

# HEENE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



## Headteacher's message

Date: Friday 17th April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all had a restful Easter break and were able to spend some special time together as a family. It has been wonderful to welcome the children back this week and to see such positive attitudes to learning across the school.

In collective worship this week, we spent time reminding ourselves of our school vision and values and what they truly mean in our daily lives at Heene. Our vision is "Together in faith, we love, grow and learn." We explored each part together: what it means to be together as a community where everyone belongs and is included; how being in faith guides our choices and encourages kindness, forgiveness and compassion; how love sits at the heart of all we do; how we grow academically, emotionally and spiritually, learning from our mistakes and persevering when things feel challenging; and how we learn by being curious, courageous and proud of our achievements. The children reflected thoughtfully on how they live out these values each day, both in school and beyond.

As we begin the new term, we would also like to gently remind families of the importance of arriving at school on time. Punctual arrival helps children settle calmly and confidently into their day, ensures they do not miss vital learning, instructions or social time, and supports the development of positive routines and habits for the future. The school day begins promptly, and we thank you for your continued support in ensuring children arrive on time, ready to learn.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. We look forward to a happy, purposeful and successful term together.

With warm regards,

Laura Turner - Headteacher

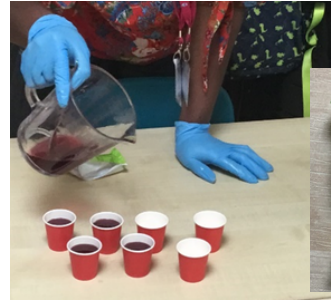
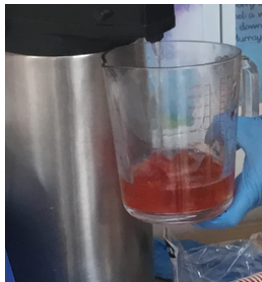
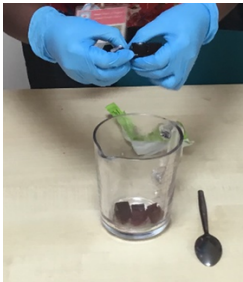
## Early Years

This week we had a visit from 'We are Pollinator Pioneers', beekeepers. They showed the children their kit, part of a bee hive and talked about why bees are important. This week as part of our mini bee topic, we enjoyed the book 'Bee and Me' and tasted some honey. What a great first week back!



## Year One

This week in writing, Year 1 have been learning all about instructions. We made jelly as part of our learning! The children talked about what makes a good set of instructions and then had a go at writing their own instructions on how to make jelly.



## Year Two

This week, in DT, we have all made a moving vehicle! We used boxes as the chassis, straws and dowels as the fixed axle and chose four wheels.

We used the design brief to design and decorate the vehicles to be appealing to ourselves!

We hope you enjoy talking about them at home...



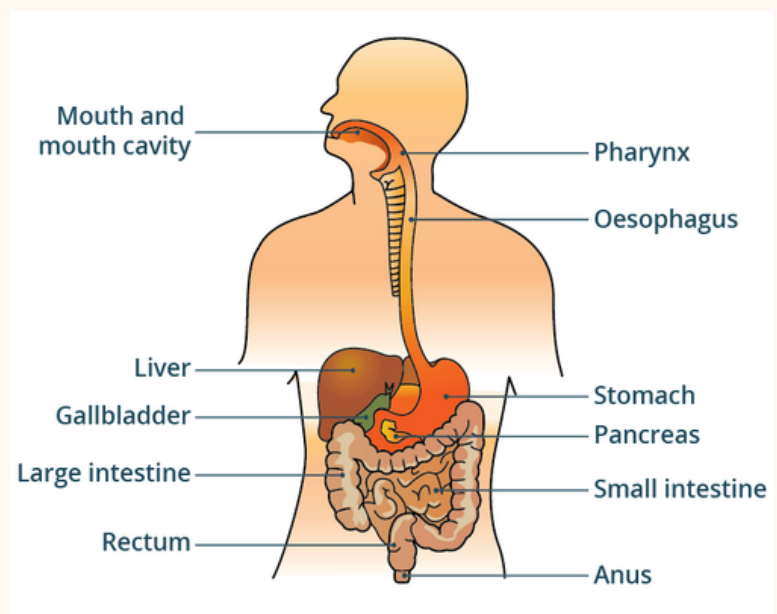
## Year Three



This week in Year 3 we began a new topic about Plants and Nutrition. In our first lesson we reviewed the knowledge we already had from year two. Then, we began our first experiment to find out if leaves are important.

## Year Four

This week in science we have started our new topic all about the human digestive system. Year 4 enjoyed taking a closer look at the different body parts that take part in our digestive system and learning about their role! Now we know where our food goes once weve eaten it!



## Year Five



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



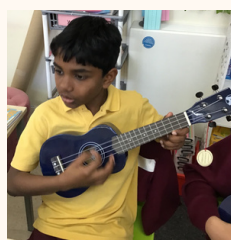
Flamingo and Peacock Class started their ukulele lessons this week as part of their music lessons.

The children looked at :

- Naming the parts of the ukulele
- Playing the C chord

Accompanying "Row Row Row" and "London's Burning"

A huge thank you again to FOHPS for funding the purchase of these instruments!



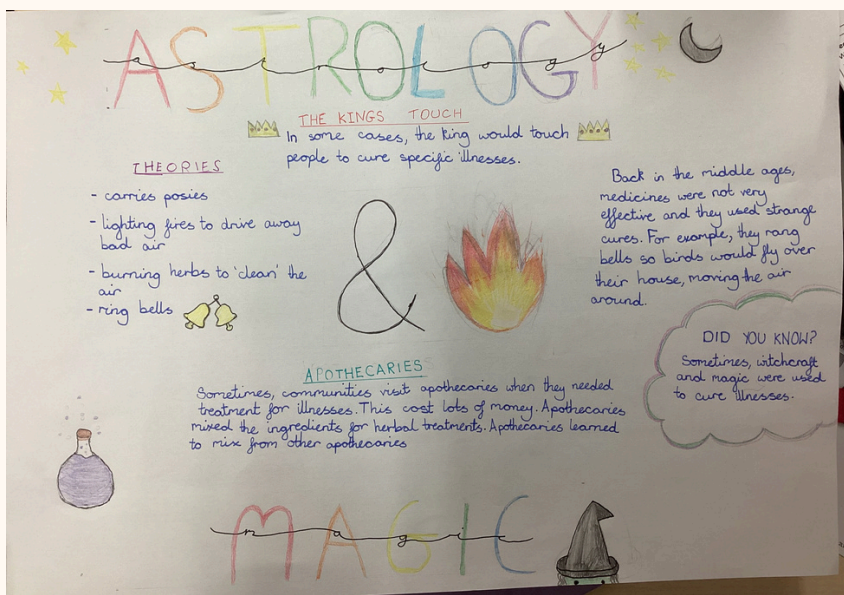
Reminder: please update your consents on Arbor



## Year Six

This week Year 6 have been begun learning about medicines from the past through history until present day.

We started out by looking at what kinds of treatments people used to cure illnesses in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.



## Attendance

DCAT  
DIOCESE OF CHICHESTER  
ACADEMY TRUST

### 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!

Focus on - Attendance Matters!

## 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

## 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 -Tiana + Timi  
Starling Class - Lilly + Ralph  
Puffin Class - Willow + Joshua  
Nightingale Class - Gennaro + Freya  
Kingfisher Class - Bruce + Christina  
Flamingo Class - Benedict + Kumsal  
Eagle Class - Felix + Valentina

## Let your light shine

EYFS -	Nelson (Goldfinch Class)	Nirvaan (Hummingbird Class)
Year 1 -	Kayla (Starling Class)	Eveline (Robin Class)
Year 2 -	Assurance (Blackbird Class)	Grace P (Puffin Class)
Year 3 -	Toby (Nightingale Class)	Liam (Kestrel Class)
Year 4 -	Damien (Magpie Class)	Renesme (Kingfisher Class)
Year 5 -	Jethro (Flamingo Class)	Melissa (Peacock Class)
Year 6 -	Toby (Buzzard Class)	Felix (Eagle Class)

Headteachers Award - Carys (Year 4)

## Attendance matters!

**Year R - 92.31%**

**Year 1 - 98.95%**

**Year 2 - 98.56%**

**Year 3 - 96.85%**

**Year 4 - 96.6%**

**Year 5 - 96.07%**

**Year 6 - 92.93%**

We aim for 96% attendance or above.

This week our whole school attendance is **96.16%**

Academic year to date **93.57%**



## Key Dates - 2026

- 20/04 After school clubs start this week
- 20/04 Highdown Hill and gardens trip
- 21/04 Year 5 - Worthing mosque trip
- 21/04 Year 3 - Nightingale Wild Beach
- 28/05 Year 3 - Nightingale Wild Beach
- 05/05 Year 3 - Nightingale Wild Beach
- 07/05 Whole class photo
- 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**

## Flamingo Class - Pizza Express trip

Flamingo Class visited Pizza Express Worthing on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April as part of their D&T learning. The children took part in a pizza making workshop which included learning about the history of Pizza Express, ingredients and facts about where pizza originates from. For each pizza the dough was floured, kneaded and shaped before placing tomato and mozzarella on top. A big thank you to the team at Pizza Express for accommodating our trip (particularly Dotty's Mum for leading our workshop so brilliantly). The morning finished with a pizza picnic in the park - perfect!





**Head of School DSL**  
Laura Turner  
[lturner@heeneprimary.co.uk](mailto:lturner@heeneprimary.co.uk)

**Family Liaison & Attendance Officer DDSL**  
Clare Christian  
[cchristian@heeneprimary.co.uk](mailto:cchristian@heeneprimary.co.uk)

**Assistant Head + SENDCO DDSL**  
Laura Dobson  
[ldobson@heeneprimary.co.uk](mailto:ldobson@heeneprimary.co.uk)


**SEN Teaching Assistant DDSL**  
Nikki Gregg  
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**Office Manager DSL**  
Sarah Turnbull  
[officemanager@heeneprimary.co.uk](mailto:officemanager@heeneprimary.co.uk)

**Chair of Governors**  
Jenny Barnard – Langston  
[jbarnard@langston@dcacat.academy](mailto:jbarnard@langston@dcacat.academy)

## HEENE PRIMARY SAFEGUARDING TEAM

**Heene CE Primary School**  
Together in faith, we love, grow and learn





**8:40am**  
The school day starts at 8:40am when the main school gates and classrooms open. Your child has arrived in good time to meet friends and get ready for the morning work in class.

**8:50am**  
The school gates will close. Children who arrive after 8:50am should be accompanied by an adult to the office to sign in using the electronic register.

**8:51am**  
Your child is late and has missed the beginning of the school day.

**8:55am**  
5 minutes late means 3 days of learning lost a year. Children should be ready to start their learning.

**9:00am**  
10 minutes late means 6 days of learning lost a year.

**9:10am**  
20 minutes late a day means 12 days of learning lost a year. Children arriving after 9:15am will be marked on the register as an **unauthorised absence**.

**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



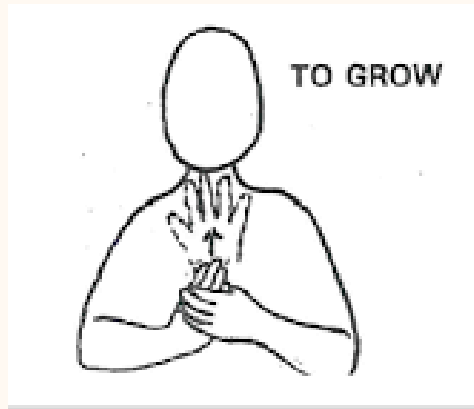
signs

and



symbols.

## Sign of the Week - grow



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.

# READING recommendations



If you like...

**Skandar**

...try these!

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

*Week ending Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April*



*Top Rockstars in each year group*

**Year 2:** Aisha, Juana and Liya

**Year 3:** Emmanuel, Omar and Eleanor

**Year 4:** Aaleyah, Muhammad and Finn

**Year 5:** Dotty, Jethro, Charlie

**Year 6:** Reuben and Stanley

**Winning Class:** Magpie

**NUMBOTS**

*NumBots leaderboard coming soon...*



**Week ending  
17<sup>th</sup> April. Well  
done everyone!**

### Top Spelling Shed Pupils

#	Avatar	Pupil	Groups	Score	Total Score
1.		Edward	Flamingo	14,552,166	157,525,028
2.		Antonia-Grace	Flamingo	13,408,060	208,710,514
3.		Emmanuel	Kestrel	6,541,561	710,373,672
4.		Ovwigho	Flamingo	5,533,991	38,377,045
5.		Jayden	Kestrel	4,085,176	265,075,181

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

#	Group	Score
1.	Flamingo	27,857,709
2.	Kestrel	8,601,961
3.	Peacock	3,706,048
4.	Blackbird	2,753,150
5.	Magpie	1,955,849
6.	Puffin	1,062,682
7.	Buzzard	494,018
8.	Nightingale	240,113
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

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)

