

HAMPTON DENE PRIMARY SCHOOL

One School, Cherishing All

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you all enjoyed the burst of sunshine we had last week. Thankfully it has been a bit cooler to start the second half term. This is a good reminder that all children should have with them in school: water bottle, hat/cap, sunscreen, suitable clothing for the weather (this may include a lightweight waterproof coat).

The last half of the Summer term is always a busy one, I hope to see as many of you as possible at our events which include: Colour run, Sports day and Year 5/6 shows.

Best Wishes

Mrs E Kearns

In Rainbow Fun Club (our support group for children who have siblings with additional needs) all the children asked questions about Autism. They had some fantastic questions and we helped to answer them as a group. We learned that getting to know all people as individuals is the key to helping others.



On Thursday 7th May, some of the Year 2 girls took part in the new annual 'Tupsley Cup' playing a football match against St Paul's Primary. We played 4 quarters of 10 minutes with Hampton Dene winning 2-0. It was lovely to see each child want to get stuck in, play with a smile on their face and work well together as a team. Well done to all involved! A big thank you to Tupsley Girls FC for organising too.



Year 4 Oakerwood Residential trip

It all happened in May, and not just for Year 6! Year 4 went on their first ever residential trip to Oaker Wood where they stayed overnight for two nights. It's always a rollercoaster of emotions both in the lead up to, and the trip itself. I was really proud of Year 4 for their perseverance and resilience with many exciting activities well outside their comfort zone: climbing up the tallest trees and zooming on huge ziplines to working in teams to solve problems before wide open team games in the paintball arena. But far more than that it was a simply a joy to watch the children embrace the opportunity and enjoy their newfound independence. I'm told they all slept very soundly over the weekend! Well done Year 4!



Diary Dates

June

Mon 1st —Yr6 Swimming daily

Tues 2nd—new reception class parent meeting—6pm

Thurs 4th—Yr1 swimming lessons, Hawks class assembly

Fri 5th—YrR swimming lessons, Butterflies class geography walk

Mon 8th—Yr6 Swimming daily

Thurs 11th—RDA session selected Yr5

Mon 15th—Owls class Roald Dahl performance at Courtyard Theatre

Tues 16th—selected Yr3 and 4 Cricket tournament

Thurs 18th—Kites class assembly, Butterflies class road safety visit

Fri 19th—Eagles class life-skills café 1

Tues 23rd—Ladybirds class trip Perrygrove, 2pm SEND parents coffee meeting

Wed 24th—Whole school transition day to new classes

Fri 26th—Buzzards, Kestrels, Ospreys Science Explorer Dome, Eagles class life skills café 2

JULY

Wed 1st—Hawks and Buzzards class trip Cattle Country

Thurs 2nd—Yr6 transition day at secondary schools

Fri 3rd—PTFA Colour run/walk event

Tues 7th—Butterflies class DT workshop with Spellar Metcalfe, Yr5 and Yr6 Show 5.30pm

Wed 8th—Yr4 and Yr6 Science festival St Mary's, Yr5 languages day at BHBS, Yr5 and Yr 6 Show 5.30pm

Thurs 9th—Yr3 and Yr5 Science festival St Mary's

Fri 10th—Sports Day

Butterflies Class had an excellent day out at Allstars in Sutton, taking part in outdoor games, laser tag, quad biking and inflatables. The trip was paid for with the money they raised from running their Life Skills Café and they all thoroughly enjoyed themselves!



Classes September 2026

We are very excited that our two new classrooms will be open for September. This takes our total number of classes to thirteen; seven single age group mainstream classes and six mixed age classes within the Language and Communication centre (LCC).

We have taken this opportunity to rename some of our classes, the theme for all classes names is British Woodland. We now have a mixture of animals trees and flowers all found in a British Woodland, staff and pupils have all contributed to the process.

From the list below you will see that many staff are also changing year groups this year—this is good for staff professional development and brings a fresh approach to the curriculum. Please look carefully at the class your child will be entering in September. We have a number of transition sessions during June and July to help you child become familiar with their new classroom and in many cases new teacher.

Mainstream Reception —Ladybird Class —Mrs. E Davies

Mainstream Year 1 —Bluebell Class —Miss B Jones

Mainstream Year 2 —Butterfly Class — Mrs. A Price

Mainstream Year 3— Owl Class —Mrs. A Drew

Mainstream Year 4—Kingfisher Class—Mr S Davies

Mainstream Year 5—Ash Class—Mr M Swaine

Mainstream Year 6—Oak Class—Mr R Legdon

LCC Rec/Yr1—Bees Class—Mrs. L Treanor

LCC Y1/2—Hedgehog Class—Miss K Reynolds

LCC Yr3/4 – Otter Class—Mr I Moore (Recently appointed)

LCC Yr5/6—Chestnut Class—Miss L Jones

LCC Y2-6—Fox Class—Miss C Bloore

LCC Y2-6—Snowdrops Class—Mrs A Davey & Miss H Lloyd

Mrs. S Phillips will continue to cover PPA across many of the classes throughout the week.

All classes will be supported by a team of Teaching assistants who do such a vital role in supporting children socially, emotionally and academically.

If you have any queries please come and ask.

On May 20th, year 6 children went to Liverpool on our residential trip.

Firstly, we got on the bus and left for Chester Zoo, it was much fun because we saw a variety of different animals like: Asian Elephants, Lizards, Giraffe, Tiger, we even went into a room full of bats flying and sleeping, WE EVEN HELD REAL SHEDDED SNAKESKIN FROM A PYTHON.

At Flip Out (our next destination), we had lots of free time to go roller-skating, although we kept falling over; bumper cars where we bumped people away; floor is lava; jumping over obstacles and landing on small round platforms trying not to fall in the red, yellow and orange balls. Also, we had the choice to play mini football and jump into a ball pit tunnel, slide down a massive drop slide. In a separate room, there was tennis ball launchers where we could aim at targets and gain point for your team.

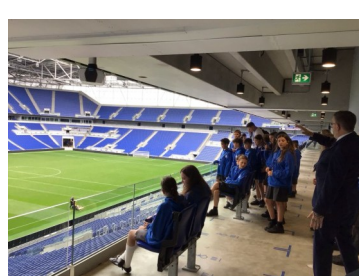
Day 2—At 9:00, we left for the Liverpool World Museum (after a great breakfast) where we did an interesting workshop on Ancient Greeks and Romans - we got to hold real swords the Romans and Greeks used in battle.

Then we had a good lunch on the bus and arrived at Hill- Dickinson stadium for a tour. It was cool to walk out their tunnel and hear the music that the real players walk out to on a matchday. We got taught about some of the legends that played there. We all really enjoyed learning about the history and even the non-football fans got something out of it.

The next stop on our trip was the river Mersey cruise. We all enjoyed the boat ride. Sadly, it was raining that day and- until then- we had managed to stay dry.

At Gravity max, some of us did mini golf, while the majority did go-karting. After, we re-grouped and spent the rest of the night bowling and in the arcade. We got back very late then went to bed because we had to wake up early for the final day which was a walking tour of Liverpool. This included: Albert Dock, city centre museums and buildings and a look at the Beetles Cavern Club.

By Willow Mahner-Prior and Olivia Whittall



National Year of Reading

2026

Each month, we will be hearing from different staff about their favourite books and why they love reading them.

June—Mrs Napolitano

My favourite author is Roald Dahl

It always makes me smile when I see a child reading one of his books as I know the fantastic places he will take them. What I always loved about his books was that there was such a breadth from fiction such as Esio Trot and Matilda to his autobiographies (Boy and Going Solo) which were both funny and serious in equal measures. He inspired me as a child to read books which I may have not chosen if it were not for the fact that I had built a trusted relationship with him as an author. Not only did I love to read his books but I used to go to sleep every night listening to one of his stories on audiobook – cassette tapes back then! This alongside my parents reading to me, exposed me as a young child to language and vocabulary that I could not read yet. I remember fondly that quality time together which inspired my love of reading into adulthood. Reading with my two young daughters now is my absolute favourite part of the day and seeing their own faces light up as they listen and engage with books. Currently, we are on every Juila Donaldson story there is (over and over again) but next up is going to be 'The Giraffe and the Pelly and Me' which was my first choice every time as a young child.

How many books did Roald Dahl write? Its is thought he wrote about 50 books including 21 children's books—he is less known for writing books for adults. **How many Roald Dahl books have you read?**

We had lots of fun learning about our specific author. Here are some of the displays so far...

Owls - Roald Dahl

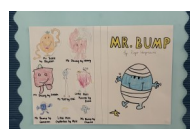
Owls class will be putting on a performance at the Courtyard as part of the Roald Dahl Literacy Project. The children voted and chose to explore the BFG!

Butterflies - Nick Sharratt

Butterflies class enjoyed finding out about Nick Sharratt and focusing on his 'You Choose' books. Did you know, he has a fellowship from Hereford College of Art and is also the proud owner of a gold Blue Peter badge.

Ospreys - Roger Hargreaves

Ospreys class explored the various Mr Men stories created by Roger Hargreaves. Here are our drawings of some of our favourites!



Bees - David McKee

Bees class created a new colourful Elmer using a range of materials and textures.



Don't forget to have a look at each class display up close when you are next in school!

In May, Ladybirds Class also took part in the 'Where Sticks Become Stories: A Musical Adventure' where we shared the book Stanley Stick. We enjoyed using our individual sticks for many uses such as a bendy banana, a drumstick, a stirring spoon and a fishing rod.



Challenge time

Create a new Mr Men character. You could even write a new story! We would love to see your creations.