



# Hannah Ball Academy

## February 2026 Newsletter

### From The Principal's Desk

#### Celebrating Our Diverse and Inclusive Community at Hannah Ball Academy

At Hannah Ball Academy, we are proud to be a vibrant and diverse community where every child and family is valued and respected. Our school is a place where differences are celebrated, and every pupil is given the confidence, skills, and ambition to thrive in a modern, multicultural world.

Our school truly reflects the rich tapestry of cultures, languages, and experiences that make our community so unique and special. This diversity is a strength that enriches learning, broadens perspectives, and prepares our pupils to be thoughtful, respectful citizens.

Our school values: Honesty, Kindness, Respect, Responsibility, Resilience, and Curiosity, guide us in creating a safe, welcoming environment for all. These values underpin everything we do, reminding us that respect and kindness are at the heart of being part of the Hannah Ball family.

We understand that sometimes differences can be challenging, but it is through understanding and embracing diversity that we build stronger, more inclusive communities. We encourage all parents to join us in fostering a culture of tolerance and mutual respect, reflecting the British values that support cohesion and harmony.

Together, we can inspire and support our children to grow into confident individuals who appreciate and celebrate the richness of different cultures, backgrounds, and beliefs. Let's work hand in hand to ensure that Hannah Ball Academy remains a place where every child feels they belong and can achieve their full potential.

Thank you for being part of this wonderful community.



#### Mayor of High Wycombe Visits Hannah Ball Academy

On Friday, 27th February 2026, Hannah Ball Academy was honoured to welcome the Mayor of High Wycombe. Our Pupil Leaders warmly greeted His Worship, Cllr Majid Hussain, setting a positive tone for his visit.



The Mayor toured the school, visiting classrooms to observe the vibrant learning taking place. He engaged with pupils who enthusiastically shared their experiences and posed thoughtful questions, demonstrating their curiosity and confidence.

Cllr Hussain commended the dedication of our teaching staff, recognising Hannah Ball Academy as a warm, inclusive environment where every pupil is given the opportunity to thrive and achieve their full potential.



During a special assembly, the Mayor spoke to the children about core values essential for personal and community growth: respect, sustainability, determination, and the critical importance of regular school attendance. These messages resonate strongly with our ongoing commitment to fostering positive behaviour and engagement, which are key to improving outcomes for all pupils.

In a celebratory moment, this week's "Star of the Week" pupils and recipients of the Principal's Awards were proudly presented with their certificates by the Mayor, adding a memorable highlight to the assembly.

We are grateful for the Mayor's visit and his inspiring words, which reinforce our vision to create a supportive and ambitious learning community where every child can succeed.

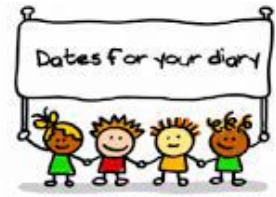
Mrs. Machingauta, Principal



# Hannah Ball Academy



We have had a staggering 134 children achieve their February wow badges today! Well done to everyone - this is our highest month yet! Keep walking, scooting or cycling to school!



Monday 2 March - Reception Height & Weight Checks by School Nursing Team

Friday 6th March - World Book Day

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March - Mental Health Support Team's Parent Workshop at 2:45pm

Wednesday 11th March - The Park Federation Young Musicians Event at Western House Academy

Thursday 12th March - Year 6 Football Match at Disraeli at 3:30pm

Friday 13th March - Reception Class Trip to The Union Baptist Church - Easter story

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> - Friday 20th March - Spring Assessment Week

Thursday 19th March - Year 6 Football Match at Kingswood School at 3:30pm

Friday 20th March - Class Photos

Tuesday 24th March - Attendance Stars Cinema Trip

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March - The Park Federation Boys' Football competition

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March - Last Day of Spring Term - School finishes at 1:30pm

education employers

**primary futures**  
is delighted to recognise

Hannah Ball School

as a

**bronze school**  
2026-2028

For raising aspirations through career related learning - inspiring pupils to discover the wide range of possibilities the world of work offers.

*Nick Chambers*  
Nick Chambers, CEO

We are thrilled to announce that we have been officially recognised as a Primary Futures Bronze School. This recognition is a testament to our commitment to broadening our pupils' horizons and connecting their learning to the world beyond the school gates.

This recognition means our school is excelling in early career-related learning. It celebrates the work we do to bring volunteers from the world of work into our classrooms, either in person or virtually, to inspire the next generation.

## Year 6 Boys Football Team Triumph in Friendly Match



On Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2026, our Year 6 Boys Football team showcased outstanding sportsmanship and resilience in a friendly match against Widmer End School. The team, consisting of Arhum, Dean, Abdul, Ilhan, Uzair, Yaman, Aarib, Oma, and Hashim, played with great determination and teamwork throughout the game.

It was a thrilling contest, with both teams demonstrating skill and fair play, but Hannah Ball emerged victorious with a final score of 2-1. This win reflects not only the team's talent but also their commitment to the values we hold dear—respect, responsibility, and resilience.

Well done to all the players for their excellent performance and for representing Hannah Ball Academy with pride.

Safer Internet Day: Smart Tech, Safe Choices This year's Safer Internet Day is 10 February and the theme is 'Smart Tech, Safe Choices Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI.' As technology becomes an everyday part of children's lives, it is important that we help them use it safely, responsibly and with confidence. Many primary-age children already interact with technology that uses artificial intelligence (AI), such as voice assistants, games, learning apps and online content recommendations. These tools can support learning, creativity and curiosity when used appropriately and with adult guidance. However, while AI can be helpful and engaging, it also presents risks that young children may not recognise. AI tools can sometimes provide inaccurate information, expose children to unsuitable content, or encourage them to trust what they see and hear too easily. Some platforms collect personal data, blur the line between what is real and computer-generated or present content in ways that feel friendly but are not designed with children's safety in mind. Without clear guidance, children may struggle to judge what is safe, making adult supervision and open conversations essential. From a safeguarding perspective, supporting children to make safe choices online is just as important as keeping them safe offline. When children feel informed, supervised, and able to talk openly about their online experiences, they are more likely to speak up if something worries them. Helping children understand boundaries, protect personal information and know where to seek help builds confidence and reduces vulnerability.

**AI**

**How parents/carers can support safe and responsible technology use**

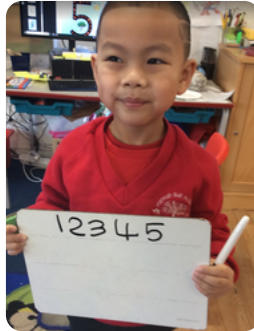
- Talk openly about technology and AI**  
 Use age-appropriate language to explain that some online tools are run by computers, not people and they can sometimes make mistakes.
- Encourage questions and curiosity**  
 Reassure your child that they can ask if something online feels confusing, upsetting or unclear.
- Reinforce safety messages**  
 Remind children never to share personal information, passwords or photos and to tell a trusted adult if something online worries them.
- Stay involved and supervise**  
 Know what your child is watching, playing or using. Sharing activities online helps guide safe choices.
- Set clear boundaries**  
 Agree screen-time limits, appropriate apps or games and where devices can be used. Consistent routines help children feel secure.

If you have any concerns about your child's online experiences, please speak to a member of school staff. Working together helps ensure children feel safe, supported and confident to make smart choices online.

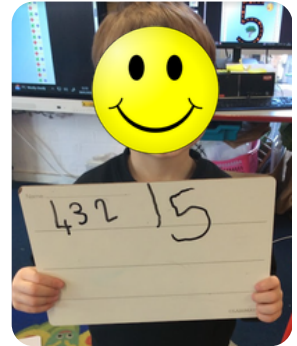
Our Designated Safeguarding Leads  
 are: Mrs Mawdia, Mrs Machingauta  
 and Miss Powell.

# Reception Highlights

February is a month of transition, and we are seeing that same shift in our learning. Children are beginning to apply their skills from literacy and maths lessons into their play.



We have been practising our number formation in Maths. Well done Erik and Jesse for practising their number formation on whiteboards.



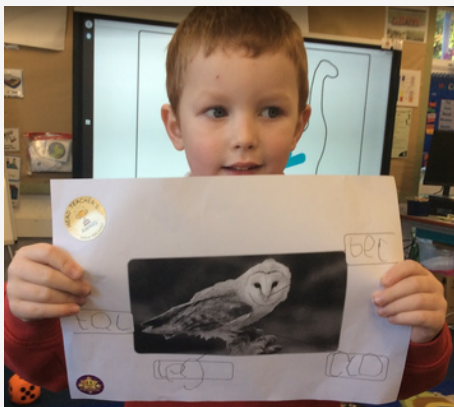
On 1st February, we had a visit from a police officer. He came to talk to us about safety in our local area. The children loved asking questions and sharing their experiences.

The children have been taking advantage of the sunshine and experimenting with objects that sink and float in our outdoor area.



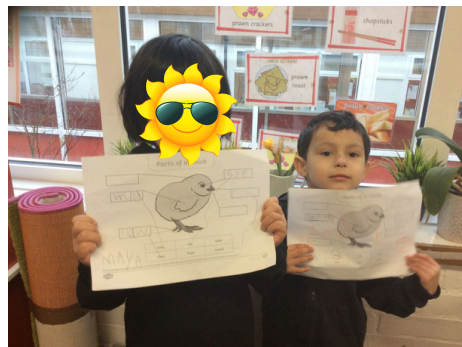
## Headteacher's Award

Well Done Liam for wowing us with your writing about birds during RSPBC BIRDWATCH Week.



Have you heard about our delivery?

On Monday 23rd, we had a delivery of eggs to our school. The children have absolutely loved watching the chicks hatch. We have had some incredible writing from the children inspired by the chicks. Well done Maya and Leonardo!

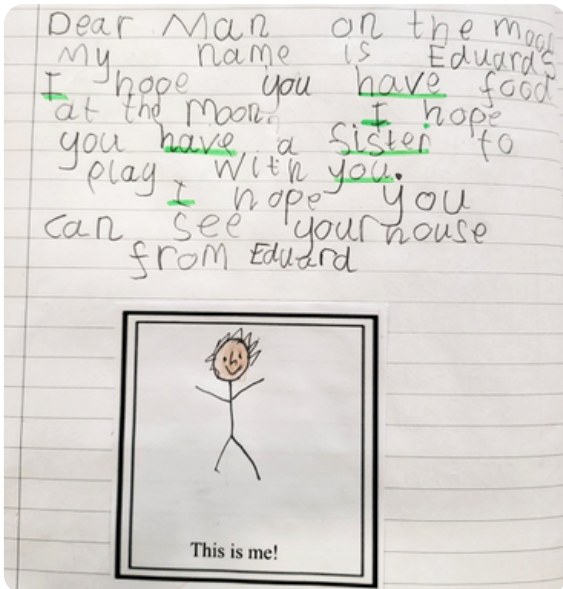


Thank you for your support this month. Please continue to read daily with your children and complete homework. We are seeing a big improvement in those that have been practising their reading and writing at home.

# Year 1 Highlights

Welcome back Year 1! All children have returned ready to learn and were keen to share all the wonderful things they did over the half term. Thank you for your support with your child's learning and routines.

In English this half term we are learning about Bob, the man on the moon. The children have shown high levels of fascination and interest in our English lessons. The quality of their writing and presentation is improving all the time and we are very proud of the efforts being made. Below are some examples of the English written tasks carried out.



Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2026:  
L.O. To explore vocabulary from our model text

ABC	1	TSC	LSA	Zz
Level of support	1	TSC	LSA	G / P

In today's lesson, we explored some of the vocabulary from our model text. We found out the meaning of them and came up with actions. We also looked at the sounds that are found in them and whether there are any patterns.

Below are teacher dictated sentences using some of these words.

I jumped into the big brown crater.  
The tourist went zoomin' to the dark moon.  
Unfortunately the speedy red rocket sank into soft ground.  
The man on the moon was full of mischief.

In PSHE children had the chance to work together on decorating a piece of work to conclude our topic on Dreams and Goals. They have demonstrated not only that they are respectful and kind towards each other, but also that they enjoy celebrating each other's achievements too.



Thank you for supporting your children to do their homework and practise their spellings for the weekly test. It is making a noticeable difference!




# Year 2 Highlights

The children have had an amazing month! We have been trying super hard in our reading and are excited to celebrate World Book Day. We have been curious in our learning and are developing skills to help us become super scientists – such as researching, exploring, grouping and observing.

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2026

LO: To write a speaking poem and generate new vocabulary




I am the lightning but I move the waves to tip over the pirate ship.

I am the waves and I make the waves like crazy.

I am the canon and I boom so loudly like the lightning.

I am the pirate and I am very good and mean to the people.

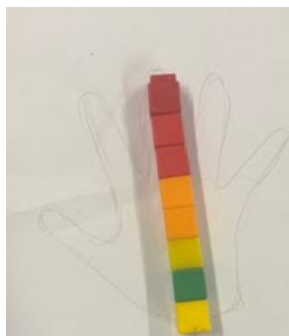
I am the sea and I float on water.



Our garden of dreams is....

"calm" -Zainab	"peaceful" -Tommy	"beautiful" -Eliya
"I feel happy and relaxed" -Ayah B	"We can hear birds singing" -Noah	

We are becoming confident writers in Year 2, and are always sharing fantastic ideas with each other. The children have been exploring pirates and discovering new vocabulary that they will use to write a journey tale. We have had an outstanding start to the new term and can't wait to continue.



# Year 3 Highlights

In our Baha'i Faith lessons, we explored the core question of what it truly means to be a good person. We looked at how Baha'is believe that every human is like a "mine rich in gems" and that being a good person involves polishing those inner gems through kindness, honesty and service to others. We also had a fascinating discussion about the "oneness of religion," noticing how many Baha'i beliefs mirror those in Christianity and Islam. For example, we compared how all three faiths teach the 'Golden Rule', treating others as you wish to be treated and emphasize the importance of prayer, charity and showing love to all of humanity.



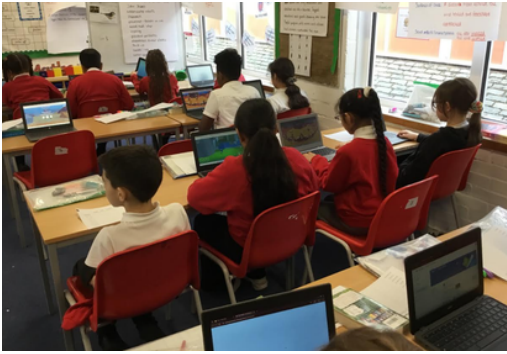
## Science: Light & Shadows

In Science, we investigated the fascinating world of light and shadows. We discovered that shadows are formed when an object blocks light but the size and shape of that shadow can change depending on how we move the objects. By moving a light source closer to an object, we saw the shadow grow much larger while moving it further away made the shadow smaller and sharper. We also explored how different materials, opaque, translucent, and transparent affect the darkness of a shadow and how the angle of the light can stretch a shadow out to be very long or shrink it down until it is almost gone.

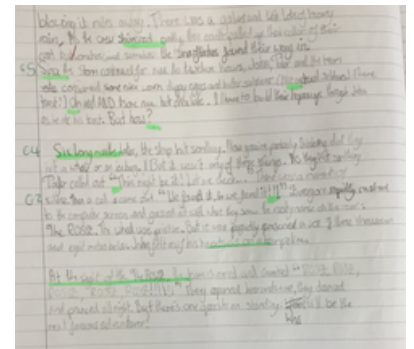
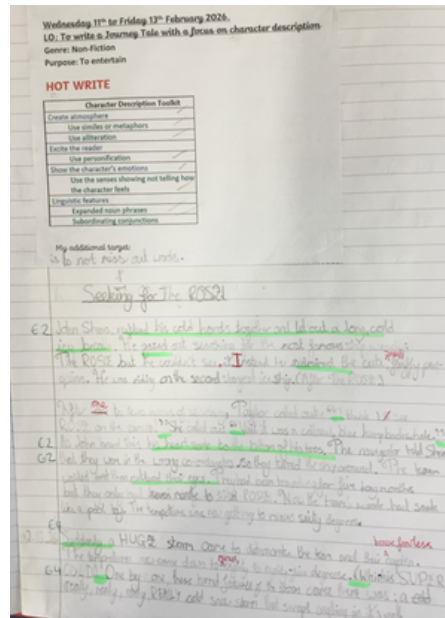


# Year 4 Highlights

We have had a great month in February, learning about different topics in Year 4. It has been an exciting month with National Storytelling week where children created their own raps about teleportation. We also had online safety day where children participated in activities based around keeping safe online. Year 4 have started litter picking during their lunch and break times to support our school's sustainability plan.



In English, we have come to the end of our text 'Shackleton's Journey'. The children have innovated their own pieces of writing based on 'Shackleton's Journey'. They have also completed their hot writes and come up with some amazing ideas which have been lovely to read. Children will now be starting a new text 'Secrets of a Sun King' all about Ancient Egypt.



Have a look at our writer of the term's piece of writing.

This month, our class achieved it's 50 class ticks and they chose for their reward a basketball afternoon. Well done Year 4! Let's continue working hard.

## Geography - Who lives in Antarctica?

In Geography, Year 4 have carried on with the topic 'Who lives in Antarctica?'. The children have been locating four-figure grid references on a map and planning the route Shackleton took to Antarctica. They have then created an expedition around school using N, E, S, W. They compared life in the UK to the life in Antarctica and we discussed different reasons as to why people may visit Antarctica.



We would like to say well done to all those who have been practicing their timetables and attending the weekly Timestables club. We are seeing improvements in the weekly MTC results with more students scoring 25/25. Thank you and please keep this up!

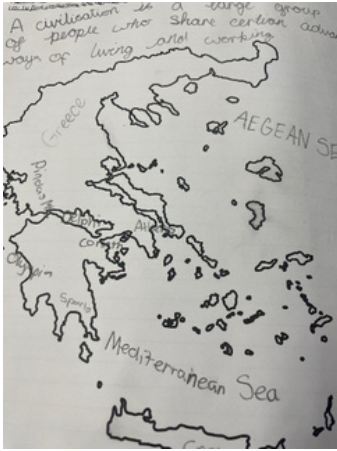
Continue to practice on: Maths frame TTRS [Timestables.co.uk](https://www.timestables.co.uk)

# Year 5 News

## Ancient Greece

This month we have started to study the Ancient Greeks, looking at what made them united. We have explored the geographical features of Greece and are starting to look at what made them a civilisation.

We are linking our study of the Greeks with our English, reading *Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan and writing Defeating the Monster tales about Medusa.



## Forces

In Science, we started our new unit on Forces, looking at the impact of gravity on unsupported objects. We experimented with paint, did cartwheels and threw balls in the air to see the effects of gravity, drawing conclusions after our investigation.



## Art

The children have been carrying on with their work on self-portraits and have produced some excellent line drawing and painted background for them to sit on.



# Year 6 News

What a spectacular month it has been for our Year 6 explorers! To enrich our Evolution and Inheritance science unit, we swapped the classroom for the iconic halls of the Natural History Museum in Central London. It was a day wonderfully filled with awe, discovery, and enough questions to keep a team of scientists (and the Year 6 teachers) busy for a decade!

Our journey began in the Dinosaur Gallery, where the children came face-to-face with the giants of the past. Seeing the intricate fossils of the Archaeopteryx and the sheer scale of the life-size animatronic T. rex sparked a flurry of brilliant questions about extinction and how animals adapt to their changing worlds.

In the Human Evolution exhibit, the children turned into detectives. They compared ancient skulls to our own, investigating how inherited traits have shifted over millions of years.

From the massive Blue Whale skeleton to the smallest forest creatures, the Mammals Gallery allowed the children to see the incredible life-size diversity of life on Earth. They were particularly fascinated by how different mammals from thousands of years ago have adapted to survive, while others went extinct.

## Natural History Museum Trip

Finally, we want to extend a huge thank you to Mrs Machingauta and all our parents. Whether you helped fund the trip or simply encouraged your child's excitement at home - this trip would not have been possible without you.

Seeing the children's faces light up as they connected their classroom learning to the real world was a reminder of why these experiences are so vital.

