



Hazelwood School

THE NUTSHELL

Celebrating recent highlights at Hazelwood

17TH JANUARY 2025

Dear Parents,

I recently came across a phrase in John Spencer's article *The Human Advantage: Nine Skills We Can't Afford to Lose in an AI-Powered World* that deeply resonated with me: wisdom in a sea of information. It reminded me why our work at Hazelwood is so important. In a world of AI-powered tools and instant answers, our people-centered focus is crucial. We aim to give children the chance to embrace challenges, experience productive struggles, and cultivate the empathy and understanding that lead to true wisdom.

Wisdom goes beyond facts and information- it's shaped by experiences, reflection, and overcoming difficulties. While AI can teach us about tides or the Moon's pull, wisdom is found in feeling the sea's pull while swimming with friends, sharing laughter, and reflecting on these moments. At Hazelwood, we encourage children to learn through real experiences, helping them turn knowledge into wisdom. Sharing our own stories of struggle and growth with students demonstrates how resilience and reflection enrich our lives.

In today's world, teaching children to harness AI effectively, while maintaining critical thinking and independence, is vital. At Hazelwood, we balance the benefits of technology with opportunities for students to build resilience, collaboration, and confidence. Challenging projects and moments of productive struggle help students discover their unique voices, navigate complexity, and embrace their human advantage in an increasingly AI-powered world.

This philosophy is why we're excited to launch our next Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) projects, tackling real-world problems through creativity and teamwork. Throughout the year, you'll have opportunities to see Hazelwood in action - whether at sports days, academic showcases, or the culmination of our SDG initiative. Our people-centered approach fosters wisdom, resilience, and connection, preparing our pupils to navigate life's complexities with empathy and purpose. Together, let's celebrate the incredible privilege of nurturing that makes us uniquely human.

Best wishes,

Lindie.

Follow us on our social channels for regular updates on school news!



@hazelwoodoxted



@hazelwoodschooloxted



@hazelwoodschool.co.uk



@hazelwoodschoolsport

Contents

[Nursery](#)

[Lower School \(Reception - Year 4\)](#)

[Upper School \(Year 5 - 8\)](#)



Hazelwood School

Events

SAVE THE DATE



Hazelwood School

Independent Senior Schools' Fair

Saturday 25th January 2025. 10.30am – 12 noon

All parents and children welcome



WHERE NEXT?
Let's start the Conversation

25 Independent Senior Schools will be attending:

| Ardingly College | Bede's Senior School | Benenden
| Bethany School | Box Hill School | Brighton College
| Bryanston School | Caterham School | Cranleigh
School | Croydon High School | Epsom College
| Hazelwood School | Hurst college | Kent College Pembury
| Lancing College | Lingfield College | Mayfield School
| Radnor House Sevenoaks | Reigate Grammar School
| Sackville School | Sevenoaks School | Walthamstow Hall
| Whitgift | Woldingham School | Worth School |



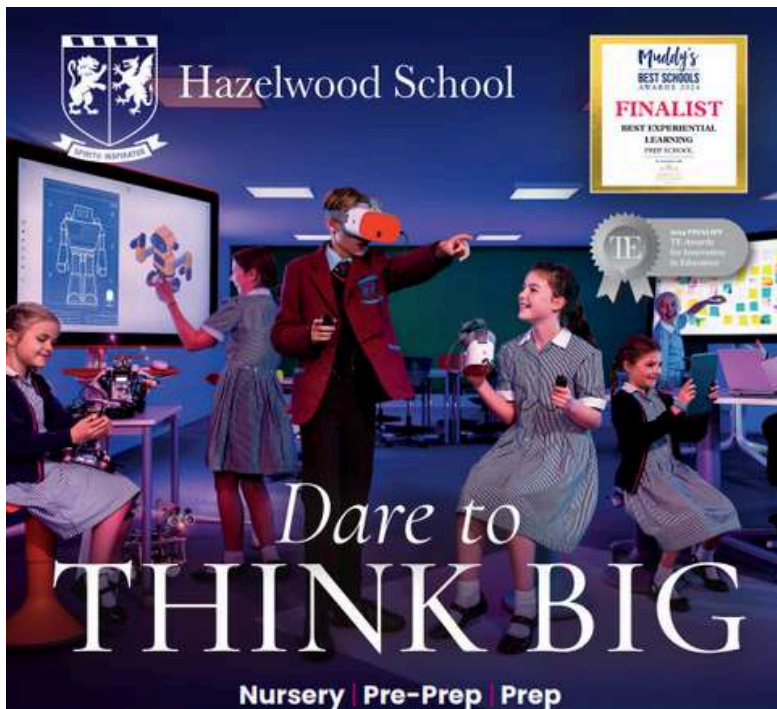
No need to Book

www.hazelwoodschool.co.uk

01883 712 194 | Oxted, Surrey



Hazelwood School



Dare to
THINK BIG

Nursery | Pre-Prep | Prep

Open Morning Events:

Friday 7th February – 9.30am

Saturday 15th March – 9.30am



Discover our award-winning, innovative teaching methods and flexible learning spaces. We dare to think big and empower every child to fulfil their potential.

Private Tours available to book today.
admissions@hazelwoodschool.com

Oxted, Surrey | hazelwoodschool.co.uk





*Staff
Spotlight*



Mrs Holmes
HR Advisor

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?
I very much enjoy working at Hazelwood School, recruiting new staff and also supporting the existing staff team. I also enjoy the variety in my role, no two days are ever the same!

WHAT MOTIVATES YOU?
Knowing that the work I do behind the scenes supports a safe environment for our pupils.

HOW DO YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO CHILDREN'S LIVES?
By ensuring the school has the best staff and robust recruitment processes in place I can contribute to keeping children safe.

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS YEAR?
Professionally, I'm looking forward to supporting new initiatives that will benefit our staff and improve the way we work together. Personally, I'm excited about spending more quality time with my family.



Webinar

13th February Gaming Webinar 7.45pm

Please save the date for the next PSHE webinar! We have Jessica Chalmers, back by popular demand, to talk to parents on all issues surrounding gaming.

She will go through the latest research and explore these topics:

- Media panic surrounding tech through the ages
- Explore the 'Get Smart about P.L.A.Y' campaign (importance of playing games with children – I show you a great database for families, parental controls, look at PEGI ratings, screen time – study as above, spending & in game chat pitfalls,)
- Does playing violent video games make your child violent? – deep dive into research
- Loot boxes – is there a link between them and gambling?
- Benefits of gaming

Parents will get step by step instructions for setting up parental controls on gaming consoles and games and links to some great resources.

More details to come via MSP soon...!



Nursery



Wrens

The last few weeks the theme in wrens has been animals! Wrens have enjoyed making fingerprint ladybirds and paper plate frogs. Wrens have enjoyed a nature walk where the children enjoyed exploring a new part of the nursery. The children also enjoyed sticking the spots on their own giraffe and enjoyed exploring a slimy messy pond tuff tray.



Starlings

Starlings have had fun learning about transport. We have focused on cars, trains, boats, and planes. They have been creative doing car track painting and making hot air balloon suncatchers. Starlings have been exploring the messy tray using cars in sand and boats in jelly. For planes they've used the messy tray with shaving foam to imitate the clouds in the sky. They've been using different sized vehicles like cars and tractors to explore ramps and drainpipes. At song time we've been using musical instruments to create different sounds when singing different transport songs. Starlings have used different tools to create their own ocean with paint.





Nursery



Wagtails

The Wagtails have had lots of fun learning about dinosaurs for the last two weeks. They have been stomping around the hall like dinosaurs. The children have been doing lots of dinosaur creative activities such as making their own dinosaur by sticking different body parts together and using dinosaurs to make footprints with the paint. The children had so much fun exploring the dinosaur den and looking at dinosaurs stories. Wagtails have had fun exploring the messy tray dinosaur jungle and finding dinosaurs in shredded paper. The children have been exploring the ice they have found in the garden and watching the snow come down from the sky. They have been playing a dinosaur game and seeing if they can match colours.



Lower Robins

We have been exploring Arctic animals. The children have discussed creatures and their habitats. We focused on matching baby Arctic animals with their mothers. The children enjoyed messy play in our tuff tray, using hair conditioner and bubble wrap.

Nic focused on the letter 'A' and 'M' in phonics. The children enjoyed looking at pictures of items that start with each letter. Gem organised a counting activity, while Gemma R facilitated a matching game featuring Arctic animals. Meanwhile, Nic carried out a fun counting activity involving penguins set in an Arctic scene.





Nursery



Upper Robins

Upper Robins thoroughly enjoyed exploring the world of dinosaurs, learning their names, diets, and sizes. The children got creative by stamping dinosaur footprints, painting using stencils and handprints, and matching coloured dinosaur eggs with their respective counterparts. They also had a great time completing dinosaur-shaped puzzles.

This week, we launched our "Jungle Animals" topic, and the children have been stamping jungle animal footprints, comparing their sizes, and discussing their habitats. We've played a game where they move like animals and put their fine motor skills to a test by threading jungle animals. They had a blast playing African instruments and visiting the library to explore books about jungle animals.

Skylarks Orange

After the Christmas holidays, the Skylarks returned full of joy and enthusiasm, eager to share the delightful adventures they experienced with their families and friends. The children excitedly revealed the gifts they received from Father Christmas on Christmas Day.

This fortnight, our topic has focused on Winter.

The magic intensified when it snowed. the children thoroughly enjoyed playing in the playground, dressed in their warm waterproof clothing, delighting in the crunch of the snow beneath their wellington boots. They also learned about the Northern Lights and created stunning paintings using iced food colouring. Which encouraged them to explore colour blending.





Skylarks Green

'Winter' has underpinned the activities as we welcomed in the New Year. The role play area was transformed into a shimmering 'Frozen' world, complete with polar animals, igloos and snow. We made marshmallow snowmen in the sensory tuff tray, created our own representations of the 'Northern Lights' using frozen paint and worked collaboratively to collage polar bears, penguins and a snowman for our display board. We looked at the symmetry of snowflakes and learned plenty of new vocabulary as we discovered how certain animals adapt to life in cold climates.

To reinforce our understanding of numbers, we matched mini marshmallows to the correctly numbered hot chocolate cup and tried to order numbered snowflakes too. Both our outdoor activities and Forest School session consolidated our understanding of the world at this time of year as we explored ice and snow and noticed how they then melt back into a liquid.





HOLIDAY MEMORIES

The children loved sharing stories about their Christmas holidays, talking about the places they visited, the activities they enjoyed, and the gifts they received. We used these discussions as an opportunity to learn about the four things a sentence needs—capital letters, finger spaces, full stops, and making sense! They wrote wonderful sentences about their holidays, practicing these key writing skills.



SENTENCE MAKING

The children explored sentence structure, looking at full stops, finger spaces and capital letters. They created a human sentence, working as a team to ensure the words were in the correct order and made sense.

New Topic: What is Out There?



Our new topic is all about space, and the children have been captivated by the mysteries of the universe!

Rockets

- We read *Whatever Next* and used cardboard boxes to create rockets, role-playing space adventures.
- They added imaginative touches by creating mobile phones, helmets, and toolboxes for their journeys.
- The children wrote lists of what they would take to the moon, encouraging creativity and writing skills.
- We explored how rockets work, discussing how fuel pushes them up into the sky, and even looked at how rockets can be made at home.

International Space Station (ISS)

The children were amazed to learn about the ISS!

- We watched videos touring the spacecraft, discovering how astronauts live and work in space.
- The children were particularly fascinated by how astronauts' hair floats and stands on end in zero gravity!
- Inspired by this, we created space-themed artwork, including backgrounds, stars, and astronauts.



SPACE ADDITION

Using space themed pictures and a spaceship the children enjoyed exploring the concept of addition. Then they recorded number sentences, learning the correct mathematical signs. They have also looked at teen numbers, beginning to understand they are made up of a ten and ones.



MATHS

In maths, we've been:

- Exploring teen numbers, understanding them as "10 and some more."
- Investigating mass and weight, linking it to our space topic. The children compared the weight of objects and experimented with balancing scales, developing their understanding of balance and measurement.
- Looking at addition using space objects and writing addition number sentences.



Maths



1S had a great time playing the 'Race to 100' game, where the children rolled dice to collect 'ones.' Once they accumulated ten ones, they exchanged them for a ten diene piece and continued until they reached 100.

This activity involved a lot of counting in tens, and the children enjoyed visualising what 1,000 would look like. Afterward, we read the story *How Big Is a Million?*, which sparked further curiosity about large numbers.



TOPIC DAY - WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO EXPLORE?

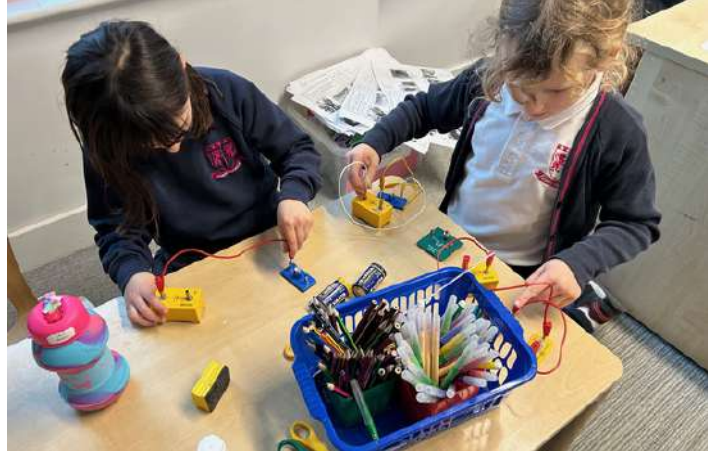
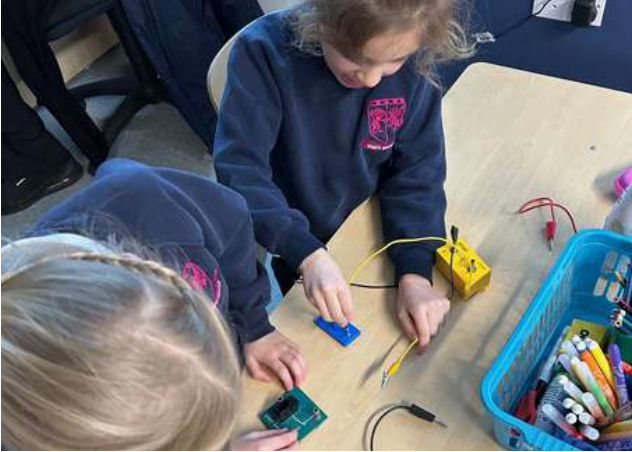
Year 1 enjoyed a wonderful Topic Day to launch their new topic 'Where would you like to explore?' The children had a fabulous time dressing up for the day. Costumes included a Spanish flamenco dancer, an American gymnast, Japanese geisha, an Irish dancer and a climber ready to conquer Mount Everest, to name but a few of the wonderful costumes from the day.

This term, the children will be learning about the geography of the world that we live in and reading and writing about Flat Stanley on his adventures around the world!



ART

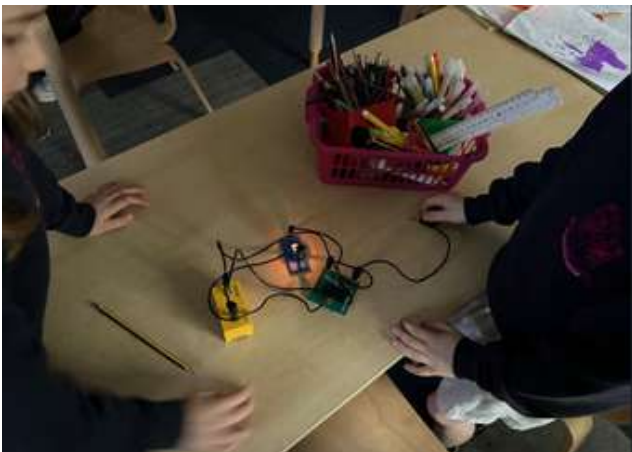
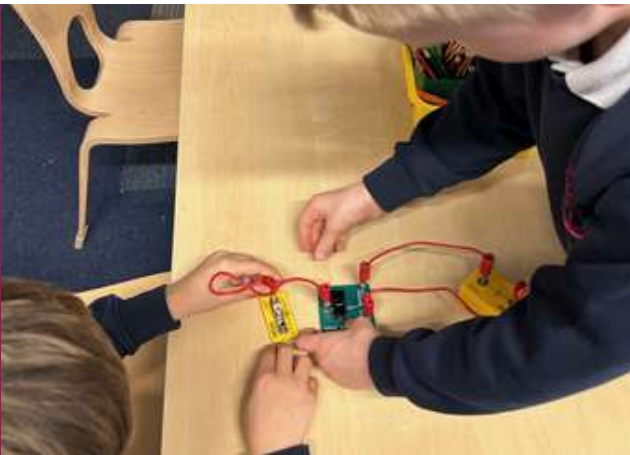




SCIENCE

Year 2 have absolutely loved their practical work in Science!

They explored making circuits, using a switch and completing different trials with a lamp.

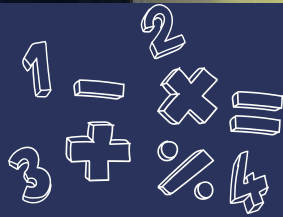




TOPIC DAY

Year 3 have been enjoying learning about all things Greek for their topic day!

Pupils came into school dressed as citizens of Ancient Greece and the classrooms have been buzzing with excitement as they took part in exciting activities, such as designing masks of Greek Gods and creating some fabulous Greek pottery.



Maths

Year 3 used the box to solve multiplication word problems, we used the tables and walls to work out the answers and then scanned a QR code to check we were right!





Hazelwood School

Year 4

YEAR 4 PLAY REHEARSALS

Pupils are very excited about their upcoming performance of James & the Giant Peach!

The set looks amazing and the children have been rehearsing - we can't wait!



FOREST SCHOOL

Year 4 might have returned home very muddy this week after exploring the murky waters of the infamous swamp in Forest School!

With the sun shining through the trees, the children had a great time climbing branches, peeling sticks and starting fires.



Science

Year 4s have been learning how to create a complete circuit in Science this week, exploring all the different parts and drawing their scientific symbols.





DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Students of year 5 have started looking at Textiles in DT this term. Where do textiles come from? How are textiles constructed? This week they were looking at how woven fabric is constructed and looked at the warp and weft of woven fabric. They produced some great samples weaving paper to understand how cotton shirt material is made. Well done year 5!



SCIENCE

Year 5 demonstrated their scientific skills by successfully separating pure salt from rock salt using a range of separation techniques, including dissolving, filtering, and evaporating.

We were particularly impressed with their maturity while handling the Bunsen burners and their commitment to the experiment.



Reading Buddies

Another fabulous Thursday morning with our Year 5 pupils collaborating with our Reception pupils 📖
A lot of fun is had by all every Thursday morning 😊





Form Time

During our Year 6 form times this term, we've focused on turning challenges into opportunities. The children have engaged in problem-solving activities through play, exploring new ways to think critically and creatively.

We've learned how to play chess, discovered new card games, and continued to improve our British Sign Language (BSL). Additionally, we've been working together to prepare for our upcoming play, Alice in Wonderland. This combination of learning and collaboration has provided a fun and engaging way to develop valuable skills.



MATHS

In Maths, we've immersed ourselves in the world of ratios. Mrs. Burden is extremely proud of the resilience and determination shown by the group.

We held a competition to see who could answer the most questions correctly within a set time limit. All the groups worked together, demonstrating a strong understanding of ratio.





Street Art Trip

On Monday, Year 7 students embarked on an inspiring and vibrant journey into the world of street art. The trip took them to the heart of Shoreditch, a renowned hub for urban creativity, where they explored the rich tapestry of street art and its cultural significance. This day-long adventure proved to be as educational as it was engaging, leaving the students with a deeper appreciation for this unique art form.

A Walking Tour Through Shoreditch

The day began with a guided walking tour around the eclectic streets of Shoreditch. Students were immersed in the colorful world of street art, where walls became canvases and alleys turned into galleries. They explored a variety of mediums, from large-scale murals and intricate stencil work to thought-provoking paste-ups and installations. The guide introduced them to the works of celebrated street artists, highlighting their techniques, journeys, and the profound messages woven into their art.

One of the highlights was learning about the history of street art and its evolution from an underground movement to a globally celebrated cultural phenomenon. Students discovered how artists use public spaces to challenge norms, express their identities, and spark conversations about social and political issues.

Hands-On Creativity: The Workshop

After soaking in the sights and stories, it was time for the students to roll up their sleeves and unleash their inner artists. They attended a hands-on workshop where they could try their hand at spray painting. The session started with a demonstration of various techniques, including creating gradients, layering stencils, and adjusting spray thickness for different effects. Students practiced these skills on walls, gaining confidence and experimenting with their newfound techniques.

Equipped with pre-cut stencils, they moved on to creating their own masterpieces on canvas. Each student's artwork was a unique expression of their creativity, and the results were truly impressive. The best part? They got to take their personalised pieces home, a lasting memento of their artistic adventure.



MATHS

A Snakes and vector ladders game helped Year 7 with their understanding of vector notation for translations in maths. It became quite competitive and pupils were quickly able to check and correct vector moves made by their peers!

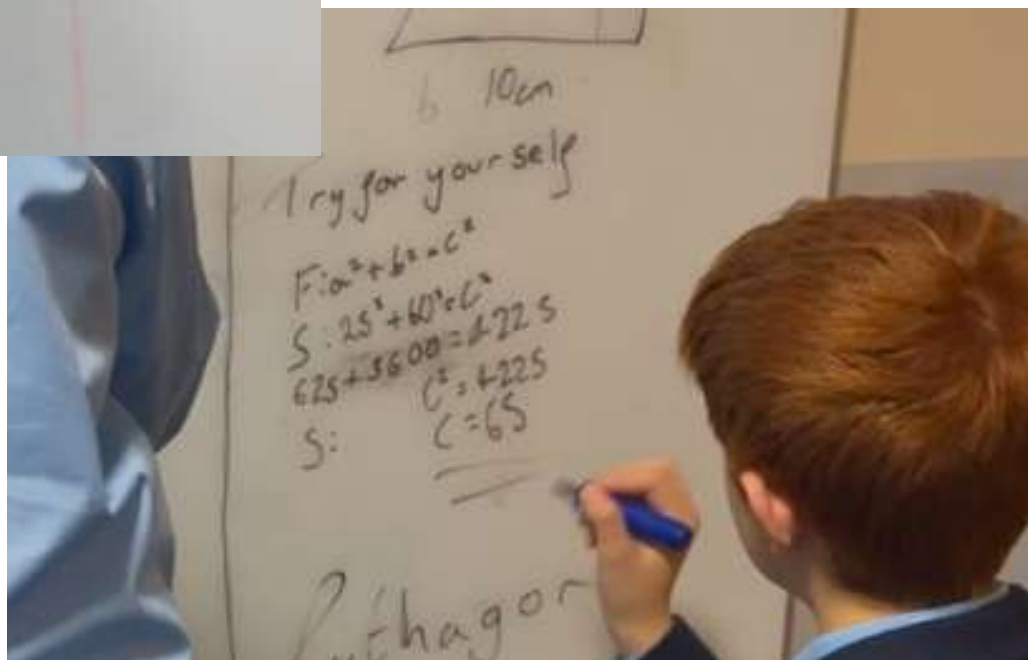




MATHS

Year 8 took to the walls, drawing diagrams that included a triangle to represent the information given in worded problems. With the right angle and hypotenuse identified, they were able to quantify the solution using Pythagoras theorem.

Super work produced by all, that included good quality layout with = signs in line!





Hazelwood School

Sport

We have a new Hazelwood Sports Instagram account!



@hazelwoodschoolsport

Follow the Sports account to keep up to date with all the fixtures, after-school clubs and sporting achievements at Hazelwood.



NETBALL

It's been a great start to the term for our netball teams! Despite the cold weather, the girls have returned from the Christmas break with fantastic energy, and it's been brilliant to see how well they've settled into their training and matches.

All age groups have been performing well, showing strong teamwork and determination. The girls are working hard to improve their skills and fitness as we gear up for the IAPS Netball competitions at the beginning of February.

We're looking forward to the next few weeks of training and can't wait to see the teams in action!



SWIMMING

What a fantastic evening of competitive swimming!

🌊 Hazelwood's swimmers gave it their all against Caterham in an exciting gala. Huge congratulations to all our swimmers for their effort, determination, and team spirit—what an incredible performance! 🏆

A big thank you to @caterhamschoolsport for hosting us so warmly. The sportsmanship and camaraderie shown by both teams made the evening.

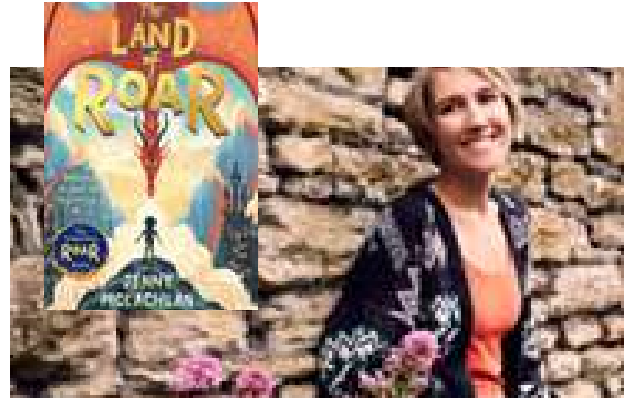


Final score 273-260 🏆



DATE NIGHT WITH A BOOK

Watch out for the date night books coming home from the last week in January! All books are to be opened at home and are the property of the library so much be returned once read. Please discuss the books with your children and encourage them to read all the way through. Five house points for those who read the whole book and can tell me about the story on their return to school after the half term!



AUTHOR VISIT

We are delighted to welcome to Hazelwood School the children's author Jenny McLachlan on Tuesday 4th February for an assembly with the year groups 2 – 5. Jenny will be talking about her love of books and how she came to write books but also about the last instalment of the ROAR series.

A parent comms was sent out recently for you to complete should you wish to purchase one of her books. The last day for ordering is Wednesday 26th January.



Author Visit

We have another author visiting us on World Book Day..... Carrie Sellon, who is the Author of the Pizza Pete series, and she will be at Hazelwood School for an assembly with years 1 through to 6, workshops with the years 3 and 4 pupils and a story reading time for Reception.

A parent comms will be sent out next week with further information and a link to purchase her books.

WORLD BOOK DAY 6TH MARCH



Pupils from years Reception to Year 6 can come in as a character from a book. I have been asking pupils to try to think about making costumes this year and using the Charity shops to source their outfits. Maybe over the half term this could be a fun project for you to do with your children! There will be prizes for the best home made costume per class.

OVERDUES

Please make sure all books taken out from the Christmas break have now been returned to the library or renewed with the librarian.

Any book outstanding at the end of this half term will incur an overdue fee of £3.00.



Hazelwood School

Notices



SOUTHEAST SURREY DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION
Affiliated to the British Dyslexia Association SESDA Reg. Charity no 281076

Support Evening for Parents and Carers

New venue - Canada Hall, All Saints Church,
Battlebridge Lane, Mersham RH1 3HA

Tuesday 28th January 2025
8pm to 10pm

Handwriting

Hannah Aitken, expert in handwriting and SESDA Com. member



DIGITAL CONTENT CLUB WITH MR HAYES



YEARS 4-6

TUESDAY 18TH
FEBRUARY

10.00 AM - 3.00 PM

£50 per child
Please email hayesd@hazelwoodschool.com
to book your place



Cricket

Limpsfield Chart Cricket Club are starting a new junior team for under 8s (Year 3), boys and girls welcome. No cricket experience needed.

- Winter training is 2-3pm at Hazelwood School (Saturday 1st February - eight weeks).
- Summer training (after Easter) is early on Friday evenings on the Chart.
- Matches will be on Saturday mornings.
- Prices are £60 for the winter training programme (£7.50 per session). The club offers flexible options to those experiencing financial hardship.
- The club is a fully insured ECB accredited Clubmark club. All coaches subject to DBS checks, coach education and first aid training. Email Pete at limpsfieldchartcricketclub@gmail.com

Messy Church this Sunday



This Sunday 19 January at 3pm Messy Church will be taking place at St Peter's Limpsfield. All children and families are welcome. The theme is new beginnings, offerings and gifts so there will be lots of crafts around this theme, a story, songs and tea and cake. If your child or children would like to come along please email stpeterschurch.lttm@gmail.com so we have an idea on numbers.

Parent and Baby Group

A parent and baby group takes place in St Peter's Hall every Tuesday from 11am-12.30pm. All babies and young children are welcome. A free to join group with tea, coffee, biscuits, toys and an opportunity to meet other local parents and carers.

SHOE APPEAL

Please bring in old school shoe donations, including trainers & Astros.

All shoes collected will be donated to Cameron's Orphanage in Mkushi, Zambia.

Please bring in your donations to the School Office by the end of January.

Thank you for your support!



MENO MEET UP

Helen Moynihan Venus Nutrition Aileen Ross
Rehab and Pilates

21st January 6:30pm Tandridge Heights,
Oxted

<https://www.venusnutrition.co.uk/events>

