

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope this message finds you well! I am thrilled to share that the first week of school has been truly fantastic. Your children have settled in wonderfully, and we couldn't be more excited to embark on this new academic journey with them.

It has been a joy to welcome so many new faces to our Little Hadham Primary community, and it's heartwarming to see the children adapting so quickly to new routines and making new friends.

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude for your support in making this first week such a success. We even had 100% attendance today- please keep this up! Your involvement in your child's education is invaluable and makes a significant impact on their learning journey.

Open communication between home and school is key, so if you ever have any questions, concerns, or simply want to share your child's experiences, please don't hesitate to reach out via the school email or during drop-off and pick-up times. I'd also like to give a special mention to our Saplings and Ash classes. It is truly one of the greatest privileges to witness those precious early steps into school life. From carrying their first book home, experiencing their first forest school session, to enjoying their first school lunches with new friends—it's been a wonderful start. A huge thank you to our EYFS team for creating such a warm and purposeful environment, and to all of the parents, as I know how special these moments are. Thank you once again for entrusting us with your child's education. We look forward to a year filled with growth, learning, and joy.

Have an amazing weekend, and make sure your little ones get some rest—the first week back is always a tiring one!

Wishing you all a sunny family weekend,
Sinead Connolly, Headteacher

Diary Dates

16/09/24 School Photos

23/09/24 Learning Together Morning Lime

24/09/24 Learning Together Morning

Willow Class

25/09/24 Learning Together Morning

Maple Class

26/09/24 Learning Together Morning EYFS

27/09/24 Learning Together Morning Beech Class

08/10/24 Bletchley Park Visit Year 6

23/10/24 Parents' Evening 1-7pm

24/10/24 Half-Term begins 3:15

25/10/24 Inset- staff only

31/10/24 Year 7 Admission Deadlines

04/11/24 Back to school

More to come...watch this space!

Breakfast and After School Club

Breakfast Club and After school Club are back!
The Breakfast Club is £4.50 per session and starts at 7:45am.

The After School Club has two different session prices available. 3:00-5:15 = £12:00 3:00-6:00 = £14.50

Discounts are offered for siblings attending the other after school activities which finish at 4:15.

A message from Mrs Sillett...

Welcome back to all our families, and a special hello to those who are new to our school community! We hope everyone had a restful break and is ready for an exciting year ahead. We kindly remind parents that **all children attending breakfast club or afterschool club must be booked in advance**. You can easily manage this through our Arbor system. Arbor allows bookings up to 24 hours in advance, and for added convenience, you can even book for the entire year if you wish! **Also**, Arbor has recently been updated. This means that breakfast club and afterschool club fees must be paid in advance. If there is an outstanding balance, Arbor will not allow you to book your child into the clubs. If you have any questions or need assistance with booking, feel free to contact me in the office. My usual working days are **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday**.

Looking forward to a fantastic year ahead!

Mrs Sillett

News from the classes...

Ash and Saplings have had a fantastic start to the school year. It has been wonderful to welcome new children and see familiar faces after the summer break. The children have settled in so well and are already enjoying playing together and exploring the indoor and outdoor areas. Ash children have been superstars at helping the Saplings children find things around the classroom and outside.



All the children have been eager to tell the grown-ups about what they have been up to over the summer holidays and we've been busy playing in the sandpit building sandcastles, continuing our thoughts of being at the

beach. The teachers have been finding out what the children's interests are and providing opportunities for children to follow this, including dinosaurs, ponies, cars and even iguanas!

Painting has been a popular choice of activity and some of the children have painted pictures of themselves, thinking carefully about the features of their face. Mrs Webb was very grateful when they all helped her to draw a picture of her face.

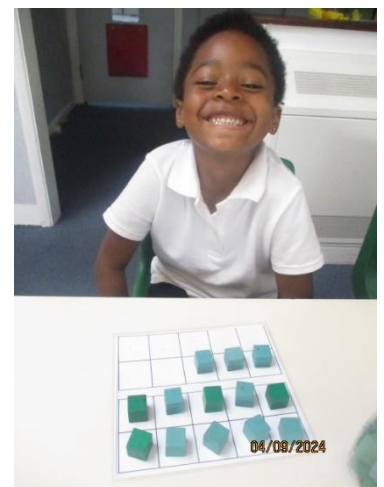


Early Years had their first PE lesson this week and listened really carefully to Matt's instructions. They practised throwing and catching a ball, as well as jumping in and out of hoops. On Friday, they enjoyed exploring the forest with Connor during their Forest School session.

It has been a super start to an exciting year ahead for Ash and Saplings!



In Beech class, the children have smoothly transitioned back into school life, with those new to the class settling in beautifully and forming new friendships. They've also been making the most of the outdoor learning areas, which offer a wide range of educational activities. These include a mud kitchen, small world play zones, a stage for performances, dedicated areas for reading and maths, and fun water play activities.



In English, the children have been working diligently. Year Two children have been writing detailed character descriptions inspired by *The Storm Whale*, incorporating higher-level vocabulary, descriptive adjectives, varied sentence starters, and conjunctions to enhance their writing. Meanwhile, Year One children have been practicing sentence construction, focusing on topics like babies, toddlers, and children, as they build their foundational language skills and begin to expand their use of descriptive language.



In maths, the children have been focussing on the concept of place value. Year One children are using hands-on resources to grasp numbers up to 20, while Year Two children are working on partitioning and regrouping numbers to build their understanding of more complex concepts.

In Design and Technology (DT), Year Two children have been learning about the influential engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel. They've explored his

contributions to engineering and why his work has been so significant in shaping modern construction and transportation.

In geography, the class has been focusing on the local area. This week, we've explored different types of settlements, including hamlets, villages, towns, and cities. The children have been excited to learn about the differences between these communities and what makes each unique.



Both PE and forest school have offered the children opportunities to stay active and enjoy the outdoors, while also helping those new to Beech class form connections with their classmates, contributing to a strong sense of community.

We are thrilled with the children's enthusiasm and dedication to their learning, and we look forward to another productive and enjoyable week ahead.



It has been an amazing start to life in Lime Class, with the children diving into their learning with great enthusiasm. Despite some understandable tiredness, they are showing tremendous effort and determination in all their activities. The class has already embarked on some exciting lessons, including the introduction of Nelson Mandela in our history studies, sparking curiosity and interest among the students. Their positive attitude and hard work are setting the tone for what promises to be a productive

and enjoyable term.

In Maths, we have been sharpening our skills in place value, an essential foundation for their mathematical journey this year. The children are demonstrating growing confidence as they tackle new challenges and reinforce key concepts. In English, we have turned our attention to exclamation sentences, helping the students understand how to use them effectively to express strong feelings or commands. These lessons are not only enhancing their writing skills but also fostering creativity and clarity in communication.



As part of building a strong, respectful classroom community, we revisited the UNICEF Rights of the Child. This allowed us to create a new class charter, which the children took pride in helping to develop. Through this, they have deepened their understanding of their rights and responsibilities, ensuring a positive and supportive learning environment for everyone. We have also made 'network hands' to put in our reading diaries which promote protective behaviours in school and at home by signposting the children to people that they can talk to. In Art, we have already begun learning to sketch 3D objects with shading, and the students have impressed us with their ability to bring depth and dimension to their drawings.

Alongside the academic work, the children have also been busy settling into the new routines of Lime Class. We have warmly welcomed new members to our class, chosen exciting new reading books, and found our new lockers and drawers. Everyone is quickly becoming accustomed to the flow of the day, and the excitement for the term ahead is evident. We are all looking forward to a fantastic half-term filled with growth, creativity, and fun!



In Maple class, children settled very well and they already started working hard. This week, the children learnt how to introduce themselves in French and made informative 'All about me posters', in which they included lots of interesting facts about themselves. In response to Mrs Sassis' 'welcome' letter, children then wrote beautiful letters in which they shared information about themselves and their families, their strengths, interests, hobbies and talents. What a pleasure

was to read them! As they said, it will be an amazing year and everybody is so excited and looking forward to the new academic year!



This term, children will be learning about the Ancient Greeks. Enthusiastically, they started reading the class book 'Odyssey' by Gillian Cross and worked on retrieving information, discussing the author's choices, explaining vocabulary and answering questions with reference to the text. They are so looking forward to reading myths and learning all about Ancient Greece.



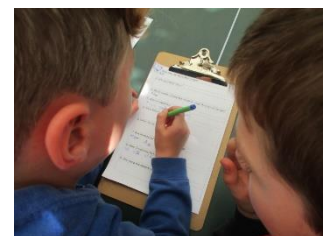
In Maths, children worked on reading and writing Roman numerals and then worked on reading, writing, representing and recognising numbers. They will be definitely be taught the numbers in Greek as the shapes are named after them.

Meet the new Year 6! We've had a super start to the new school year in Willow Class. We wasted no time in getting to know our new classroom, each other and our new topics.



On Tuesday, we went on a fact finding mission to learn more about the Second World War. We learnt about the Axis and the Allies and which countries were on which side. We also learn about some of the reasons for the outbreak of WWII including the conditions and rules for Germany set out in the Treaty of Versailles after the end of World

War One.



On Wednesday, we began our class text for this term, Goodnight Mister Tom, by Michelle Magorian. We enjoyed getting to know the two central characters of William Beech and Tom Oakley. In chapter one, there are many clues about the two characters' past and we are looking forward to exploring more.

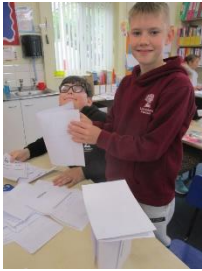




In PSHE, it was time for a challenge – a paper tower challenge! Which team could build the tallest tower using only 20 sheets of recycled paper and scissors (no sticky tape or glue was allowed). With only ten minutes on the clock to complete the challenge, we quickly realised that negotiation and compromise would be the key to success. There were many imaginative designs and the tallest



tower stood proud at a grand height of 82cm. But the most impressive thing on display was our team work skills and what we learnt about the importance of listening to each other. Go Team Willow!



We spent some time this week discussing and sharing our opinions on the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Articles we feel are most relevant to us when in school. We are excited to continue our work towards gaining the Silver Award for the Rights Respecting Schools initiative. We democratically voted for the following Articles to be

included in our new Class Charter for this year:

12. Respect for Children's Views

13. Sharing Thoughts Freely

17. Access to Information

29. Aims of Education

31. Rest, Play, Culture and Arts



We've had a great week in Willow Class and are excited for the year ahead. It may be our final year in primary school but we are certain it's going to be fabulous!

Have a lovely weekend!

Learning Together Mornings

As you can see from the Diary Dates, we have added dates for this half term's **Learning Together Mornings**. For those of you who are new to us, Learning Together Mornings are a special opportunity for you to be part of your child's learning journey! These sessions take place in the morning at 8:45-9:10, when you are invited to come into the classroom, sit alongside your child, and engage in a learning task together.

It's a wonderful way to see first-hand what your child is working on and to share in their learning experiences. Whether it's reading, writing, or a creative activity, these mornings provide a chance for you to bond with your child in their school environment and celebrate their progress.

We encourage you to join us for these fun and interactive sessions! It's not only a great way to support your child's learning but also to build a connection with the school community.

If you have any questions or need more information about **Learning Together Mornings**, feel free to reach out to your child's teacher.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Pupil Leadership

As many of you know, each academic year brings forth the election of new School Captains, our School Council and our Green Team. Our aim at Little Hadham Primary is for these children to play an integral role within both our school and the local community. We seek to build upon the work carried out by previous school councillors in recent years. This process offers our pupils a valuable opportunity to engage with the full democratic process, a fundamental component of British Values.

The School Council and Green Team will comprise two representatives from each class. These representatives will convene with myself and Mrs Tweedale regularly to address issues that have been raised during class or year group meetings, enabling them to voice their opinions and make impactful decisions. Our goal is to nurture a proactive and innovative group capable of effecting meaningful change within our school, and the world. The election of these pupil leadership groups mirrors the principles of the British electoral system, providing a tangible example of democracy in action. The children will have the opportunity in class to write and deliver a speech in class and for the captains in a whole school assembly. We will proudly announce the newly elected representatives in class and they will also receive their lanyards!

Just a few reminders...

Allergies

We have several children in school who are **severely affected** with allergies to nuts. Please do not give your child nuts for snacks or use any products containing nuts or sesame when preparing packed lunches. Also, please remember crisps and sweets are not allowed in school lunches and children will be asked not to eat this and to take them home again.

My final reminder is that there should be **no children using the trim trail or the forest area before or after school**, whether they are our learners, younger or older siblings. This is for health and safety reasons due to the lack of supervision from school staff at these times, once again I request that parents and carers are pro-active in ensuring that children follow these expectations so that school staff are not having to ask them.