



*Belonging . Courage . Perseverance . Compassion . Trust*

## Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers

A very warm welcome to all our new little Acorns and their families. We are so impressed by how beautifully they have come in each day, looking very smart and ready for their learning. We are also very proud of how well the children across the school have settled into their new classes, with a visitor commenting on how calm and focused they were, which was lovely.

Whilst on the subject of achievements, we could not be prouder of Poppy in Year 6 who you may remember qualified for Hickstead, with her pony Pops, back in the summer term.

Congratulations to Poppy and Pops who beat over 150 competitors to come first in not just one, but both of their events! (Photo at the end of this newsletter.)

Thank you to everyone who has managed to join our 'Meet the teacher' sessions this week. If you were not able to come, or would just like a reminder of the information shared, the PowerPoints will all be added to the class pages on the website. Please take the time to read the information about the new 'Working together to improve school attendance' which has removed the discretion for headteachers to approve any term time holidays and requires schools to enforce Penalty Notices, where the threshold is reached for unauthorised absence. Rest assured that this will not impact on unavoidable absence when children are too unwell to attend school.

We are really enjoying our newly resurfaced playground this week and with the wet weather have particularly appreciated replacing the muddy puddles outside Year 2 with a more practical alternative! We will shortly be marking out these areas to further enhance them. A huge thank you for the determination of the PTA, and the support of parents and the wider community, to make this considerable investment a reality.

Next week, each class (apart from Reception) will be voting for their new School Council representatives. Please help your child to write a simple manifesto this weekend, explaining why they would be a great choice, if they would like to be considered for this role.

As promised, we are sharing some of the key dates for the year today to help with forward planning. More details will follow for the different events nearer the time but we hope this will be helpful.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Bligh

## HOUSE POINTS

Congratulations to

**Kestrel 220**

**Eagle 204**

**Falcon 161**



## Star of the week

**Acorn:** Whole Class

**Magnolia:** Hazel

**Elderberry:** Whole Class

**Elm:** Eva

**Willow:** Poppy

**Chestnut:** Oliver

**Oak:** Florence



## Attendance Cup

Well done

Elm!

97.9% attendance



Last week's whole school attendance:

**92.7%**

## Christian Value of the Week: Belonging

*'The next holy day almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord.'*

1 Corinthians 13:4-7



### Birthday Announcements

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



## Golden Book Award

**Elderberry:** Alice  
**Oak:** Jack & Max

## The Week in Photos—Early Years & Key Stage 1

### ACORN

What an amazing first week of school for the new Acorns! I have loved meeting the group of morning children and then meeting the afternoon children every day.

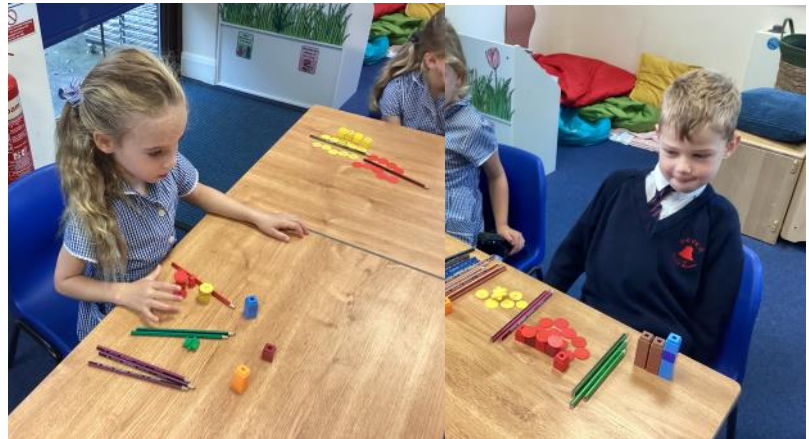
The children have been fantastic at saying their goodbyes to parents and this week has been so good for building relationships and exploring the classroom, playing happily with new friends. I can't wait until we are all together next week!



### MAGNOLIA

Wow! What a great first week Magnolia class have had! They have settled in amazingly to Year 1 and are adapting well to working in a new classroom with their own desks!

The children have demonstrated their counting skills in our first maths topic by grouping and sorting objects.



### ELDERBERRY

The children have settled so well into Elderberry class that it is hard to believe that they have only been in Year 2 for a week and a bit! They were very excited to discover the new book for the term—Lost and Found; and made some excellent predictions about what the story might be about.

In science the children identified the most important things that humans need to be healthy and happy and sorted them with a partner, discussing which were the most important of all. In history the children were introduced to the word 'activist' and have begun to learn about the life of Gandhi.



## The Week in Photos—Key Stage 2

### ELM

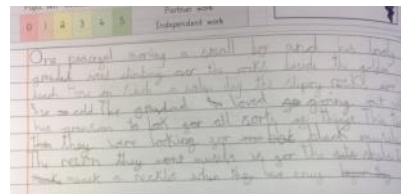
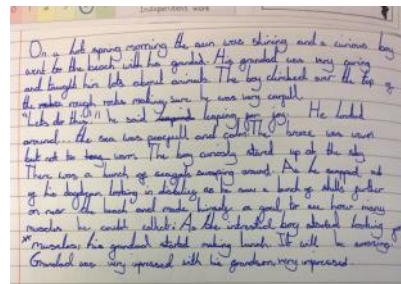
What a fantastic start to Year 3! We've expanded our vocabulary, sparked our imaginations, and explored exciting new topics.

In history, we've taken a look at life during different historical periods, comparing how people lived in the past with how we live today, noting both the similarities and differences.



### WILLOW

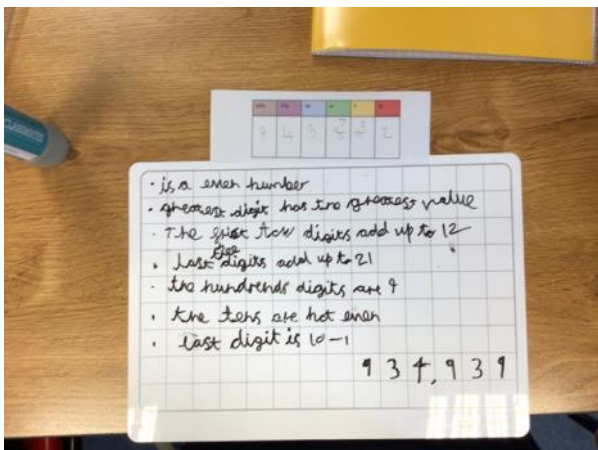
This term our English text is 'Seal Surfer' by Michael Foreman. The children have made predictions about what they think the text is about. They have used their predictions to write their own opening paragraphs. They were extremely proud of the work that they produced.



### CHESTNUT

In the first week of term, Chestnut class have been very busy working hard in their Maths lessons each morning. We have been focusing on understanding and interpreting numbers up to 1,000,000 by using a variety of methods and concrete manipulatives.

Some speedy workers have also been making up their own word problems for their friends to solve.



### OAK

It has been wonderful welcoming Year 6 back to school this term - they have settled quickly to new routines and learning. In PSHE, they have set themselves targets for the year which they are already making a conscience effort to meet.

They have taken on their roles of responsibility with excitement, whilst offering encouragement and support to each other. This will allow them to play an active role across the different areas of responsibility. We look forward to an exciting year ahead.





## Forest School

This week I had the pleasure of meeting our new Acorn class and telling them all about what exciting adventures we shall be getting up to at Forest School and bought some of things we find in the woodland into the class for them to investigate!

Last week Magnolia class learnt how the woodland has changed over the summer break and also how butterflies eat and taste and made some feeders for our woodland creatures. This week we used teamwork to explore making shelters, using basic knots and different materials to keep us dry.

### 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



### \*\* Polite Reminder \*\*

Hever Primary School is a smoke-free site. Please refrain from smoking & vaping whilst you are visiting the school.

Thank you!

## Well done to Poppy & Pops!

NSEA National Grassroots Championships—  
Hickstead 2024



## Confidence Building Fun

Try a Free Drama Class



Free Trial Session and £40 discount at Perform  
Popular children's drama and dance school Perform is offering a Free Trial Session and a special introductory discount of £40 for members of Hever C of E Primary School if they sign up by Saturday 25th January. Parents should quote HEVE2025 when they book their free session by going to [perform.org.uk/try](http://perform.org.uk/try) or calling 020 7255 9120.  
You can find out more about the classes at [perform.org.uk/dry](http://perform.org.uk/dry). Alternatively, pdf flyers can be downloaded from <http://perform.org.uk/dry>. The nearest classes to Hever C of E Primary School can be found on the website: [perform.org.uk/venues](http://perform.org.uk/venues)

STEM Half Term Camps in Lingfield and Sevenoaks — Flyers available in the school office.

STUDY SMART Free Online Courses | ncf | cache Education & Skills Funding Agency

Fully Funded School Support Course  
[www.studysmartuk.online](http://www.studysmartuk.online)

Next Start date 30th September

CACHE Certificate in Understanding Safeguarding & Prevent  
CACHE Certificate in Understanding Challenging Behaviours  
CACHE Certificate in the Principles of SEN  
Levels 1, 2 & 3

Six Week Course  
Mon - Fri  
9:30 - 11:30am  
12:30 - 2:30pm  
4 - 4:30pm  
(last optional session for reflection and support if needed)

# UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Weekend	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	16th September:	17th September:	18th September:	19th September: Violin Lessons commence—Yr 4	20th September:

**Wednesday 25th September—School photos: Individual & Siblings**

**Thursday 26th September—Harvest Service**

**Thursday 3rd October—National Poetry Day**

## PTA Update

Welcome back! It was lovely to see everyone at the *Coffee and Catch Up and Acorn teas*; we know it won't be long until all our new families feel very much part of our Hever School Community.

### Fundraising successes!

We hope you were happy to see the newly surfaced playground this week. Without the £18,900 plus raised by the PTA, this wouldn't have been possible. Thanks to everyone who got behind the fundraising efforts whether this was by manning a stall, making cakes, bringing in old clothes for 'bags for school', selling or purchasing raffle tickets, donating an Easter Egg etc. It all helped. This is a team effort and everybody's efforts are needed and appreciated.

Successful bidding for grants has been continuing and we've recently been awarded a £5,000 grant for a new school stage! Huge thanks to Megan from the Grants Committee who led the application.

We have some exciting events coming up - check out the dates on the attachment. Any new ideas you have, please get in touch!

**Asda Rewards Cashpot for Schools- £150 in the pot for less than 2 minutes of your time and no cost to you! It's as easy as 1,2,3**

1. Download the **Asda Rewards app** (not the Asda Grocery App) and register. Click on 'Cash pots' at the bottom. Select 'Join Cashpot for Schools' - put in HEVER PRIMARY= **£1 to the school!**
2. If you don't shop in Asda, you don't need to do anything else except pass it on, thanks for your £1!
3. If you do shop in Asda, then between 2nd September and 30th November 2024 – every time you shop using your Asda Rewards app, Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to Hever. Result!

Remember, anyone can sign up, parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, neighbours, etc – so start spreading the news and raising funds for our school!

### PTA Zoom AGM - Tuesday 1 October 20:00

Our annual AGM is happening in a couple of weeks. We will be electing the Chairs, Secretary and Treasurer. We are lucky enough to have the current trustees happy to stand again, however, please email: [heverpta@hever.kent.sch.uk](mailto:heverpta@hever.kent.sch.uk) if you would like to be involved. We also have core committee roles which involve voting on our funds, again, please email if you are interested.

### Edenbridge Bonfire Parade - Saturday 2 November

The building committee are getting moving on this year's float, theme to be announced ASAP. We need some people on 'costumes' and also on 'cake making' to raise funds, please get involved! Remember the parade is open to all years with our Acorns going on the float, other years walking alongside. Thank you to those who have baked for the cake sale today.

### Friday 27 September: Acorn Family Disco – WI Hall 16:30-17:30

At the end of their first full week Acorns and their families are welcome to come and boogie on down! Any older children booked for the 'Back to School Disco' (as below) can stay. Book at: [www.pta-events.co.uk/heverprimarieschool](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/heverprimarieschool)

### Friday 27 September: Back to School Disco – Year 1 to Year 6 – WI Hall 18:00 – 19:30

Boogie down with DJ Luck at our first disco of the year. Book tickets at: [www.pta-events.co.uk/heverprimarieschool](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/heverprimarieschool)

### Friday 25 October: Legoland Discount Day on our Inset Day!

If over 50 people book we can get tickets to Legoland (normally from £29-39) for a bargain price of £16 per ticket! All money will be refunded if we don't get 50 bookings! Book tickets at: [www.pta-events.co.uk/heverprimarieschool](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/heverprimarieschool)

Have a great weekend!

### The PTA Trustees

[heverpta@hever.kent.sch.uk](mailto:heverpta@hever.kent.sch.uk) xxx

## Fundraising Update

**2023-2024**

**Fundraising Total: £0**

**PROJECTS**

**Playground: COMPLETE!**

**Outdoor/Wellbeing**

**Classroom: £915**



## HEVER SCHOOL SPRING FUNDRAISING BALL

SATURDAY 26TH APRIL 2025

THE GUTHRIE PAVILION, HEVER CASTLE  
AUCTION, RAFFLE & LIVE MUSIC

FULL TICKET FROM 6PM- £85pp  
Prosecco reception on The Loggia, 3 course meal  
DANCING FROM 8:15PM - £25pp  
CARRIAGES AT MIDNIGHT

Don your glad rags & join us for a fabulous evening!