



GREAT HOCKHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

NEWSLETTER - 17th April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Attendance

Weekly Attendance	Week Ending 13 th March	Week Ending 20 th March	Week Ending 27 th March	Week Ending 17 th April
Rabbit Class	94.5%	96%	94.5%	100%
Owl Class	97.2%	99.2%	98.8%	100%
Deer Class	98.9%	96.3%	98.2%	98.8%
Hedgehog Class	97.9%	94.2%	96.3%	96.5%

Welcome back to the summer term. I hope you all had a relaxing Easter holiday, making the most of the warmer weather. The children have returned to school exceptionally well this term, showing great focus and a real readiness to learn. We began with an assembly to share our expectations for the term ahead, encouraging all children to try their best, enjoy learning, and reach for the stars. The children themselves defined what “*reach for the stars*” means, linking it to resilience, effort, kindness and a positive attitude to learning and recognising the importance of challenging themselves to achieve highly.

Hilltop Residential Trip

The children were absolutely fantastic throughout the residential trip, demonstrating real determination and resilience from start to finish. They pushed themselves beyond their comfort zones and embraced every opportunity, taking part in a wide range of activities including the Big Zipper, the Tree Top Trail, bushcraft skills and rock pooling.

The Big Zipper was one of the most exhilarating challenges of the trip. After being safely harnessed in, the children climbed to the launch platform, taking in the height and the sweeping view before bravely stepping forward for their ride. As they zipped across the course at speed, their excitement was unmistakable — a mix of adrenaline, laughter and pure joy.

What stood out just as much as their courage was the way they supported one another. Those waiting their turn offered steady encouragement, cheering on friends who felt nervous and celebrating every successful ride. The sense of teamwork and mutual reassurance created a brilliant atmosphere, and it was wonderful to see the children lift each other up as they took on such a thrilling challenge.

During the bushcraft session, the children embraced the challenge of learning essential outdoor skills. They worked carefully to build and light a small fire, discovering how to use natural materials safely and responsibly. Once the flames were crackling, they delighted in toasting marshmallows together — a simple moment that brought plenty of smiles. The group also had great fun designing and constructing their own mini dens, experimenting with different structures and problem-solving as a team. Their creativity, cooperation and sense of adventure made the whole experience a real highlight.

During rock pooling, the children thoroughly enjoyed exploring the shoreline at West Runton, carefully searching for marine life and learning about the fascinating creatures and habitats they discovered. Their curiosity, teamwork and enthusiasm were a pleasure to see, and it was wonderful to watch them share their findings, ask thoughtful questions and work together to uncover the hidden wonders of the coast.

Their enthusiasm, teamwork and positive attitudes shone through in every challenge. We were incredibly proud of the way they supported one another, tackled new experiences with confidence, and represented the school so brilliantly.

A huge thank you to Miss House, Mrs Hayes and Miss Gaskin for their hard work, energy and care throughout the residential trip. Their encouragement, organisation and good humour helped make every activity run smoothly and ensured the children felt supported, safe and confident as they took on new challenges. The trip simply wouldn't have been the same without their dedication and enthusiasm, and we are incredibly grateful for everything they did.

Friends of Great Hockham

Welcome Back! 🌸

The Friends would like to give everyone a big, warm welcome back after the Easter half term! We hope your break was filled with fun, chocolate, and maybe even a visit from the Easter Bunny.

Thank You! ❤️

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who joined us at the Easter Fayre — we hope you had an egg-stra special time! Thanks to your amazing support, we raised a fantastic **£413**, which will go towards making the children's upcoming **enrichment days** even more exciting. 🎉

We'd also like to give a special shout-out to **P G Repairs, RT Decorating Services, and Fabian R Eagle, The Poultry Auctioneers** for their incredibly kind support. Their generous donations of chocolate Easter eggs (yum!) and a monetary contribution helped make the event such a success.

Help Us Brighten the Playground! 🎨

We're on a colourful mission to bring our playground back to life! We're currently raising funds to purchase paint for the blacktop and would love your help. If you, or someone you know (local businesses included!), would like to contribute, please get in touch at friendsghps@outlook.com.

❤️ Thank you, as always, for your continued support — we couldn't do it without you! We're excited for all the fun and fundraising still to come this year to create even more memorable experiences for the children.

Red Nose Day – Comic Relief

Thank you to everyone who contributed towards Comic Relief, which raises money to help people facing poverty and inequality in the UK and across the world. We raised an amazing £143. The funds raised will support vital projects, including helping families access food, keeping children safe, improving health and wellbeing, and creating opportunities for a better future. We are proud to support such an important cause.

Dates for your Diary

April

Tuesday 21st April: Swimming for Deer Class begins

Thursday 23rd April: Class photos

May

Monday 4th May: Bank Holiday

Monday 11th May – Thursday 14th May: Year 6 KS2 Statutory Assessment Tests

Friday 15th May: Mini Monsters Visit the school

Monday 18th May: Homework due in

Tuesday 19th May: Hedgehog Class Homework Celebration

Wednesday 20th May: Deer Class Homework Celebration

Thursday 21st May: Owl Class Homework Celebration

Thursday 21st May: RE Enrichment Day

Friday 22nd May: Rabbit Class Homework Celebration

Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May: Half term

Have a lovely weekend,

Best Wishes

Lisa Hazard

Mrs L Hazard