

THE NUTSHELL

Celebrating recent highlights at Hazelwood

9TH MAY 2025

Dear Parents.

Walking through the school this week, I found myself caught between the excitement of what's ahead and the quiet pride of what's happening around me.

As we prepare to mark Hazelwood's 135th anniversary—with all the sparkle and celebration of our upcoming ball at Lingfield Park—it's also a moment to reflect. Not just on the years passed, but on what endures. The laughter in corridors, the bold questions in assemblies, the nervous-but-determined voices during a presentation—these are the markers of a living, breathing school.

Last week, our older pupils welcomed guests from a wide range of industries as part of our Industry Insights programme. It was such a joy to see them engaging with professionals and asking thoughtful questions—questions that made me reflect on the world in new ways. It's moments like these that remind me of an important part of education: helping children explore not just what they know, but how they think.

This brought to mind a line from the poet Mary Oliver, who once wrote: "Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?" It seems so fitting to the spirit of our pupils, who are beginning to explore their own answers—whether it's through the ambitious ideas of their SDG projects or the confidence they bring to new challenges, like our choir's recent trip to Verona.

And though I promised myself not to mention the choir—they were magnificent. Gold award, second place overall, and best song performance of the entire competition. But more than that, they sang with joy, and joy is no small thing.

I had the pleasure of seeing Year 2's production of Rock Pool this week—a joyful showcase of teamwork, confident voices, and children who sang with such delight, no matter their role. That, too, is what endures.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes, Lindie

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



@hazelwoodschooloxted



@hazelwoodschool.co.uk



@hazelwoodschoolsport

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HPA





School News

Join Us as a Guest Judge for Our SDG Showcase!

Pupils are in the final stages of their Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) project, and excitement is building for our big Showcase Morning on Friday 23 May, 8:30 - 10:30am.

Each class has explored a global issue—from climate action to clean water—and designed a solution. They'll be presenting their ideas to peers, staff, and... we hope... a panel of guest judges from our parent community.

If you work in sustainability—in business, science, education, engineering, or policy—and are available that morning, we'd love to invite you to join us as a guest judge.

Judging involves listening to a few pupil presentations, asking questions, and sharing some encouragement and feedback.

Please contact me at trojanowskin@hazelwoodschool.com if you can join us. Your insight could inspire the next generation of changemakers!

Hazelwood Blog



Read our latest blog article online by Mrs MacDougall!

Resilience - as much about grace as grit is a thoughtful piece on how true resilience grows not from relentless persistence, but from the confidence to pause, adapt, and try again with compassion and trust in oneself.



School News

Verona trip 2025!

We are so proud of the Chapel Choir for their Gold Award in Verona!

The Chapel Choir took part in the 33rd International Choral Singing competition last month. They came an incredible second place overall and won an additional prestigious award for best song performance of the entire competition for their interpretation of 'This Old Man.'

Well done for such an outstanding result!





SDG Project - Wellness Wednesday

Form group 8F is launching a special project as part of their commitment to sustainable development and wellbeing.



Introducing Wellness Wednesday - a weekly initiative where they will post messages on Instagram about different aspects of wellness, following our Wellness Way theme.

Each week, they will explore topics that impact young people, including:

- Friendships and fitting in
- Exam pressure and coping strategies
- Bullying and peer pressure
- Sleep and mental wellbeing
- The effects of nature, exercise, and nutrition on mental health
- Transitioning to new schools and changes in life
- Understanding happiness and wellness

Through this project, they hope to encourage open discussions and promote a supportive and informed school community. They invite you to follow along and engage with their posts as we work together to prioritise student wellbeing.



Spotlight



Lana and Everett in Year 5 and Scarlett in Year 8 recently won the 'Player of the Year' award for their respective teams.

They all play for Oxted Hockey Club and received a trophy each.

It is a big club and the competition was strong.

Well done to you all!



I love seeing the children happy, thriving and enjoying their time in the classroom. It is so rewarding to be part of their journeys and seeing them all flourish as individuals.

WHAT MOTIVATES YOU?

The children motivate me every day with their boundless enthusiasm, curiosity and bravery. Advocating for little children is enormously motivating and important to me.

HOW DO YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO CHILDREN'S LIVES?

It is a privilege to be a teacher and have the ability to positively impact children's lives on a daily basis with the small things - by creating a happy, inclusive, safe and super fun learning environment where children can explore their passions and expand their boundaries.

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS YEAR?

Reflecting on how much the children have developed and grown by the end of Year 1, as well as seeing the older children grow up through the school is wonderful. Beach time and seafood during our upcoming family holiday to Portugal are also something I am looking forward to!









Wrens

The past three weeks, the Wrens have been learning all about spring and Easter. They have been busy making paper plate sheep and fork chicks and making handprint flowers and bubble wrap flowers. The Wrens have also been very busy moving rooms, so this week we have done lots of exploring in the garden and playground.





Starlings

Starlings have had a great time the past few weeks. We've looked at lots of colours, shapes and animals. Our theme is Elmer the elephant and we explored mixing colours, making elephant sun catchers, matching elephants to their patterns and lots of tuff tray activities exploring colour. For our shapes and colours theme we made shape pizzas and had fun picking up Pom Poms with tweezers and matching them to their coloured bowl.











Wagtails

The wagtails have had fun learning all about spring. They have been on a hunt looking for different kinds of spring flowers and exploring flowers in the water play. The children have been creative and using cardboard tubes to print flowers, making a bird house out of shapes and handprint cows. The children have made chick shaped sandwiches and eaten them on the grass area. The children have been enjoying lots of water play with pipes and fishing nets. They have been collating the life cycle of a sunflower and planting lots of seeds. Wagtails have been exploring the tent in the garden and making food in the mud kitchen. They have enjoyed visiting the pond area and seeing what we can see.





Lower Robins

We have continued our spring theme. The children have enjoyed exploring the life cycle of a butterfly and created some beautiful symmetrical butterflies, which we have displayed around the room, adding a splash of colour. We have also reviewed our phonics, focusing on the letter sound 'u'. The warm weather has allowed the children to play outdoors and engage with the sea creatures during water play, which they have found delightful. Additionally, we have begun rehearsing the songs for our summer concert, and we eagerly anticipate welcoming the parents to witness all the children's hard work.











Upper Robins

The children had a wonderful time exploring the fascinating world of mini beasts, taking full advantage of the lovely weather! They enjoyed visiting the nature area to search for bugs, happily ticking them off their checklist. The children were excited to learn about bees—discovering what they do and what they produce—and they had a great time making bumblebee cookies. They also engaged in fun activities like creating symmetrical butterflies, moving like bugs, and playing with aquatic insects in the water.

In celebration of VE Day this week, we introduced the theme of kings and queens. The children loved listening to stories about royalty, sharing afternoon tea with their teddy bears, and exploring our royal small world tables. They enjoyed learning royal phonics and exploring patterns using the colours red, white, and blue.

Skylarks Orange

Skylarks have had a fantastic time exploring our spring theme. We've enjoyed nature walks, noticing all the beautiful flowers blooming nearby. In our nature area, the children have observed frogs and the bulrushes releasing their seeds for new growth. We're now focusing on mini beasts and recently went on a mini beast adventure, searching for beetles beneath logs and snails hiding under rocks.

The children were thrilled when we added a new ladder swing to our garden, making playtime even more exciting!











Skylarks Green

After drawing our 'Farm' topic to an end, our focus became the reinforcement of our understanding of the world during 'Science Week'. The children illustrated some basic scientific concepts through some hands-on experiments including making lava lamps, sinking and floating and predicting which objects would be attracted or repelled in our magnet tuff tray. We also investigated tiny samples through our new microscope! This area of learning was further explored during our 'People who help us' theme with the children learning about the roles of professionals, the equipment that they use and learning specialised vocabulary along the way. Easter brought plenty of excitement and anticipation and this was harnessed in the room as we went on our own egg hunt, made chocolate nests and had our first Easter bonnet competition.

'Spring' has dominated the past few weeks. The room has been a hive of activity with the children creating chicks, sheep, symmetrical butterflies, perfume from Spring flowers and bird feeders for our feathered friends in the garden. We have learnt about the life cycles of the butterfly, hen and frog and consolidated all this knowledge during an outdoor Spring 'scavenger' hunt. This week we are concentrating on 'Minibeasts' to enhance this theme even further.







Reception

Forest School

The children have been busy in Forest School looking for the Bog Baby. We worked as a team, following the leader and planning the safest (and driest) route across the bubbling bog. Not everyone stayed dry; sometimes it felt like the bog was trying to gobble our wellies. However, we all had a go, and there were plenty of smiles afterwards! Because we couldn't find the Bog Baby, we made our own version out of clay and accessorised our baby with spring treasures from our walk and the forest floor.







Our new topic is Stories!

On our Pastoral Day, we had lots of story-themed fun. The children:

- Acted out The Billy Goats Gruff
- Made Gingerbread Man collages
- · Created their own puppets using card and lollipop sticks
- Painted their favourite scenes from their favourite stories
- Used story cards to retell and create their own tales
- Investigated a Three Bears crime scene, looking for clues and making their predications











Reception

Goldilocks & the Three Bears

The children made their own porridge, and we created a bar chart to show who liked it and who didn't – some very surprising results!

We also explored how kitchens have changed over time, talking about the equipment we use today and how it's different from the past.

To tie in with the story, the children brought in a soft toy from home. We used non-standard units (cubes) to measure their teddies and then used recycled materials to create special items for them,

including chairs, clothes, crowns, beds and bags.









Perform Drama Workshop

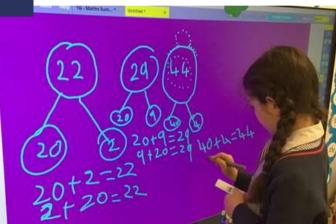






















Wellbeing Day

On the final day of term we enjoyed a Wellbeing Day, in which, amongst other activities, we enjoyed a fantastic scavenger hunt led by Mr. Monk!





Year 2 Play

Rehearsals are have been in full swing since returning from the Easter break and this week Year 2 performed beautifully to the lower school and to their parents.









Art

As part of their learning of the 'History of Hazelwood', Year 3 used careful observation to sketch the Hazelwood old building. After learning about Vincent van Gogh, they then transformed their sketches into a scene of 'Hazelwood on a Starry Night' in the style of van Gogh.















Trip to Kent Life

On 28th April, Year 3 visited Kent Life Heritage Farm Park. The children discovered what it would have been like to be a pupil in a Victorian classroom. They thought it quite a different experience to their classrooms at Hazelwood! After the classroom workshop, we learnt about the different jobs that children might have had in the Victorian times and decided that we are very lucky to be able to go to school!





Maths

Well done to everyone who helped their class secure points in the Easter Battle of the Bands. The results are in...

25th March - 20 April 2025

T4APO

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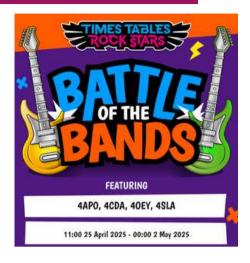
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4SLA

44

40EY

36







History

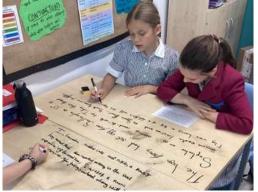
4H made use of the good weather last week to shape some Roman pottery which they finished painting this week.



English

In English, Year 4 enjoyed writing on the tables to correct punctuation mistakes!









ENGLISH

Ms Mason's English class enjoyed their lesson outside last week to read their class book, Street Child. They had a lovely time discussing important topics in the class and reading out loud in the beautiful sunshine!



DT

In DT Year 5 have been looking at Kandinsky and his abstract art. In a series of doodle and drawing activities they designed a wooden art piece inspired by Kandinsky.

They transferred their ideas from paper to timber. Using the belt sander, coping saws and sand paper they created a unique abstract wooden art piece.

Well done year 5!!!









SDG Project

Year 2 and Year 6 had a great collaboration with their respective SDG projects in the BOX.











Science Competition

Mrs Brighting, Mr Rady, 13 pupils and several parents visited Cottesmore School on 24th March for a Science Competition with 20 other schools.

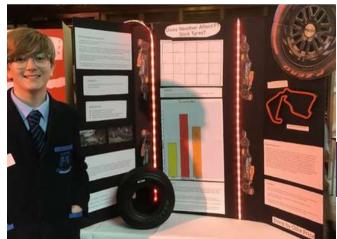
The children were given 10 days to produce an imaginative science investigation and present it according to strict guidelines. We gave the year group the opportunity to design an investigation and had to select 10, but we could not, so we chose 13 pupils.

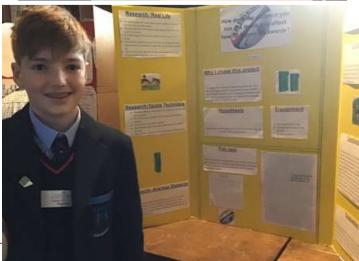
The ideas that poured from the children were creative, imaginative, thoughtful and we were extremely impressed. To include our finalists ideas, we had cress grown to rock, pop and classical music, the absorbency of sponges, the distance a tackle bag moves after impact, cupcakes made with fizzy drinks, cress grown under different wavelengths of light, how different footwear relates to speed, how different golf clubs can affect the distance a golf ball travels, how high popular brands of footballs bounce, how reducing air pressure in a rugby ball affects the distance it travels, how different genres of film affect heart rate, how changing the difficulty level in FIFA affects the number of goals scored, how speed is affected by running on different surfaces for 30 metres and how weather affects F1 tyres on a race track.

We had 5 pupils nominated to go through to the second round, however, we did not enter the final. We were praised by the Headmaster for the enthusiasm shown by our pupils and we were immensely proud of them. Thank you to the parents who came and supported us.







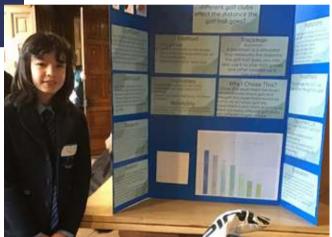


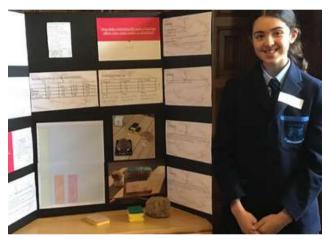


Science Competition

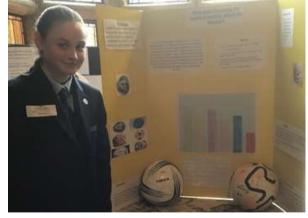


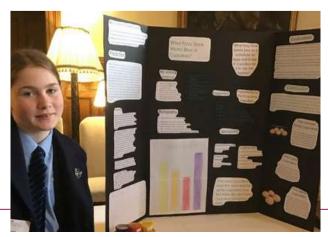
















Science

Year 7 enjoyed an outdoor science class last week as they carried out some interesting styles to calculate speed - pigeon steps, giant steps and skipping. They had lots of fun!











Years 7 & 8

Industry Insights

Last Friday marked our exciting launch day! Pupils teamed up with parent volunteers from various professional sectors to tackle real-life challenges and develop creative, practical solutions. This hands-on learning experience will continue in the weeks ahead, giving our pupils an invaluable taste of working life.

We were also delighted to welcome pupils from Oxted School, who joined us for the afternoon.











Sport

Athletics

Glorious sunshine, booming cheers, and unforgettable performances from our U9–U13 boys as we hosted last week's meet on home turf! / Long jumps, sprints, relays and more — our boys brought the heat and the hustle... and were crowned OVERALL WINNERS taking home the trophy!

Huge applause for our U12-U13 girls too, who shone in their friendly vs Hawthorns.

Well done to every athlete who gave it their all — we're so proud of you!





Swimming

Royal Russell Swimming Gala - Overall Team Win

Hazelwood swimmers put in a brilliant team performance at the Royal Russell Gala, coming away with the overall win. The squad swam exceptionally well, with 45 personal bests and five school records smashed on the night.

It was great to see the team racing hard, supporting each other, and enjoying the competition. The atmosphere was buzzing, and the effort from every swimmer was outstanding. A fantastic evening of racing, with plenty of fast swims and fun along the way. Well done team!







Sport

Athletics

The girls made a strong start to the athletics season at Hurst, recording competitive times on the track and solid distances in the field.

Flo M delivered an excellent performance, winning both the Year 7 hurdles and long jump. Francesca F impressed in the discus with a winning throw of over 15 metres. Athletics captain Katie B ran an outstanding 1500m, finishing second and setting a great example for the team. Tabby L also performed well in the 200m, showing good early-season form.

We are proud of all who took part. The commitment and effort across the team are clear, and the season

ahead looks promising.





Gymnastics

This year's Surrey Novice Gymnastics competition was a memorable milestone for our gymnasts, with several taking part in their first ever event. Both boys and girls competed across floor and vault, performing set routines with discipline and composure.

- Sienna C, Sienna A and Clemmie E tackled Set Routine 3 with confidence and showed excellent form in their vaults.
- Eloise S and Edie J received a bronze and silver medal respectively on the floor with excellent execution and focus across both disciplines.

In the boys' competition Luke H delivered a strong vault and handled his routine with maturity and

energy. Luke finished with a bronze medal on the floor.



Football

The U13 Girls concluded the football season with a convincing 12-0 victory of Ardingly.

The girls only lost one of their 5 fixtures!



Library

Easter Reading Bingo

WELL DONE to the following pupils who took part in the Easter Bingo challenge. Hopefully by now you will have collected your prize but if not please do come to the library to see me. I have had some lovely pictures shared with me of cakes that were prepared and cooked, pictures reading next to flowers, seeds growing in pots and gardens and interesting reading caves, its been lovely to see how much you have enjoyed participating in the challenge thank you.

Reception - Cora A, Isabelle B, Laurie C, Emilia C, Leo C, Henrietta D, Leo H, Alexander J, Maeve O'C and Daniel W.

Year 1- Sophie B, Lua E, Lucas G, Ernie H, Finlay M, Chloe P, Eve S, Melody S, Lily S, Jago S and Erica W,

Year 2 - Jove A, Sasha B, Oliver C, Finlay G, Sophie H, Cooper K, Max K, Abigail K, Rhys L, Wilfred O'C, Oliver P and Gloria S

Year 3 - Jean AM, Sofia C, Sienna C, Bill D, Sophia H, Noa H, Jack H, Margot K, Lucas ML, Jack McS, Nieve McS, Rachel M, Emily M, Lauren S, Isla S, Maude S and Imi Z

Year 4 - Kian AE, Luke B, Freddie C, Alice K, Heidi K, William K, Emily P, Maddison M, Barnaby M, Izzy S, Molly T, Harper S and Abigail T

Year 5 - Tom JT, Bethany K, Lana H, Evan McS, Cameron S and Philippa T

Year 6 - Chase G and Ella J



The Barnes Kids Literature Festival 2025 - 21st & 22nd June

If you want to see your favourite author or take part in various reading activities, this is the place to do it. The Festival has now been running over 11 years and is very well established and supported by avid readers. Here is a list of participating authors. It is an amazing event and there is so much to do so its well worth a visit but get your tickets soon as they do run out.

Enjoy!





The Children's Book Project



We are again running the collection of new and nearly new (but in very good condition) books for the Children's Charity in the run up to the summer holidays.

Across London and the UK 1 in 4 disadvantaged children owns fewer than 10 books, whilst 1 in 8 has none at all. This has an impact not only on these children's academic outcomes but also on their wellbeing, emotional development and sense of themselves as a reader.

The Children's Book Project directly tackles this 'book gap' and gifts donated books to targeted communities across the Capital. These schools and community groups put on celebratory book gifting events at which children are invited to choose a book to take it home and keep. The charity expects to gift upwards of 70,000 books this year.

For more information visit www.childrensbookproject.co.uk

Please drop off your unwanted new or nearly new books that your children have grown out of and send them in to me in the Hazelwood Library after the Easter holidays and I will ensure they are sent on to children who do not get/or have any books of their own. Let's help more disadvantaged children to enjoy the magic of books too!

Please note that the condition of books donated is very important. The charity cannot accept old, marked or tatty books since these are not suitable to gift onwards to another child. so please do not send any of the following:

- textbooks or revision books
- religious texts
- encyclopaedias
- DVDs or CDs
- torn, scribbled or dirty books
- ex library books or ex reading schemes



Other News

Macmillan Mighty Hike

Next weekend Mrs Anderson (Year 2 Form Tutor) will be taking part in a Macmillan Mighty Hike - walking a half marathon on the North Norfolk Coast, to help raise money for this amazing charity.

Mrs Anderson has a close family member who has battled cancer, and the Macmillan team were absolutely incredible with their support. They couldn't have got through it without this wonderful team of dedicated people.

Thank you to anyone who is able to support this incredibly worthwhile cause, please donate on their <u>Just Giving page</u>.



Hockey

Flo recently captained her team on a four-day hockey tour in the Netherlands, facing the top U12 teams from across Europe. After friendlies and a challenging 2-day tournament, they finished 2nd out of 13 elite teams, with standout wins over Dutch and Belgian champions.

Flo was also named Player of the Tournament by Surbiton—an incredible achievement in a fantastic week of hockey and new friendships!

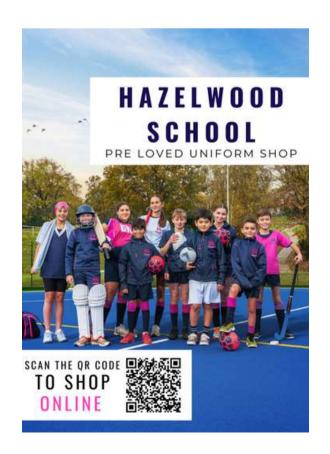




Notices











Notices













Notices













FOR SALE

A Black Top of the Range Renaux Twingo with Sat Nav, Bluetooth etc. Stop/start, Lane departure, Front/rear parking bleepers, reverse camera, great sound system, 23700 miles on clock, 9000 until next service, 4 tyres all done 2500 miles or less. New battery 2,500 miles ago. 55 mpg in normal running . 0.9 litre turbo engine. ULEZ compliant too! Registration DG65 JKE.

We bought it from its first owner 3 years old and in our family since then. Price £5000 but not looking for any offers due to the excellent standard of the car.

Please contact Nicki Wisniewski 07971 278790