Henry's Herald

6th November 2026

Headteachers update!

A very warm welcome back to all of our pupils, parents and staff as we begin a new school term. I hope you all enjoyed a restful break.
I wish everyone a happy Bonfire Night this weekend. Keeping you all safe is important to us.

Please read the guide on safety, provided by skillbasefirstaid.com, by accessing the link below.

Read the Bonfire Night first aid guide

Mrs Hope
Headteacher

WOW AWARDS

Each week we present the children with their "Worker Of The Week" awards, in assembly.

These are awarded for outstanding work, effort and going above and beyond.

Congratulations to this weeks winners.

Well done to you all for working so hard for your awards.

Dates for the diary

- Sunday 8th November
  Remembrance Day
- Wednesday 11th November - Armistice Day
- Tuesday December 1st
  Santa Run - Higham Market Square - Time TBC
- Friday 4th of December - School Christmas Fayre
  3.00-4.30pm

DATES FOR DIARY NOW AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE

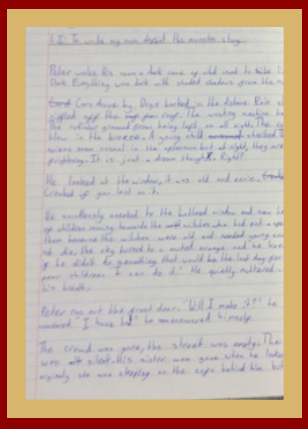
CURRICULUM WRITING

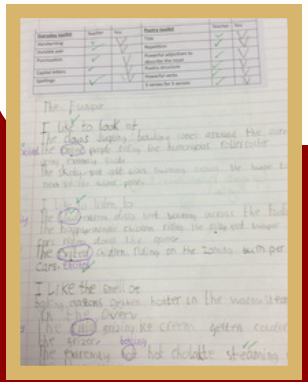
This term each year group is focusing on a different genre within their T4W journey.

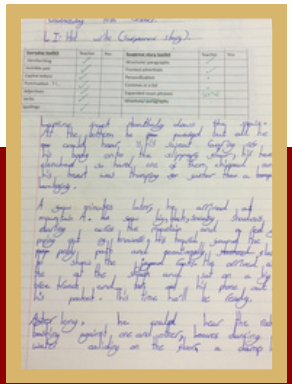
Talk for Writing has a real impact in school. It is powerful because it is based on the principles of how children learn, enabling them to imitate the language they need for a particular topic orally, before reading and analysing it, and then writing their own version.

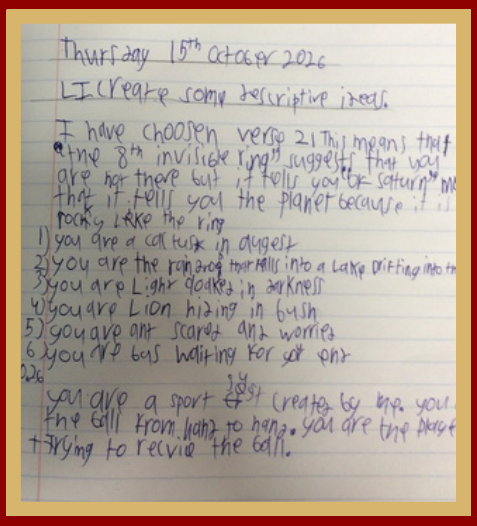
The Talk for Writing techniques motivate the pupils, so that they automatically read what they have written and discuss whether it sounds good – transforming the way they write.

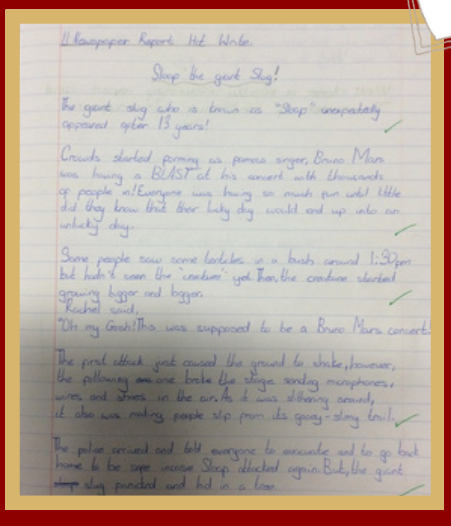
At the end of each term, the pupils will complete a 'Hot Write' which demonstrates the skills they have learned during the course of the previous term. We have included an example from each year group to demonstrate the range of writing we are achieving.

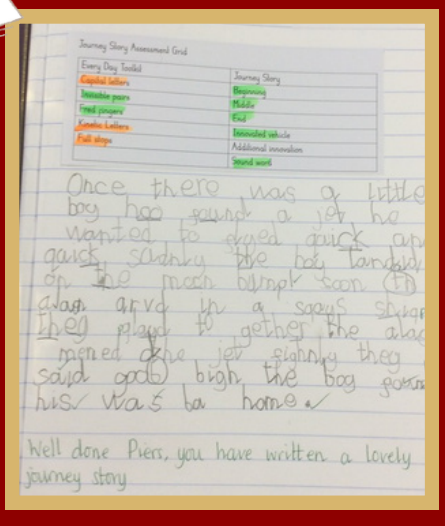












ANNOUNCEMENTS

MY CHRISTMAS WISH TOY APPEAL

🎄 My Christmas Wish Toy Appeal – Let's Make Christmas Magical!

We are delighted to announce that Henry Chichele Primary School will once again be supporting the My Christmas Wish Toy Appeal, now in its 12th year!

The appeal aims to bring a little extra Christmas magic to local families who may be facing difficult times, ensuring that every child has something special to open on Christmas Day.

Last year, the appeal reached approximately 147 families, with 314 children each receiving a bag of Christmas presents. This year, we would love to help make an even bigger difference!

We are inviting our wonderful school community to get involved by donating a new toy or gift to help spread some festive cheer. Every donation, no matter how big or small, will make a difference and help put a smile on a child's face this Christmas.

Please bring your contributions into school by the deadline, which will be confirmed shortly (date TBC).

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support. By coming together as a school community, we can help make Christmas a little brighter for local children and families who need it most.

Let's make this Christmas one to remember! 🎁

MY CHRISTMAS WISH REPORT 2025

11TH YEAR!

Wow, each year we are more blessed and amazed by the kindness of so many people and organisations who are determined to demonstrate how much they care for others, wanting to make sure that local children have Christmas presents. We are very grateful that once again we were able to use the premises of the Phoenix Resource Centre to store all the collected toys, meaning that we could spend more time during the week unpacking, sorting and choosing gifts for the each child at a more leisurely, better organised pace.

SO IN CHRISTMAS 2025 WE SUPPORTED: 147 FAMILIES

- **A bag of presents** *(for each child: a main present, a soft toy, a book, a selection box, a board game for each family, plus a few little things and sometimes knitted items/clothes age appropriate)* were delivered to a total of **314 children!**
- **In addition 83 x £10 Primark vouchers were given to children 11 years and over, coming from monetary donations received of £1315,** amazing!
- Many thanks to **Nicky Wilson and her Mum Carol Dallas** who had been knitting all year for us and produced the most beautiful knitted sets of clothes for babies and toddlers, gift wrapped in cellophane and gift bags complete with selection boxes and sets of baby toiletries. They were stunning and very much appreciated.
- **Rushden Salvation Army and High Street Wesleyan Church** donated all the toys from their annual Toy Services this year, adding to those donated in our drop-off points.
- **Rushden & Irthlingborough Libraries plus Simpson and Weekley Estate Agents (Rushden & Wellingborough offices)** were drop-off points for donations, thanks for all concerned.
- **4-Mation Fitness and Denfield School** also collected and donated toys
- **147 Free Family Swim Vouchers** were provided by Freedom Leisure to use Splash Pool, Rushden
- **8 Christmas Dinner Hampers** were also delivered, this year on 23th December, donated by a very caring group of people who wish to remain anonymous. What an amazing job they do, providing a stunning array of high quality locally sourced food items, not to mention additional lovely treats, all tailored to the size of the family they were given to.
- **Baby Basics** - based in Wollaston/Northampton who support struggling new mums. Surplus baby, knitted clothes and toiletries were delivered.
- **Surplus gifts** - some were distributed to late referrals and also Phoenix Resource Centre were able to add some of the leftover toys to shipments going to schools in Africa.

WE NETWORKED WITH:

- **Local churches, schools, health visitors, businesses, East Northants Child Contact Services (CIC), Service Six, Daylight Centre** and anonymous donors.

We are so grateful for everyone who helped in any way and for the people of Rushden and the area who were once again so generous in donating the most beautiful gifts for us to pass on. Each year we are even more amazed and awestruck by all that is achieved. We have so many stories that we can share with you about people's responses of gratitude and tears when we visit. We are especially grateful to the army of volunteers who helped us choose and deliver on the day to so many, we couldn't do this without you.

Christmas 2026 planning is very much under way, see you there!

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you so much!

Mark and Danielle Weekley *(Wesleyan Church and Simpson and Weekley Estate Agents)*

Jeanette Maddams *(Wesleyan Church and East Northants Child Contact Services – CIC)*

Organised by: Independent Wesleyan Church (Charity No: 1132251) In association with Simpson & Weekley Estate Agent and East Northants Child Contact Services CIC

WES Church | East Northants Child Contact Services-cic | Simpson & Weekley

Remembrance Sunday

As we approach Remembrance Day, we take time as a school community to pause, reflect and remember all those who have served our country and helped to protect the freedoms we enjoy today.

Remembrance is an important opportunity to teach our children about courage, kindness, respect and the value of peace. It helps us understand why we wear poppies, lay wreaths and observe a moment of silence, showing our gratitude and respect for those who have done so much for others.

This year, two of our pupils will have the special honour of laying wreaths, while two more will share poems of remembrance. We are very proud of our children as they take part in these meaningful acts, helping our school community to reflect on the importance of remembering together.

EVENTS & CLUBS IN THE COMMUNITY

HENRY'S FRIENDS

Thank you to those who came to the pumpkin hunt and ordered donuts. Both were great successes!

We still have some tickets left for the wreath night so if you want to come, please book to avoid disappointment. Link below:

Festive Wreath Making. Click here to buy tickets!