

HAMPTON DENE PRIMARY SCHOOL

One School, Cherishing All

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a lovely Easter break it is great to feel the warmth of the sun and the benefits of longer days. The Summer term is always a busy one, it begins in May with many of our National Assessments. This is quickly followed by residential visits in Year 4 & 6. Followed by transition events for all pupils in preparation for the new academic year.

Many of you will have noted the new build is now progressing at speed. The torrential rain was problematic for a while but we are now back on track for a July finish. Which means that with a big push over the summer these classrooms will be ready for opening in September. The Time Capsule will be buried in June when the groundwork around the classrooms is being developed.

Best Wishes

Mrs E Kearns



Football News

A much improved and encouraging performance from our school football team, who showed in the later stages of the tournament that, with a little more luck, they could have come away with some silverware.

We progressed from the group stage into the Plate knockout rounds, where we faced the eventual winners, Stoke Prior. The game was largely in our favour, with the team playing some excellent football. However, Stoke Prior took the lead from a corner.

George responded brilliantly, scoring a superb equaliser with a strong solo run into the penalty area before calmly finishing into the bottom corner. Stoke Prior were then awarded a somewhat controversial penalty, which they converted to regain the lead.

With what was possibly the final kick of the game, Ava—who had been industrious throughout the entire tournament—produced a moment of real quality, delicately chipping the goalkeeper to take the game to penalties.

Despite a valiant effort, it wasn't to be, as we narrowly missed a penalty that would have sent us through. Stoke Prior went on to win the match and eventually the Plate competition.

A fantastic effort from all involved, with great teamwork, resilience, and determination shown throughout—Mr Legdon

Owls and Kites—Bridges Project

Owls and Kites took part in a bridge building workshop, which linked in with the DT unit on ‘Structures’ from Year 3. The children were fantastic engineers and worked collaboratively to build the bridge. Thanks go to the team at Griffiths (Matthew Davies and Steven Saunders) who organised this event with Miss Jones



It was really fun because we’ve never built something as a team before and it actually worked - Arthur

It was really fun and exciting because it was something different to what we normally do. It was quite hard but also quite fun - Lauren



It was really fun being the project manager because I got to help people - Lily June

It was really fun because we got to build a bridge we could walk on - Margot



Ospreys enjoyed a fantastic trip to Ledbury. We had to scan our tickets through the gates, had them checked by the conductor on the train. Ospreys were excellent representatives of our school showing excellent manners, listening and even walking over 15,000 steps. Well done everyone—Miss Bloore



Butterflies enjoyed a morning of activities at the Hereford Art College, learning the story of King Ethlebert, exploring the campus and creating Lino Prints of the story. Their prints will be displayed in Hereford Cathedral as part of the National Year of Storytelling and Hereford Gospels Project. Mrs A Drew



Diary Dates

April

Monday 13th—First day of Summer term. Children are invited to wear the checked summer dresses.

Tuesday 14th—PTFA meeting 7pm—all welcome

Monday 20th—Ospreys swimming

Friday 17th—Owls Class trip

Wednesday 22nd—WEST parent meeting 2pm. Earth Day

Thursday 23rd—9am Owls Class assembly. PTFA bag2School collection, LCC swimming

Friday 24th—Extra Curricular swimming trip—Eagles, Kites, Hawks

Thursday 30th—Tempest photography—Classes

May

Friday 1st—Butterflies Class, Allstars Activity day

Monday 4th—BANK HOLIDAY, school closed

Wednesday 6th—Friday 8th—Year 4 residential to Oakerwood

Monday 11th—Thursday 14th— SATs Year 6

Friday 15th—PTFA, WWYL day. Butterflies Class, Road Safety visitor

Wednesday 20th—Friday 22nd Year 6 residential to Liverpool

Wednesday 20th—Kestrel's class trip

Friday 22nd—Ospreys Café

Monday 25th—Friday 29th

HALF-TERM

National Year of Reading

2026

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

April—Mrs Treanor

My favourite book is...

I was always called a bookworm as a child. At 8 years old we moved house, living just across the road from the library - what joy this was! I would nip across each Saturday to get the next cluster of stories.

My most loved story was discovered not in the library, but at a school book fair. I can still remember the excitement of being surrounded by all the shiny cases and so many books. It was here I discovered the Snow Spider by Jenny Nimmo. It is a tale of discovery, family, and ancient magic. Gwyn is gifted five strange gifts on his ninth birthday along with a cryptic message from his Grandmother. Set in the beautiful country of Wales, Gwyn's life changes in ways that could not be predicted. The Snow Spider is the first book in the trilogy filled with magic and day to day life. And yes, I read the rest of the books as soon as I was able to!

World Book Day raced around and we had a brilliant time taking part in our whole school story hunt. There were 20 different stories for the children to find and work out from the props left behind, as well as the secret letters to decode the hidden message 'Go All In'. It was lovely to see children of all ages throwing themselves in, searching around and working out a range of stories from 'Dear Zoo' to 'Matilda'. We would also like to say a BIG thank you to the PTFA for organising a fantastic book swap. The children loved being able to choose a new book to take home.



Kites and Ladybirds also held some parent workshop sessions this month. A range of drama, dough disco, body percussion, reading quizzes and phonics were all incorporated and children really enjoyed having an adult in school taking part in a 'live' lesson with them. It was great to see the hall so full and everyone engaged. We really do appreciate you taking the time to come in and support your child.



Adults, don't miss out on 'World Book Night'. Thursday 23rd April. Join the reading hour between 7&8 pm. Be part of it and simply take time to read or share a book

Reading Leaves—Spring Term 2026

Each term a reading leaf is awarded to a child from each class for their achievements with reading. The leaves are placed on the reading tree in the hall and when the child leaves Hampton Dene they take their leaf with them..

Awards for the Spring term are:

Ladybirds—Harvey

Butterflies—Jasper

Caterpillars—Monty

Ospreys— Charlie

Owls—Arthur

Hawks - Brad

Kites Sanul

Kestrels—Alfie

Eagles—Alice

Buzzards—Vlad

Buzzards Class

The theme for Buzzards' class assembly was 'The Amazing Americas'. The children entertained their guests with facts about different countries, singing, dancing and music using the Boomwhackers. Everybody spoke and performed with confidence.

After the assembly, the children went into 'business mode' for their Life Skills Cafe. The class worked together as a team and made a fabulous profit of £121.40.

