



Heage Primary

SUMMER 1



This half term has been wonderfully busy and full of memorable moments across the school. From our Year 6 children tackling their SATs with such maturity, to Year 3's adventurous "back-garden" camping expedition, there has been so much to celebrate. We've welcomed governors for walk rounds, taken part in Changing Lives workshops, enjoyed a magical owl experience morning in FS2, and had inspiring assemblies from Derwent Valley. As we look ahead to next half term, even more exciting opportunities await, along with important work to prepare the children for their transitions into new year groups –and for our Year 6s, the next big step into secondary school. It's been a fantastic half term, and the best is still to come. Please keep your eyes on Dojo and e mails as we will be sending information on Sports Day and other important events for Summer 2.



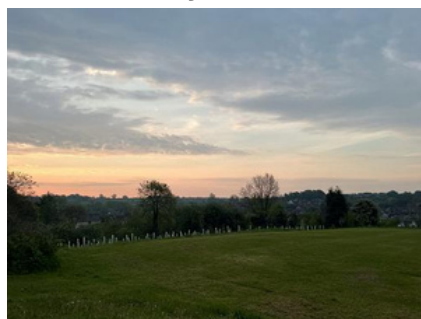
LCH Charity
Lifting Children's Hopes

LCH - Colour Run

We are excited to share that on Friday 12th June, in the afternoon, the whole school will be taking part in a Colour Run in support of LCH. Children will have brought home their sponsorship forms this week, and these will need to be returned to school on (DATE TBC). This promises to be a brilliant, high-energy event for everyone involved, and we would love your support in helping the children gather sponsors. Please also refer to the letter posted on Dojo/e mail for full details about the day and what the children will need.

Y3 Camp Night

Our Year 3 children had an unforgettable adventure during their "back-garden" camping experience, with every single child taking part. For some, it was their first night away from home and understandably a little nerve-wracking, but the children showed incredible resilience and courage throughout. Our amazing staff gave up their Friday night to make this special experience possible, supporting the children brilliantly and creating an atmosphere filled with games, time in the woods, friendship and laughter. It was a night full of core memories and a wonderful reflection of our six school values–honesty, resilience, teamwork, respect, compassion and kindness. This is the second year we've run the event, and it continues to be a huge success; we fully intend to do it again next year, as long as our fantastic staff team are willing.



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Y6 SATs

AMAZING



Our Year 6 children approached their SATs with incredible determination and maturity, making us all immensely proud. Each morning began with an amazing breakfast where staff waited on them hand and foot, ensuring they felt calm, supported and ready to shine. Their hard work truly paid off, and to celebrate their fantastic effort, they enjoyed a brilliant day in the woods on Friday—filled with laughter, adventure and well-earned relaxation.

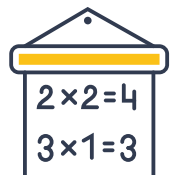


Community Action Week

We are gearing up for Community Action Week from 1st–5th June, and our Children's Parliament has been exploring how we can make a meaningful difference together. This year, our whole-school focus will be supporting the elderly within our community, and throughout the week every class will be making, designing, creating or doing something special in preparation for our penultimate event: a tea party on Friday afternoon to warmly welcome and celebrate our older neighbours. We are excited to see the positive impact our children will have across Heage, and looking ahead, we hope to involve our parents in an even bigger community project next year—one that truly helps our children stand out as compassionate, active citizens.



Phonics and Multiplication Checks



Over the next half term, our Year 1 children (and Year 2 retakes) will be preparing for the Phonics Screening Check, and our Year 4 pupils will be getting ready for the Multiplication Tables Check. These checks are nothing to worry about, but they are important, and a little regular practice over the break will make a big difference to the children's confidence. We really appreciate your support in helping them feel ready, relaxed and proud of what they can do.

New Parents



We have recently received a number of enquiries for places at Heage, which is fantastic news for our school community. The more children we have, the healthier our budget becomes, allowing us to invest in resources, improve our environment and even increase staffing to further support our pupils. Many visiting parents have told us they were recommended by others but didn't even know we were here, so we vibrant, thriving school our children deserve.

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FS2 and Y1 Sudbury

FS2 and Year One had a fabulous trip at the start of the term to Sudbury Hall. The children explored toys from the past, climbed through a dark chimney and even had a very strict experience in a Victorian classroom!



Local Author Visit

Local children's author, Alice Harman, visited Year 1 and 5 to show her newly published book *Animal Families* (along with *Farting Fish*). She also spoke to the children about the *Belper Goes Green Festival* on 5th-7th June and the children created some art work. The art work was based around helping our planet and will be used for a display at the festival.



[Amazon.co.uk : aliceharman](https://www.amazon.co.uk/a/harman)



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Forest School

Spring is by far one of the most exciting times at Forest School and in nature - there are so many wonderful things growing and changing! In our woods, our carpet of Bluebells has been better and brighter than ever all down to the care the children are taking to look after these protected species. We have also all been enjoying watching a couple of Blue Tits busily feeding their noisy youngsters in the bird box - it must be getting very cramped in there as they grow and no doubt will be fledging off into the world very soon! Something that has not been 'blue' has been everyone's spirits! Being outside in amongst this wonderful nature and a little bit of sunshine has enabled oodles of creativity with ALL the children enjoying their sessions this term!

Sustainability

Our new Eco-crew has been appointed and already are straight into reviewing last year's progress and gathering together information to create our next Climate Action Plan! I am delighted with the progress our previous Eco-Crew has made but there is still so much to do! This latest Eco-crew are oozing enthusiasm and drive to make a difference to our school and planet. Watch this space!



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Parent Power

We were absolutely overwhelmed by the generosity and support of our parents this week when we reached out for help sourcing some much-needed benches for school. Offers of assistance came in immediately, and we were incredibly grateful when one parent even stepped forward to pay for the benches on behalf of the school. As many of you know, our budget simply doesn't stretch to cover important resources like this, so your kindness truly makes a difference to the environment we can provide for our children. Over the coming months, we will be sharing more ways in which parents can get involved and support us, as we are really keen to work in partnership to make both the inside and outside of our school an amazing place for every child to enjoy and thrive

Playtime Activities

Starting after half term, we will be introducing new arrangements for playtimes and lunchtimes, with designated areas for a variety of different games and activities throughout the week. These changes are designed to help ensure that children have a safe, enjoyable and active time during breaks. To help children learn how to use the new equipment safely and responsibly, we have spent some time this week practising some of the exciting new activities that will soon be on offer.



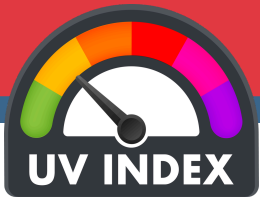
PTFA

A huge thank you to our wonderful PTFA for their recent agreement to fund the White Post Farm experience for our FS2 and KS1 children. Their support means our pupils can enjoy enriching opportunities that our school budget simply cannot stretch to provide. Excitingly, conversations are already underway for a KS2 experience in the autumn term, ensuring all children benefit. In September, Mr Stevenson (our teacher representative) and I will also be meeting with the PTFA to discuss a very exciting project we hope to launch in school, which will involve further fundraising events. Thank you to the parents who have already come forward to offer help, attend meetings and support future activities—working together is one of the only ways we can continue to provide those extra experiences and enhancements that make our school environment so special for every child

If you would like to know more about joining the PTFA please contact:
heageptfa@gmail.com

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SUMMER SAFEGUARDING

As we head into the warmer months, this is a quick reminder to help us keep all children safe in the sun. Please make sure your child comes to school with sun cream applied before arrival, a named sun hat and a water bottle. If the weather becomes too hot or the UV level is high, we will limit time outdoors and bring children inside to keep them safe. Please refer to the letter e mailed out earlier this half term.

For more guidance on sun safety, you can visit the NHS Sun Safety page:
<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health/sunscreen-and-sun-safety/>
or www.sunsafeschools.co.uk
www.skcin.org

ATTENDANCE AND FINES

The latest DfE guidance continues to highlight how important good attendance is for every child, and as a school we are also judged on our overall attendance. To be considered strong, **schools are expected to be at 96% attendance or above**, and we are working hard to reach and maintain this. Although we are doing well in comparison **being 98+ is our school aim**.

Attendance percentage

School	97.4%
National	94.9%
Local Authority	95.1%

Every day in school truly matters—especially in the summer term when so many exciting learning opportunities, events and transition activities take place. When children miss days, it can affect their confidence, their resilience and how prepared they feel for the next stage of their learning. Thank you for your continued support in helping your child be in school, on time, every day they possibly can be.

As a reminder, schools are not able to authorise holidays during term time, and the latest DfE guidance is very clear that good attendance is essential for every child. We also have a duty to follow up when attendance becomes a concern. If a child's attendance falls below 90%, they are classed as persistently absent, and letters will be sent home so we can work together to improve this. Our aim is always to support families, not worry them, but it is important that parents are aware of the thresholds we must follow. Thank you for helping us ensure that every child is in school as much as possible so they can thrive.

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KEY DATES FOR SUMMER 2

1 st - 5 th June	Community Action Week
8 th - 10 th June	Y6 Lea Green Residential
10 - 12 th June	Y5 & Y6 Bikeability
12 th June pm	LCH Colour Dash
15 th June am	Group Photos
15 th June	Y6 Drama Workshop
17 th June	Sports Morning and Family Picnic
18 th June	Y3 Halle Concert - Derby Arena
23 rd /24 th /25 th	In School Transition Days - more info after half term
24 th June - straight after school	Meet your child's class teacher
17 th July	Reports e mailed to parents
20 th July	Y6 Leavers Assembly to parents
21 st July	Y6 Leavers Party
23 rd July	INSET DAY - NO SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN