



Hennock Primary School Newsletter

Message from the Head

Over the past few weeks, our curriculum has been enriched in so many wonderful ways. We've had a steady flow of visitors coming in to work with the children, as well as opportunities for our pupils to venture out and broaden their learning beyond the classroom. It has been truly lovely to see such vibrancy around the school.

One particular highlight was Forest School this week. With the sun finally shining, the children were able to immerse themselves in nature at its very best. The woodland was glowing, and the children thrived in the outdoors - exploring, creating, and working together

beautifully. I was lucky enough to taste the delicious pasta and pesto that the older children cooked on the fire.... yum!

Last week also brought a very special experience for Ash and Birch. The children took part in a professional dance workshop, and what a transformation we witnessed! They worked with energy, focus, and creativity before stepping onto the stage to perform for parents and other dance groups. Their confidence and enthusiasm shone through, and they were an absolute credit to the school.

These enriching opportunities make such a difference to our children, and it is a pleasure to share their successes with you.

Have a lovely weekend,

Anthony Arnold







Ash Class



We have had a lovely couple of weeks in Ash Class!

In English, the children have completed writing their stories based on the myths from our model text "River of Stories". They have worked hard to incorporate parentheses, multi-clause sentences, and dialogue to make their writing engaging and clear.

We also completed our workshops with Jane and Nick from Trees of Hope. The children all wrote some fantastic woodland-themed stories which have been entered into a competition with local bookshop *First Draft Books*.

In Outdoor Learning, we continued our DT project "Eat the Seasons"! The children used wild garlic to make some pesto from scratch, which we then mixed with pasta to create a delicious meal.

We have been enjoying the sunshine this week as well as we headed down to Teign Village Allotments. We explored what grows well in our climate and how the soil affects what is able to grow well. We talked about food miles and how important it is to source our food as locally as we can.

Have a lovely weekend!







Birch Class



What a busy couple of weeks! In English, the children have been busy building up their writerly knowledge to create exciting subheadings linked to a paragraph about caring for creatures. This week, they've built on this knowledge in addition to their work on imperative 'bossy' verbs and expanded noun phrases, to contribute to a shared write about caring for yetis. Next week... they'll be completing their final plan and write about a creature/ animal of their choice. I can't wait to see where their imagination takes them.

We've begun our new Maths sequence exploring fractions. The children have been learning the difference between a numerator and denominator, a unit and non-unit fraction as well as what 'the whole' means. We're now moving on to ordering and comparing fractions.

Birch have all showed such resilience during assessment week and even when they found it tricky at times, they showed a growth mind set and real determination. Well done to all!

The children have also had a great time outdoors this week. They enjoyed making and eating wild garlic pesto at Forest School on Wednesday and were absolutely fabulous during or trip to Teign Village Allotments on Thursday. They stroked and fed the chickens, held a slow worm, ate winter greens from the polytunnel, planted peas and explored the soil texture that we have on the allotments.

Next Tuesday 24th March, Birch will be going to Moretonhampstead for a hockey tournament with other schools in the Moorland Hub. They'll have a chance to use the skills they've been learning with Mr Pierce this term and cheer each other on during the matches. Please ensure your child wears PE kit to school, has a water bottle, snack and packed lunch (please speak to the office if you would like to order a school packed lunch), coat and sunhat. The children will be transported to the event in our school mini-bus. Pick up and drop off is as usual.

Have a great weekend!

Maugan

Willows and Reception Class



There has been lots of fantastic learning taking place in both Year 2 and Reception this fortnight.

Year 2 have begun exploring a new text, *This Is How We Do It*, and have been focusing on writing in the present tense. It has been wonderful to see the children applying this skill in their work. In maths, we have now completed our topic on multiplication and division, and the children have worked incredibly hard to build their understanding. In DT, the children truly impressed me with their creative taxi projects. They designed and built their own models, carefully thinking about how to construct wheels and axles that would work effectively. In history, we have continued our learning about the Great Fire of London. This week, we focused on who Samuel Pepys was and why he is such a significant figure in helping us understand this important event.

Reception have also had a fantastic time learning about space. We have enjoyed reading *How to Catch a Star* and, as a class, the children came up with and wrote about their own way to catch a star. We have been learning about the Mars rovers and developing our computing skills by learning how to control the Beebots. The children have also been thoroughly enjoying singing along to the Planet Song. In Maths, Reception have been

focusing on the composition of the number 10, using a range of practical activities to support their understanding. They have also loved getting creative with junk modelling, designing and building their own cars.

To top it all off, we enjoyed a fantastically sunny Forest School session, where the children made potato people and enjoyed some delicious popcorn together.







Saplings



In the last two weeks the children have been exploring, Space. We're blasting off into **outer space** to learn about planets, astronauts, and the wonders of the universe!

Our outdoor learning experiences have been especially exciting. From playing in the river to getting hands-on in the mud kitchen, the children have embraced every opportunity to

connect with nature. These moments have sparked imaginative play, teamwork, and plenty of laughter—along with a bit of healthy mess!

With the arrival of the beautiful spring weather, we've been spending even more time outside. The sunshine and fresh air have lifted everyone's spirits, and the children have enjoyed observing the seasonal changes around them. It's a joy to see them so engaged, active, and happy in their surroundings.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Debbie.

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



PTFA Update: Easter Fair Tomorrow & The £30k Playground Vote!

Join us TOMORROW at the Easter Fair! 🌻

Kick off the weekend tomorrow (Saturday 21st, 12-4 PM) at Hennock Village Hall with local foods, homemade cakes, a raffle, and the Easter Bonnet Competition (entries 12-1 PM!). The PTFA stall will feature pre-loved uniform, bric-a-brac, "guess the bunny", sweet jars, and craft packs (huge thanks to Debbie and Maugan!).

Crucially, we will also have our **playground consultation information and designs on display** at the stall, so please come and take a look at what we are working so hard to achieve!

The £30k Playground Vote: A Magical Summer is at Stake! 🏠

THIS Tuesday (24th March, 7:30 PM), the Parish Council votes on our £30,000 grant. *This is make or break.* Winning this grant is the difference between only being able to afford basic groundworks, or actually building a magical new playground ready for a great start to the summer! (You can read our full grant application to see exactly what we have proposed here:  tinyurl.com/CILplan¹)

The Council has told us directly that community evidence is critical to their decision. To give us the best possible chance of winning this, we would absolutely love your help with the following:

1. **Create the Paper Trail:** Stop by our stall tomorrow to sign a quick Community Support Declaration, OR email the Parish Clerk this weekend using our quick template:  tinyurl.com/CILsupport²
2. **Put Bums on Seats:** Join our 30-minute community turnout at Chudleigh Knighton Village Hall on Tuesday at 7:30 PM.
3. **Share:** ask others to do steps 1 and 2!

While we know life is incredibly busy, if you *are* able to do both, please do! The paper trail of emails and signatures is just as important to the Council as having a full room on the night.

Thank you for your incredible ongoing support. Let's have a great time tomorrow and win this grant on Tuesday!

The Hennock PTFA

¹<https://tinyurl.com/CILplan>

²<https://tinyurl.com/CILsupport>



This week, we interviewed some children in KS2 who visited the Teign Village Allotments on Thursday.

Q: What was your favourite part of the trip?

A: Hugging the chickens and being in the sunshine!

Q: What did you like about the chickens?

A: I loved how big and fluffy they were!

Q: Did you like the tadpoles?

A: Yes but they were so tiny!



Star of the Week



13th March

Star of the Week:

Ash: Asa & Rudy **Birch:** Jessica **Willows:** Emilia

BC: Peigi **ASC:** Asa

Dojo Points:

Ash: Monty & Thomas **Birch:** Benji

Achievosaurus: Millie

Values Star: Asa

Playground Hero: Thomas

Pride of School:

20th March

Star of the Week:

Ash: Monty **Birch:** Lucy **Willows:** Eloise

BC: Mila **ASC:** Maddison

Dojo Points:

Ash: Phoebe **Birch:** Frank, Finn and Eli

Achievosaurus: Maddie

Values Star: KS2

Playground Hero: Peigi

Pride of School: Ralph

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

- **Tuesday 24th March years 3&4 Hockey Trip**
- **Thursday 2nd April Easter Service**

Outdoor learning dates this half term:

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

- **Wednesday 1st April**

Outdoor learning dates next half term

- **Wednesday 22nd April**
- **Wednesday 6th May**
- **Wednesday 20th May**

For Your Information



TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!

AMAZING LEGO DISPLAYS

NEW & RETIRED LEGO SETS

BUILD CHALLENGES

ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES

CHARITY TOMBOLA

MILLIONS OF LOOSE BRICKS

PLUS SO MUCH MORE!!

EXETER BRICK FESTIVAL

26TH APRIL
WESTPOINT ARENA

EXETER BRICK FESTIVAL

MORE LEGO THAN YOU CAN DREAM OF

EXETER BRICK FESTIVAL .COM

The poster features a large Iron Man figure on the left, a QR code, and several circular inset images showing people building and displaying LEGO models. The background is yellow with a red brick pattern at the bottom.



TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

BRICK FESTIVAL

LEGO

EXETER BRICK FESTIVAL

26TH APR
WESTPOINT ARENA

EXETER BRICK FESTIVAL

MORE LEGO THAN YOU CAN DREAM OF

The poster features a large central image of a LEGO display with a 'BRICK FESTIVAL' ticket graphic overlaid. A woman is shown holding a LEGO figure in the bottom left. The background is yellow with a red brick pattern at the bottom.

Trust PE curriculum newsletter

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/zLOiQH5pmGNg9uGO?ref=Link>

School Attendance

Attendance this fortnight:

Whole School 94.3%

Ash 94.3%

Birch 94.8%

Willows 94%

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.uk³

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

³<mailto:mashsecure@devon.gov.uk>