

New Year Message for 2026

As we begin 2026, we extend our sincere appreciation to all parents for their ongoing generosity and steadfast support. Your commitment plays an essential role in strengthening our community and enhancing the experiences we provide throughout the year.

We look forward to a productive and inspiring year ahead, marked by a number of significant events and projects that will further enrich our shared work. Your partnership remains invaluable as we continue to pursue excellence in all that we do.

We wish you and your families a prosperous, healthy, and fulfilling New Year.

Global Immersive Programme with Fangcaodi International School



We were delighted to host 40 students and 5 staff from Fangcaodi International School, Beijing, from 24–28 November 2025. Throughout the week, our Year 6 pupils and their visiting peers learned together, built friendships, and developed key skills in language, confidence, independence, and cultural understanding.

Students took part in a rich mix of lessons, activities, and collaborative projects, ending the week with a joyful celebration of dance, drama, and music. We were honoured to welcome Father Lincoln, who presented Completion Certificates, along with special guests Rachel Blake, MP, and Professor Hayward from the University of Cambridge.

It was a memorable week that strengthened global connections and created lasting experiences for all involved.

Level Up! Workshop

Parents joined us on 23 January for the *Level Up!* workshop, led by our Educational Psychologist, Dr Carmen Li. The focus of *Level Up!* is to help children regulate their energy levels and access meaningful strategies that make sense from their own perspective, enabling them to navigate their day more successfully.

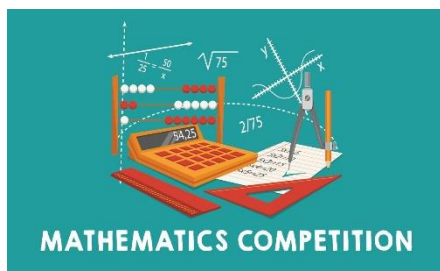
We're grateful to all the families who attended and helped strengthen the home-school partnership that underpins student success.

Cultural Performance Showcase – Sino-British Youth People-to-People Exchange Camp

On February 3 our school orchestra is participating in the Cultural Performance of the *Sino-British Youth People-to-People Exchange Camp*. This special event is organised by the China Centre for International People-to-People Exchange (CCIPLE) of the Ministry of Education of China, together with the Association of Education and Technology (AET).

To celebrate this meaningful occasion, our school orchestra and choir will present a specially curated programme of music highlighting themes of mutual understanding, cultural dialogue, and friendship between young people from both nations. We look forward to supporting our students as they represent our school on an international stage and contribute to this inspiring cultural exchange.

The National Mathematics Championship



The National Mathematics Championship is an exciting way to challenge pupils' mathematical ability, speed and mental agility and offers a unique platform for the most able young mathematicians to showcase their abilities.

The Championship reinforces team work and boosts confidence, testing mental dexterity, accurate question comprehension and speed of calculation. Challenging teams to solve quick fire calculations, using logical thinking to work out more complex problems, testing and extending their knowledge of time, measurement, money, fractions, decimals, percentages, geometry and algebra all in a thrilling live event.

Twelve of our Year 6 pupils worked brilliantly in their teams as they took part in this exciting challenge. Their first heat on 21st January was a real showcase of teamwork, determination and creativity and they approached every task with enthusiasm. It was wonderful to see them supporting one another and rising to the occasion with such confidence. We are incredibly proud of how well they performed and look forward to seeing them continue to shine in the next stages of the competition.

French Teacher Trainee Internship

We were delighted to welcome two trainee French teachers from Côte d'Azur University as part of our global partnership initiative. During their two-week stay, they were working alongside our staff and gaining hands-on classroom experience. This is an opportunity that strengthens our international connections and enriches learning across our school community.

DG Goeka High Partnership Initiative International Collaboration Update

Our Courageous Advocates are beginning an exciting partnership with GD Goenka High School, Gurugram in India as part of the Recognition of an International Dimension in Schools (RIDS) initiative.



This collaboration will enable pupils from both schools to:

- Exchange ideas on sustainability
- Learn from one another's environmental practices
- Work together on shared eco-projects

This term, the Courageous Advocates will build on their work in composting food waste, exploring how international cooperation can strengthen sustainable habits and environmental impact. We look forward to seeing this global partnership grow.

PTA Movie Night – A Wonderful Success

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the PTA for organising such an enjoyable and well-run movie night. The event was a tremendous success and brought together families from across our school community in a welcoming and positive atmosphere. It was especially delightful to

see so many children in attendance, all clearly having a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

We are grateful for the PTA's continued dedication and hard work in creating memorable experiences for our students and their families. Events like this strengthen our sense of community and highlight the invaluable role the PTA plays in school life.

Junior Citizenship Scheme – Year 6

Our Year 6 pupils took part in the Junior Citizenship Scheme, an engaging programme designed to help them develop the confidence and practical skills they need as they move towards secondary school.

Through a series of interactive, scenario-based workshops delivered by trained facilitators and local agencies, our children learnt about safe travel, emergency responses, responsible behaviour, digital safety, and the role of community services such as police, fire safety teams, and transport staff.

The programme is designed to strengthen personal safety, build confidence in navigating public spaces, and encourage thoughtful decision-making, ensuring that children are well-equipped to take on the increased responsibilities that come with the next stage of their education. Furthermore, it was enjoyed by everyone!



CONFIRMATION CLASSES: SUMMER TERM 2026

Fr Lincoln will be running Confirmation Classes here in school during the summer term. Classes will run on Wednesdays, 3.30pm – 4.30pm, on the following four dates.

- Wednesday 20 May, 3.30pm-4.30pm
- Wednesday 3 June, 3.30pm-4.30pm

- Wednesday 10 June, 3.30pm-4.30pm
- Wednesday 17 June, 3.30pm-4.30pm

These classes will prepare children for a very special service at 10.30am on Sunday 5th July at the Church of the Annunciation. We are delighted that The Rt Revd Rob Wickham will confirm candidates at our parish Mass.

If your child is in years 5 or 6 and interested in exploring whether to take this next step in the Christian faith, please email Fr Lincoln at iharvey@hampdengurney.co.uk by Friday 6th March. He will then send through further details and guidance. Thank you.

Upcoming dates:

All upcoming dates can be found on our school website here:

<https://www.hampdengurneyschool.co.uk/hg-events/>

13 Feb Last day of term

23 Feb Staff Inset day

18 Mar PTA Walkathon

25 Mar Parents Evening

27 Mar Last day of term

13 Apr First day of term

12 Jun Sports Day

26 Jun PTA Auction

3 Jul Lion King performance

10 Jul PTA Summer Bop

20 Jul Last day of school year