

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the Summer Term. I hope you and your families enjoyed a restful and refreshing Easter break, and that the children have returned ready for an exciting final term of learning, creativity and growth.

This term is always a special one in the school year. It brings a renewed sense of energy as pupils consolidate their learning, take on new challenges and prepare for the next stage of their educational journey. Across the school, teachers have planned a rich and engaging curriculum that will stretch pupils academically while nurturing their confidence, curiosity and sense of responsibility as effective learners.

We are also looking forward to a number of key events this term, including performances, educational visits, sports activities, fundraising events, school musical, residential journeys, international immersive programmes and celebrations of pupils' achievements. These occasions are an important part of school life, giving children opportunities to showcase their talents, collaborate with others and take pride in their progress.

Global Initiative and Partnerships

It has been a privilege to be invited to participate as a guest panellist at the 2026 International Basic Education Collaboration & Innovation Conference in Shenyang. As a designated UNESCO Global Learning City, Shenyang is at the forefront of reimagining how we teach and learn. This year's conference explored how high-tech classroom tools such as AI, alongside community learning and lifelong learning pathways, can create more engaging, inclusive and globally connected educational environments.



A central theme was the importance of international collaboration and exchange in preparing young people for an increasingly interconnected world. These partnerships offer a clear roadmap for the skills our pupils will need to thrive—creativity, cultural intelligence, adaptability and the ability to work confidently across borders to advance global innovation in education.



During my time in China, I also had the opportunity to visit several outstanding schools in both Beijing and Shenyang. These visits were deeply inspiring. I observed classrooms where creativity, discipline and joy in learning sit side by side; where pupils confidently navigate bilingual learning environments; and where technology, the arts and global citizenship are woven into everyday practice. Many of the approaches we saw resonate strongly with our own values at Hampden Gurney—particularly the emphasis on curiosity, collaboration and preparing children for a rapidly changing world.



Alongside the conference, I met with senior leaders from our long-standing partner school, Fangcaodi International School in Beijing. Our discussions focused on strengthening our existing collaboration and exploring new opportunities for pupils to learn together across cultures. We reflected on the success of previous joint projects and agreed that the next step in our partnership should be a more immersive, first-hand experience for pupils in both countries.



With this in mind, we are exploring the possibility of a reciprocal student exchange programme between Hampden Gurney and Fangcaodi International School for 2026-2027 Yr 6 cohort. This would build on our shared commitment to global learning and provide pupils with a unique opportunity to experience school life, culture and family life in another global city.

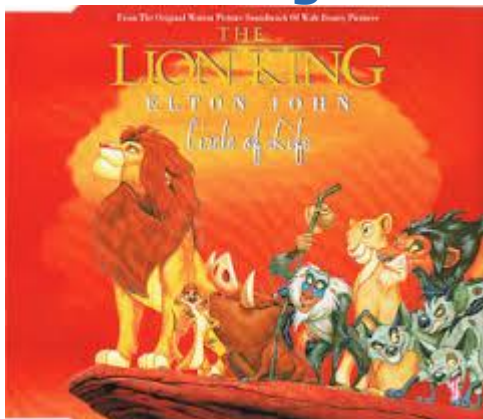


These exchanges are not simply travel opportunities—they are powerful learning experiences that nurture cultural intelligence, independence, empathy and global awareness. They help children develop the mindset and skills needed for a future-ready citizenship, where they can confidently collaborate across borders and contribute to a more connected and peaceful world.



Please see link to access further coverage of this international summit and visit: [Mrs Chua's trip to China April 2026](#)

Fundraising Musical: The Lion King



Full rehearsals for our whole-school musical production of The Lion King will begin with earnest this term. This is one of our most ambitious creative projects which will involve over 70 pupils, bringing together music, drama, dance, art, design and technical production across the school. It will be a joyful celebration of our pupils' talent, teamwork and imagination — but it is also a major undertaking that will require the collective support of our parent community.

To ensure the production is a success, we are inviting parents to contribute in a number of ways, including:

- Financial contributions to help cover staging, lighting, sound and specialist materials
- Costume and prop-making, particularly for the iconic animal characters and ensemble scenes
- Catering support for performance evenings
- Ticket sales
- Publicity and promotion, helping us share the event across our community

Your involvement — whether through time, expertise or resources — will make an enormous difference. More information about volunteer roles, rehearsal schedules and contribution options will be shared in the coming days.

Key Stage 2 SATs – Supporting Our Year 6 Pupils

Our Year 6 pupils and staff have been working exceptionally hard in preparation for the KS2 SATs taking place at the beginning of May. Their diligence, focused determination and sustained effort have been evident throughout the year, and we are confident that these qualities will serve them well as they approach their statutory assessments with positivity and self-belief.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to all colleagues who have contributed to the teaching and learning of this cohort over the years. We are also deeply grateful to our parents and carers, whose quiet encouragement and steady support make such a meaningful difference to the children's readiness and confidence.

Most importantly, we commend our Year 6 pupils for their inspired resilience, commitment and impressive work ethic. They continue to embody the values of Hampden Gurney, approaching challenges with maturity and determination.

As a school community, we will continue to keep them in our thoughts and prayers, wishing each of them every success in their forthcoming examinations.



Fundraising Bake Sale – A Huge Thank You to Our Community

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all our parents, and especially to the members of the PTA, for their tireless fundraising efforts in support of the school and the children's education. We are incredibly fortunate to have such dedicated and generous families whose commitment enables us to continue providing the very best educational experiences for all our pupils.

Our recent Bake Sale was a wonderful success, filled with creativity, community spirit and an impressive array of delicious treats. This event raised an amazing £1,700, and we are deeply grateful to everyone who contributed so generously.

EARLY YEARS

1st Place: Joao (N) & Miguel (Y2)

2nd Place: Zoe (R)

3rd Place: Devin (R)

KEY STAGE 1

1st Place: Bea (Y3)

2nd Place: Vanessa (Y1)

3rd Place: Alex R (Y1)

KEY STAGE 2

1st Place: Alba & Arielle (Y5)

2nd Place: Milly (Y5)

3rd Place: Alisa (Y4)

A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Alongside our prize-winning bakes, we have some incredible treats ready for you thanks to the generous support of:

- * Banh (Barbican)
- * Buns From Home (Baker Street)
- * Daisy Green (Seymour Street)
- * Gail's (Seymour Place)
- * HoneyPie Bakery (Marylebone Farmers' Market)
- * Krispy Kreme Fundraising
- * Lola's Cupcakes
- * Marks and Spencer
- * Noor Supermarkets (Edgware Road)
- * Ottolenghi
- * The After School Cookie Club

And most importantly, the family bakers at Hampden Gurney!!!

Attendance and Punctuality



We are delighted that our Attendance and Punctuality figures remain strong! Setting good attendance patterns from an early age, from nursery through primary school will also help your child later on in their life. **Thank you to all our families** for working with us to have our children in school and on time to support their education. Every minute matters!

Upcoming:

PTA Mini Marathon, fundraising event, Friday 24 April

Get your running shoes on! We are delighted to be joining the Mini London Marathon!

On the day of the mini marathon children should come to school in full uniform in the morning. Please ensure your child brings their PE kit and trainers to get changed for the event in the afternoon. Also remember weather appropriate clothing: sunscreen and hats in good weather and a rain coat for bad weather. The PTA will be grateful for any parent volunteers, so please let the school office know if you are happy to lend a hand.

Parents, siblings extended family (everyone except the office ladies!!) are welcome to join us! Do let us know if you are coming [here](#).

And finally, if you need extra sponsorship forms, please collect them from the school office.

Dates for your calendars:

*All our school dates can be found on the **EVENTS** page of our website [HERE](#)*