



Belonging . Courage . Perseverance . Compassion . Trust

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers

Two things that mark the start of the Christmas season in school for me are putting up the Christmas tree and Christmas crib at the start of Advent and our Christingle Service, both of which we have done this week. The Christingle Service always feels particularly special to me having come from a community school where this wasn't celebrated. Thank you to our Leading Lights for supporting this and to our choir for leading the singing.

It was lovely to welcome Bridget Wolfe from the Umoyo Project on Monday, who came to thank the children for their fund-raising and to present the prize to the winner of School Council's 'Guess how many sweets in the jar' competition. Well done to Charlie in Acorn class who correctly guessed that there were 107 sweets! We will be sending a cheque at the end of the term as there will be a retiring collection for Umoyo from the KS2 Carol Service but so far, the children have raised enough to pay for 660 meals for the children at Mkama Primary School. Well done!

Next Wednesday (11th), we have our second Open Morning so please encourage anyone you know who is looking for a school place to contact the office and come along. We are still doing individual parent tours alongside this and it is great to have sufficient interest to need to hold a second Open Morning.

Next week, also sees the start of our Christmas activities with the Year R and KS1 pantomime on Monday afternoon and Year 5 and Year 6, along with the choir, singing at the Parish lunch on Thursday. On Friday, the PTA will hold their Christmas Fair for each of the classes and on Saturday we will be participating in the Christmas Carols at Hever Church. Thank you in anticipation for your support for all of these events.

We will be getting festive this weekend, visiting the World of the Snowman at Sheffield Park with the little ones.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Bligh

HOUSE POINTS

Congratulations to Falcon!

Falcon 177

Kestrel 169

Eagle 166



Star of the week

Acorn: Aaron

Magnolia: Whole Class

Elderberry: Aurora

Elm: Liam

Willow: George F

Chestnut: Harrison

Oak: Michael



Attendance Cup

Well done

Willow Class!

99% attendance



Last week's whole school attendance:

95.4%

Christian Value of the Week: Hope

"The people who walk in darkness will see a great light. Those who live in a dark land, the light will shine on them."

Isaiah 9:2



Golden Book Award

Magnolia: Isabella S

Elderberry: Amelia

Willow: William F, Poppy S,

Phoebe, Evie M

Chestnut: Oliver

Birthday

Announcements



Lilly F, Grace B-P, Anya,

Thomas W, Nakai

The Week in Photos—Early Years & Key Stage 1

ACORN

Acorn class had so much fun decorating the Christmas tree this week! They have especially enjoyed the new role play area set up as a Christmas Post Office, linked to our book, The Jolly Postman. They have been busy writing cards to each other and posting envelopes with lovely letter formations on!

We also had a cheeky phonics lesson where we used chocolate buttons and chocolate fingers to highlight where the phonemes and digraphs were in a word!

Finally, it was wonderful to join the rest of the school at the Christingle service. The

Acorns thoroughly loved making the Christingle first with their Year 6 buddies and then sitting with them in the Church.



MAGNOLIA

In DT this week, Magnolia class enjoyed finishing off creating their shelters using recycled packaging. The children then evaluated their shelters by giving them stars out of five. We also had an interesting discussion on what we could do differently if we were to make the shelters again.

Magnolia class had great fun creating their Christingles and showed great resilience in not eating the sweets! We learnt all about what each part of the Christingle represents. Magnolia class should be very proud of themselves of their amazing behaviour both on the way to church and during the service.



ELDERBERRY

In English, the children compared firefighting in 1666 to the present day.

They learned about how a bucket chain worked and enjoyed acting this out as a class. We discovered it would take team work and a lot of hard work to put a fire out!

The children all learned about the meaning of each part of a Christingle and thoroughly enjoyed making them for the service this week.



The Week in Photos—Key Stage 2

ELM

Today, the children worked on creating their own Bell Beaker-style pots, inspired by ancient designs. They used a combination of pinch, coil, and pattern techniques to shape and decorate their pots. To form their pots, the children first used the pinch technique to shape the base, then built up the sides with coils of clay, smoothing and refining the form as they worked. Once the pots were complete, they decorated them in Bell Beaker style by pressing objects like stones, shells, and twigs and tooth picks into the surface to create beautiful patterns. The decorations included geometric shapes, zigzags, herringbone patterns, dots, and lines, carefully designed to match their sketches. Each child's pot was unique, reflecting their creativity and effort in bringing their designs to life. The finished pots were not only a celebration of their artistic skills but also a connection to the ancient art of pottery making!



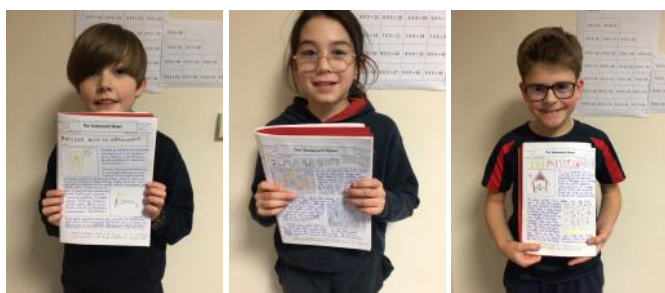
WILLOW

This week in geography the children have been learning about the term 'carbon footprint' and ways that we can help to reduce it. They worked in groups to sort carbon footprint activity cards into activities that would increase or decrease a person's carbon footprint. They then created posters to share what they have learnt and to encourage others to lower their carbon footprint.



CHESTNUT

The children have been working hard in Maths, multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1,000. Planning their big write based on the endangered white-rumped vultures and in RE writing a newspaper report about the arrival of Jesus as the Messiah. They explored the story of his birth in the stable and how the stars, angels and dreams led important people toward him. The children used engaging headlines and added great illustrations, well done. On Thursday the children also enjoyed the special Christingle service, where they learned about the meaning and its symbols. They created their own Christingles and took part in a reflective moment as we lit the candles together. It's been a wonderful week celebrating the season.



OAK

Oak Class had a wonderful trip to Bore Place this week, where they went on a winter walk through the beautiful countryside. Using the Merlin app, they listened closely for bird song as part of an ecological survey. They supported each other in staying silent for 10 minutes, which at times felt like quite a challenge!

They enjoyed sitting on 'Giants Chair' at the top of the field which overlooks Bough Beech reservoir. On the walk back to lunch, they discovered animal footprints, including those of herons and egrets. After lunch they looked at a range of animal footprints found in the countryside and practiced identifying them. They also explored and rebaited tunnels to collect animal tracks, learning more about the wildlife that inhabit the area.

The day ended with a visit to the calves, now more grown up, rounding off a perfect trip to Bore Place.





Forest School

This week at Forest School Acorn class helped make a seasonal wreath and also twig rafts, testing them out on the stream to see if they floated or sank!

Meanwhile, Willow class looked at animals that hibernate over winter and used the bow saw and palm drill to make their own woodland Christmas decoration.



The Outdoors Project
OPEN TO REGISTERED
"NO SCREENS, JUST DISCOVERY IN NATURE"

XMAS HOLIDAY CLUBS

"Childcare during the holidays they want to go to"
Fresh air. Fresh activities. Fresh attitude.

SEVENOAKS PRIMARY TN13 3PY

MONDAY 23 DEC
XMAS CAMPFIRE COOKOUT & FIRELIGHTING
Gather around the campfire for some winter treats! The kids will be cooking pastas, brewing pine needle tea & toasting marshmallows over the campfire, plus having their firelighting skills with a range of different boatcraft techniques!

MONDAY 30 DEC
MEGA GAMES, SNOW MAKING, SMORES & ART ATTACK
A magical mix of Mega! Fall games, ice cream adventures & woodland fun - 25 what not to do! (best of best) s'mores around the campfire to exchange between mega play/food, make 'snow' balls to take home, & paint using water paints!

For more info on dates, locations and how the clubs run & to book: www.theoutdoorsproject.co.uk

STUDY SMART Education & Skills Funding Agency

Fully Funded School Support Course

Available in Levels 1, 2 & 3

6 Week Course
Mon - Fri
Daily sessions
1st session 9:30 - 11:30am
2nd session 12:30 - 2pm

*Please go to our website for more detailed information.

www.studysmartuk.online

School meals at Hever Primary School
<https://www.hever.kent.sch.uk/school-meals/>
Thank you for booking your school dinners in advance.
Please email the school office with any comments or feedback—many thanks.



Emma's Kitchen

**** Reminders ****

Regarding lost property:

Named Items: Will be returned to your child

Unnamed Items: Will be put in the lost property box at the front of the school

Many thanks, School Office

Christingle

Yesterday the whole school enjoyed a lovely Christingle service at St Peter's Church.



UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Weekend
9th December: In-house Panto EYFS and KS1	10th December:	11th December: Open Morning for Prospective Parents 9.15am	12th December: Yr5 & Yr6 and choir singing at Hever Parish Lunch	13th December: PTA Christmas Bazaar (in school)	Saturday 14th Dec Hever Parish Carols Mince pies 4.30pm in the Henry VIII Service at 5.30pm in St Peter's Church
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Weekend
16th December: Nativity Dress Rehearsal 2.15pm EYFS and KS1 (KS2 watching)	17th December: Aladdin Panto KS2 Nativity Performance (1) 2.15pm EYFS and KS1	18th December: Nativity Performance (2) 2.15pm EYFS and KS1 (Filmed)	19th December: Class Christmas Par- ties (More info TBC)	20th December: Christmas Lunch (Christmas Jumpers) KS2 Carol Service 2pm	Christmas Holidays See you on: Tuesday 7th January

PTA Update

Massive thanks to Jo and Ann from Pipers Florist for a fabulous wreath making workshop yesterday! We are so lucky to have this available as a fundraiser for the school. Also another thank you to the Grants Group for a £400 contribution towards a curriculum linked workshop for years 5 and 6.

Raffle tickets should be coming your way soon from your reps for our lovely Christmas Hampers. Extra tickets are available from the school office. All the money raised will go towards the new Outdoor/Wellbeing Classroom so please sell sell sell! The raffle will be drawn on the last day of term.

Don't forget to book the below!

Quiz Night - Friday 28 February 2025 - Booking open now! £15pp including a choice of delicious meals! Get your team (up to 8) together! Email: quizheverpta@gmail.com

Hever School Fundraising Ball - Saturday 26 April 2025

Limited tickets left so make sure you book soon! The last ball was in 2018 so it only happens every few years.

Full tickets including a sparkling drinks reception on the Loggia, a three course meal and wine in the Guthrie Pavilion followed by a live band, entertainment and dancing (initial deposit £35 - final payment of £50 due by 31 Jan 2025):

[Buy Full Tickets Here](#)

Dancing only tickets

(initial deposit £15 - final payment of £10 due by 31 Jan 2025):

[Buy Dancing Only Tickets Here](#)

Have a great weekend everyone!

The PTA Trustees

heverpta@hever.kent.sch.uk

xxx



Fundraising Update

2024-2025

Fundraising Total:

£13,156

PROJECTS

Playground: COMPLETE!

**Outdoor/Wellbeing
Classroom: £11,915**



The Friends of Hever School Present

Quiz Night

All Welcome!

£15^{pp}

QUIZ ENTRY +
FRESHLY
COOKED
MEAL

FRIDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2025

WI HALL, STATION ROAD,
EDENBRIDGE, TN8 5LX

DOORS OPEN - 6:30PM
QUIZ STARTS - 7:30PM

Ticket includes fish/sausage/halloumi
& chips meal (vegan option available).
Drinks can be purchased at the bar.

Booking quizheverpta@gmail.com
Teams of up to 8.

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO HEVER C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA