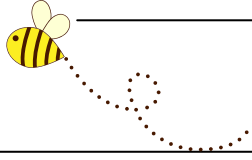




Inspire, Believe, Persevere, Achieve

Hatch Warren Junior School

Hatch Warren Herald



Issue No. 50 | Friday 24th April 2026

A message from Mrs Thomas

What a fantastic start to the summer term! The children have come back really positively after their Easter break.

One of the most exciting things to happen in the first two weeks of this term has been the start of OPAL! I have thoroughly enjoyed wandering outside at lunchtime to see really happy children playing in more areas of the school grounds. The field has opened this week which has caused a lot of excitement. The children have enjoyed the space to play and are certainly being creative. We now have some tyres which have been popular to play with and I even found a group of children having great fun rolling the tyres around with a child inside them! Their faces showed just how much fun they were having.

The circle playground has been a quieter place to play with cars, small world toys, building bricks, books etc. Lots of children have found this a nice peaceful place to be.



The upper and lower playgrounds have also been open for different games - running on the top playground and balancing boards and hoops on the lower playground. Some creative obstacle courses have been made this week with the equipment provided. There have also been children enjoying the play trail and the upper woodland, as well as the usual games on the MUGA.

The lunchtime experience has certainly been improved already and we hope you have enjoyed hearing all about it.

A big thank you if you have managed to send your child in with a coat and wellies. The children will be outside in all weathers and the field will remain open even if it is wet. Children will be able to continue playing on the field (and the woods when we open them) even when the weather is wet.

OPAL is a huge investment for our school and is a programme we will be developing over the next 18 months. It is already having a fantastic impact on children's play and the excitement will build for every Wednesday assembly when they find out what will be happening next!

Another event that took place this week was the NSPCC workshops for Years 5 and 6 based on the 'Speak Out, Stay Safe' programme. The volunteers who ran the workshops were full of praise for the children and how well they behaved and participated in the discussions. Please see the mailing for some information for all parents from the NSPCC. There are some excellent resources that may be of use, including advice on keeping children safe online.

I hope you all enjoy hearing about everything that the children have been getting up to. Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Thomas

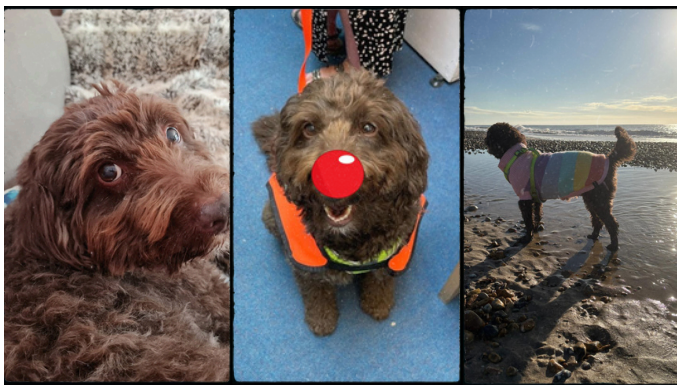
Whole School Information



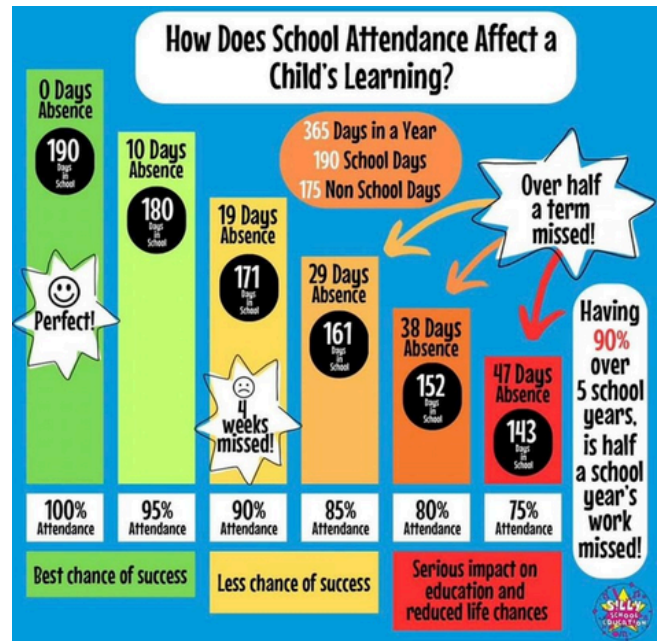
Willow is Retiring



Our School Dog Willow has reached old lady status and it's time for her to snuggle up on the sofa, rest her paws and enjoy lots of naps. Willow has had such a positive effect on children, staff, parents and visitors at Hatch Warren Junior School, and she has enjoyed being our school dog as much as we have all loved having her in school. We will all miss Willow, but thank her for her wonderful temperament and the joy that she always spread around school when she was here. Happy Retirement Willow! Hopefully Willow will come into school one final time to say goodbye to all of the friends she has made here.



Attendance



It was lovely to see so many children receiving their termly 100% attendance certificate at the end of the Spring Term. Please see the above poster, showing the impact of time off during the school year. Thank you for your continued support.

Ticks

As you are aware the children are now playing on the field on a regular basis. We do have wild animals on-site, such as hedgehogs and muntjac deer, so there is a possibility of ticks. We urge you to check your child regularly. If we notice or are alerted that your child has a tick we will contact you.





Mrs Turner our Home School Link Worker is hosting her next coffee morning. These are held each half term. It is a great way to meet other parents/carers, ask questions, along with getting to know the wider school community.

The focus of this session will be discussing transition and moving on/up.

Mrs Turner is able to share resources, offer support and information, as well take suggestions and questions.

Please come and join us we welcome your toddlers and babies along, and will have some soft matting for them to sit and play on.

We will provide a warm cup of tea or coffee and biscuits and maybe even a slice of cake with a relaxed atmosphere.

Mrs Turner is on the school gate each morning Tue-Fri and welcomes you to stop to chat if you feel she can help you with something.

Please enter via the Hall door – Look forward to seeing you!






Achievements



House Points

The current total for the year is: 367,794 . Fantastic!

House	Points totals for this term
Farah	6,920 
Gershwin	6,610
Newton	6,292
Rowling	6,145

Stars of the Week/Growth Mindset



Congratulations to the following children who were awarded "Star of The Week"/"Growth Mind Set" Award over the last two weeks: we are proud of you!

Class 1: Fletcher, Edie Vlad, Maisie	Class 2: Emily M, Polly Thea, Sidney	Class 3: Alba, Sienna W Millie, Zeynep
Class 4: Harry, Ella Elsie-Rai, Jayden	Class 5: Thomas, Alpha Esme, Ayaan	Class 6: Tariro, Gabriel Benjamin, Erin
Class 7: Sam, Harry Issy, Alfie	Class 8: Robert, Frank Amelia, Owen	Class 9: Freddie S, Leia Nicole, Max
Class 10: Lotte, Violet Freya, Violet	Class 11: Alijah, Olivia Mia, Isaac	Class 12: Miles, Summer Thomas, Logan



Year Group Updates

Year 3

It has been a fantastic start to the Summer term in Year 3, and it has been lovely to welcome everyone back.

The children have returned with a really positive attitude and settled quickly into their learning. A big well done to George, Erin and Ember for winning the Easter Trail!

We have also enjoyed celebrating some new Learning Heroes already, and we are looking forward to discovering who will reach the next milestone!

In Number Sense, our square number fluency has begun and we are extremely impressed with the children's determination, confidence and willingness to challenge themselves.

In English, the children are working hard on their final pieces of writing, creating an alternative ending to the story Our Tower. Each class has had the opportunity to come up with their own adventure! In Guided Reading, we have been exploring a text focused on The Romans, which is helping to build knowledge and prepare us for our new History topic and trip to Ufton Court.

In Science, we have started our new topic on plants and how they grow, and the children are excited about our upcoming investigation where they will grow their own plants and explore how different conditions affect growth.

In PE, we have started Sports Day running practice, with the children showing great effort and support for one another (lots of positive cheering!). We are very proud of the enthusiastic start Year 3 have made to the term and how their independence continues to grow!



Year 4

Welcome back – hope you all had a relaxing Easter Break.

The children are really enjoying our new topic all about Ancient Egypt and have been finding out all about the River Nile and mummification! In DT next week, we will be starting to design our own Egyptian creations using CAD software.

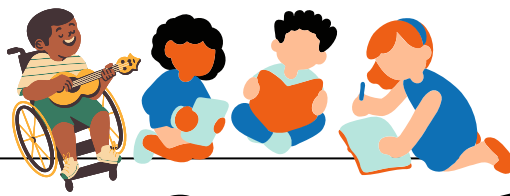
In maths we have been consolidating our place value and rounding and will be looking at times tables and division written strategies and applying them to practical problems. The children are getting more confident in applying their tables knowledge to larger numbers by using their knowledge of multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100.

In science we will be learning about different food groups and how the digestive system works – we will be conducting a fun experiment to show this which we are sure the children will tell you about!

A reminder that inside PE will continue on a Monday and outdoor PE on a Wednesday. Please ensure the children have appropriate PE clothing, especially for outside, and a water bottle as the weather warms up.

Home learning will be continuing with the children using TTRockstars, in preparation for the upcoming times tables assessment. We have noticed that some children have not been using 'Soundcheck' on TTRS when directed to do so for homework and it is important that they do this as it will give them practice for the upcoming test.

A short reading task on Purple Mash should also be completed each week, which the children are now familiar with. Please see class teachers if you need a reminder of the password or have any issues accessing it. Please also remind children to bring their library books with them to change during library sessions - class 4 and 6 on a Thursday and class 5 on a Friday



Year Group Updates

Year 5

We have had a great couple of weeks in year 5.

In maths, the children have been learning about negative numbers.

In English, they have been reading the book *The Silver Swan* and writing from different viewpoints including descriptive vocabulary and figurative language.

In science, the children have been looking at the life cycles of frogs and butterflies.

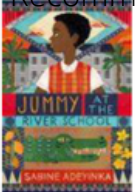
In art, they have been practising different water colour techniques and hopefully will apply these to a final piece based on the *Water Lilies* art work by Monet.

In PE, the children have been taking part in running races to help group them for Sports day races, which will take place later on in the Summer Term.

This week the children have been experiencing Opal for the first time. This has meant they have had more freedom to play on the school grounds during lunchtime and to think more about how they manage their own risks. So far it has been a great success!

Have a great weekend,
The Year 5 team

Recommended read:



Adebayinka,
Sabine

**Jummy at the
River School**

Jummy is excited to have won a place at the River School, Nigeria's top boarding school, until her best friend Caro arrives there also but to work not learn! The injustice burns in Jummy's heart and she sets out to fix things. A great read that looks at inequality, friendship and standing true to your values.

Year 6

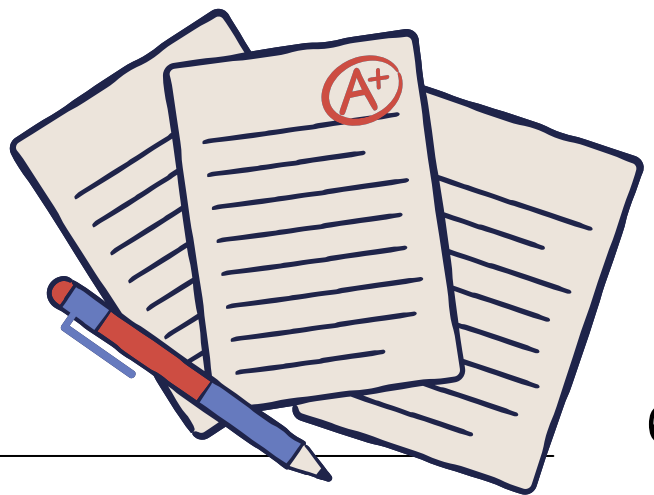
It has been a busy start to the summer term and the children have got back into the year group routines very quickly.

In English this term, we are using a film clip called 'The Unsung Hero' as a stimulus for our writing. Over the next couple of weeks, the children will be writing a short piece of narrative from the viewpoint of one of the people in the clip. We will be really focussing on writing 'show not tell' type sentences.

Our science topic on animals - including humans has started with pupils investigating the heart and the circulatory system. The children had the opportunity to act out a model the double circulatory system, on the playground, by acting as the blood flow.

In our Geography topic, we are consolidating our understanding of skills such as map reading and using grid references. We will also be using the school grounds to carry out some field work skills.

SATs revision is continuing in lessons and we will continue to encourage children to practice at home by completing the weekly homework. As we lead up to SATs week (11th May), we just want to remind them that they need to keep doing their absolute best to remember the skills and strategies we have been working on.



Student Achievements



A massive well done to Lucy, who completed a sponsored swimathon for cancer research and Marie Curie, swimming 2.5km non stop. This equates to a massive 100 lengths, and took 1hr20mins to complete. We are very proud of her, and she also raised £80 for charity.

It's been exciting times for Aliza. During the Easter Holidays she went to London and was very lucky to be able to go through the gates at Downing Street and see number 10 front door close up. The butler even came out and gave Aliza and her brother a postcard so we got a glimpse inside.

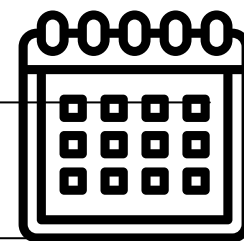


During the Easter Holidays, Amelia, Shaya & Violet took part in the Under 11's girl's plate cup finals at Basingstoke FC. It was a fierce battle with brilliant teamwork. We are please to announce that the girls won - congratulations!

We love to hear about what children are getting up to outside school so that we can celebrate their achievements.

If you would like to share any achievement news with us, just email in to the office and we can celebrate in our newsletters.

Dates for your Diary



Please find below a list of upcoming dates for your diary:

- Friday 1st May 2026 - Year 5 Selborne Trip – Classes 7 & half of class 8
- Monday 4th May 2026 - Early May Bank Holiday – School Closed
- Wednesday 6th May 2026 - Year 3 Ufton Court Day Trip
- Friday 8th May 2026 - Year 5 Selborne Trip – Classes 9 and half of class 8
- 11th-14th May 2026 - Year 6 SATS WEEK
- Monday 11th May 2026 - No Rock2thebeat TODAY – PPA day
- 18th to 21st May 2026 - Walk to School Week
- Friday 22nd May 2026 - INSET DAY – school closed to pupils
- 25th May to 29th May - HALF TERM – school closed to pupils
- Tuesday 2nd June 2026 - Class & Leavers Photo Day
- Friday 5th June 2026 - Whole School Outcome Event – 2.30pm
- Friday 12th June 2026 - Sports Day with picnic lunch – more details to follow
- Friday 25th & 26th June 2026 - Year 6 Basingstoke Schools Secondary Transition Days – more info to arrive from your secondary school
- Thursday 2nd July 2026 - Year 5 day at Brighton Hill Community School
- Friday 3rd July 2026 - Year 4 Camp
- Monday 6th July 2026 - INSET DAY – school is closed to pupils
- Thursday 9th July 2026 - Year 3 – Listen2Me Concert PM – more info to follow
- Friday 10th July 2026 - Move-Up Morning (including for new Y3 children)
- Monday 13th July 2026 - Move-Up Morning (including for new Y3 children)
- Monday 13th July 2026 - Year 6 – Listen2Me Concert PM – more info to follow
- Tuesday 14th July 2026 - Year 5 - Listen2Me Concert PM – more info to follow
- Tuesday 14th July 2026 - Year 6 Oscars Party
- Wednesday 15th July 2026 - Year 4 - Listen2Me Concert PM – more info to follow
- Monday 20th July 2026 - Rock2theBeat Concert for parents whose children attend
- Monday 20th July 2026 - Year 6 Picnic
- Tuesday 21st July 2026 - Year 6 Performance – Evening at BHCS – more info to follow
- Wednesday 22nd July 2026 - LAST DAY OF TERM – EARLY COLLECTION 2.30PM – Forms to follow