HENHURST RIDGE NEWS

WC 5th OCT 2026

Mrs Hopkins

What a fantastic week we have had at school!

On Tuesday, we welcomed a team of headteachers from other schools within our Trust as part of a review ahead of our expected Ofsted inspection later this academic year. The visit went brilliantly, and we were delighted with the overwhelmingly positive feedback. They commented on how settled our children are, the excellent routines already embedded so early in the school year, and how wonderful the school environment looks. They were also particularly impressed with our curriculum, noting how interesting it is and how well it is matched to the needs of our children.

The reviewers could clearly see the hard work that is taking place to maintain strong attendance across the school. Thank you to all our families for your continued support with this. Good attendance is a real partnership between home and school, and we are grateful for the role you play in helping your children achieve their best.

Let's keep the great attendance going over the final two weeks of this half term. We know that as children begin to feel tired or a little under the weather, it can sometimes be tempting to take time off. However, every day in school really does make a difference, and it would be wonderful to finish the half term on a real high with attendance. Thank you for your continued support in helping us achieve this.

It has also been lovely to see our Books and Breakfast sessions continuing to be so well attended. Thank you for your ongoing support with these. Please note that the Year 6 session will be carried over to next week due to pupils' visits to John Taylor Free School.

Today, it has been wonderful to see so many children wearing yellow to celebrate Hello Yellow Day and raise awareness of children's mental health. Throughout the day, teachers have spent time discussing positive wellbeing strategies and helping children understand ways they can look after their mental health and feel good about themselves.

Looking ahead to next week, our school photographer will be in on Monday for individual photographs. If Monday is your child's PE day and you would prefer their photograph to be taken in full school uniform, they are very welcome to come to school wearing their uniform and bring their PE kit to change into later in the day after photographs have been taken. This is entirely a matter of parent preference, and we are happy for children to be photographed either in their school uniform or PE kit.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Have a wonderful weekend, and we look forward to seeing everyone next week.

Mrs Hopkins
Headteacher

Spotlight Class: SILVA

Wow! What a fantastic week we have had in Silva Class! One of the highlights of our week has been completing our very first independent write! We all had a go at writing a biography and included our name, age and hobbies. During our independent writing, we worked hard to use capital letters, finger spaces, full stops and our very best handwriting.

We have also been super busy with our Maths learning this week. We put all of our newly learned Maths skills to the test by completing a review of our learning. We did a great job remembering key concepts, such as writing numerals in words and recalling our number bonds to 10.

Our project learning has been lots of fun too! In History, we have been learning about the past. We had the opportunity to look at baby photos of staff members... I wonder if you can guess who this is?



Mrs Buckley also brought in Julia Donaldson's new story, Gruffalo Granny, from home. She has read it to us three times already, and we enjoy it even more each time! Story time is always one of our favourite parts of the day in Silva Class!

HARRIERS OF THE WEEK

A massive well done for the children chosen for showing our value of **'Everyone working together'** this week.



From left to right: Felix, Phoebe, Grayson and Joshua



CERTIFICATE

From left to right: Stanley, Maisie, Marcella, Isla, Milly, Ava and Sofija

ABSENCES/MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Absences

A polite reminder that if your child is going to be absent from school, you must inform the school before 9.00am on the day of the absence.

You can do this by:

- Leaving a message on the school's absence line, or
- Emailing the school office.

When reporting an absence, please provide a specific reason for the absence. Messages stating simply that a child is "unwell" may not be sufficient and we may contact you for further information. Without an appropriate reason, the absence may be recorded as unauthorised.

If we have not received notification of your child's absence, school staff will follow up with a text message and/or telephone call to ensure your child's whereabouts are known and that they are safe.

Medical appointments

If your child has a medical appointment during school hours, please ensure that the school office is informed as soon as possible.

Wherever possible, medical appointments should be arranged outside of school hours to minimise disruption to your child's education.

To enable us to authorise the absence, we will require evidence of the appointment. This can be provided by:

- Emailing a copy or screenshot of the appointment details to the school office.
- Showing the appointment confirmation at the school office.
- Bringing in the appointment letter so that we can take a copy for our records.

Please note that without evidence, the absence may not be authorised.



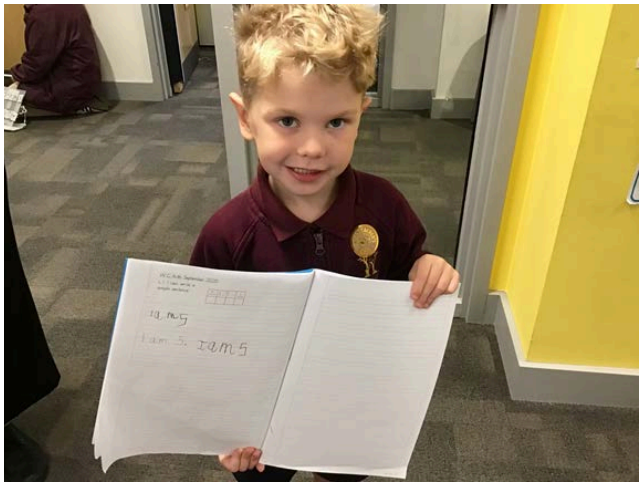
CHILDREN'S WORK



Our Head Boy Dennis and our Head Girl Matilda.



Bambi did amazing maths work on doubling!



Hugo wrote a very neat sentence about his age!



Bella has illustrated the creation story in RE!





Mrs Ford has organised some Halloween Competitions:

EYFS/KS1 colouring competition and a KS2 pumpkin carving competition. Please see attached posters.

Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and 2: £1.00 to enter on ParentPay. Colouring sheets can be collected ffrom their class teacher.

Year 3, 4, 5 and 6: £3 to enter on ParentPay.

The competition ends on Monday 19th October

Staffordshire County Council are now delivering HAF for October half term, and bookings are now live for families.

Just a reminder that food is included with any activity over two hours.



CLASS ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

Nursery - 96.39%
Attenborough - 93.87%
Thunberg - 93.49%
Irwin - 95.02%
Silva - 98.02%
Potter - 91.67%
Packham -95.37%
Kamkwamba - 98.92%
Goodall - 93.49%
Rezwan - 92.96%
Honnold - 95.83%
McCartney - 92.93%
MacArthur - 96%
Cousteau - 94.67%

OVERALL SCHOOL ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK: 94.92%





Above 97%	95.5-96.9%	94-95.4%	92.5-93.9%	Below 92.4%
229 pupils	45 pupils	12 pupils	19 pupils	69 pupils

EYFS/KS1 -Well done **Silva Class - 98.02%**

KS2 - Well done **Kamkwamba Class 98.92%**
Both classes received the class attendance award this week.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 12th October	Individual & sibling school photographs (Nursery & school age only)	If it is a PE day, children can come in uniform and change into kits for the PE lesson.
Friday 23rd October	PLPs out to parents of SEND children	More information to follow
Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October - Half Term		
Sunday 8th November	Remembrance Day Parade in Branston	Details to follow - all children welcome
Tuesday 10th November	Parent Consultations	3:40-5:30pm More details on how to book an appointment nearer the time.
Thursday 12th November	Parent Consultations	4-6:30pm More details on how to book an appointment nearer the time.
Friday 13th November	Children in Need Day	Children wear their own clothes pay £1 for charity, pay on ParentPay
Week beginning 16th November	Anti-bullying week - 'Break the silence' campaign.	Events to be organised throughout the week. Wear odd socks on 16th November.
Monday 16th November	Flu vaccinations	Reception-Year 6, permission forms will come out
Wednesday 18th November	Open events for new parents	1:30-2:30pm
Thursday 19th November	Christmas Market	6-8pm School Hall
Tuesday 24th November	Open events for new parents	9:30-10:30am
Thursday 26th November	Open events for new parents	5-6pm
Friday 27th November	INSET DAY	Children not in school.
Friday 27th November	Branston Christmas Lights Switch on	Choir singing. Time to be confirmed.





PLEASE NOTE THAT HOLIDAYS TAKEN IN TERM TIME WILL NOT BE AUTHORISED AND COULD LEAD TO A FINE BEING ISSUED TO PARENTS/CARERS. PLEASE ENSURE YOU HAVE READ THE DATES CAREFULLY AND BOOK HOLIDAYS ACCORDING TO HOLIDAY DATES AND INSET DAYS ADVERTISED.
MANY THANKS

Class Trips will be scheduled and advertised throughout the term with advance notice to allow for parents to budget for them.

Other events will be added as the year progresses, please read the newsletter, text messages and emails for updates. The website will have the latest version of this document on there under the Parent/Carer tab: Academy Calendar.

Thank you for taking the time to read this week's newsletter. We appreciate your continued support and partnership in helping our pupils thrive.