

Hennock Primary School Newsletter

Message from the Head

Happy New Year and welcome back to school!

We hope you all had a wonderful festive break and enjoyed some special time with family and friends. A huge thank you from all of us for the lovely gifts and cards we received - they were truly appreciated.

As we step into the spring term, we're excited about the fantastic learning opportunities ahead and look forward to sharing this journey with you and your children.

I'm usually on the school gate on Mondays and Wednesdays, so please feel free to stop by for a catch-up if you'd like a chat. Let's make this term a great one together.

Many thanks,

Anthony Arnold.

Ash Class



Happy New Year everyone!

It has been lovely to see the children settle back in to routine in school so well.

In English this week, we have begun exploring our new text: Michael Morpurgo's *Where My Wellies Take Me*. The children have been collating their opinions on the text, identifying

patterns and puzzles, and also analysing the different ways Morpurgo creates a timeline of events in the text.

In Maths, we have been learning the formal methods for long multiplication and short division. I am so impressed with how well the children have picked up these techniques and are applying them to different problems.

In History, we had our first lesson all about the Ancient Egyptians! We explored the different key features of their civilisation and why it enabled them to grow and become so powerful.

In Art, we began exploring different examples of Islamic art and the children created their own geometric patterns.

Have a lovely weekend!





Birch Class



Happy New Year!

The children have settled really well back into Birch. We have welcomed a new pupil into our class who has been brave and brilliant in starting a new school and everyone in the class has been very nurturing towards them.

We've settled straight back into our typical rhythm and the children have thrown themselves into our new English sequence about the Brothers Grimm's fairy tales. Please see the learning overview for this term as to more detail what the children will be learning across the curriculum. The children have enjoyed a short but sweet lesson sequence on area in maths before we move on to extending knowledge on multiplication and division. I'm so impressed with how receptive the children are to their times tables work. Year 4 will have the national check in the summer term and Year 3 have been really engaged with exploring patterns and factor family in different times tables. All children have been building fluency and confidence in not only knowing their times tables by rote, but using them to solve problems.

Have a lovely weekend

Maugan

Willows and Reception Class



Happy New Year! I hope you have all had a lovely, restful break. It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back and see the children settled and ready to learn.

This week we have been very busy starting our new topics.

In Maths, Year 2 have begun a new topic on shapes. This week, the children have been learning how methods to count the number of sides and vertices of different 2D shapes, using a range of practical methods. In English, we have read and learned the poem "Cold". The children have enjoyed exploring a range of vocabulary that could be used in a cold weather poem, thinking carefully about describing words. In Geography, we have started our new topic on cities. We discussed what you might find in a city and how cities can be different from other places.

In Reception, we have started our new topic on animals. We have talked about pets, and the children have drawn and labelled pictures of their own pets or pets they would like to have. We have also enjoyed reading the story “Dear Zoo” together. In Maths, we have been consolidating our learning on numbers 1–5. We have also introduced the number 0, sorting different representations into 0 and not 0.

Izzy Parsons

Saplings



We’ve had a lovely start to our new term. The children arrived full of excitement, eager to see their friends and share stories about their seasonal holidays. It has been wonderful to see them settle back in so happily.

Our topic for this week and next is **Animals**, with a focus on how to care for them. The children have already shown great enthusiasm, asking thoughtful questions and sharing what they know. As part of our creative work, we’ve been making animal masks, which has sparked lots of imaginative play and conversation.

A highlight of the week was playing “**Supertato and the Evil Pea**” on the interactive board. The children thoroughly enjoyed the game and worked brilliantly together.

Wishing you all a great weekend. We look forward to more learning and fun next week.

Debbie

Toddler Group!





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

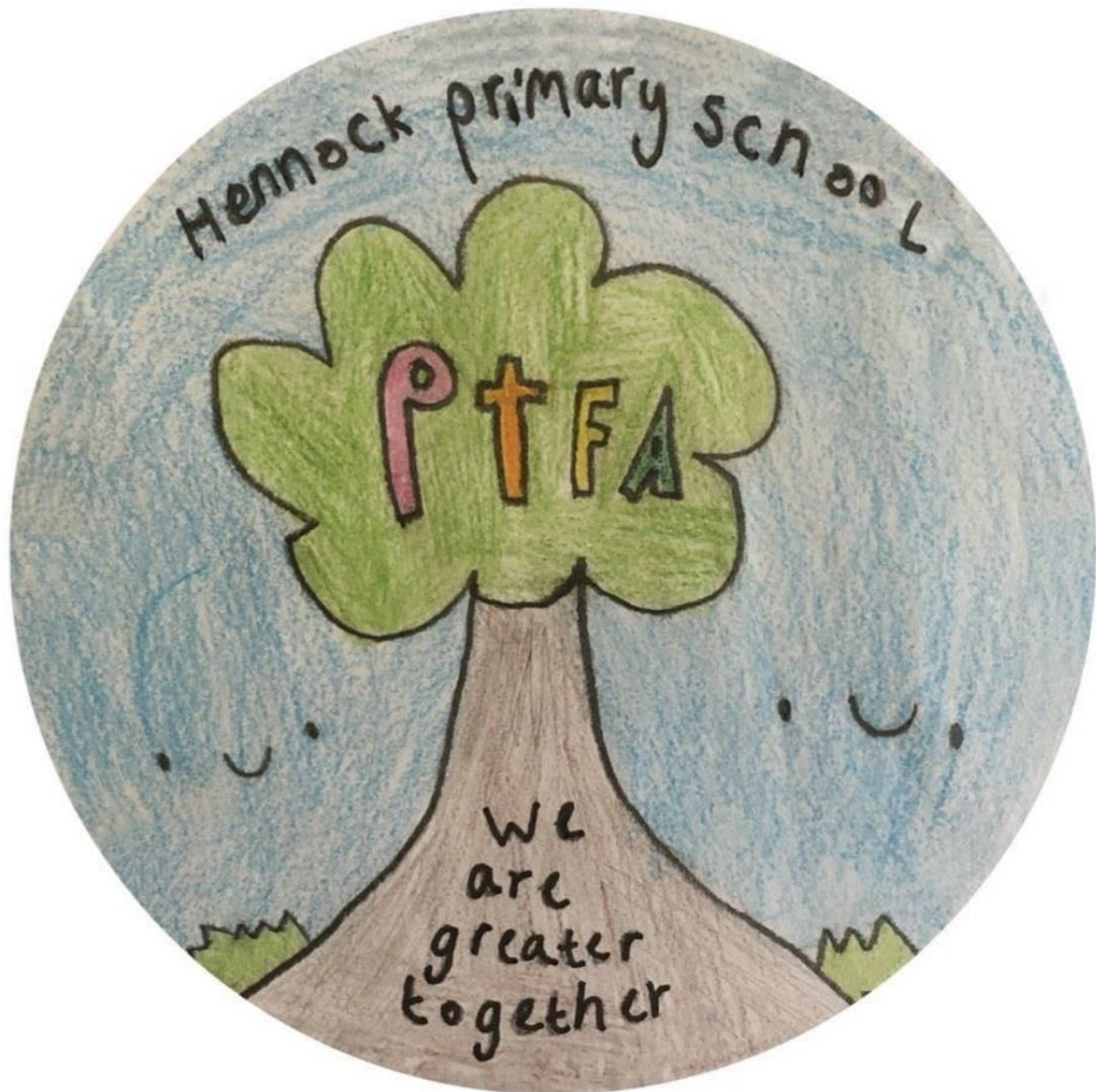
Tell your friends and family to spread the word.

adminhennock@thelink.academy

We look forward to welcoming you to our school.



PTFA Message



Happy New Year to everyone!

We hope you had a wonderful Christmas break with your families and ready for the New Year ahead!

We had a great result from the Christmas Fair and raised around £240.00 so a massive thank you all for supporting the PTFA.

Alison has been busy sorting the willow tree out in the garden, weaving and trimming it ready for new growth this year, and we hope to see the results of all the hard work of the Gardening Clubs bulb planting soon with a splash of daffodils.

Our next focus will be towards the Easter time and we hope to bring together some more fun and enjoyment with the Easter Fair, I know it's a little early to be talking about Easter but watch out those chocolate goodies will be in our shops soon! with longer evenings, milder weather what's not to look forward too! Please let us know if you would like to see new ideas for the fair, its good to start planning early.

In the meantime have a lovely weekend from your PTFA team.

Communications Team



This week, we interviewed some children about their Christmas Holiday.

Q: What was your favourite thing that you did over the holidays?

A: Opening presents and having lots of delicious food!

Q: Did you enjoy your holiday?

A: Yes so much!!

Q: What was your favourite present that you got?

A: A toy car

A: A new phone

Star of the Week



9th January

Star of the Week:

Ash: Freddie Birch: Alison Willows: Emmie and Amelia

BC: Agnes ASC: Alana

Dojo Points:

Ash: Freddie & Mabel Birch: Rupert and Eli

Achievosaurus:

Values Star: Asa

Playground Hero: Rupert

Pride of School: Alison and Emmie

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

Outdoor learning dates this half term:

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

- Wednesday 14th January
- Wednesday 28th January
- Wednesday 11th February

For Your Information

Apply for a primary school place

Was your child born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022?

Apply online at:
devon.cc/admissionsonline
or scan the QR code. Applications open from
15 November 2025 to the **15 January 2026**

If you can't access the school admissions website you can get more information by emailing **admissions@devon.gov.uk** or call our Education Helpline on:
0345 155 1019



You must apply through the Admissions Team, even if you've already given details to a school. Applications made directly to schools or on their lists will not be accepted.

Devon
County Council 

School Attendance

Attendance this fortnight:

Whole School 91.2%

Ash 91.9%

Birch 100%

Willows 81.3%

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/admissionarrangementsThe 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.

IF YOUR CHILD IS JUST 15 MINUTES LATE FOR SCHOOL EVERY DAY, IT ADDS UP TO

2 WEEKS

of the school year being missed



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>