are also pleased to welcome Ms Misterson, Ms Mandudzo and Miss Qayyum to our lunchtime team as Midday Supervisors.

We look forward to welcoming them all to the Hurst Green family in September.

# Year 3 Trip

Year 3 had a wonderful day at Bodenham Arboretum! The children had a fantastic time taking part in a range of exciting outdoor activities, including den building, learning how to safely start a fire, toasting treats over the campfire, creating beautiful natural artwork, and making bracelets.

The children were absolutely incredible throughout the day and were praised by the staff for their outstanding attitude, behaviour, and enthusiasm.



Have a wonderful weekend!  
Miss Wilson



## Attendance 29.06.26 - 03.07.26



Apple - 96.18%



Cedar - 95.78%



Hawthorn - 94.62%



Pine - 93.97%



Apricot - 93.39%



Cherry - 94.45%



Hazel - 95.63%



Poplar - 96.32%



Beech - 96.72%



Elder - 96.44%



Larch - 95.75%



Birch - 95.46%



Elm - 95.6%



Lime - 93.84%



Well Done  
Beech Class!

## House Points



17806



16275



17415



17106

## Mentions Week 2

Apple - Rufus & Ariyan

Apricot - Gurseerat

Beech - Avea

Birch - Eliana

Cedar - Asmitha

Cherry - Miracle

Elder - N/A

Elm - N/A

Hawthorn - Joseph

Hazel - Eddie

Larch - Ben

Lime - Shaima

Pine - Lennon

Poplar - Jack