

# HEENE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



## Headteacher's message

Date: Friday 1st May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to start this week by sharing some staff news. Mrs Christian no longer works at Heene- I am sure you will join us in wishing her well. This week, we are saying a temporary goodbye to Mrs Wescott as she goes on Maternity leave. Congratulations Mrs Wescott, we can't wait to meet your new addition when they arrive!

We always value your feedback and use it to help shape our school so that we continue to improve and live out our vision: *Together in faith we love, grow and learn*. This week, I wanted to focus on how we have responded to this feedback

### ✨ YOU SAID, WE DID ✨

You shared that you were unsure how we support Personal Development. In response, we have widened our clubs and enrichment offer and increased opportunities for pupils to take part in extra-curricular activities. This is an area we will continue to develop further too!

We heard that play times needed more activities and development. As a result, we have introduced OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) to improve play experiences for all pupils. We are currently developing a nature garden to enhance outdoor provision further as well.

Many of you said that children would benefit from more sports opportunities. We have responded by employing our sports coach, Joe, who now works with children every lunchtime, increasing participation, physical activity and teamwork.

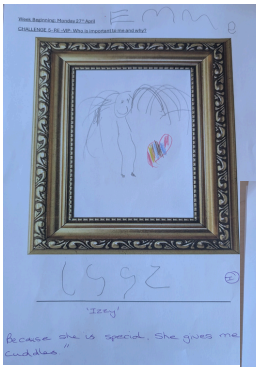
We have prioritised adaptive teaching across the school to enable us to meet the individual needs of all learners, ensuring every child, including those with SEN needs, are supported to flourish.

We are committed to continuing to listen, reflect and improve. Please look out for our new parent survey coming out soon.

Have a wonderful weekend!  
Laura Turner - Headteacher

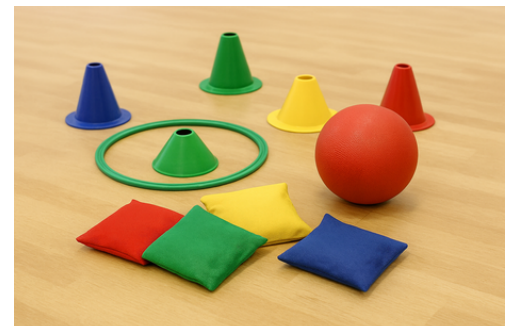
## Early Years

This week in RE we learnt what VIP means. We thought about who is a very important person to us and why. We also talked about why God is a very important person to Christians.



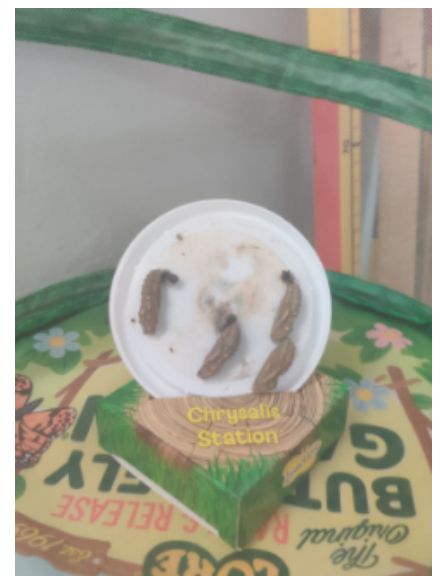
## Year One

In indoor PE, the children have been practising their throwing and catching skills as part of our preparations for Sports Day. They showed great teamwork and resilience. It has been lovely to see their confidence grow, and they are really looking forward to putting their skills into action on Sports Day.



## Year Two

It was an exciting week in Year 2! Our caterpillars have turned into chrysalis! We are making daily observations and discussing the life cycle and the wonder of nature. Once they emerge we will release them and watch them flutter away.



## Year Three

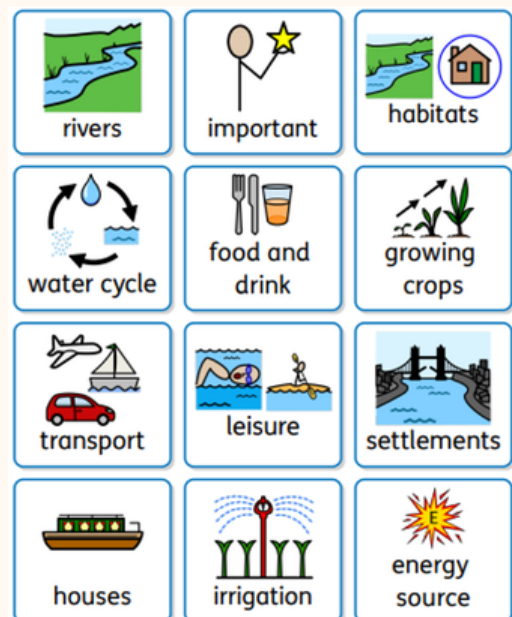


This week in Year 3 we were learning about desk top publishing in our computing lesson. We can now orientate a page, identify place-holders and create a template for a purpose.

## Year Four

This week in Geography we have been learning all about the uses of Rivers! We explored some famous rivers in Britain and what their uses are.

Our local river is the River Adur. What uses does the River have for Sussex?



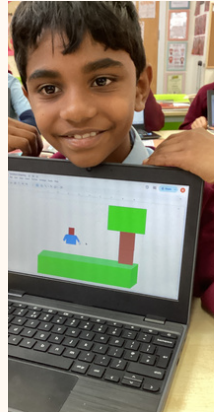
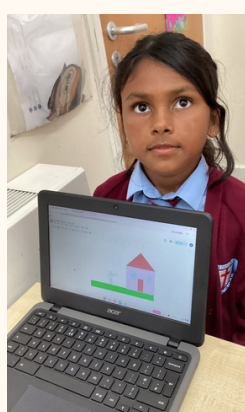
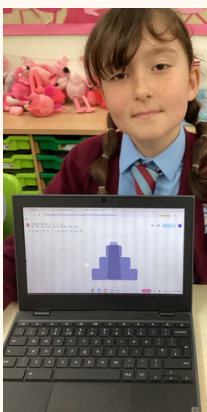
## Year Five



## News from the flamboyance of Flamingos and pride of Peacocks



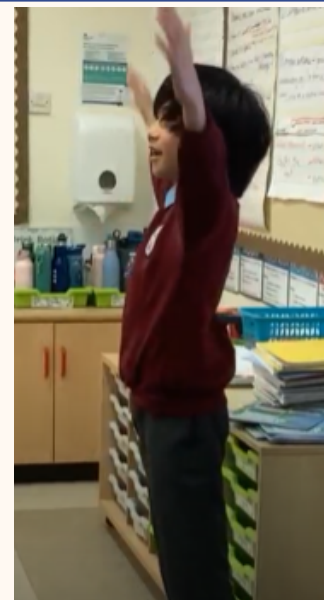
Year 5 have been looking at vector drawings in their computing lessons. The children enjoyed using GoogleDrawings to use different shapes and colours before learning keyboard shortcuts to help copy and paste repeating shapes.



## Year Six

Year 6 have been started learning about baroque style music this week.

They were given a key word to create lyrics for an opera presentation and they had a great time delivering their finished songs to the class confidently!



## Attendance



### Attend, Belong, Flourish:

Helping every child achieve their God-given potential

You are reading this as your child attends a DCAT school. At DCAT we are committed to helping your child achieve their God-given potential. We take school attendance very seriously.

We consider ourselves to be very supportive and approachable and as such our family of schools and will try to make considerations for pupils who need extra support, where possible.

We are, however, bound by law to ensure that every pupil attends.

Missing a few days of school here and there may not seem a major issue, but research shows that it can have a significant impact on your child's learning. It is a fact that children who miss school can fall behind their peers and struggle to catch up academically, socially and emotionally.

Most of the work they miss is never made up, which can not only lead to gaps in their learning, but also have an impact on their future options and opportunities.

Poor attendance often starts at primary school and children who fall into this pattern are likely to underachieve at secondary school and beyond.

We also know that friendships can be affected by persistent absence.

Persistent absence is where a child misses 10% or more of school (the equivalent to one day or more a fortnight across a full school year). It can be hard for a child who misses lots of school to form relationships with their classmates and this can affect a child's wellbeing.

At DCAT we know that good attendance at school is the single most important factor to ensure that young people have the maximum life chances - attendance is strongly linked to educational achievement. Promoting positive school attendance is everyone's responsibility.

- Pupils who miss school risk failing to achieve what they are capable of
- Figures have shown that 90% of persistent, poor or non-attenders fail to achieve five or more good grades at GCSE and approximately one third achieve no GCSEs at all
- Developing good habits of attendance and punctuality are key life skills
- When pupils miss school... they miss out!

## Attendance

### What to do if your child is unwell?

If your child is not well enough to go to school it is your responsibility to notify School before 9am on the day of absence.

### How do I inform school?

Please ring school on 01903 201386 and leave a message on the absence line, state your child's name, Class and the reason for absence ie. Vomiting, diarrhoea, temperature, headache etc

### Alternatively

you can now email us on:

[attendance@heenepriamary.co.uk](mailto:attendance@heenepriamary.co.uk)

Please state your clearly child's name, Class and the specific reason in the email. Many thanks

## Focus on - Attendance Matters!

## SCHOOL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

EYFS Goldfinch Class- Nelson + Nela  
Year 1 Robin Class - Ikay + Jodie  
Year 2 Blackbird Class - Mayokun+ Nyah  
Year 3 Kestrel Class - Veronika + David  
Year 4 Magpie Class - Livia + Harrison  
Year 5 Peacock Class - Alfred + Melissa  
Year 6 Buzzard Class - Sebastian + Ava

Hummingbird Class -Wynter + Timi  
Starling Class - Lilly + Ralph  
Puffin Class - Nikola + Joshua  
Nightingale Class - Gennaro + Freya  
Kingfisher Class - Jakub + Christina  
Flamingo Class - Benedict + Kumsal  
Eagle Class - Felix + Valentina

## Let your light shine

EYFS -	Finnley (Goldfinch Class)	Wynter (Hummingbird Class)
Year 1 -	Koa (Starling Class)	Joey (Robin Class)
Year 2 -	Paige (Blackbird Class)	Henry (Puffin Class)
Year 3 -	Emmi (Nightingale Class)	Ella (Kestrel Class)
Year 4 -	Harrison (Magpie Class)	Demi (Kingfisher Class)
Year 5 -	Aiden (Flamingo Class)	Bryon (Peacock Class)
Year 6 -	Ariana (Buzzard Class)	Samuel (Eagle Class)

Headteachers Award - Violet

## Attendance matters!

Year R - 92.11%

Year 1 - 91.38%

Year 2 - 97.32%

Year 3 - 95.83%

Year 4 - 95.96%

Year 5 - 96.96%

Year 6 - 90.52%

We aim for 96% attendance or above.

This week our whole school attendance is **94.32%**

Academic year to date **93.7%**



## Key Dates - 2026

- 28/05 Year 3 - Nightingale Wild Beach
- 04/05 **BANK HOLIDAY - School closed**
- 05/05 Year 3 - Nightingale Wild Beach
- 07/05 Whole class photo
- 08/05 FOHPS Fun Run
- 11-14/05 Year 6 SATS week
- 12/05 Year 3 - Nightingale Wild Beach
- 14/05 Year 1 - Museum trip
- 18/05 FOHPS Summer disco (details to follow)
- 22/05 **INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS**
- 25-29/05 **HALF TERM - SCHOOL CLOSED**
- 01/06 **INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS**
- 02/06 All children back to school
- 22/06 Year 6 Leavers Service - Lancing College
- 22/06 Year 6 Leavers Service - Chichester Cathedral
- 26/06 Year 5 taster at Worthing High School
- 27/06 FOHPS Summer Fair (details to follow)
- 07/07 Year 5 taster at Davison High School
- 13-22/07 **NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS**
- 15-17/07 Year 6 - Lodge Hill Residential
- 22/07 Last day at school

**Back to School - Thursday 3rd September**



### Every Minute of Learning Counts

Children find arriving at school late upsetting and they miss out on important opportunities.

Please work with us to provide your child with the best chances of learning by ensuring they are in school every day and on time.

Thank you.

# Makaton- Sign of the Week



Learn



Makaton



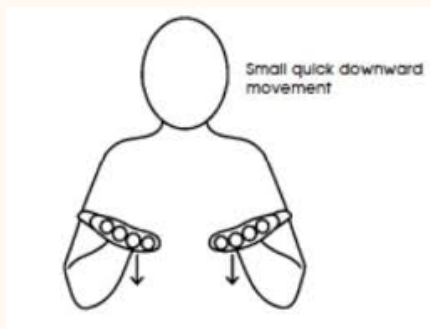
signs

and



symbols.

## Sign of the Week - now and next



Remember - with Makaton sign language, we say the word at the same time as signing it.

## Attendance - Illness

It is your responsibility as a parent/carer to make contact with school by leaving a message on 01903 201386 or sending an email to [attendance@heenepriamry.co.uk](mailto:attendance@heenepriamry.co.uk) before 9am on each day your child is unwell, giving a specific reason for absence ie. diarrhoea, vomiting, headache etc

01903 201386

[attendance@heenepriamry.co.uk](mailto:attendance@heenepriamry.co.uk)



## REMINDER

Please order your child's hotmeal at home. You can order a whole term ahead, this in turn helps us with ordering the ingredients that will be needed to fulfil the advertised menu. There are so many children whose parents are not ordering - which is resulting in menu items running out. We cannot predict in advance what is required if you don't order.

If you need help setting up your account or with the ordering system please come to the school office who will be happy to help.

To set up your parent account, simply go to the link below:

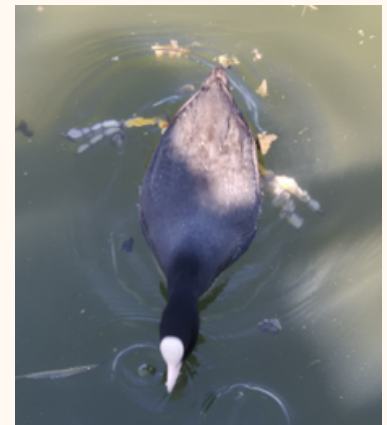
<https://relishschoolfood.co.uk/parents>

We also have a step-by-step guide to help you set up your account should you need it.

## Nature Notes



Mabel (Goldfinch class) and Jessica (Starling class) had a nature walk along the river Otter in south east Devon. They saw a cormorant and a stag beetle (photos attached) as well as shelducks and Canada Geese. They didn't manage to spot any of the otters or beavers that live in the river on this trip, but Mabel is having a good look for them through her binoculars!



Ralph (Robin class) saw a Woodlouse Spider for the first time on a wall not far from school! Great spot, Ralph, and what a brilliant close-up photo.

Eleanor (Nightingale) and Sophia (Goldfinch) spotted a Peacock butterfly at Brooklands over the Easter holidays. They also fed the ducks and spotted a Coot. They were surprised how big his feet were and that they weren't webbed! Fabulous curiosity girls! I had to look up why their feet are like that. It is because they spend a lot of time on land, especially muddy riverbanks and it is much easier for them to walk without the webbing on their feet, but they do have big 'flaps' that fold out when in the water to help them swim along - wow, nature is so clever! Thanks Eleanor and Sophia, I have learnt something new too!



Juana (Puffin) and Johan (Goldfinch) went for a walk along the beach when the tide went out. As they explored, they made a surprising discovery—some catsharks had washed up on the shore! Sounds like a wonderful walk and some good finds.

David (Blackbird) spotted a magpie on his way to school - good spot David, well done.

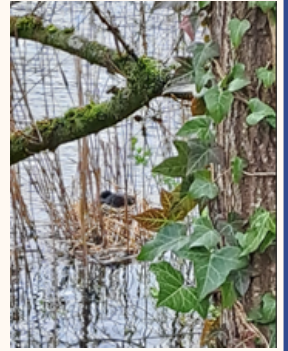


# Nature Notes



Here are just a few of the wonderful moments of nature that Charlie (Peacock) and Louis (Puffin) had during the Easter holidays.

Bumble Bee on a dandelion and bluebells at Angmering estate  
The remains of a catshark/dogfish on Worthing Beach  
Mermaid's purse at a seafront park  
Coot nesting at Southwater Country Park.  
What a lot of different spots, well done!



Inspired by environment club, Jethro (Flamingo) wanted to make some changes to his garden. He worked out himself what he wanted to go where, and did the majority of the work of digging the pond and building the rockery. His friends Alfie (Peacock) and Arthur (Puffin) helped on one of the days. They found lots of creatures that were carefully moved to the bug hotel. Jethro's next step is to sew wildflowers and plant a small vegetable patch. Well done, Jethro, it looks amazing. Great work too, Alfie! Don't forget to send more pictures as more things grow and creatures move in.



Minette (Peacock) went to the New Forest this Easter break and wanted to share some of her photos. She saw wild horses while doing the trail walks..

She also saw the 600 year old Knightwood Oak and saw mushrooms grow on the tree bark. She completed 13 of the 45 trails and walked a total of 40 miles in 4 days.



# READING recommendations



If you like...

**Tom Gates**

...try these!

Visit [www.booksfortopics.com](http://www.booksfortopics.com) for more ideas!

# OUTDOOR PLAY AND LEARNING



Coming Soon....Water play area

## Donations Needed:



Guttering- half, full and quarter pipes

Builder tuff trays

Funnels

Buckets

Water play toys-such as- boats, ducks, tubing etc

Water butt



***Week ending Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026***



***Top Rockstars in each year group***

**Year 2:** Liya, Frankie and Harrison

**Year 3:** Hafiz, Matvii and Onimisi

**Year 4:** Demilade, Aaleyah and Jakub

**Year 5:** Alwin, Dotty and Ovwigho

**Year 6:** Stanley and Mollie

**Winning Class:** Magpie



**Week ending  
1st May. Well  
done everyone!**

**Top Spelling Shed Pupils**

#	Avatar	Pupil	Groups	Score	Total Score
1.		Antonia-Grace	Flamingo	11,388,768	232,941,450
2.		Edward	Flamingo	10,044,400	179,245,572
3.		Adon	Nightingale	2,130,607	69,547,187
4.		Rishi	Blackbird	2,130,549	243,903,769
5.		Charlie	Peacock	2,008,870	187,989,501

**Top Spelling Shed Groups<sup>1</sup>**

#	Group	Score
1.	Flamingo	21,668,255
2.	Blackbird	4,225,341
3.	Kestrel	3,662,529
4.	Nightingale	3,268,152
5.	Peacock	2,326,690
6.	Puffin	2,143,087
7.	Buzzard	2,010,169
8.	Magpie	1,881,987
9.	Kingfisher	0
10.	Eagle	0

# YOUTH DROP IN

The Youth Drop-In is a safe, fun and welcoming space for young people in school years 7-13 to come and unwind with friends after school.

*school year 6 welcome in summer term!*



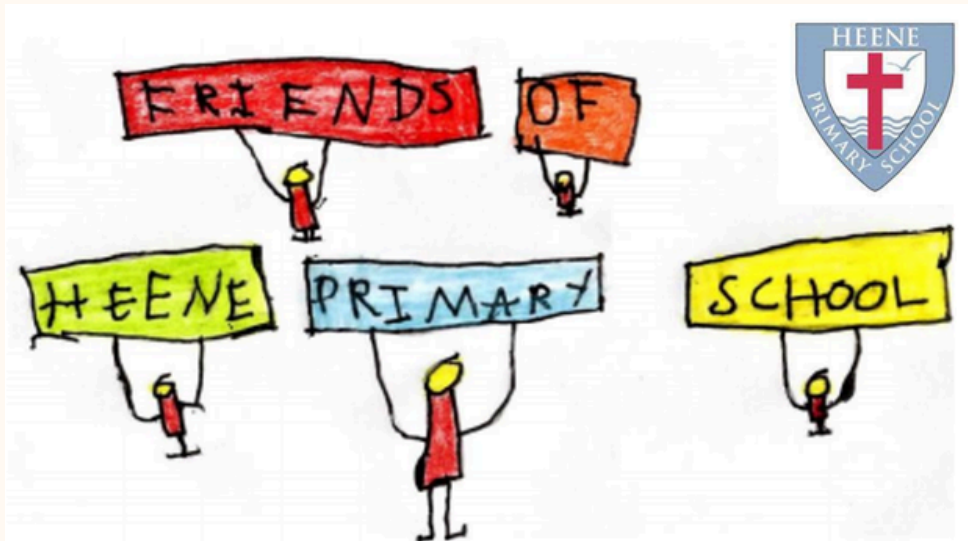
TOAST  
BOARD GAMES  
POOL  
FOOTBALL  
TABLE TENNIS  
NINTENDO SWITCH  
CARD GAMES  
SOFAS

*Tuesdays*

**3.15-4.45pm (term time)**

Youth Lounge, St Matthew's Church





This term we are holding our 4th sponsored fun run on Friday 8th May during the school day. We are asking the children to come to school dressed as their sporting heroes or in sports clothes and collectively run an ultramarathon.

We are raising money for new outdoor play and learning equipment. We would be really grateful if you could help us by collecting sponsorship money from family and friends. Please fill in the form that your child was sent home with this week (spares in the office!) and return to school with sponsorship money by Friday 8th May. Payments can be made in cash or via bank transfer (please use the child's surname as a reference).

Ac no: 43031314      Sort code: 20-12-80

Many thanks for all your support, Friends of Heene Primary School



PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PATHWAY

# MATCHFIT



**MONDAY**

**PALATINE  
PARK**

**WEDNESDAY**

**DAVISON'S  
HIGH SCHOOL**

**SEPTEMBER-  
JULY  
5-6 PM**

ENQUIRE TODAY VIA EMAIL



[MATCHFITFOOTBALLACADEMY@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MATCHFITFOOTBALLACADEMY@GMAIL.COM)

WEST WORTHING CLUB

# FAMILY FUN DAY & CLUB OPEN DAY

SUNDAY 17 MAY  
10.30AM - 2.00PM

TRY TENNIS, PADEL, SQUASH  
& ALL OUR SPORTS FOR FREE

PREMIUM FACILITIES  
EXPERT COACHING

Book here

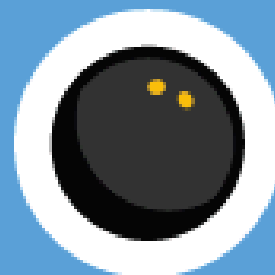
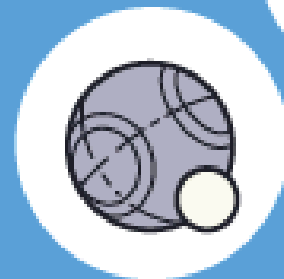


BARCLAYS

**BIG TENNIS**

WEEKEND LTA

[www.wwc.org.uk](http://www.wwc.org.uk) | [info@wwc.org.uk](mailto:info@wwc.org.uk)



# Free Girls Only Cricket!

**DYNAMOS  
CRICKET**



**8 weeks of training for 8-11 year old girls  
at Worthing Cricket Club  
Starts Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> of May  
9.30-10.30am**

**The perfect introduction to cricket, a great way to  
improve your skills, meet new friends and have fun!**

**Led by female ECB Activator  
with ECB qualified coaches**



**Simply scan the QR code  
and use voucher code AQ8CB**

**Any queries please contact  
[worthingcccomms@gmail.com](mailto:worthingcccomms@gmail.com)**



Join us for The

# **GREAT BIG RELISH BBQ**

**Offering A Free Meal This Census Day!**

**Let's celebrate together!**

**A Free Meal for all Students KS1 & KS2**

**Thursday 21st of May 2026**

.....

