Little Hadham Primary School

Stortford Road, Little Hadham, Herts SG11 2DX

Tel: 01279 771285 Email: admin@littlehadham.herts.sch.uk Head Teacher Ms S Connolly



NEWSLETTER 27.06.2025

Week 35

<u>Diary Dates</u>
30/06/25 – Beech Class trip Knebworth House 03/07/25 Willow Class National History Museum online 04/07/25 Art Exhibition 2:30pm 04/07/25 Colour run & singing 3:15pm 15/07/25 Imagine Theatre Visiting 16/07/25 Willow leavers show 6pm 16/07/25 EYFS Sports day 9am 16/07/25 Maple Class Trip 17/07/25 Sports Day (Beech, Lime, Maple, Willow) 9am 17/07/25 Willow leavers BBQ 6pm
18/07/25 Term ends – Parents and Children picnic from 12pm, Willow Class Vs Parents Football 1pm Summer holidays Let the holidays commence

#### Dear families,

Thank you so much for all the lovely comments and support following the publication of our Ofsted report — your kind words truly brought a tear to our eyes. We are so proud of our little school and it means the world to know you are too. If you haven't had a chance to read the report yet, you'll find it on our school website.

Year 6 returned from their residential at Kingswood absolutely buzzing — and I was lucky enough to join them. In spite of the heat, they met every challenge with determination and teamwork. They were a trustworthy and enthusiastic group... although I will say, their love of Rick Astley was maybe just a *little* too enthusiastic!

Back at school, the EYFS team warmly welcomed our new Saplings and Ash class parents on Wednesday evening. It's always a special time of year as we prepare to welcome our youngest children into 'big school'. We all remember that nervous excitement — it's a big step, and we're here to support every family on the journey.

Year 6 have also been taking part in their Bikeability training, learning how to stay safe and confident on the roads. They've done brilliantly and are enjoying every minute.

End-of-year reports will be shared with families on **Friday 11th July 2025**. Our assessment systems are thorough and ensure that your child's next teacher will have a clear understanding of any gaps in learning and how best to support progress from September. If you have any questions or concerns after reading your child's report, please do reach out to their class teacher.

Wishing you all a restful and sunny weekend when it comes.

Have a lovely weekend, Sinead Connolly, Headteacher

Woodland Rangers-THANK YOU!

**HUGE SHOUT** out to the Woodland Rangers who replaced Connor this week. Your sessions were brilliant, and the children had a fabulous time, all while learning new skills. Much appreciated and we look forward to seeing you next week too!

### New Class Structure for 2025/26

At Little Hadham, we take great care each year in reshaping our classes to ensure the very best experience for every child. As a school with mixed-age classes, reorganisation is a natural and necessary part of our structure. However, the process is never simply a case of numbers, it involves thoughtful planning, careful consideration of children's individual needs, and discussions about how we can best use the staff and classrooms available to us.

We look closely at the size of each year group, the balance of ages within the school, and how we can most effectively deploy our teachers and support staff. Our aim is always to ensure every child is in the right place to thrive academically and socially.

As always Year 4 has been split based on children's birthdays, this is a practical and fair way of grouping when we are working within mixed-age parameters.

You might also have spotted changes to the Teaching Assistants working in some classes. These adjustments have been made to better support the teachers in meeting the individual needs of the children, whether academically, socially, or emotionally. We're fortunate to have a skilled and adaptable support team, and we use their strengths to ensure every class is well supported.

We know that changes can raise questions, and we want to reassure you that every decision is made with the children at the heart of it. Our focus remains firmly on providing a nurturing and high-quality education for all.

If your child is currently in:	New class teacher and Teaching assistant:	New class name:
Saplings	Mrs Lawrence/Mrs Webb and Mrs Lammin/Mrs	Ash
	Davies/ Ms Goodger	
Ash	Mrs Goslitski, Mrs Bland/Ms Goodger and Mrs	Beech Year 1
Beech Year 1	Silver/Ms Evans	Beech Year 2
Beech Year 2	Mrs Courtman-Stock, Mrs Erdogan and Ms Lane	Lime Year 3
Lime Year 3 Birthday after		Lime Year 4
December 31 <sup>st</sup>		
Lime Year 3 born between 1 <sup>st</sup>	Mrs Sassis and Mrs Martin	Maple Year 4
September and 31 <sup>st</sup> December	Mrs Lewis, Ms Evans/Mrs Silver	
Lime Year 4		Maple Year 5
Maple Year 4		Maple Year 5
Maple Year 5	Mrs Tweedale, Mrs Mills/Ms Goodger	Willow Year 6

Thank you, as ever, for your continued support.

#### A Shout-Out to Connor and Kelly!

We're thrilled to share some joyful news from the Little Hadham family — a huge congratulations to Connor and Kelly on the birth of their beautiful baby girl, Penny, who arrived yesterday! 3 4

We're all sending them our very best wishes (and a few virtual cuddles!) as they begin this exciting new chapter. We can't wait to meet little Penny and welcome her properly to the LHPS community.

Enjoy every magical, sleepy, snuggly moment, she's already part of the family!

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In Early Years this week, we have once again been making the most of the fabulous weather! The children have been particularly enjoying caring for our growing plants outside, ensuring that they have enough water to keep them happy in the heat. We have also seen lots of creativity outside, from bug hotel construction to grand den designs being brought to life! It is clear that the children are demonstrating characteristics of highly effective learning within their play.

We have also been thinking about growing and changing as part of our

transition discussions this half term. The children enjoyed looking at baby photos of themselves and discussing how things have changed over the years. After sharing stories about how little acorns turn into mighty oaks, the children got thinking about what they might like to grow into when they get older. We can all look forward to a world full of the most caring zoo keepers, the most creative artists and authors, and even lumberjacks who demonstrate the most incredible problem solving!

The children have been looking at the composition of numbers in maths, using numicon as a basis for investigation. Children in Saplings created house pictures using the numicon as puzzle pieces, whilst Ash class worked with teen numbers and got busy working out the calculations to match numicon building outlines.

Creativity was not contained to the Early Years unit, as the children really let their imaginations run wild

in the forest this week! It was impressive to see the children using their critical thinking skills to create tools such as hammers and spades out of the materials in the forest.

During some of our carpet time sessions, the children have been learning about special buildings linked to different religions. We explored churches and mosques, talking about what makes each one unique. The children then enjoyed designing and creating their own special buildings, thinking carefully about what they would look like and what might be inside.

Early Years had a magical time during one of their Forest session with the Woodland Rangers this week! To celebrate International Fairy Week, the children spent the morning on a special fairy hunt. Working together, they searched high and low to spot hidden fairies and match them to their fairy hunt sheets.

Thankfully, they managed to rescue all the fairies from the forest. They also enjoyed making their own fairies, using leaves and flowers to paint the wings.

> The children enjoyed a well-deserved jewel jar treat — a mini party! They had a fantastic time dancing, playing musical statues, and celebrating their hard work. The party ended with a refreshing glass of squash and lots of smiles all around!











This week in Beech Class, the children have been busy with a wide range of learning across the curriculum. In English, the Year One children have now moved on from their work on postcards and have begun exploring the features of letters. They imagined what it might be like to communicate with someone who has never been to Earth and wrote their own letters to an alien, describing everyday life on our planet. This included what people eat, how we travel, and some of the fun things

we do. The children also spent time looking at different kinds of stamps, learning why they are important and where they go on an envelope.

Meanwhile, the Year Two children continued their work inspired by Quentin Blake's story *The Green Ship*. They have been writing persuasive letters to the character Mrs Tredgar, who had shaped her garden trees into a ship. The children are trying to convince her to return her garden to its original magical design the green ship after it had become overgrown. They used persuasive language, reasons, and emotive phrases to make their arguments clear and convincing.



In history, the children have been following the mysterious and adventurous journey of Percy Fawcett, a British explorer who disappeared while searching for a lost city in the Amazon rainforest. We have been exploring the key question: how did Percy Fawcett help shape our understanding of the world? The children have learned that through his detailed mapping, discoveries, and writings, Fawcett contributed to our knowledge of South America and inspired many

future explorers. They discussed how exploration helps uncover new places, cultures, and ideas, and they thought about the risks and excitement of journeys into the unknown.

In maths, the Year One children have been continuing their work on place value, focusing on numbers up to 100. They have been partitioning numbers into tens and ones, comparing numbers using symbols like greater than and less than, and placing numbers on number lines. The Year Two children have been building on this by exploring place value up to 1000. They have been identifying hundreds, tens, and ones in three-digit numbers, understanding how to read and write these numbers, and using them in practical problems to strengthen their understanding.

In PSHE this week, the children have been learning about privacy and how to keep themselves safe. We have discussed what kinds of things are private such as our bodies, personal belongings, and private thoughts and why it is important to respect other people's privacy as well. The children also talked about situations when it is important to speak to a trusted adult, such as when something makes them feel uncomfortable or unsure. Through stories and scenarios, they practised recognising these situations and knowing what to do.





This week Lime class has been full of creativity, discovery, and hands-on learning. We began by stepping into the world of Arthur, a character from our class book, and imagined how he might trap a wolf. Using a model text for inspiration, the children had great fun brainstorming ideas and then writing clear, imaginative instructions for Arthur. We're all eager to find out whether his clever plan will actually work!

In maths, we've been stepping into the world of shapes and angles. The children have been learning to identify acute and obtuse angles and were introduced to protractors to help them measure right angles with accuracy. It's been fantastic to see their curiosity grow as they explore geometry and begin to notice angles all around them in everyday objects.



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The prospect of art week next week has also inspired excitement. We introduced our focus artwork, and the class was completely captivated by its intricate details. There was a real buzz when the children recognised the setting using knowledge from a previous geography topic—they quickly pinpointed the location and made connections with their earlier learning. Inspired by the picture, many are now keen to create a 3D representation during art week, so watch this space for some impressive artistic creations!

In history, we delved into the fascinating world of the Vikings. We explored how people's views of the Vikings have evolved over time, particularly as archaeologists have uncovered more artefacts. The children enjoyed discussing what life might have been like for a Viking living in Britain all those years ago and were thoughtful in considering the evidence presented.

Science has also been hands-on and engaging this week. Year 3s explored the power of magnets by experimenting with paper clips, discovering what materials magnets can attract. Meanwhile, Year 4s investigated the impact of human activity on food chains and ecosystems, deepening their understanding of the natural world. We also broadened our vocabulary in French by learning the names of musical instruments, and in music, we had fun creating and sharing a chilled-out "clap rap"!

This week in Maple Class, the children revisited the key features of explanation texts. They developed their understanding of the chocolate-making process by making notes and creating a plan. As part of their writing, they practised using fronted adverbials and formal conjunctions to improve cohesion and clarity. The children then wrote their own explanation texts, successfully applying many of the features they had explored.





In Maths, the focus was on identifying and describing the properties of 3D shapes. The children examined a variety of solid shapes and used precise mathematical vocabulary to describe their features, such as faces edges and vertices. They then moved on to develop their reasoning skills, explaining their thinking when comparing and classifying different 3D shapes. Additionally, they took part in a MoneySense workshop where they explored key aspects of financial safety and responsibility. They learned why people might use a bank account and discussed the benefits of saving money securely. The class also explored the risks associated with spending money online, including how to spot and avoid

online scams. Through real-life scenarios, pupils suggested ways to keep money safe on the internet and identified the consequences of financial scams, reflecting on how such experiences might affect a person's feelings and well-being.

















In Geography this week, the children explored the major mountain ranges of South America by studying maps and answering a range of questions to deepen their understanding of the continent's physical geography. They then moved on to investigate the human geography of South America, working with their learning partners to research aspects such as food, buildings, languages and

religion. The children made notes and created colouful posters with interesting facts, gaining insight into the rich and diverse cultures of the continent. This work was linked to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), particularly the right to learn about and respect other cultures and communities around the world (Article 29).





In Willow class this week, in History, the children researched life in 18th Century Venice as preparation for writing historical diary entries inspired by Canaletto's paintings. They explored key questions such as: What was Venice like in the 1700s? What kind of clothes did Venetians wear? What were gondolas used for? Who was the Doge? Why were

regattas important? Their findings brought the period to life, helping them write vivid and imaginative diary entries set in the time of Canaletto.

In Design and Technology, the children continued working on sewing outfits for their puppets. They thoughtfully selected fabrics to suit their designs and began carefully stitching the body and arms of the clothing. Building on their sewing skills, they added

decorative details such as buttons, applique and other embellishments to bring their designs to life. The children showed great focus and creativity, taking pride in the precision and individuality of their work.









This week in English, Willow class wrote informative and persuasive leaflets offering practical advice to help children stay safe while cycling on the road. They focused on clear layout, included imperative verbs, strong vocabulary and used persuasive and informative language to engage their readers and promote the importance of road safety.





Throughout the week, the children took part in a series of engaging and

practical cycling safety activities. After watching a road safety video, they brainstormed key safety rules and discussed the importance of being well-prepared before heading out on the road. They carried out thorough bike checks—inspecting brakes, tyres and reflectors—and learned vital road safety skills such as





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how to signal clearly, position themselves correctly, and remain aware of traffic and other road users. They clearly understood that cycling is not only fun and healthy but also a responsibility that requires knowledge, awareness and confidence.

# **Friends of Little Hadham Primary**

We are excited to remind you that on the **4th of July**, we will be enjoying our third Colour Run at Little Hadham Primary! Last year the children loved this event and this one promises to be a fun and vibrant experience for everyone involved.

Thank you to all the tremendous hard work and effort the core committee and wider contributors are putting into planning and setting this event up – thank you in advance to them all. Your dedication is greatly appreciated!

As always please remember that all parents become Friends when they join Little Hadham Primary school, so if you can help in anyway please don't hesitate to get in touch. We do hope you will all support this event, as all money raised will go directly towards enhancing the experiences we offer to our learners across the school. Your participation and contributions make a significant difference.

Every little bit helps, and your involvement is invaluable to us.

## Year 6 Girls Shine at Bishop's Stortford Rugby Club

Our Year 6 girls had a brilliant morning at Bishop's Stortford Rugby Club, taking part in a special girls-only tag rugby tournament for Years 6. The event was designed to be a fun, inclusive introduction to rugby, with music, a welcoming atmosphere, and plenty of encouragement from female referees and role models.

Each participant received a goodie bag, and schools competed for a trophy that will be up for grabs again next year. The aim was not only to promote the sport within schools, but also to inspire girls to continue playing rugby outside the classroom.

Our girls represented Little Hadham Primary with great spirit and teamwork. A special congratulations goes to Abigail, who was awarded the Sportsmanship Prize—an outstanding achievement and a testament to her positive attitude and conduct on the pitch- wooohooo!



Well done to all who took part and to Ms Goodger for organizing !