



Belonging . Courage . Perseverance . Compassion . Trust

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers

As expected, it has been a busy start to the year, settling in our new little Acorns and getting everyone back into the school routines. Attendance has got off to a good start, with most children arriving promptly in the morning; thank you for your support in ensuring a calm and focused start to the day. Last week, we had our first ever day of 100% attendance across the whole school which we celebrated with extra playtime!



It has been lovely welcoming both new and existing families into Reception and we are so pleased with how well the children have settled. We are really impressed by the great job that our Year 6 buddies are doing and a special thank you to our Early Years team for providing such a nurturing environment, to support this important time for our youngest children.

It was lovely to see so many of you at our Meet the Teacher meetings last week. I hope that this provided useful information and that you have also seen the key dates for the year, sent out on Tuesday.

Erin and Gabriel have completed their first duty as our new head girl and head boy, welcoming the new Director of Education for the Diocese to Hever. She was impressed by their confidence and enthusiasm and by how settled and focused all the children were so early in the year.

We had our first Full Governing Body meeting this, when governors agreed this year's key priorities for the School Development Plan, as follows:

Key priorities for 2025-26	
Quality of Education	1. To review and refine our writing curriculum, to ensure all pupils secure the foundations of transcription and composition, enabling all children to confidently access increasingly complex written tasks.
	2. To embed assessment and retrieval strategies in the foundation subjects, providing regular opportunities to revisit previous learning to strengthen connections and ensure all children have the knowledge they need before moving on.
Behaviour and Attitudes Personal Development	3. To strengthen and embed a whole school approach to resilience and emotional wellbeing, including developing a spiritually supportive school.
Early Years Provision	4. To provide high-quality opportunities to enable all children to build the foundations of writing, developing their language skills to support oral composition and developing handwriting and spelling as part of an effective well-sequenced writing curriculum.

The governing body are very pleased to welcome Mr Ruban Tharmarajah as the new parent governor.

Thank you for your continued support in what promises to be an exciting year at Hever!

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Bligh

HOUSE POINTS WK 1

Congratulations to Kestrel!

Kestrel 219

Falcon 194

Eagle 186

HOUSE POINTS WK 2

Congratulations to Kestrel!

Kestrel 320

Eagle 277

Falcon 274



Golden Book Award

Magnolia: Lilly

Elderberry: Victor, Eliza,

Cian A, Sophie

Willow: Eve

Chestnut: Ralph

Oak: Falcon Girl & Sophia



Attendance Cup—Wk 1

Well done

Oak class!

95.9% attendance



Previous week's whole
school attendance:

95.9%



Attendance Cup—Wk 2

Well done

Oak class!

** 100% attendance **



Last week's whole school
attendance:

97.5%



Star of the week—Wk 1

Acorn: Whole Class

Magnolia: Larosa

Elderberry: Bear

Elm: Imogen

Willow: Liam

Chestnut: William

Oak: Falcon Girl



Star of the week—Wk 2

Acorn: Kaiya

Magnolia: Thomas

Elderberry: Willow

Elm: Freddie

Willow: William J

Chestnut: Matilda

Oak: Sophia

Christian Value of the Week: Friendship

"Wherever you go I will go, and wherever you stay I will stay. You people will be my people and your God my God."

Ruth 1:16



Start of Term Birthdays:

**Eva, Evie M, Amelie F,
Eleanor R, Ben,**



Birthdays this week:

**Finn, Bells, Rupert,
Eve, Izzy P**

Hever School Council

If your child would like to have the opportunity to be a school councillor for their class then please help them to write a manifesto this weekend outlining why they would be a good school councillor. A class vote will take place at the end of next week.



What We Do!



- We make decisions about our school
- We talk about how to improve our school
- We are good role models for our friends
- We are helpful citizens and do jobs around the school.

What makes a good school councillor?

A good councillor should be:

- a good listener
- trustworthy
- happy
- helpful
- committed
- honest
- Reliable
- able to work in a team
- want to make changes
- confident
- good talker
- caring
- have good ideas



Reception Class Entry for September 2026

Open mornings this year will be held on:

Friday 10th October and Wednesday 19th November (school tours also available)

Please email: admissions@hever.kent.sch.uk for bookings and more information.



Forest School

This week our new Acorn class had their first introduction to Forest School at the Nature Area where we learnt about how we keep ourselves safe at Forest School, played some games, and did some nature exploring .

Meanwhile, over the last few weeks Magnolia class have been busy exploring the new Forest School Trail searching out and reading the hidden woodland signs, learning how butterflies eat and making feeders, and this week we foraged some blackberries, made a fire, and cooked some yummy 'Bramble Berry Bread'!



EMMA'S KITCHEN

Term 1's lunch menu & ASC menu is now on the school website:

<https://www.hever.kent.sch.uk/school-meals/>
Please send any feedback to the school office.

Emma's Kitchen



** Reminders **

Please remember to put your **child's full name and class** in any emails sent to the office —thank you!

School Office

The Week in Photos—Early Years & Key Stage 1

ACORN

What a fantastic couple of first weeks at school it has been for our new Acorns!

It's been such a joy getting to know the children in smaller groups. They have done an amazing job saying goodbye to their parents, and this week has been a wonderful start to building relationships, exploring the classroom, and playing happily with new friends. It's been a delight to watch them grow in just a few short days, and we're so excited for all the fun and learning ahead!



MAGNOLIA

Magnolia Class have had an exciting few weeks settling into the new school year. The children have really thrown themselves into our learning and explored lots of new topics with enthusiasm. In art, we've been creating funny face collages that had us all laughing, while in geography we've explored different kinds of maps. In maths, the children impressed us with their excellent recall of number bonds, which we've been busy consolidating during these first weeks. Well done Magnolia Class, on such a brilliant start to Year 1!

ELDERBERRY

Wow! What an amazing start to Year 2 it has been for the children in Elderberry class.

The children have been thoroughly enjoying the new learning across the curriculum.

Here are some highlights...

In maths they have been playing games to practise how to partition numbers into tens and ones.

Geography has been a huge hit and the children have loved looking at maps and atlases. In art the children have made a colour wheel and in computing the children have been learning how to use the mouse to draw. Well



The Week in Photos—Key Stage 2

ELM

Elm class has had a busy couple of weeks; the children have put in a lot of effort in maths. We've been focusing on place value up to 1,000, exploring different ways to partition numbers flexibly. The children have been doing an excellent job using base ten and place value counters to support their learning.

In science and design technology, we've been exploring the different food groups and the importance of maintaining a healthy, balanced diet. The children have been sorting foods into their respective groups and discussing why it's essential to eat a variety of foods, as well as what each group provides for our bodies, such as vitamins, minerals, and nutrients.



WILLOW

This week Willow class have been working really hard on flexible partitioning in maths; even when it seemed too tricky they persevered and tried their best and have started to really grasp it. They have done a great job at using the place value tables and counters to help them see each partition visually.

Willow have also began their invasion topic in history and we have been looking at the effects of the Romans leaving Britain. They have worked really hard this week in pairs to write some beautiful poems to describe the causes and effects of Roman withdrawal from Britain.



CHESTNUT

Over the last two weeks, Chestnut class have been diving headfirst into the fascinating world of Ancient China. In history, the children have begun uncovering the mysteries of Chinese dynasties by creating their own interactive timelines, which have helped them to clearly see how each dynasty shaped the next. They were captivated by the discovery of ancient Chinese relics from an archaeological dig at YinXu, one of the oldest and most important historical sites in China. To bring this learning to life, the class listened to a podcast recorded by archaeologists and experts who study these incredible artefacts, sparking lots of thoughtful questions and lively discussions.

Linking this historical knowledge to their creative learning, the children have also been exploring the rich tradition of Taotie masks—legendary designs steeped in symbolism. Using a variety of artistic methods such as sketching, painting, and even moulding, they have begun designing their own unique masks, blending history and



creativity in a way that has inspired their imaginations and brought their learning to life.



OAK

Oak Class have made a fantastic start to their final year at Hever! They've shown great focus and determination in our place value topic in maths and are enjoying our new book, 'Queen of the Falls'. It follows the true story of Annie Edson Taylor, the first person to go over Niagara Falls in a barrel and survive! The children are already engaged and fascinated by her daring adventure.

They've also embraced their new roles as buddies to the Acorns with kindness and care, helping them settle into school life, especially in the lunch hall and playground. We're very proud of how supportive and responsible they have been.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Weekend	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Sunday:	22nd September: Bore Place Trip (Year 4)	23rd September:	24th September:	25th September:	26th September:

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Monday 29th September: Bore Place Trip (Year 6)
Wednesday 30th September: Flu Immunisations (All Classes)
Friday 3rd October: Phonics Meeting and Stay & Play: (Year R)
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PTA Update

Welcome to all our new Acorn parents and any other new parents across the school! We are so pleased you have joined our wonderful community. It has been a pleasure meeting you all at our Acorn coffee mornings and look forward to seeing you at the school. We have had a great start with £250 being donated by Cowden Fete committee as a thank you for our lovely dancers – Evelyn, Harrison, Issy, Jessica, Joshua, Matilda, Sophie and William. This donation has started our exciting new fundraising campaign for a new project for the school. Our target is £6,000 so please get in touch if you or your company would like to make a personal donation to this exciting project.

Our AGM is on **Thursday 9 October at 8pm on Zoom**, everyone is welcome and it is a great chance to find out more about what is happening. After this we will be releasing a 'PTA Job Board' with small roles we need help with – please get involved to help us continue being as successful as we can, creating great opportunities for our children and supporting our wonderful school.

BONFIRE PARADE UPDATE – Event Date – Saturday 8 November.

Thank you to those who contributed to the cake sale! We are delighted to let you know we have sourced a trailer so now we need support with the build! Please email the PTA or speak to your rep if you can help.

Our fabulous theme this year is 'The Great British Countryside'. Signup and more details will be out next week so watch out!

Acorn Family Disco: Friday 10 October 16:30-17:30 - Come and have a boogie with the other Acorn families. £5 per family - pre booking required – sign up on: www.pta-events.co.uk/heverprimaryschool

AUTUMN DISCO 2025: Friday 10 October 18:00 – 19:30 - Come and join us for our first school disco held in the WI Hall for years 1 to 6 - pre-booking required:
www.pta-events.co.uk/heverprimaryschool

We need volunteers on the night for both discos – please sign up when you book tickets or alternatively email:

heverpta@hever.kent.sch.uk

Have a great weekend!

The PTA Trustees xxx

Fundraising Update 2025-2026

Fundraising Total: £1,250

PROJECTS

Playground: COMPLETE!

**Outdoor/Wellbeing
Classroom: £18,500**

