



## HALE PREP SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2025



With all the junior classes and many of the teachers away from school this week for the residential trips, there have been no award assemblies.

### ATTENDANCE

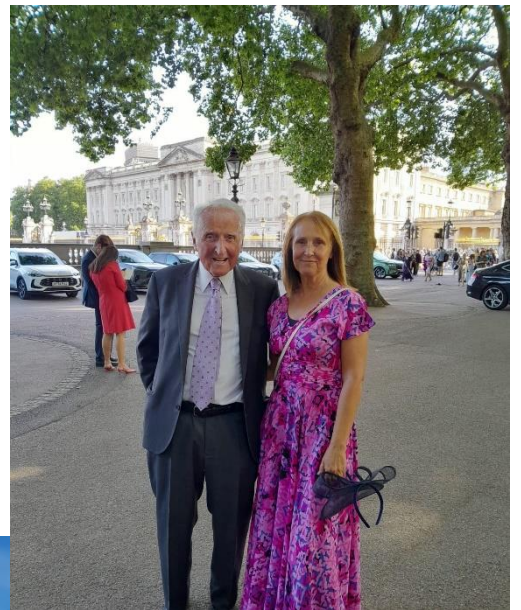
Congratulations to Reception and Year 3K.  
Both classes achieved 100% attendance this week.

### LOOK WHO MET THE QUEEN!



On Wednesday, Mr Connor Snr and Mrs Busby attended a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. Mr Connor had been invited to the occasion in recognition and celebration of his services to education, and Mrs Busby was lucky enough to accompany him as his guest!

A wonderful day was had, with the icing on the cake being when Queen Camilla made a beeline for Mr Connor – who could blame her!! 😊





## PLAYTIME VISITORS

Thank you to the Gillespie family for bringing some lambs to school last week, Wednesday, 7th May. They also brought Gizmo, a small sheep the family saved at birth, who has now had her own healthy lamb. The children saw the lambs up close, gave them some milk, and listened intently as Mr Gillespie explained how their school jumpers were made from the sheep's coat!



## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE – NEW LEGISLATION

As advised in last week's newsletter, we can no longer authorise requests for absence during term time, unless in exceptional circumstances. This means you will receive the following rejection message when you put your request in via the app. "Thank you for letting us know about the leave of absence you have requested for \*\*\*\*\*. Independent schools are no longer permitted to authorise leave of absence for holidays, and unfortunately, the DfE instructs us to record this as unauthorised."

## WELCOME!

Seven eggs arrived in Reception on Tuesday, and five had hatched by today. Welcome to Jet, Steve, Splat, Badger, and Freddie.





## SPORTS DAY TUESDAY 20TH MAY: INFANTS 10:30 – 11:30, JUNIORS 1:45 – 2:45.

The races will start promptly on Tuesday, at the times above. A reminder to spectate from behind the perimeter of the hockey pitch at Bowdon. Please wear trainers if you plan to run in the parents' race.

The PTA is kindly providing each child with a bottle of water on the day. School caps may be worn. Sun cream should be applied before school.

The back gate will be open (we hope) to ease congestion, and the club refreshment bar adjacent to the hockey pitch will be open and manned so that parents can buy refreshments from the club.



**JUNIOR PARENTS** – please remember to let us know if you will not be taking your junior child/children home straight from Bowdon Cricket Club.

## TUESDAY CLUBS

This is a reminder that there will be no after-school clubs on Tuesday following sports day, with the exception of Jam Coding Club, which is an external club, so it will take place, and the after-school wrap-around care club.

## STAFF SPORTS INTERVIEW

This week's interview is with Mrs Knowles.

### 1. What are your memories of Primary school PE like? What activities did you do?

*My memories of primary school PE are playing netball and I loved getting the apparatus out in the hall for gymnastics. PE was my favourite lesson and I felt very proud when I won the PE prize in year 6. One lasting memory, however, was coming last in the egg and spoon race at Sports Day. I was very competitive and didn't like this event because I kept dropping the egg!*

### 2. Did you go to school with anyone who went on to play sport at an elite level?

*I went on to compete in athletics at an elite level, running on the track and over cross country for Great Britain.*

### 3. What has been your greatest sporting achievement?

*My greatest sporting achievement was winning the 1500m at the UK Championships at Crystal Palace in 1993.*



### 4. Have you ever played with/ against or taught anyone who has gone on to make a living from sport?

*I used to compete and go on athletics trips with Kelly Holmes who went onto win two gold medals at the Olympics. We were on the GB under 23 squad together and she went on to make a living from sport.*

5. How do you keep fit and healthy now?

*I go on lots of dog walks and I do Pilates and yoga to keep fit today. I would love to run still but have a lot of problems with my Achilles.*

6. What would be your best piece of advice for children about sport and being healthy?

*I would definitely advise all children to find a sport they find fun and to get involved. There are so many different activities available that everyone can find something they're good at and enjoy. I tried lots of sports when I was younger and didn't focus on athletics until I was 16. Not only is sport good for your fitness and mental health, but it's also a great place to meet new friends. If you are lucky enough to compete at an elite level, it's really exciting getting all the new kit and travelling round the world. I think with hard work and commitment, anything is possible - reach for the moon, even if you fall short, you'll land among the stars!*

### REMINDERS FOR NEXT WEEK

Year 1 Family Assembly – Monday 19<sup>th</sup> at 08:50 – 09:10

Year 5 Family Assembly – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> 08:50 – 09:10

Year 1 Seaside Workshop Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> – at school, full day

Year 4 Trip – Trip to Ordsall Hall, Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>

Year 4 Trip – Morning trip to Buddhism Centre, Manchester

### RESIDENTIAL TRIPS FOR YEARS 3, 4, 5 & 6

This week, the junior children have been on their residential trips. Year 3 spent two days at The Anderton Centre, near Chorley, and Years 4, 5, and 6 spent three days at Winmarleigh Hall, near Preston. They have all had a fantastic time – climbing, raft building, problem solving, the giant swing, zip wiring, bushcraft, den building, and marshmallow toasting – with beautiful blue skies and gorgeous sunshine every day!









