NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 11/ JULY 2026

HANNAH BALL ACADEMY

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

3rd September
Start of Academic Year - All pupils (except Reception) in at 8:45am

7th September
Year 6 Parents Meeting

8th September
Year 6 (Secondary Selection) 11 plus Test Practice

8th September
Year 5 Parents Meeting

9th September
Year 1 Parents Meeting

10th September
Year 6 (Secondary Selection) 11 plus Test Practice

11th September
Year 4 Parents Meeting

14th September
Year 3 Parents Meeting

15th September
Year 2 Parents Meeting

16th September
Reception Parents Meeting

25th September
School Nurses - Flu Vaccinations

2nd October
School Photos

16th October
Kindness Workshop

19th - 23rd October
Scholastic Book Fair

20th Ctober
Parents' Evening

22nd October
Parents Evening

Principal's update

As we reach the end of the school year, we say goodbye with warm wishes to our Year 6 pupils – many of whom have been part of the Hannah Ball family since Reception. We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved and know their new secondary schools are gaining a thoughtful, resilient and curious cohort. Please stay in touch; we love hearing how our alumni settle into their next steps.

I am delighted to report strong outcomes this year. Our Year 6 pupils produced excellent end-of-key-stage SATs results. At Hannah Ball, once again our performance measures were above the national average and in many areas significantly so. Thank you to parents, staff and especially the children for the hard work and commitment that made this possible. We are also grateful to our Local Academy Council (school governors) for their continued support and challenge.

A few practical points for September

- School reopens on Thursday 3 September 2026. Children who do not attend on this date without good reason will be marked as unauthorised absence.
- Please ensure children return in the correct uniform. Our full uniform policy is available on the school website.

Wishing every member of our community a restful, safe and enjoyable summer. We look forward to welcoming you back refreshed and ready for another year of learning, curiosity and achievement.

Mrs. Machingauta

Attendance 2025-2026

Year 6 - 93.9%
Year 5 - 94.3%
Year 4 - 93.6%
Year 3 - 93.6%
Year 2- 93.5%
Year 1 - 92.8%
Year R - 90.9%

WOW Badges

We have had 120 children achieve their July wow badges! We have given out 1304 badges this academic year for walking, cycling or scooting to school! This initiative will continue next academic year. We cannot wait to see you all making your active journeys back to school in September. Keep moving over the summer and see you soon!

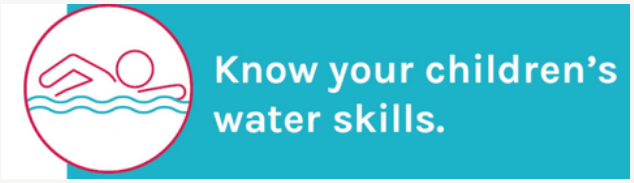
Safeguarding Sportlight

Helping children stay safe around water

As the weather gets warmer, many families spend more time outdoors and around water. Following several incidents involving people getting into difficulty in open water during recent heatwaves, now is a good time to think about how we can help children stay safe around water.

Why can water be so dangerous?

Many children are naturally drawn to water. They may see it as a place to play, cool down or explore. However, even water that appears calm and shallow can be dangerous. Rivers, lakes, reservoirs and canals often remain much colder than expected, even on hot days. Sudden immersion in cold water can cause panic and make it difficult to breathe or move



Teaching children about water safety

Children do not need to be frightened of water, but they do need to understand how to respect it. Simple messages can help children develop safe habits:

- always stay with a trusted adult near water
- never enter water without permission
- do not run near water
- never push or dare others to go into water
- wear appropriate safety equipment when needed, such as buoyancy aids
- follow signs and safety instructions.

Repeating these messages regularly helps children remember them when they are excited, distracted or playing with friends.

If a child gets into difficulty

The Royal Life Saving Society UK encourages people to remember that they should never enter the water to attempt a rescue. Instead:

- call 999 immediately
- encourage the child to float on their back if they are able
- throw something that floats if available
- seek help from a lifeguard or emergency services.

Trying to rescue someone by entering the water yourself can place more people at risk.

Reception Highlights

Sports Day

We would like to thank all the families who joined us for our Sports Day and family picnic on the bank. The children performed exceptionally well in every event, demonstrating fantastic effort and great sportsmanship. We are incredibly proud of their achievements and appreciate your support in making the day such a memorable occasion.

Library Trip

The children had a wonderful time during our recent visit to High Wycombe library, where they thoroughly enjoyed exploring the books. It was fantastic to see their growing enthusiasm for reading. As we approach the holidays, we highly encourage you to visit the library over the break to keep up this excellent reading momentum. Regular reading throughout the summer makes a big difference in maintaining your child's literacy skills and vocabulary ahead of the new academic year.

Balance Bikes

The children have had a wonderful time whizzing around the playground on the balance bikes, whilst learning all about important bike safety with Mrs Meeking. This valuable balance bike training will continue into the next academic year to further support their physical development and confidence.

We hope you have a wonderful summer holiday! We look forward to seeing you all in September ready for Year One.

Year 2 Highlights

What an incredible end to our Summer Term!

On Thursday 2nd July we were very lucky to take part in our Sports Day at Highcrest Academy. We had so much fun cheering on our friends and taking part in exciting activities and we were so proud of how everyone tried their best.

Our budding Year 2 Scientists have shown fantastic curiosity this year, nurturing some impressively tall broad beans. Here's hoping they are as delicious as they look!

To celebrate the National year of Reading we enjoyed a walk into town to visit our local library.

Have you signed up for your library card and started your summer reading challenge?

Year 3 2025-2026 Highlights

One of our absolute favourite memories from this year was our brilliant trip to the museum, where the children became real-world geologists for the day. This hands-on workshop brought our science curriculum to life in the most exciting way!

The children got their hands dirty sorting different types of rocks. They learned how to spot the difference between igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks.

We investigated what actually makes up the ground beneath our feet! The children loved separating soil layers and discovering how vital worms, decayed plants, and organic matter are to our ecosystem.

The absolute highlight was handling prehistoric fossils. The children learned how living things from millions of years ago became trapped in rock, leaving behind amazing clues about Earth's history.

Year 3 Visit to the Mosque

The children showed kindness and curiosity. We followed this with classroom activities to build on what the children had learnt. The trip expanded pupils' cultural experiences and gave them the ability to compare-and-contrast with other places of worship they may be familiar with.

Design & Technology: Pizza-making experience

Last week, Year 3 enjoyed a hands-on Design & Technology session making pizzas with their favourite toppings. The activity gave pupils a memorable, curriculum-linked experience that developed practical skills, healthy-eating knowledge and Oracy – all tied closely to our school values of curiosity, responsibility and resilience.

Year 4 Highlights

Well done to Year 4 who have had an amazing year, accomplishing some great achievements. We wish you all the best for Year 5!

This term we had our 50 class ticks celebration! As our treat, the children decided they would like to go to Rye Park. They were involved in some fun activities, including football and cricket. They had a fun time which was well deserved after all their hard work this year!

Sports day was an incredible success and it was great to see how the children got involved with all the activities. They had great team skills and were filled with resilience as they pushed themselves to be the best!

Year 4 visited High Wycombe library this week to enrich their love of reading. They really enjoyed visiting the library, meeting the librarian and looking at the vast amount of books, fiction and non-fiction. Over the summer holidays we are encouraging parents to take children to the library at least once a week!

Year 4 had another trip and were kindly invited to the Mosque. They really enjoyed getting to visit a place of worship and asked some great questions!

Year 5 2025–2026 Highlights

Year 5 has had a fantastic year, learning and developing lots of new skills. Highlights include our trip to the Tower of London, Geography field trips to the Rye Park, experiencing Garsington Opera, becoming better artists, representing Hannah Ball Academy at competitions and conducting a variety of science activities.

The Park Federation Athletics Competition

Ancient Greek Pottery

Getting Fit

Field Trip at the Rye

Garsington Opera Workshop

Tower of London Visit

Year 6 Highlights

What an absolutely unforgettable final month of the school year it has been! July has been a whirlwind of celebration, teamwork, and massive achievements. As we prepare to say our final goodbyes to this wonderful cohort, here is a look at how we wrapped up our year:

A Pantastic Production!

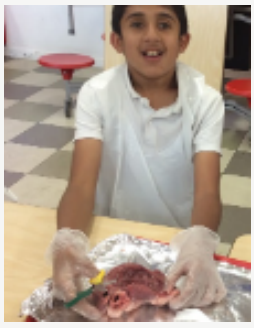
Our Year 6 production was a roaring success! The children performed pantastic–their energy, comic timing, and stage presence were incredible. All those hours of rehearsing lines and practicing songs completely paid off, and the children did an amazing job bringing the show to life. It was a real treat for everyone in the audience and a memory they will cherish for a long time.

Making Memories at PGL!

Alongside all our school-based celebrations, we also had a highly successful residential trip to PGL! The children had an absolute blast conquering new challenges, cheering each other on, and making fantastic, lifelong memories with their friends. It was the perfect way to celebrate their time together outside the classroom.

Entrepreneurial Success at Lark in the Park

We had a hugely successful Lark in the Park! The children blew us away with their fantastic entrepreneurial skills, managing their stalls with independence, confidence, and great enthusiasm. Thanks to their hard work and your brilliant support, we successfully raised a fantastic amount of money for ActionAid.



Budding Surgeons: Lamb Heart Dissections

To bring our final science curriculum unit to life, we rolled up our sleeves for some hands-on learning with lamb heart dissections. The children were fascinated to see the real-life valves and chambers of the heart that we had been studying in class. It was a brilliant, practical way to wrap up our science learning for the year!

A Note from Mrs Ballard

As this is our final newsletter, I want to say a huge thank you to all the parents and carers for your incredible support throughout this year. It has been an absolute privilege to teach this class. They have grown so much, and I wish them the very best of luck as they take their next big step into secondary school!

Have a wonderful, well-deserved summer break!

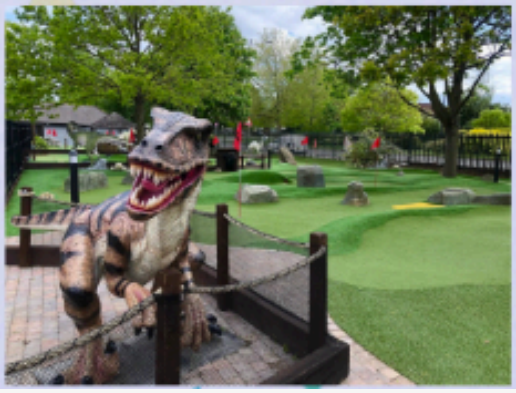
Have you tried these places in and around High Wycombe with your child?

Click on the place and it will take you to their website.

Let's Play at Wycombe Leisure Centre

Go Ape Wendover

Ninja Warrior



Maidenhead Mini Golf