

Dear families

It's hard to believe another two weeks have flown by! As always, our school has been buzzing with learning, creativity, and community spirit. A huge thank you to all of you who joined us for our *Learning Together Mornings*—it was wonderful to see so many parents engaging with their children's learning and supporting them in the classroom. Your involvement makes such a difference! We also truly appreciate everyone who has helped out at different events—our school thrives because of the fantastic support from our families.

We always emphasise the importance of open communication, and next week's *Parents' Evening* is a great opportunity for that. We look forward to welcoming you into school to look through your child's books together and have meaningful discussions with their teachers about their progress. If you'd like to speak with Mrs. Martin, our SENCO, she will be available for appointments as well—please do book a slot if needed.

This week, I've had the pleasure of popping into reading lessons across the school, and I've been so impressed with the progress the children are making. From those taking their first steps in phonics to fluent readers delving into rich texts, it's fantastic to see their confidence growing. A big well done to all our children for their hard work and enthusiasm!

A huge *WELL DONE* to our incredible Year 5 and 6 runners who tackled the cross-country course at Jobbers Wood with grit, determination, and a whole lot of team spirit! Organised by TBSHS, this was no gentle jog in the park—this was a challenge that tested every ounce of their resilience. And what did our children do? They *smashed it!* Not a single runner gave up, and the encouragement they gave each other was just as impressive as their running. If there had been a medal for team spirit, they'd have taken gold! A *special shoutout* to Grace, who stormed into *third place*, and to our Year 5 girls' team, who took home *third place overall!* We are beyond proud of every single runner—you were *fast, fearless, and fantastic!* A big thank you to Mrs Goodger for organising.

Parents, expect some tired legs and plenty of well-earned treats at the dinner table tonight! 🏃♂️🏃♀️

Have a lovely weekend,
Sinead Connolly, Headteacher

Diary Dates

- 26/03/25 Book Fair Arrives
- 28/03/25 Women's Day Gift Sale
- 01/04/25 Class Photos
- 02/04/25 Parent consultations 1-7
- 03/04/25 Golden Morning
- 04/04/25 End Of term 1pm
- 22/04/25 School reopens
- 29/04/25 Lime Class performance 6pm
- 30/04/25 Year 4 Maths Challenge
- 05/05/25 Bank Holiday Monday

An update on art from Mrs Goslitski our art subject lead...

Over the past term, our children have been immersed in a vibrant exploration of artistic styles, developing key skills in line with the National Curriculum. From painting and sculpture to drawing and mixed media, each year group has built on their understanding of colour, form, texture, and artistic intent. Year 1 explored LS Lowry's and Pieter Brueghel's use of perspective and figures, while Year 2 studied Barbara Hepworth's sculptures, learning how to manipulate materials in three dimensions. In Lime Class, children mastered blending techniques inspired by JMW Turner's dramatic skies, and in Maple Class, they explored Post-Impressionism, using bold colours and expressive brushstrokes like Van Gogh. Meanwhile, Willow Class linked their artwork to their *Frozen Kingdom* topic, recreating Arctic landscapes and the Northern Lights using pastels and chalks, refining their control over shading and colour blending.

This artistic journey has not only developed our children's technical skills but also deepened their appreciation of how artists convey mood, movement, and meaning. Across the school, children have engaged in critical thinking, discussing artistic choices and experimenting with their own interpretations. Next term, they will continue expanding their creativity, with Year 2 bringing their Hepworth-inspired sculptures to life and Willow Class delving into Inuit art. Through this work, they are building confidence, resilience, and a love for artistic expression—skills that will serve them across the curriculum and beyond. We can't wait to see their next creations!

Empathy Assembly – Supporting Our Local Foodbank

Last week, we were delighted to welcome Jane Towns from our local foodbank, who delivered a thought-provoking and inspiring assembly for the children. She shared the reality of food insecurity and explained how the demand for foodbanks continues to rise each year—making every contribution more important than ever.

Our School Council was thrilled to present Jane with the generous donations from our school community, and they were even more delighted to help carry all the items to her car—such brilliant helpers! In recognition of our commitment, Jane awarded us a special certificate, and she was truly impressed by the thoughtful questions and reflections from our pupils.

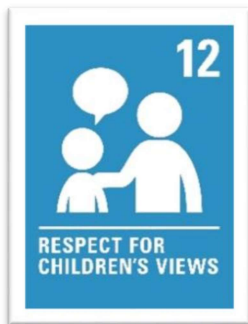
"It made me realise how important foodbanks are for families who don't have enough money to buy food," shared one pupil. Another reflected, "We can all do something small to help, and together, it makes a big difference!"

Jane highlighted the impact of the cost-of-living crisis, which has led to a significant increase in the number of families relying on foodbanks. At Little Hadham, our weekly *Food Bank Fridays* continue to demonstrate our dedication to supporting those in need, as part of our journey to becoming a Silver-accredited Rights Respecting School.

A huge thank you to everyone for your ongoing generosity—it truly makes a difference!



Rights Respecting Schools



This week at Little Hadham Primary, our Rights Respecting Schools assembly focused on Article 12, which highlights the importance of children's rights to have their opinions heard and taken seriously. We had the pleasure of listening to the delightful story 'Speak Up!' by Nathan Bryon. In this engaging tale, we meet Rocket, a bookworm who adores her weekly visits to the library, devouring stories about inspirational figures like Rosa Parks. When she learns that her beloved library is closing down, Rocket feels a deep sense of loss. But inspired by what she has learned, she wonders: can she find her voice to make a difference?

This empowering and heartwarming picture book serves as a beautiful tribute to libraries and the transformative power of reading. It reminds us all of the incredible strength we possess when we stand up for what matters to us. At Little Hadham Primary, we genuinely value the opinions of each student and encourage them to express their thoughts.

Moreover, our Foodbank Friday initiative illustrates our commitment to listening and acting upon the needs of our community. Through discussions led by our School Council, we have come together to support those who require assistance.

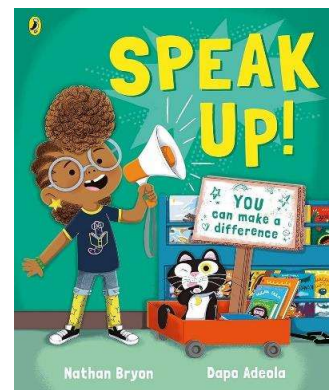
Words matter, and how we use them can effect change. Let us continue to foster an environment where every voice is heard and respected.

Thank you for your continued support!

Mrs Tweedale,

Deputy Head

Rights Respecting Schools Co-ordinator



The children in Early Years have started to notice emerging signs of spring in our setting. They enjoyed looking closely at the different parts of daffodils during their choosing time, and enjoyed using pastels to represent what they could see! There has also been quite the excited 'buzz' in the classroom this week as our beans that we planted have started to grow roots! We had estimated how long the beans would take to grow and so far, they have taken one week.



In our maths learning, we have been looking at the properties of different shapes. Whilst Saplings have been comparing, sorting and describing two-dimensional shapes such as squares, triangles, rectangles and circles, Ash have been exploring the world of three-dimension! We have enjoyed comparing these shapes to shapes that can be seen in the real world, such as the 'spheres' we kick in a football game and the cube-shaped dice we roll during a board game! The children managed to convince Mrs Lawrence not to get her car tyres fitted with cuboid-shaped wheels and to opt for cylinder-shaped wheels instead "because they are curved so they can roll"! Working as a whole class, children in Saplings were also able to identify two-dimensional shapes that could be seen on the faces of three-dimensional shapes. Fantastic collaborative learning!



It was lovely to host our Learning Together Afternoon on Tuesday! The children were so excited to invite their grown ups in to see what they have been learning. With a focus on maths, the children enjoyed sharing number stories and games and enjoyed setting up our daffodil gallery to amaze our visitors with our observational drawings! Thank you so much to everyone who was able to attend; the energy in the room was palpable.



In Beech class the highlight of our week was our Learning Together Morning, where we were delighted to welcome so many parents into our classroom. It was wonderful to see children working alongside their families, sharing their learning, and enjoying practical activities together. A big thank you to everyone who attended! If you weren't able to make it this time, don't



worry—there will be another opportunity next term. The session focussed on practising our 2, 5, and 10 times tables through fun, hands-on activities. Children used number cards, cubes, and games to explore multiplication in an engaging way. These practical methods help build fluency and confidence when recalling multiplication facts, and it was great to see parents getting involved too!

In addition to our work on times tables, we have been developing our mathematical understanding in different ways: Year 2 have been learning all about fractions, focusing on halves, quarters, and thirds. We have explored how to split shapes, numbers, and objects into equal parts and have been using fraction walls and diagrams to help us visualise different fractions. The children have also been learning how to find fractions of numbers and beginning to understand the connection between fractions and division.

Year 1 have been strengthening their understanding of place value, looking closely at how numbers are made up of tens and ones. We have been using practical resources such as dienes, number lines, and ten frames to help children see the structure of numbers and understand how they can be partitioned. We have also been focusing on counting in tens, using number patterns to help us count forwards and backwards confidently. This will support our future learning in addition, subtraction, and early multiplication.

In gymnastics, we have been working in pairs to create our own shape sequences. The children carefully chose different balances, shapes, and movements to link together in a smooth sequence. They



then performed them in front of the class, thinking about control, timing, and teamwork. It was fantastic to see such confidence and creativity in their performances!

Reading is always a big focus in Beech Class, and we have loved seeing the children's enthusiasm for sharing stories. Many children have been eager to showcase their fantastic reading skills to the class, reading aloud with confidence and expression. We have also been exploring different types of books, discussing our favourites, and even acting out parts of stories to bring them to life!



This week in Lime Class, we have been busy exploring capacity and volume in maths, focusing on adding and subtracting different amounts. The children have also been sharpening their times table skills, with our Year 4s extending their learning by working with decimals. It's been great to see their confidence growing with these key skills, which will support them in all areas of maths.

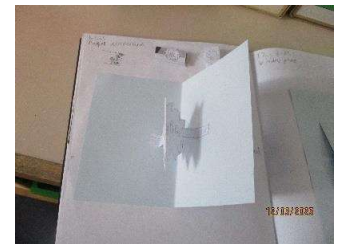
In English, the children have impressed us with their narrative writing, creating exciting stories about a storm at sea. They demonstrated excellent punctuation skills, structured their work into well-formed paragraphs, and used some fantastic vocabulary to bring their stories to life. It's wonderful to see their creativity and writing skills developing so well.



History lessons have taken us back in time to Roman Britain, where we discovered some fascinating Roman inventions that we still use today. The children loved learning about how the Romans influenced our way of life! In science, our Year 3s explored how fossils are formed and even had the chance to handle some real examples, which made for an exciting hands-on learning experience. Meanwhile, in PSHE, we discussed influences and how we respond to them—this linked well with our computing lessons, where we learned how to spot clickbait and fake news.

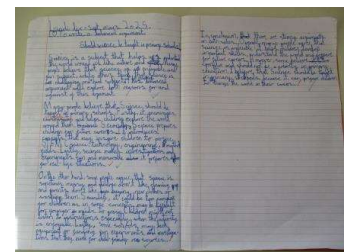
For RE we talked about the last supper and its significance within the Christian religion – we enjoyed being detectives as we drank blackcurrant juice, ate bread and then tried to think about why whilst we listened to the story...

In DT, we are continuing to develop our skills in making moving parts from paper and card, which will soon help us design and create our very own books.



A highlight of the week was our Learning Together morning, where parents and carers joined us for a fantastic session on mental maths and times tables. The support was incredible, and it was lovely to see so many people engaged in their children's learning. Thank you for being part of it!

This week in Maple class, the children wrote balanced arguments on the debate: Should science be taught in primary schools? They produced well-structured texts, clearly presenting reasons both for and against the argument. In their concluding paragraphs, they shared their personal opinions, drawing on the points they had explored. The class impressed with their thoughtful ideas, vocabulary choices, and appropriate tone throughout their writing.



In Geography this week, the children worked collaboratively with their learning partners to research the physical geography of a chosen area. They explored key features such as hills, rivers, and surrounding towns and cities. Using digital resources, they gathered information to include in their travel guides next week.



In DT, the children discussed the suitable properties of a torch casing and explained their reasoning. They compared the advantages and disadvantages of using a cardboard tube versus a plastic bottle for the casing. Finally, the children considered how they would design a torch for a specific client, taking into account a given design brief and clear design criteria.





In PE this week, the children impressed us with their teamwork and focus as they worked on performing sequences of movements, including progressions of inverted movements, in a synchronised manner. They demonstrated good body tension to improve the quality and control of their movements. It was wonderful to see them working safely and confidently in their small groups, supporting one another as they learned and refined new skills.



It's been a delightful week in Willow Class as we bask in the return of the sunshine. The brighter weather has certainly been welcomed, allowing us to take full advantage of the school field during break and lunchtimes. In class, our learning continues to go from strength to strength. Maths and English remain at the forefront of our studies as we diligently tackle practice assessments against the clock. We are improving our speed and accuracy and are undoubtedly keeping our learning in tip-top condition!

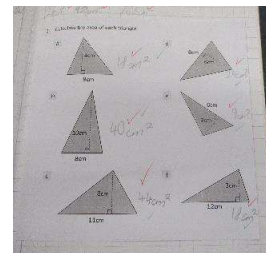
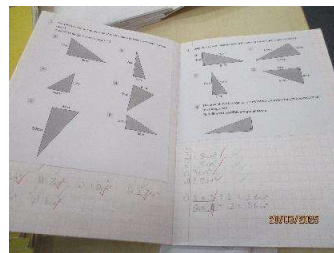
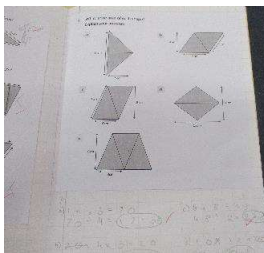


On Wednesday, we held our 'Learning Together Morning', where we challenged our parents to complete some SATs-style questions. It was a fantastic opportunity for parents to engage in our learning and share some competitive fun! We thoroughly enjoyed the challenge, and it was wonderful to encourage our parents. During this event, we also shared the timetable and arrangements for our upcoming SATs week, ensuring everyone is well-prepared and informed.

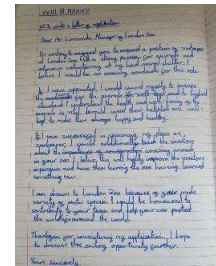
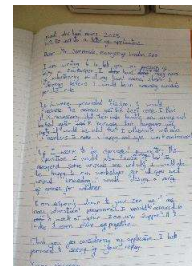
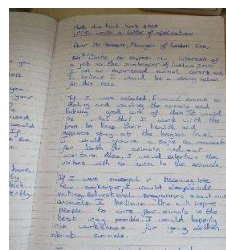


In Computing, we continued with our topic 'Online Life'. This week, we focused on online bullying, delving into why some individuals engage in this behaviour and how it impacts victims. The discussions were enlightening, and we were encouraged to think critically about our online interactions, fostering a respectful digital environment.

In Maths, we concentrated on calculating the area of triangles, using the perpendicular height as a reference point. This practical approach not only solidified our understanding of geometry but also encouraged problem-solving skills as we applied our knowledge in various scenarios.



In English, we switched gears and applied our knowledge of the subjunctive form by drafting formal letters of application. We embraced this challenge, learning important skills for effective communication. We crafted compelling applications!



If I were appointed, I would ensure the welfare and safety of the animals was a priority.

If I were chosen, I would collaborate with other team members to enrich the environment.

If I were successful in gaining this position, I would implement a sponsorship programme.

Lastly, in our PE sessions, we took our volleyball skills to the next level by refining our 'dig'. We learnt the correct hand positioning to elevate the ball effectively, allowing for smooth transitions as team members prepare to 'set' the play. Teamwork and enthusiasm were in abundance as we incorporated the 'dig' into sequences of moves, all while eagerly anticipating its use in future game scenarios.



Thank you once again for supporting our Food Bank Friday, as we collected many donations of dried goods including cereals, pasta and rice. Your generosity is much appreciated.

✈️ Exciting News: Our Polycrub is Cleared for Landing! 🛫

Buckle up, everyone—we have some *turbulence-free, first-class* news to share! Thanks to generous funding from **Stansted Airport**, our school is preparing for the arrival of a **Polycrub**—a fantastic all-weather growing space inspired by the windswept Shetland Islands. Originally designed to withstand extreme conditions, these incredible structures are part greenhouse, part polytunnel, and will allow our young eco-champions to grow, learn, and explore sustainability all year round! **Fasten your seatbelts—this is going to be amazing!**



Our Polycrub will be a first-class ticket to hands-on learning, giving our budding botanists, curious scientists, and green team the perfect space to dig deep into science, geography, and Forest School adventures. It will be a hub of activity for **Goodgers' Go-Getters, our Woodland Rangers, and our fantastic Farmers' Market project**, bringing the whole community together to nurture plants, ideas, and a love for the environment.

We want to extend a huge thank you to Stansted Airport for helping us *take off* with this project. Stay tuned for updates as we prepare for the grand *landing* of our polycrub!

It's full speed ahead for Little Hadham Primary—yep, I may have got carried away with all the aviation talk but it's so exciting! ✈️🛫🛬✈️

A Bug-tastic Science Adventure!

Science Week at our school has been all about 'Change and Adapt'—and what better way to explore this theme than by diving into the fascinating world of mini beasts? On Monday, we were thrilled to welcome staff and sixth form students from The Bishop's Stortford High School, who led us on an exciting mission to uncover the tiny creatures living in our forest area.

Armed with magnifying glasses and 'pooters' (which, to much excitement, let us gently collect mini beasts for closer study!), we scoured the undergrowth in search of life. Centipedes, worms, slugs, snails, woodlice—each one a little marvel of adaptation, perfectly suited to its environment.



The joy of discovery was written all over the children's faces as they observed how each creature had evolved to survive—woodlice with their armour-like shells, worms burrowing effortlessly into the soil, and snails carrying their homes on their backs.

A huge *thank you* to the wonderful staff and students of The Bishop's Stortford High School for sharing their time, knowledge, and enthusiasm with us. This hands-on experience sparked curiosity, wonder, and a new appreciation for the tiny but mighty creatures all around us!



Scholastic Book Fair

2.45pm, Wednesday 6th March - Tuesday 1st April

We are excited to announce that our Scholastic Book Fair will be held in school from next Wednesday, 26th March, until Tuesday, 1st April. This is a fantastic opportunity for you and your child to explore a wonderful selection of books together. We invite you to browse the book selection in the school hall from 2.45pm onwards.

Upon your arrival, our school captains will be delighted to escort your child from class to join you in discovering the diverse range of titles available. Please note that the Book Fair will operate on a **cashless** basis; a QR code will be provided for online payments. Unfortunately, ApplePay will not be accepted during this event.

Each purchase made will contribute to our school's funds for acquiring more books for our children, making your visit truly worthwhile. We look forward to seeing you there and fostering a love of reading together!

Thank you for your support,

Mrs. Tweedale
Deputy Head, English Lead

