

HAMPTON DENE PRIMARY SCHOOL

One School, Cherishing All

In this issue:

Headteacher's news

January Round up

Diary dates

PTFA update

Year or Reading 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

Despite the challenging weather January has been a successful month in school, see page 2, 3 & 4 for a round up of the months events.

January is a month of reflection and new beginnings and for one of our longer serving teachers some big decisions have been made. Mrs Morgan along with her family has decided that 2026 is the year of change. Mrs Morgan will be relocating back to North Wales at the end of academic year. This is an exciting step for the whole family but does mean that she will be leaving Hampton Dene in July 2026. Mrs Morgan has been part of the staff for the last 13 years and has made a significant contribution through her leadership of PSHE and RE as well as being the Mental Health lead for the whole school. Mrs Morgan has taught Early years, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. She has always been involved in the PTFA taking on the role of treasurer for many years. She will be sorely missed but we are really excited for her as she begins this new adventure.

As always the staffing for September will be published in the June newsletter where everyone will find out the teacher for every class for the new academic year.

Eagles Class are doing a weekly community walk, where needed they will also carry out a litter pick. If anyone knows of any areas of Tupsley that are in particular need of a tidy up please let us know.

Best Wishes

Mrs E Kearns

School Uniform Supplier.

We have been notified that Monkhouse Schoolwear, who provide our school uniform, will be closing later this month. The store is located in the town centre not far from the bull statue. The store will close on Saturday 21st February therefore parents are encouraged to purchase any current stock they have before this date. Club Sport continue to supply our uniform and we are currently investigating other online suppliers which may take this on.

Junior Park Run

There was a fantastic turn out on Sunday 25th for the Hereford Park Run. Children from Reception to Year 6 enjoyed a fresh morning run in the winter sun. It was great to see the enjoyment from exercising with friends no matter how fast or slow the pace. I really hope that for some this will be a routine that carries on throughout the year. Thank you to Mrs Rowlatt for getting Hampton Dene School involved.



Special Assembly

Last week we had a special visitor from Buzz and Kate who work with the building Contractors Spellar Metcalfe. They talked to the children about the progress of the extension and briefed the children about safety on building sites.



Diary Dates

February

Monday 2nd—Butterflies
Class trip

Thursday 5th—Yr5/6 Mixed
County football

Friday 6th—PTFA Disco's

Monday 9th—Thursday 12th
various class parent's evenings

Tuesday 10th—Safer Internet
Day, School Nurse drop in
sessions 11:30am, 2pm
SEND Parent Coffee Meeting

Thursday 12th—Yr5/6 Girls
County football, 2.30pm Cat-
erpillars class assembly

HALF-TERM

Monday 16th—Friday 20th

Tuesday 24th—Year 4 Mov-
ing targets, Courtyard

Thursday 26th—Buzzards,
Road Safety visitor

March

Thursday 5th March—World
Book day, 9am Buzzards
Class assembly

Week beginning 16th—
Eagles Bikeability

Thursday 18th—Owls/Kites—
Bridge Workshop

Wednesday 25th—Years 1&5
Buddy trip

Thursday 26th—Ladybirds'
class assembly 2:30pm

Friday 27th—Last day of
Spring term

EASTER HOLIDAY

Monday 30th March —
Friday 10th April

Owls Class visit the History Store



Owls went to the History Store to inspire their historical story writing about life in the Iron Age. They also were fantastic historical detectives to uncover which items belonged to different people from different periods of time.



Butterflies Cafe

Butterflies Class have enjoyed walking to the shop for ingredients, cooking and delivering their Life Skills Cafés this month.





Ospreys have been enjoying their weekly sessions at REACT gymnastics. In trampolining we have been learning how to jump safely on a trampoline and perform tuck jumps and star jumps. In gymnastics we have been learning how to balance, how to use high bars and beams and practising our forwards rolls. We are having so much fun and are looking forward to seeing our skills develop further.

PTFA NEWS

Christmas Recap

We owe a huge thank you to all the parents for donating in whatever way during the Christmas period as we all appreciate it is an expensive time of year for all.

The Christmas Fayre raised £1565.00

Raffle ticket sales at The Nativity shows raised £701.00

-This money has enabled us to subsidise the travel to the pantomime's over the festive period thus reducing the cost to each child by £10.00 totalling a donation of £2320.00

-We provided free drinks & mince pies to everyone at the nativity shows

-We have also donated £100.00 to every class in the school to buy additional supplies for all the children to benefit from.

-We have also purchased new pads for the school defibrillator at a cost of £170.00.

Hopefully you'll agree that this is all money well spent?

Volunteers

The PTFA is always looking for new volunteers, if you are interested please contact James Smith to chat about how you may be able to help PTFAChair@hamptondene.hereford.sch.uk

Disco

Don't forget the school disco on Friday!!

KS1 5-6pm KS2 6.30-7.30

Cost £4

We are still struggling with our card machine provider so this is likely to be a cash only event (we will get this issue sorted!!)

Forthcoming Events

We have lots of fun events to look forward to this year and will give you dates for these as soon as they are finalised

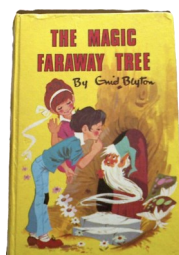
Reminders

- ⇒ **This is the final week of After School Enrichment activities a new list will come out next week ready for after half term**
- ⇒ **Parents' evenings are scheduled next week for all pupils, if you have not yet secured an appointment please do so as soon as possible. If you are unable to attend any of these sessions please contact your child's teacher to arrange a convenient time/date. Please remember teachers are committed to teaching their classes during the school day**
- ⇒ **This week is National Story telling week, please explore some new stories with your child**

National Year of Reading 2026—February

Each month, we hear from different staff about their favourite books and why they love reading them. **February—Mrs Morgan**

My favourite book growing up was *The Magic Faraway Tree*. I loved all the people; how so many characters lived in a tree that reached through the clouds. The children who visited the tree never knew what magical land would be at the top. One of my favourite parts was when they left the land and were in Moonface's house ready to go home. Each child would grab a cushion and travel down the 'slippery slip'....a slide that travelled all the way down inside the tree trunk when you would pop out of a secret door at the bottom. Oh how I wished I could have travelled on it!



As an adult I LOVE READING! I always have a book on the go, and love nothing better than a good detective novel. However one of my favourite authors in recent years is Philippa Gregory. She writes historical novels, most around the Tudor period. She looks at big events in history from the perspective of one of the lesser well known people of her time. She is factually accurate with a real empathy for how it must have been to live in those times. You know you've found a good author when you can get lost for hours with your nose in a book!



We kick started our 'National Year of Reading' by sharing the 'Go All In' message in our Key Stage assemblies last month. We enjoyed watching the trailer and talking about what we currently enjoy reading. It was great to hear such a mix of genres being read! Each class also decorated their display door in the corridor to represent their favourite stories. Take a look at the picture above.

We are looking forward to taking part in 'National Storytelling Week' this week where we have the opportunity to dip into live workshops in school. This year, we will be focusing on the message 'Soundtrack your Story'. Check out what we get up to in the March newsletter!

February Challenge: Follow on from National Storytelling Week by acting out your favourite parts of stories to a friend or family member. See if they can guess which book it is from!