



Newsletter 9

12 November 2021

Dear Parents

You may have noticed on the playground that we appear to have some 'mini white flies' moving about, I have seen many puzzled faces from parents ~ was it snow? Was it ash? You may well have seen me batting them away as I think they were attracted to my bright coat. After a bit of research I have discovered that they are a relative of the aphid and are harmless but can be a pest to gardeners. It is the first time I have ever seen them and I enjoyed finding out about them; every day is a school day!

The children observed the 2 minute silence on Thursday at 11am and were amazing; this was a clear demonstration of how our children are thoughtful and respectful to others. It was lovely to hear how knowledgeable they were about Remembrance Day and why they wear poppies at this time of year; I was a very proud!

### WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AWARD

Our target is to be at **96%** attendance throughout the year.  
Covid or isolation absences are **NOT** included in this data.

This week	<b>96.71%</b>
Week beg 01 Nov 21	<b>96.34%</b>
Best week to date	Week beginning 13 September 2021 ~ <b>97.22%</b>



### ATTENDANCE

Week beginning 08 November:

CLASS	RED <95%	AMBER 95%	GREEN 96+%
BADGER			<b>98.6%</b>
FOX	<b>94.5%</b>		
HERON			<b>96.3%</b>
HEDGEHOG			<b>96.3%</b>
KINGFISHER		<b>95.7%</b>	
ROBIN			<b>97.3%</b>
OWL			<b>96%</b>
RABBIT			<b>98.6%</b>
WOODPECKER			<b>96.9%</b>
SQUIRREL	<b>89.3%</b>		

Well done to **Rabbit Class and Badger Class**

### GOLDEN BOOK

This week the following children shared their learning with me:

<b>Bella</b>	<b>Heron Class</b>	<b>Millie</b>	<b>Heron Class</b>	<b>Eesa</b>	<b>Heron Class</b>
<b>Ibrahim</b>	<b>Owl Class</b>	<b>Imran</b>	<b>Hedgehog Class</b>	<b>Kiyansh</b>	<b>Rabbit Class</b>

## ACHIEVEMENTS OUTSIDE SCHOOL

We like to celebrate the achievements and awards of our children outside of school too! If your child has earned an award in an event, please send in a copy of the certificate and we can mention them in our weekly newsletters.

This week we celebrated the success of:

Pupil	Class	Achievement
Margot	Hedgehog	Perform Drama ~ Bronze Challenge Award with Distinction

## MATHS WEEK 8-12TH NOVEMBER

Having celebrated Maths Confidence Day last week, this week in school we have taken part in Maths Week! The main aim of **Maths Week** is to make maths accessible to all students, of all backgrounds. The children have taken part in fun games and activities such as practical Maths problem solving and a Maths hunt!

## SWITCH OFF FORTNIGHT

Switch Off Fortnight is a nationwide campaign that takes place every November to encourage schools to **switch off lights and electrical appliances** when not in use for two weeks. The goals for schools are to help them save energy and monitor the impact of changing user behaviour on the school's energy use. The children were asked to design a poster reminding people 'If you're not using it - switch it off!' The School Council will be judging the entries, and the winning posters will be displayed around school.

## ANTI-BULLYING ODD SOCKS DAY ~ Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November

Each term we recognise Anti-Bullying Week with a week of activities aimed at raising awareness of bullying of children and young people, in schools and elsewhere, and to highlight ways of preventing and responding to it. This year we are taking part in Odd Socks Day, which marks the start of Anti-Bullying Week on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November. We would like the children to come in wearing odd socks, no monetary contribution is necessary, it is just a way of celebrating how we are all unique!

## JUST TALK WEEK – 15<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> November 2021

Just Talk is a Hertfordshire based campaign, created by a multi-agency team which focuses on Mental Health and Wellbeing. Each year they promote Just Talk Week and this year feel it is more important than ever to talk about our mental health and wellbeing. Throughout the week they are running a variety of webinars for schools, parents and older children to help promote positive mental health and suggest ways to start open and honest conversation. The flyer attached promotes 'The Five Ways to Wellbeing'. More information can be found on their website: [Just Talk Hertfordshire](#)

## REPORTING COVID CASES / POSSIBLE CASES

Due to the vulnerabilities of some members of our school community, please can we ask that you are particularly vigilant around Covid symptoms and informing us if your child has tested positive for Covid. This will enable us to help support the wellbeing and safety of some of our families.

## LATENESS

We have seen an increase in the amount of children arriving late to school. Please remember drop off time is **8:45 to 8:55am**; this means that the class doors will close and the children will start their learning at 8:55am sharp. The school gates may still be open but this is to allow parents to exit and Nursery parents access to the site. If you know you are late, please go straight to the office. If in doubt, please ask the member of staff on duty. The Local Attendance Improvement Officer monitors late marks.

## HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME

Just a reminder that holidays during term time are not authorised. For further information please refer to our attendance policy: [Attendance Policy](#)

## GOVERNING BODY UPDATE

On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November the governing board committees met remotely for the first time this academic year. Details of all our Governors can be found on our website: [The Governing Board](#)

We discussed the following items at each committee meeting:

The School Development Committee:

- Received a school status report from Mrs Cooper, including on the revised Covid restrictions and current levels of attendance
- Reviewed and discussed the updated School Development Plan, including how the priorities for the next academic year had been determined and the positive progress shown on subject leadership
- Reviewed and discussed the Pupil Premium Strategy statement
- Received an update on Safeguarding from Mrs Cooper
- Considered the impact and objectives of the updated school website
- Agreed a timetable for reviewing school assessment data

At Resources Committee:

- Were delighted to learn that the astroturf in the Early Years play area has been successfully installed and looks fabulous
- Undertook a review of the school budget at the half-year, with no concerns
- Looked closely at the expenditure of Premium budgets, which included Covid Recovery, Pupil and Sports premium budgets
- Reviewed staff appraisal progress and recommended the new Pay Policy to the Governing Body for adoption
- We received an update on safeguarding, new recording processes, and remain assured that it is a high priority throughout the school
- Monitored current staff structure against the school's needs and budget
- Agreed to set up a Governor's working party to consider a School Risk Register to supplement the Governor's Strategic Review
- Reviewed the Asset Management Plan and discussed priorities for premises development
- Discussed the Governor's Health & Safety annual inspection, which is under way and demonstrates good compliance and significant concerns to date
- Reviewed and approved a number of policies, including Pay, Lettings and Charging & Remissions
- Ensured that the school website was continuing to meet the statutory requirements

## COVID UPDATE

You will have noted the letter from the Director of Public Health this week that adults in school are required to wear masks again. Please can I ask parents to ensure that you are wearing a mask if you speak to the teacher on the classroom door or when you use the office. Thank you.

## SCHOOL COUNCIL

Last week we announced our school councillors but we were missing Heron representation

	<b>SCHOOL COUNCILLOR</b>
<b>HERON</b>	<b>James and Abigail</b>

## CHILDREN IN NEED

We will be having a non-uniform day on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November to support Children in Need. Children may attend school in their 'own clothes' for a donation of £1 towards the charity.

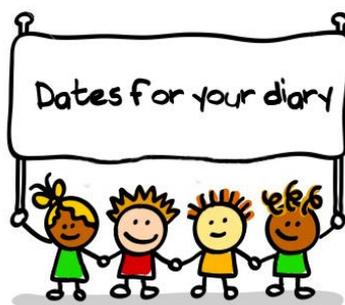
## PARENT SURVEY

Just a reminder that the Governors Annual Parent Survey is currently open. If you have not yet had the chance to complete, please take a few moments to let us know your thoughts about our school: [Parent Survey 2021](#)

Have a lovely weekend.

With best wishes

**Charlotte Cooper**  
Headteacher



## Autumn term 2021

Date	What's Happening?	Where?	Time?
Wk beg 15 November		Anti Bullying Week	
Fri 19 November		Children in Need	
Fri 26 November		Christmas Deco Day	
Fri 3 December		SCHOOL CLOSED OCCASIONAL DAY	
Wk beg 13 December		Christmas Parties	
Wed 15 December		Christmas Pantomime	
Fri 17 December		Christmas jumper and dinner day	
Mon 20 December		Autumn term ends for Nursery	
Tue 21 December		Autumn term ends 1:15pm	



PLEASE NOTE THESE ARE THE DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR **2021/22**  
These dates are the same as the junior school.

### AUTUMN 2021

Friday 3 December	SCHOOL CLOSED ~ OCCASIONAL DAY (Queen's Jubilee)
Monday 20 December	Autumn Term ends NURSERY
Tuesday 21 December	Autumn term ends 1:15pm

SPRING 2022

Wednesday 5 January	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Thursday 6 January	Spring term starts
Mon 14 Feb – Fri 18 Feb	Half term
Thursday 31 March	Spring Term ends NURSERY
Friday 1 April	Spring term ends 1:15pm

SUMMER 2022

Tuesday 19 April	Summer term starts
Mon 30 May – 3 June	Half term
Friday 1 July	Occasional Day ~ School closed to pupils
Monday 4 July	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Thursday 21 July	Summer Term ends NURSERY
Friday 22 July	End of summer term 1:15pm



PLEASE NOTE THESE ARE THE DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR **2022/23**  
These dates are the same as the junior school.

AUTUMN 2022

Thursday 1 September	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Friday 2 September	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Monday 5 September	Autumn term starts
Mon 24 Oct – Fri 28 Oct	Half term
Friday 2 December	Occasional Day ~ School closed to pupils
Wednesday 21 December	Autumn term ends 1:15pm

### SPRING 2023

Thursday 5 January	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Friday 6 January	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Monday 9 January	Spring term starts
Mon 13 Feb – Fri 17 Feb	Half term
Friday 31 March	Spring term ends 1:15pm

### SUMMER 2023

Monday 17 April	Summer term starts
Mon 29 May – 2 June	Half term
Friday 30 June	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Friday 21 July	End of summer term 1:15pm