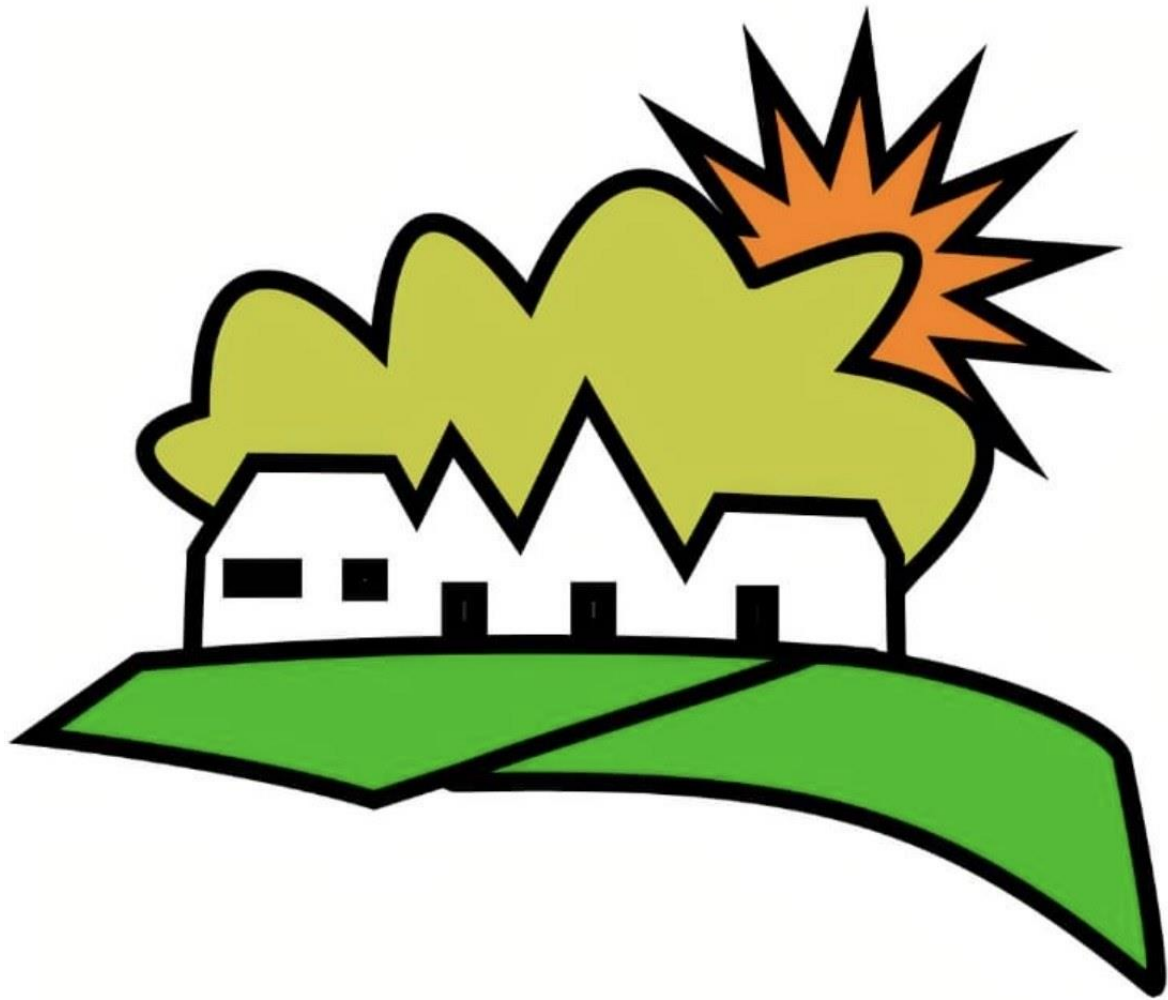




Hennock Primary School Newsletter

Message from the Head

Welcome Back!

We hope you all had a lovely and restful half-term break. It's been wonderful to see the children return to school with energy and enthusiasm even if the weather has tried to dampen our spirits! This week, we were treated to a fantastic passion assembly all about donkeys — a big thank you to Amelia for sharing her passion with us all so eloquently.

Next week, we're looking forward to welcoming you into school for your Parents' Evening appointments. These meetings are a great opportunity to celebrate your child's progress so

far this year, ask any questions you may have, and take a look through their books and learning.

We're also excited to be welcoming Elfyn, a music specialist, into school next week. Birch and Ash classes will be starting a singing journey together, which will culminate in a special performance at South Dartmoor Community College on Monday 8th December. We'll be sharing more details about this soon — it promises to be a fantastic experience for the children!

Best wishes,

Anthony Arnold

Ash Class



We have had a lovely start to the new half-term in Ash Class!

We headed back to Outdoor Learning on Wednesday. The children had great fun making popcorn on the fire and exploring and identifying irreversible reactions; creating witchy potions in the spirit of Halloween; finishing off DT projects creating a machine with wheels; and of course, lots of den building and fun in the stream!

In Geography, we began our new unit *Investigating Our World*. The children used Ordnance Survey maps to explore our local area and identified different human and physical features on the maps.

In Art & Design, the children created different tones, tints, and shades of colours and discussed the different effects they created.

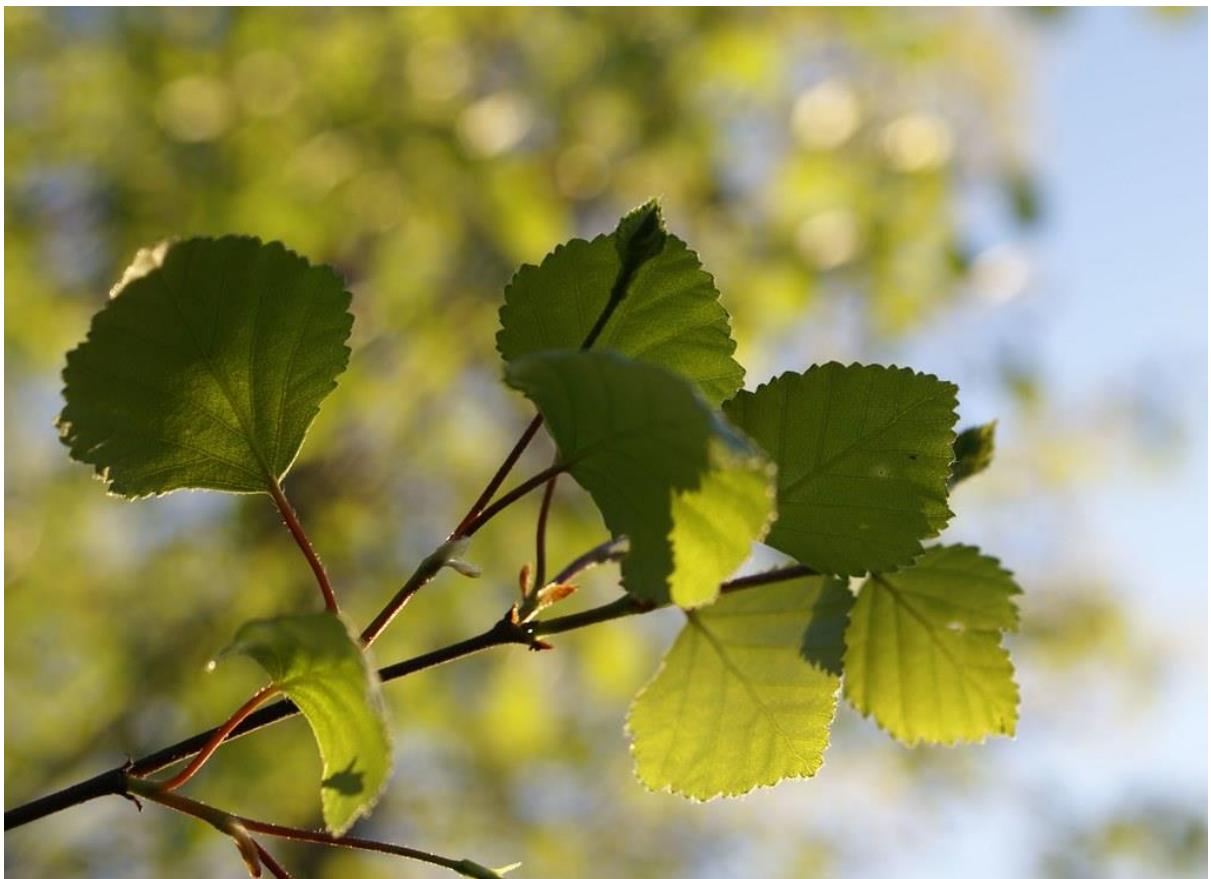
Have a lovely weekend everyone, and I look forward to catching up with you at Parents Evening next week.

Miss Fraser





Birch Class



I hope you all had a lovely half term!

It's been a busy couple of weeks in Birch as ever. The children have worked hard to plan their final writes on the topic of fossils. They worked as a whole class to share ideas and to structure these into paragraphs then they had the opportunity to plan and write their own information text. I was impressed with the factual knowledge the children were able to share in an engaging way. We are now moving on to our next English sequence on poetry. The children are going to be reading the poem 'A Good Weekend' by Theresa Lola and learning about poetic features in order to write their own poem at the end of the sequence.

Birch have continued to work hard in maths applying the column method to solve addition and subtraction problems. They've then used this knowledge to explore inversion and estimation. Some tricky concepts but they're doing brilliantly!

We had the most amazing trip to Buckfast Abbey just before the holidays. I learned so much, let alone the children! They were so respectful, especially when entering the area of the abbey which requires silence and they asked so many really thoughtful questions. All the adults were so proud of every single one of the children.

Birch also did themselves proud at our recent Harvest Assembly learning an autumn poem by heart and with signs. They are a truly wonderful class and a real pleasure to spend time with each day.

Have a lovely weekend,

Maugan

Willows and Reception Class



I hope you all had a lovely half term! It has been wonderful to see everyone back this week — the children have settled in brilliantly, and we've had a very busy and exciting start to the half term.

Year 2 have continued their focus on writing all about the adventures of their tiny friend. This week, we have written introductions to our characters and collected lots of exciting vocabulary to use in our final stories. In Maths, we have been working on addition and subtraction, using our number bonds to 10 to help solve different problems.

We have also begun new topics in Science and Geography. In Geography, we explored human and physical features and played a game where we described a feature and others had to decide what it was. In Science, we drew around each other to create large body outlines and labelled all the different parts — it was great fun and helped us learn more about our bodies!

Reception have started a brand-new topic all about celebrations! This week, we talked about the different things we celebrate and how we celebrate them with our families and friends. We also learned about Bonfire Night and made some beautiful, sparkly firework pictures.

In English, we read *The Three Little Pigs*, which the children really enjoyed joining in with and retelling. In Maths, we have been focusing on the numbers 1, 2 and 3 — looking closely at their composition and practising finding one more and one less.

At Forest School, the whole class had a wonderful time creating foaming potions using vinegar and bicarbonate of soda. The children loved mixing in different food colours and seeing what new colours appeared!

We've also started a new class story — *The Magic Faraway Tree* — which everyone is already enjoying.





Saplings



A Lovely Start to the New Term!

We've had such a wonderful start to the new term! The children have settled back into our daily routines beautifully and are enjoying lots of exciting new activities together.

This term, we've introduced our daily toothbrushing sessions, where the children carefully brush their teeth for a full two minutes each day. It's been lovely to see how proud they are of keeping their smiles healthy and bright!

In our creative play, the children have been busy exploring the insides of pumpkins and butternut squash. Using spoons, they scooped out the flesh and seeds — a brilliant sensory experience full of curiosity and laughter. They also enjoyed making sparkly patterns with flour and glitter, experimenting with textures and designs.

We had lots of fun creating colourful firework pictures too! Using paint, marbles, and glitter, the children rolled and swirled the materials to make bright, whirling patterns that really captured the excitement of fireworks night.

In Outdoor Learning, our little explorers have been mixing and pouring different coloured water from glass bottles to make their own magical potions. This activity has encouraged imaginative play and helped develop their fine motor skills as they experimented with colours and pouring.

It's been a busy and joyful start to the term, and we can't wait to see what new adventures the next few weeks will bring!

Toddler Group!





Toddler group joins the Preschool in their classroom and outside. Activities include painting, mark making, playdough sand and water play. Plus plenty of glitter and pumpkins!

All are very welcome, join us for a chat, some craft, and very importantly, tea for your adult!

Running from 9.15-10:30am every Tuesday morning.

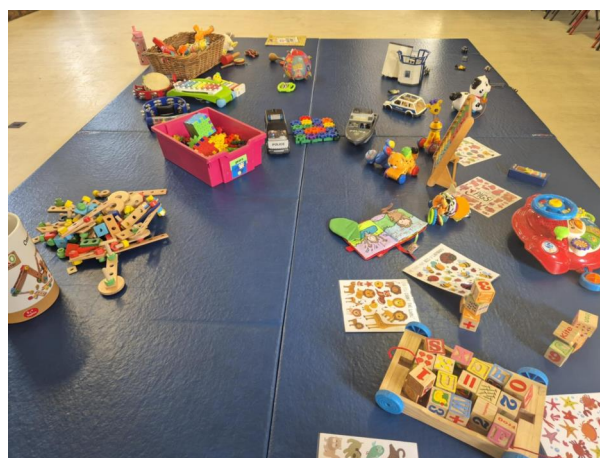
Tell your friends and family to spread the word.

£1.50 a session. Hennock Primary school. Please call or email if you have any questions;

adminhennock@thelink.academy

01626 833233.

We look forward to welcoming you to our school.



PTFA Message



Dear all,

We hope you enjoyed the half term break and had some fun with Halloween, and Firework night, although some displays are still going this weekend, so enjoy if you are going to one.

Once that's out the way..... Christmas!! How has that happened.

We will be supporting the school in December when KS1 will be performing their Nativity play, really looking forward to this and we hope to arrange for Father Christmas to pop in and wish the children a Happy Christmas. Teas, Coffee and Cake, Mince pies will be served, along with a Christmas Raffle and lots of fun! Any help with donations or your time would be very welcomed, we will keep you as we get nearer.

I have a lot of school uniform available all great condition, pinafore dresses, grey trousers, white tops please give me a message or call I can check sizes for you that I've got: deb – 07861 980438

PTFA AGM

Please find attached an invitation to our AGM via Teams on WEDNESDAY 12th NOVEMBER 8pm

We absolutely need to make sure we have as many people there as possible to attend, to ensure we can go ahead. Please, please spare just a few minutes (it will likely be less than half an hour).

You can join using this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/hennock2025>

Meeting ID: 316 581 135 201 3

Passcode: ME6ZM7mx

Please allow a few minutes to get connected - you may be asked to prove you are human by reading some squiggly writing :-).

Let us know if you are having any difficulties and we will do our best to sort.

Deb mobile: 07861 980438

John mobile: 07747 612342

Look forward to seeing you all, you PTFA team.



This week, we interviewed a couple of children about what they have been enjoying since we have returned to school.

Q: What has been your favourite activity you have done in school this week?

A: Completing my Final Write in English.

A: Going to Outdoor Learning and building dens.

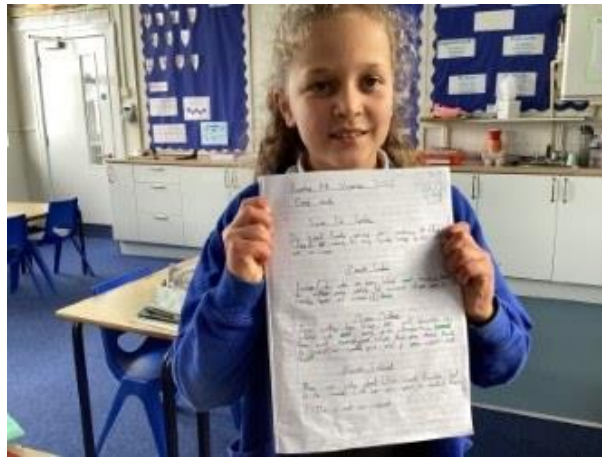
Q: What are you looking forward to this half term?

A: Starting my new English unit on Poetry.

A: Writing my own fairy tale in English next week.

Q: What has been your favourite game to play with everyone on the pitch this week?

A: Hot seat!



Star of the Week



24th October

Star of the Week:

Ash: Lyric **Birch:** Eli **Willows:** Aiden

BC: Ralph **ASC:** Ro

Dojo Points:

Ash: Thomas, Sophie, Monty **Birch:** Jess

Achievosaurus: Aiden, Dusty, Alma, Alana and Sophie

Values Star: Mabel & Agnes

Pride of School: Ronnie & Aiden

7th November

Star of the Week:

Ash: Agnes **Birch:** Jessica **Willows:** Peigi

BC: Amelia **ASC:** Frank

Dojo Points:

Ash: Mabel & Sophie **Birch:** Eli, Jess and Lucy

Achievosaurus: Peigi, Eloise and Amelia

Values Star: Asa

Pride of School: Amelia

Key Dates

PE with Mr Pierce Every Monday, Whole School

Willows, extra PE on alternative Friday (not same wk as Outdoor Learning)

Ash and Birch, extra PE on Wednesdays

- **11th November: Tempest Photography**
- **11th November: Remembrance Pupil Service**
- **11th and 12th November - Parents evening and Book Fair!**
- **14th November: Walkability for KS2**
- **Wk Commencing 17th: Bikeability for Year 6**

Outdoor learning dates:

Saplings and Willow (am), Birch and Ash (pm)

Wednesday 19th November

Wednesday 3rd December

Wednesday 17th December

School Attendance

Attendance this fortnight:

Whole School 96.4%

Ash 95.9%

Birch 96.4%

Willows 97.5%

Admissions policy for 2027-28: Annual Consultation

Along with all other schools and academies in Devon, we are consulting on an admission policy for 2027-28. The Local Authority is also consulting on its admission arrangements. You are invited to look at the proposal new policies which are based on policies for this year and next year and to have your say on them.

Our proposed policy is on our admission page and you can see all policies at

<http://devon.cc/schoolpolicy> Further information is here:

www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements The consultation runs until 16 January 2026.

Policies will be determined by the end of February and published in the same places by 15 March next year. You can comment at schoolsadmissionpolicy-mailbox@devon.gov.uk or by emailing the school

Attendance Matters



PENALTY NOTICE FINES FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE ARE CHANGING

1 FIRST OFFENCE
The **first** time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be: **£160 per parent, per child. This will be reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.**

2 SECOND OFFENCE (WITHIN 3 YEARS)
The **second** time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance, the amount will be: **£160 per parent, per child, to be paid within 28 days. No reduced rate will be offered.**

3 THIRD OFFENCE AND ANY FURTHER OFFENCES (WITHIN 3 YEARS)
The **third** time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court.
Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on a parent's future DBS certificate due to failure to safeguard a child's education.



Safeguarding



Key contacts and useful links

Front Door (formerly MASH) main number: 0345 155 1071

Children's Social Care Emergency Duty Team (out of hours) – 0845 6000 388

Front Door email: mashsecure@devon.gov.uk¹

Our Safeguarding Lead is Anthony Arnold and our Deputy Safeguarding Lead is Issy Fraser. If you are concerned about a child's wellbeing, please contact the school or in non-school hours contact Front Door (formally known as MASH) on

0345 155 1071

¹<mailto:mashsecure@devon.gov.uk>