

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another school year, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on what has been a truly wonderful summer term. It has been filled with a wide range of exciting activities and experiences that have enriched our pupils' learning and helped create many lasting memories.

One of the highlights of the term was our residential trip. The pupils who attended had a phenomenal experience, taking part in a variety of water- and land-based activities while developing their independence and resilience. It was a pleasure to see them flourish in this environment, challenge themselves, and build such positive and meaningful relationships with their peers.

Many of our other pupils enjoyed a fantastic visit to Hope Hill, where they took part in activities including archery, an inflatable assault course, and many other fun experiences. These opportunities allowed pupils to develop confidence, teamwork, and perseverance while having a great deal of fun.

We were also delighted that some of our pupils were able to spend a day at Busy Bees, enjoying the soft play facilities and the chance to socialise, explore, and simply enjoy themselves in a different environment.

Our annual School Funday and Sports Day was, once again, a tremendous success. I would like to congratulate all the pupils who participated with such enthusiasm and determination. We were also thrilled to welcome so many parents and carers, whose continued support and engagement make our school community so special. In addition, our HUB Sports Day, with its focus on more traditional sporting events, was another memorable occasion. It was wonderful to see every pupil striving to do their best and celebrating each other's achievements.

Both our School Graduation and HUB Graduation ceremonies were particularly special moments. These events are always emotional occasions, providing us with the opportunity to celebrate the remarkable progress our pupils have made during their time at Helen Allison School. Seeing the growth, achievements, and success stories of our pupils makes us incredibly proud. To our HUB pupils who are now moving on to their next placements, we send our very best wishes and hope that the next stage of your journey brings you every happiness and success.

I am sure you will join me in thanking all of the staff at Helen Allison School for their unwavering commitment, dedication, and care. Every day they work tirelessly to ensure our pupils receive the very best education and support, helping each child reach their full potential.

As we break for the summer holiday, I would like to wish all of our pupils, families, and staff a wonderful and restful summer. I look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for what I am sure will be another exciting and successful year.

Adam



British Values

The various activities highlighted in this newsletter are an example of just some of the diverse learning opportunities that are undertaken by our students. Many of these activities take place within the local community as well as at school for real opportunities to explore these values in order to support students to understand the needs of others in a wider context. Helen Allison School teaches students by planning and delivering a broad and balanced curriculum. British values embedded within this curriculum and these values are defined as: Democracy, Rule of law, Individual liberty, Mutual respect, Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

If you have any comments on the Newsletter we would like to hear from you. If you would like to contribute to the next Newsletter, please let Liam Jones have your article.

Corfe Class

Corfe class have been working hard on their Cognition targets, which have included a variety of different subject areas, including English, Phonics, Maths and Science. They have also enjoyed different activities that have helped them to work on their physical and sensory targets.



Communication and Interaction targets are constantly being worked on in Corfe class. It has been so lovely to see the improvement in both social and expressive communication, as well as attention and listening.



Corfe Class

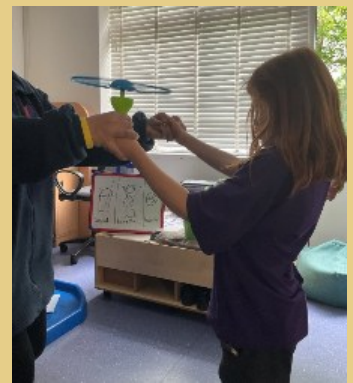
There have been lots of opportunities for the students to develop their Personal, Social and Environmental skills. The students in Corfe class have been working on self-regulation, feeding and developing their independence.



Rufus Class

This term Rufus class have been exploring Attention and listening by joining together for bucket time sessions.

We have enjoyed exploring exciting objects whilst practicing turn taking, looking and listening.



Windsor Class

Windsor have seen a lot of changes since the Easter break and are doing so well! Our playground was updated to include new sand and water trays, an in-ground trampoline and a spinner. The sun has come out and the children have been thoroughly enjoying the new outdoor space. We are able to do lessons outside and welcome children from other classes to come and play with us.

Our lessons have been going very well this term. All 4 of our pupils will sit around the table together for English, maths, science, food safari and other sessions. Their written work has shown amazing progress and we are so proud of each of them. In English we have been working on sentence fragments – filling in the “who” (or subject) in a sentence. In maths we continue to work on number and place value; comparing amounts and ordering numbers.

All students have explored new foods this term, touching, smelling and sometimes tasting things they may not have experienced before. Children have been practising other daily living skills too, such as washing hands thoroughly, getting dressed more independently and cleaning up after an activity. We have made lots of trips to the local area, some walking, some in the car or minibus. Children are more confident leaving school grounds and are becoming safer with adult support.

We have had a great summer term and hope you all enjoy the summer holidays!

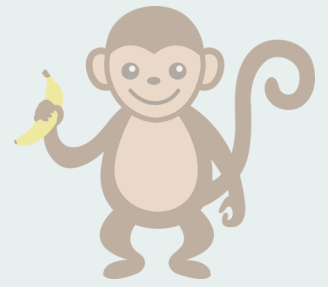
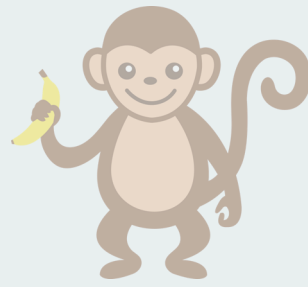
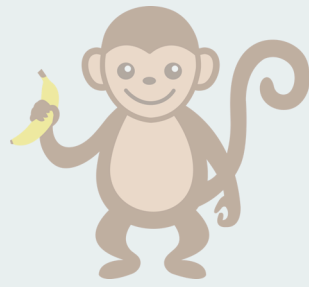
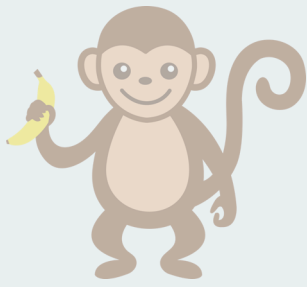


Warwick Class



In Warwick class, the art topic for the term was printing. During the term, the children learnt many different skills and used different materials with printing. Week by week, they learnt different techniques and then in the final week, they used all of the different techniques to create their own printing masterpiece!





Five classes took part in a fantastic trip To **Monkey Bizz**, which was paid for The Rochester Rotary Club. It was lovely to see the students playing together and exploring the soft play centre.



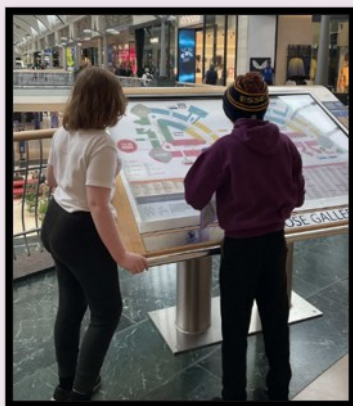
Hever Class

Hever class have been hands on with their learning this term. We have explored how our body moves in Science, exploring different muscles and parts of our skeletal system. To keep our muscles and bones strong and healthy, we explored the benefits of eating healthy in PSHE. In addition, we also used VR headsets to explore the features of different castles around the United Kingdom.



Leeds Class

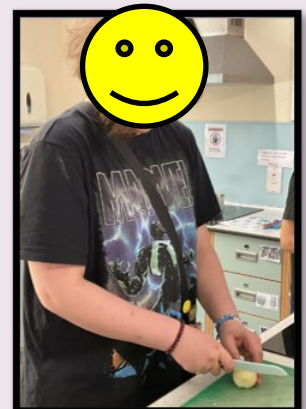
Wheel of Independence - Leeds Class have visited Gravity and Bluewater as part of our Wheel of Independence topic this term We have discussed where we anted to go, planned our trip and researched prices opening times .



Science

Leeds class have been learning about the changes that humans experience during their lifetime from, birth to adulthood and differences between

Cooking – Developing our understanding of food preparation, safety the kitchen using knives. Leeds class have worked independently and cooked some lovely dishes.



Rochester Class

Rochester Class visited Maidstone Museum to explore the Egyptian Exhibition and see an Egyptian mummy, which supported our History topic on Ancient Egypt. At the end of term, as part of Activity Week, we took part in an archery session and enjoyed meeting farm animals that visited the school. It was a fun and memorable experience for everyone.



Biannual Art Commission

Students submitted work to our biannual art commission for Balfour Beatty and Network Rail. This year 3 pieces of work were selected for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place and then the 4 runners up all had their work reproduced onto the side of a service Wagon for Balfour Beatty and Network Rail. 1st Prize went to Rex Ogden who received £100, Vincent came 2nd and received £50 and Ryan Drewitt came 3rd and received £25. All the other students who had submitted work received £15 voucher which was very generous of Balfour Beatty and Network Rail.



Ravensbourne BA Degree Show

A group of students from the Hub went to visit Ravensbourne University to see a BA Degree Show. This is the first time students had witnessed and experiences anything like this. The purpose was to expose the students to degree level work so that they could see what would be expected when you enrol on higher level courses. The work the students saw was from Product Design, Art and Design, Fashion, Photography, TV production, Animation and Creative Media. The students were able to meet the students and engage with their work at a very personal level which was very valuable to them. Many of the students came away inspired.



Photography Summer School

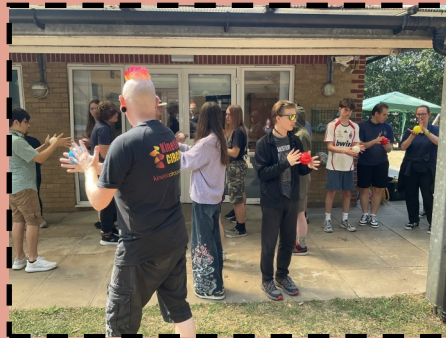
5 Students got the opportunity to go to Ravensbourne University to take part in a 2 day photography Summer School. Day one was street photography and the second day was spend in the studio.



The students were privileged to work with professionals in the industry and they all engaged with all the tasks. It is rare for students to be given such an opportunity to work in a professional studio and the students embraced it openly and felt that it was a real eye opener and has made them begin to think more deeply about photography and how to build on their current skills and knowledge.

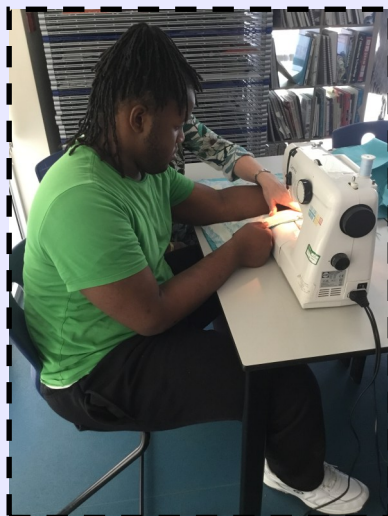
Kinetic Circus

We had Kinetic Circus in for the students at the Hub and Paul divided the morning into two halves. The first half was doing a magic show and then the second part was circus skills. The students were able to explore various aspects of circus skills to the magic ball, juggling, hoola hoops, the Diabolo, spinning plates and juggling blocks. The students were very engaged and thoroughly enjoyed the session.

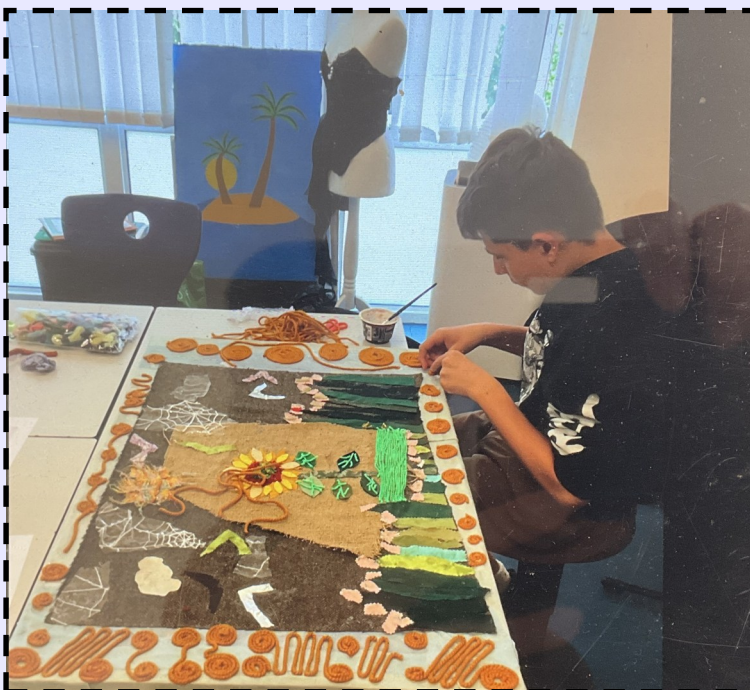
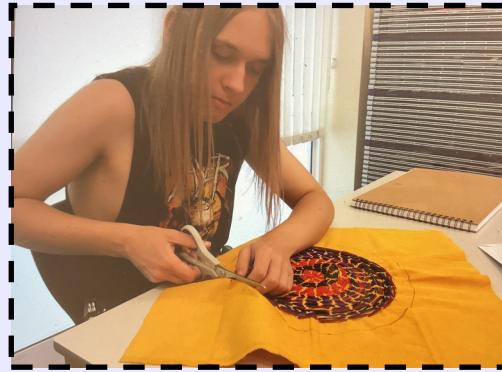


Art

Students this term have been exploring textiles and we have been looking at the work of artists Luiza Caldari, Chiachio & Giannone and Richard Saja. Students were able to respond to the artists they looked at and have used a variety of different techniques and processes from hand sewing, using a sewing machine, making patterns, exploring thread collage and combining fabrics with other materials. Some students have then gone on to make cushion covers with their textile pieces, whilst others have tried to change the narrative on a traditional 17th Century fabric print.



Textiles



Hope Hill — Archery

Hub Students who went to Hope Hill for Archery, inflatables and golf.



Enrichment Week

The students engaged in a wide variety of activities during the school enrichment week. It was fantastic to see the students having so much fun, interacting with each other, as well as learning new skills. Onsite activities included a disco and a water exploration afternoon, as well as a visit from a fire fighter and farm. Students were also offered offsite trips, including a visit to a local soft play centre for the younger students, with the older students participating in outdoor adventure activities at Hope Hill.



Enrichment Week—Hub

Group 2 had a few fun days during the Enrichment week, when the pupils were at camp.

We had a Commando Joe Olympics which was followed by a huge water fight which all the pupils thoroughly enjoyed.



Winner of the Celebrating Success Beyond School Award - Wyatt McArthur!

We are delighted to share that one of our pupils recently attended the Thurrock SEND & Alternative Provision Awards, where Wyatt was named the winner of the Celebrating Success Beyond School Award. This is a wonderful achievement, and we are incredibly proud of his success.

Wyatt continues to excel in cricket and has also been selected to represent Essex at the Essex U11 Area Festival. His dedication, perseverance and commitment are truly commendable, and we look forward to celebrating his future achievements.



Goodbye & Thankyou!



Thank you to Carly, Jo and Sian for all of your hard work!

Both Sian and Carly joined us in 2024 and Jo in 2023.

We wish them all the very best for the future and thank them for their dedication, support and contribution to our school community.



Goodbye Dexter & Reggie! - Everyone at the school will miss you.

Thank you for all the care, training, strokes and treats you have given them over the years.

THANK YOU!

★ TO OUR AMAZING COMMUNITY ★



We would like to extend a huge **thank you** to all the wonderful individuals, local businesses, and organisations who generously donated to and supported our **Family Fun Day** this year.



Thanks to your kindness and generosity, the event was a fantastic success, bringing together our school community for a day filled with fun, laughter, and memorable experiences. Your donations helped us provide activities, prizes, refreshments, and entertainment that were enjoyed by children and families alike.



We are incredibly grateful to every company that donated goods, services, vouchers, and raffle prizes, as well as to everyone who gave their time and support behind the scenes. Your contributions made a real difference and helped create a special day for our pupils and their families.



A special thank you also goes to our staff, parents, carers, and friends of the school whose hard work, enthusiasm, and dedication ensured everything ran smoothly throughout the day.



Community support like yours is invaluable, and we are proud to be part of a community that comes together so generously to support our school.



Thank you for helping make our Family Fun Day such a tremendous success. We couldn't have done it without you!



With grateful thanks to all of our donors, supporters, volunteers, and everyone who helped make the day so special.





Dates for the diary



28th July 2026 - Last
Day Of Term

7th September -2026
First Day Of Term

16th October— 3rd November
- Half Term

2nd November—Inset Day

3rd November—Term 2 Begins

Keep an eye on the My Child at School app for additional dates.

If you have any concerns around your child's computer or internet use please don't hesitate to ask us for help, guidance or support. Contact the school on 01474 814878 and ask to speak to a safeguarding officer.

Safeguarding

The following staff are our school safeguarding team. If you have a concern or wish to speak to one of them, please call the school and we will put you in touch.



Luke
Lead DSL



Adam
Deputy DSL



Lisa
Deputy
DSL



Ashleigh
Behaviour and
Wellbeing



Natasha
Financial Support



Francesca
Attendance &
Welfare