

27 March 2026

[w/c 13 April – Week: 2](#)

FINAL MESSAGE FROM..... MR EARL, PRINCIPAL



After 28 wonderful years at Hellesdon High School, the time has come for me to say farewell.

It has been an extraordinary privilege to serve this community—first as a member of staff and for the past 10 years as Principal. During that time, I have had the joy of working with generations of remarkable students, dedicated colleagues and supportive parents and carers.

I can honestly say I have loved nearly every minute. There have been countless moments of laughter, a few tears along the way and so many memories that I will cherish and carry with me long after I leave. Watching students grow, achieve and go on to shape their futures has been the most rewarding part of my career.

To our students: thank you for your energy, your individuality and the spirit you bring to the school every day. You are the heart of Hellesdon High and it has been a privilege to be part of your journey.

To parents and carers: your support over the past decade, in particular, has meant a great deal. Strong partnerships between home and school makes all the difference and I am deeply grateful for the trust you have placed in me and in our staff.

To colleagues - past and present: thank you for your commitment, professionalism and friendship. Schools are built on people and I have been fortunate to work alongside such dedicated teams over the years.

I am now looking forward to embracing the next chapter in life, whatever that may hold.

I send my very best wishes to you all for the future.

Mrs Watts - Goodbyes



As we come to the end of a term, we will be saying goodbye to some cherished and valued colleagues.

Mr Earl

After years of stalwart leadership, dedication, and service, our Principal, Mr Earl will be stepping down from his role. We would like to express our deepest gratitude for the remarkable impact Mr Earl has had on our school, our students, and all of you as families. Mr Earl joined the school as a Science teacher in 1998. Throughout his time, he has held a variety of positions including Head of Chemistry, Head of Science, Assistant Headteacher and Principal. Mr Earl's commitment to excellence in education, his unwavering care for every child, and ability to build a strong, supportive community will leave a lasting legacy. Under his leadership, the school has grown in spirit, values, and sense of belonging.

While we are sad to see him go, we are also incredibly thankful for everything Mr Earl has contributed and proud to have had such inspiring leadership guiding our school. The Wensum Trust will be reviewing the long term leadership structure over the next term but in the interim period Mr Read has been seconded to a Vice Principal and together with Miss McLellan, they will have operational oversight of the school with my support as Executive Principal.

Mrs Earl

We will also be saying good bye to Mrs Earl, our Head of Maths. Mrs Earl has been an integral part of our school community for 27 years, bringing passion, expertise, and a deep commitment to ensuring that every student develops confidence and success in mathematics. Her leadership within the department has inspired both students and colleagues alike, helping to create a culture of high expectations, curiosity, and achievement. We wish her every success and happiness in her new adventures. Mrs Spraggon will be leading the Maths Department in the Summer term and the Maths Team have re distributed classes to ensure a smooth transition.

Miss Miah

Miss Miah will be moving on to a new school after Easter and we would like to thank her for the vital role she has played in shaping a dynamic and creative Media department. Through her passion, innovation, and expertise, students have been inspired to think critically, express themselves confidently, and develop valuable skills for the modern world. We wish Miss Miah the best of luck in her role and she leaves with our warm wishes. We will be welcoming Mr Oldman, an experienced teacher of Media and Film to join our team after Easter.

Mr Bailey

Mr Bailey has been a great support to students and families both as a Head of House and Head of Year 11. Mr Bailey has built strong relationships with students and families alike, always placing the wellbeing and success of every individual at the heart of his work. We wish him every happiness in his new pursuits. Year 11 will continue to be supported by Mr Reid and Mr Sully with academic and pastoral support as they approach their final term.



As we come to the end of another busy term, we wish all our students and staff a restful Easter Break. We hope you get time to relax and recharge ready for our return to school.



As a reminder, we will be welcoming staff back in school on Monday, 13 April (this is an inset day) and our [Students will be back on Tuesday, 14 April 2026](#)

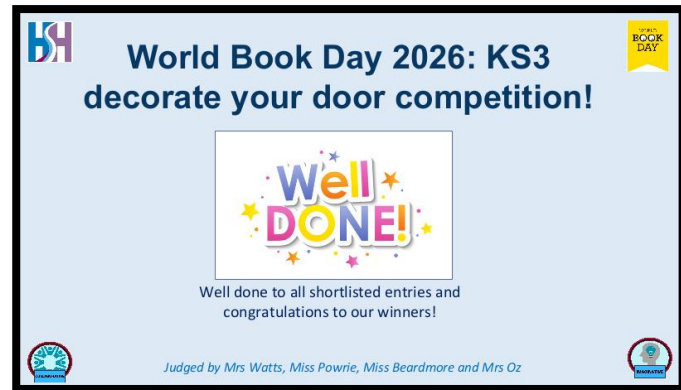
THEME & WORD OF THE WEEK
for week commencing 13 April 2026

THEME – “Would you like to see wildlife on UK banknotes?”

WORD – Proceed

GENERAL NEWS STORIES

World Book Day Competition Winners – we had some amazing entries for the ‘decorate your door competition’. Thank you to all students that took part and to our judges, Mrs Watts, Miss Powrie, Miss Beardmore and Mrs Oz – to see the winners to go our [News Story](#).



Upcoming MHST Webinars for Parents and Carers



The Mental Health Support Team at Hellesdon High School run a series of **free online webinars** designed to help parents and carers better understand and support their child’s emotional wellbeing. These sessions are relaxed, informative, and open to all families in our partner schools.

Our upcoming topics include:

- **Understanding anxiety**
- **Helping your child manage big emotions**
- **Support with sleep**

Please find below the dates and times of the upcoming webinars:

- Friday, 17 April at 10:00am- Child Anxiety
- Wednesday, 22 April at 6:30pm- Managing big emotions
- Friday, 1 May at 10:00am- Sleep
- Wednesday, 6 May at 6:30pm- Child Anxiety
- Friday, 15 May at 10:00am- Managing big emotions
- Wednesday, 20 May at 6:30pm- Sleep

Please click on the link to join our webinars: <https://nhs.vc/norfolk-waveney-mhst-webinars>.

MR EARL’S FINAL HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE PRINCIPAL

This week marked a truly special and bittersweet moment for our school community as we hosted our final “Hot Chocolate with the Principal” with Mr Earl. We and some fabulous students in attendance. To read more go to our [News Story](#).



ATTACHMENTS

- Big Norfolk Holiday Fun Activity posters – x2
- Hellesdon Garage Sale – Arden Grove and HHS PTA
- HHS Sixth Form Newsletter



NEWS FROM OUR SIXTH FORM

Food Tasting Event

Sixth Form students were given the opportunity to take part in a food taster session this week organised by Aspens, the catering company used across the Wensum Trust schools. There were lots of very tasty options to choose from and students were asked for their feedback. We are looking forward to seeing what Aspens have to offer for our Sixth Formers in the near future....

The Hellesdon Sixth Form Team wishes all students, parents/carers and staff a very restful, relaxing and enjoyable Easter break.

We look forward to welcoming all students back on Tuesday, 14 April.



Attendance Matters



We're committed to working with parents and carers to ensure your child feels happy and safe in school. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school office.

Call us: 01603 424711

Email us: principal@hellesdonhigh.norfolk.sch.