



Belonging . Courage . Perseverance . Compassion . Trust

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers

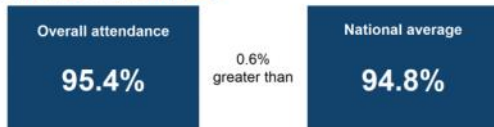
Acorn class have spent a lovely morning visiting Claire & Martin's animals at the Red House, today. We are so fortunate to have such good neighbours who welcome our children and allow us to use their land for Forest School, and we really appreciate their generosity.

The DfE now publish termly monitoring reports for attendance and we are very pleased to share that our year on year attendance remains 0.6% above last year, with strong attendance compared to the national averages (see below). We know the impact that good attendance has on pupil outcomes and are very grateful for your continued support with this.

Headline attendance and absence

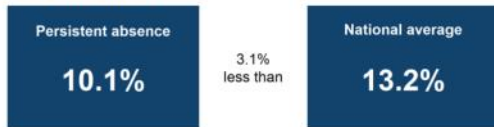
Overall attendance and persistent absence percentage for your school compared to the national average from the start of the academic year 2024 to 2025, up to Tuesday 08 April 2025.

Overall school attendance



Overall attendance is 95.4% which is 0.6% greater than the national average.

Absence breakdown



Persistent absence is 10.1% which is 3.1% less than the national average.

Please be vigilant when walking on the unpaved roads around Hever, particularly with your children. There have been a number of near misses reported which appear to be due to a lack of attention by pedestrians, in some cases distracted by phones, and by insufficient supervision of young children.

I am sure you will have participated in various activities to mark the 80th anniversary of VE day this week and we look forward to seeing you at the PTA celebration picnic next Friday. Please make sure you also have a note of Sports Day (Thursday 12th June) - full details will follow shortly.

Finally, the best of luck to all of the children who have chosen to participate in the Restless Development Triathlon this Sunday at Sevenoaks School—we look forward to hearing how you get on.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Bligh

Christian Value of the Week: Peace

'Be restored; encourage one another; live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.'

2 Corinthians 13:11



Golden Book Award

Acorn: Aubrey, Mabel-Jane, Winter

Magnolia: Willow, Kylie

Chestnut: Tilly, Esme, Delilah



Birthday Announcements:

Tom, Evelyn

HOUSE POINTS

Congratulations to Falcon!

Falcon 209

Eagle 202

Kestrel 186



Star of the week

Acorn: Larosa

Magnolia: Eliza

Elderberry: Alice

Elm: Amelie

Willow: Thomas

Chestnut: Esme

Oak: Tristan



Attendance Cup

Well done

Willow & Oak
classes!

98% attendance



Last week's whole school attendance:

95%

The Week in Photos—Early Years & Key Stage 1

ACORN

This week we began our animal topic by sorting animal models into fur, feather and scales categories, as well as learning about reptiles, amphibians, mammals, fish and birds.

We are enjoying our new English book 'Let's all creep to crocodile creek' especially all the new vocabulary we are learning from it, such as *knobbly*, *crooked*, and *gnarly*. We drew a big story map altogether and then recreated the dark cave (a tent!) and wrote warning signs to stop others going near it!

We all became very excited noticing that some of our tadpoles had grown legs!



MAGNOLIA

Magnolia class have completed their DT project! Each child designed and created their own taxi. As a class, we discussed how a regular 'London taxi' could be improved. The children decided they needed to be bright colours and have bigger 'taxi' signs to ensure they could be spotted easily.

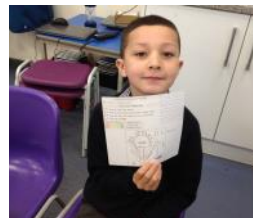
Magnolia class reflected on previous DT lessons where we experimented with different ways to attach the wheels and axles to decide which method was most successful to use on their final creation.



ELDERBERRY

We made the most of the sunshine last week as we began our new art project, 'Flower Head'. The children spent time looking closely at flowers in the school grounds resulting in some excellent drawings. Outdoor learning has continued this week with the children exploring microhabitats within the wild-life area. There was great excitement as the children discovered a wide range of invertebrates, the most common was worms!

In our English text, the children discovered an alien beamed up the lost toys. They invented some very imaginative aliens of their own which they described in their writing.



The Week in Photos—Key Stage 2

ELM

Elm class had a fantastic time at Forest School on Friday, with activities linked to our History and Art topics on the Romans and mosaics. We explored how the Romans spent their leisure time and noted the similarities to activities we still enjoy today. The children learned about the significance of laurel wreaths and how mosaics were used to decorate Roman domus (homes). They had the option to create their own laurel headpieces or design mosaic tiles. The session wrapped up with some exciting Roman-inspired fun, including javelin throwing and chariot racing competitions.



OAK

Whilst many of the lessons in Oak class this week have been focused on final preparations for the end of Key Stage 2 assessments next week, the children have also enjoyed learning more about Judaism and the Minoan civilisation.

In RE, they learnt about why Jewish people visit Synagogues. They had to identify key features of synagogues and then had to compare the similarities and differences of worship for orthodox and reform or liberal followers.

In history, they were learning about the Minoan civilisation of Ancient Greece. They had to compose historical enquiry questions, then use research to answer their questions about life during the Minoan civilisation. Next week they will make comparisons to the Mycenaean civilisation.



WILLOW & CHESTNUT

Years 4 and 5 had an unforgettable experience at Bushcraft last week! From the moment they arrived to the moment they left, their excitement and enthusiasm was clear to see. For some, it was their first time staying away from home, and we couldn't be prouder of how well they handled it—they were a real credit to the school.

Throughout the trip, the children built survival shelters, set traps, and lit fires. They discovered how animals hunt and camouflage themselves, then put their knowledge to the test in games where stealth was key—if they were seen, they were out! One of the highlights was gathering around the campfire for smores and songs, a truly special moment.

It was a joy to see every child so relaxed, engaged, and immersed in the adventure.





Forest School

This week Acorn class visited the animals at The Red House, adjacent to our Forest School. We learned all about the rheas, donkeys, chickens and pig. Thank you to Martin and Claire for allowing us to visit.

Meanwhile, Elm class learned about the differing types of wood different trees provide, their qualities and uses, and practiced their whittling skills.



Rhino Ark Challenge

Over the weekend Evie and Olivia from Oak class took part in a 6 mile off road cycle orienteering challenge event to help raise money for Rhino Ark - a charity dedicated to protecting Kenya's endangered wildlife & forests and improving community livelihoods.

They navigated some pretty tough terrain including having to ride over tree roots, lake edges and avoid the giant ants! All whilst using a map to pick up the clues needed to successfully complete the challenge! It was a tough but fun 6 miles!

Out of 21 teams Evie and Olivia won "the Bongo challenge" where they had to use a compass to find these endangered antelopes in the fastest time possible.

By taking part in the event Evie & Olivia's efforts contributed towards raising £1500 for the charity, which is the equivalent to building a rainwater harvesting system for one of the local schools in Kenya.

EMMA'S KITCHEN

Term 5'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 ensure that hair accessories are navy blue, white or gingham navy blue only and that sun hats are plain navy, white or black.

Thank you.

School Office

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Weekend	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
11th May: Sevenoaks Triathlon Forest Church—4pm	12th May:	13th May: Bore Place Trip— Year 5	14th May: Bore Place Trip— Year 4	15th May: CENSUS DAY Netball Vs Penshurst (home)	16th May: PTA May Fair 3.15pm

SATS WEEK—YEAR 6



Friday 23rd May: INSET DAY
Monday 2nd—5th June: Residential (Year 6)



PTA Update

The term is flying by - we are super excited for our Hever PTA School Picnic next week - reminders below.

THE FETE IS SATURDAY 28 JUNE 11:30-15:30 - tattoo it on your heart. We need you all! This is your chance to play a bigger role in the PTA and help create an amazing day raising money and having fun! Don't miss out!

- But first our **Hever PTA School Picnic** coming up on **Friday 16 May 2025** – check out the poster attached – this includes our exciting VE Day inspired cake competition, see the email for more info
- Sign up for **School Fete Maypole** now live - lessons will start after May half term but its helpful for planning to have sign up as soon as possible.
www.pta-events.co.uk/heverprimaryschool
- We will also be doing country dancing at **Cowden Fete** on Saturday 14 June, please email me if your child would like to take part by 10 May 2025 - heverpta@hever.kent.sch.uk
- **School Fete** – Saturday 28 June – get it in your diary! We will be looking for volunteers for the centrally manned stands soon! **To volunteer please email heverpta@hever.kent.sch.uk or speak to your rep.**

SCHOOL FETE RAFFLE

Our fete raffle is being led by Andrea Palmer, this normally makes over £800 so please have a think who you can ask for prizes to help us out! Unless they are a personal contact please speak to Andrea to check no one else has approached already - email - heverpta@hever.kent.sch.uk

TEDDIES AND SECOND HAND GAMES AND COSTUMES

We will also have our very popular second hand stall at this years fete. Collection date will be the day before (Friday 27 June) so please hold on to good quality items for us!

SECOND HAND UNIFORM – Donations – please leave with Mrs Reddaway in the office. If you are looking for something – please email Emma eskorczewski@icloud.com

Have an amazing weekend!

The PTA Trustees Xxx
heverpta@hever.kent.sch.uk

Fundraising Update 2024-2025

Fundraising Total: £14,952

PROJECTS

Playground: COMPLETE!

**Outdoor/Wellbeing
Classroom: £12,712**



easyfundraising



How you can support us for free

- Download the easyfundraising app
- Sign up as our supporter
- Once registered, we'll get a £2 donation!