



Howden Church of England Infant School

Newsletter 38 - 10th July 2026

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Dear Parents and Carers,

It's hard to believe that we are already at the last week of the school year! This week, the children have enjoyed their transition days and it has been wonderful to see them spending time with their new teachers and teaching assistants, getting to know their new classrooms and beginning to think about the exciting year ahead. There was a real buzz around school, and the children approached the changes with confidence, curiosity and plenty of enthusiasm.

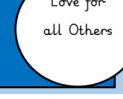
We were also lucky enough to welcome Gabriella Jones to school this week. Gabriella treated us to a stunning harp recital, and the children were completely captivated by both her performance and the beautiful sound of the instrument.

Afterwards, the children had the opportunity to work with Gabriella to create their own piece of music using graphic notation. It was fantastic to see their imaginations at work as they explored how music can be represented through pictures, symbols and patterns before bringing their ideas to life through sound. The workshop was creative, engaging and enjoyed by everyone involved. We are very grateful for the experience provided by Howdenshire Music.

As we head towards the final week of term, there is still plenty to look forward to. Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support—it has been another busy and rewarding week in school.

Best wishes,
Antonia Purdue

TREE TEAM POINTS			
Our winning house in Summer Term 2 is OAK!! Congratulations!			
Birch	Chestnut	Oak	Sycamore
			
615	618	672	651

VALUE CHAMPIONS OF THE WEEK	
 Curiosity 	Henry - Badgers
 Family 	JJ - Squirrels Elsie - Badgers
 Nurture 	Robin - Squirrels
 Respect 	Bella - Owls
 Joy 	Charlotte - Squirrels

CLASS STARS					
Badgers	Foxes	Hedgehogs	Rabbits	Owls	Squirrels
					
Ariana	Poppy	Martha	Sophia	Kayden	Elliot & Alfie

What's been happening....

FS2

- The children have had a wonderful week revisiting our Big Idea!
- The Badgers and Foxes had an amazing transition day to Year 1. We are incredibly proud.
- In maths, we have been focusing on our counting skills and doubles.
- In Phonics, we have been practising reading our Phase 4 words.
- Thank you to everyone who has returned their reading and pleasure books!

Year 1

- The children have had fun this week writing instructions to prevent pesky seagulls eating Mr Grinling's lunch.
- They have practised ordering days of the week and months of the year and started to tell the time to the hour. It would be wonderful if you could practise this at home.
- They have used identification charts to identify trees in our school grounds.
- After listening to the harpist and helping create a graphic score, they have created their own digital scores on Purple Mash.
- All children engaged superbly on transition day and we were delighted to hear how excited they are to learn new things in Year 2.

Year 2

- This week we finished work on pirates by using our understanding of materials to create pirate ships. We then tested our pirate ships to see which could hold the most pirate booty before sinking. Some managed as much as 1300g.
- We have also finished our final artwork, listening to the theme from Pirates of the Caribbean and painting shapes and colours that represent how the music made us feel.
- In writing, we've been planning and have started to write our story about an explorer searching for something precious.

In maths, we've started learning about, following and giving accurate directions



Messy Church at Howden Minster will be starting up again from September, on the third Sunday of each month.

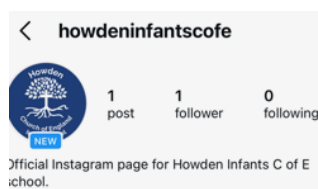
On Wednesday 26th August there will be a Summertime Special Messy Church in the Minster, from 10am until 12.

Come along for a variety of activities for all ages. This is a free event open to all children and adults with them.

As mentioned in Mrs Purdue's newsletter, we are introducing a new instagram account.

Please can you ensure your child's photo permissions are up to date on Arbor before we return in September.

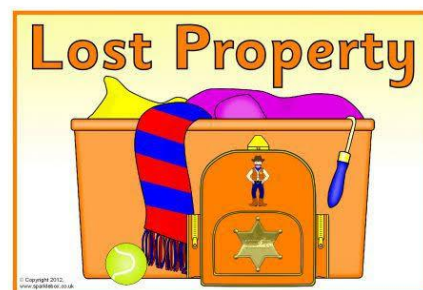
Give us a follow!!



LOST PROPERTY/Spare Uniform

We will be displaying lost property outside school next week.

Anything not collected by Wednesday, will continue to be displayed as spare uniform and you are welcome to help yourself.



Keys Dates Going Forward

Celebration Assemblies	You will be informed by email if your child has been chosen to receive a certificate.	Fridays 0855
Y1 Open Evening		Monday 13 th July
Y2 Leavers Assembly	0915 & 1430 Y2 parents invited.	Tuesday 14 th July
School Closes		Friday 17 th July
2026-2027 Dates		
School Reopens	For pupils	Tuesday 8 th September
Natalie Sinderson - Family Help Drop in		Tuesday 29 th September 0840-1000
FS2 September 2027 Starters Open Evening		Monday 12 th October 1600-1700

Natalie Sinderson - Family Help Drop in		Tuesday 20 th October 0840-1000
Natalie Sinderson - Family Help Drop in		Tuesday 24 th October 0840-1000

 August 2026 Timetable All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long £24 each or FREE with School Membership Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk Recordings available for 48 hours	
School Anxiety	3 Aug 10am
Anxiety Explained	3 Aug 7pm
Facing Defiance	4 Aug 10am
Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	4 Aug 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	10 Aug 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	10 Aug 7pm
Introduction to OCD	11 Aug 10am
Decreasing Depression	11 Aug 7pm
What is ACT?	17 Aug 10am
Improving Family Communication	17 Aug 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	18 Aug 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	18 Aug 7pm
FREE - Raising Self-Esteem	20 Aug 7-8pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	24 Aug 10am
Understanding Anger	24 Aug 7pm
Autism: Improving Communication	25 Aug 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	25 Aug 7pm

 September Timetable All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long £24 each or FREE with School Membership Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk Recordings available for 48 hours	
Facing Defiance	1 Sep 10am
Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	1 Sep 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	7 Sep 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	7 Sep 7pm
Introduction to OCD	8 Sep 10am
Decreasing Depression	8 Sep 7pm
What is ACT?	14 Sep 10am
Improving Family Communication	14 Sep 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	15 Sep 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	15 Sep 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	21 Sep 10am
Understanding Anger	21 Sep 7pm
Autism: Improving Communication	22 Sep 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	22 Sep 7pm
FREE - Masking Awareness	24 Sep 7-8pm
Anxiety Explained	28 Sep 10am
School Anxiety	28 Sep 7pm

We're delighted to share Trans Pennine Trail's new **Kids Summer Activity Pack**, bursting with fun, family-friendly activities to help children stay active, creative and connected with nature during the summer holidays.

Featuring Mandy Mole, Hannah the Horse, Bob the Badger and their friends, the pack includes outdoor challenges, crafts, puzzles, colouring activities, a short adventure story and plenty of opportunities for children to explore the natural world while having fun.

Suitable for Key Stage 1 and 2 children, the free pack can be downloaded to a mobile device or printed at home, making it perfect for families at home, in the garden, at the park or out on the Trans Pennine Trail.

We would be grateful if you could share it with parents and carers through your newsletters, websites or social media channels.

The activity pack can be downloaded from our Children's Page, at: <https://www.transpenninetrail.org.uk/childrens-page/>