



Newsletter 20

24 February 2023

Dear Parents

Welcome back and I hope you all had a lovely and relaxing half term. Our Learning Together Morning was another success this week and I am sure you enjoyed the time spent learning with your child.

There is a lot of information detailed below with dates so please have a careful read.

INDUSTRIAL ACTION

You will be aware from the media that the National Education Union (NEU) will be carrying out Industrial Action on the following dates: 1 March, 15 March and 16 March.

There are many different unions that teachers are able to belong to and currently only the above union are taking action. This means that schools in the local area will be affected in different ways depending on who belongs to the NEU, or other unions that decide to take action.

As I write, I am able to say that school will be able to remain open on the above dates. However, should this change I will endeavour to give you as much notice as I am able.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the amazing teachers we have at Cassiobury Infants; they do a fantastic job and I consider myself very privileged to work alongside a fabulous team!

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AWARD

Our target is to be at **96%** attendance throughout the year. We are below our target this week; it would be great to get back up to 96%!

This week	92.84%
Week beg 06 February	93.68%
Best week to date	Week beginning 03 October 2022 ~ 97.5%



ATTENDANCE

Week beginning 20 February:

CLASS	RED <95%	AMBER 95%	GREEN 96+%
HERON	87.3%		
FOX	93.3%		
BADGER	89.3%		
ROBIN		95.7%	
KINGFISHER	90.7%		
HEDGEHOG	92.4%		
WOODPECKER			96.7%
RABBIT	93.6%		
OWL	91.3%		
SQUIRREL			97.7%

Well done to **Squirrel Class**.

Bellmount Wood Avenue, Watford, Herts, WD17 3PE

Email: admin@cassioburyinfants.herts.sch.uk Telephone: 01923 222782

HOURS OF LEARNING LOST

As well as monitoring attendance, we also monitor lateness. If your child arrives 5 minutes late each day over the course of the week they will have missed 25 minutes of learning time. Over a period of 4 weeks that is 100 minutes and over a term that is 325 minutes (almost 5 ½ hours). Punctuality is important in all walks of life and we encourage the children to be good time keepers.

This week 24 February	233 = 3 hours and 53 minutes
Last week 10 February	281 = 4 hours and 41 minutes



GOLDEN BOOK

This week the following children shared their learning with me:

<i>Mendim</i>	<i>Hedgehog Class</i>	<i>Jack</i>	<i>Kingfisher Class</i>	<i>Isobel</i>	<i>Kingfisher Class</i>
---------------	-----------------------	-------------	-------------------------	---------------	-------------------------

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
<i>Akyra</i>	<i>Robin</i>	<i>Chess Camp Competition ~ Winner</i>
<i>Kyle</i>	<i>Heron</i>	<i>Golf Competition ~ 1st Place, 6yr category</i>

PHONE FREE FRIDAY

This week we had 1 response to the question of the week.

Please take the opportunity to share the question of the week with your child and discuss the answer. We have a different question in assembly every day and the children are always very enthusiastic about sharing and are always able to answer in full sentences.

Favourite Answer			
Question	Answer	Pupil	Class
<i>If you could only eat one thing every day forever, what would it be and why?</i>	<i>I would eat a cherry because it's red and red is one of my favourite colours and it is also my favourite fruit.</i>	<i>Amelia</i>	<i>Kingfisher</i>

This week's question is:

Would you rather have a tall neck like a giraffe or a long nose like an elephant? Why?

[Remember to Tweet your answers, use this link ~ @HeadCassInf](#)

WORLD BOOK DAY

[World Book Day](#) changes lives through a love of books and reading, and is marked in over 100 countries around the globe! It is run by a charity that operates in the UK and Ireland, and on World Book Day every child in full-time education in the UK is given a voucher to be spent on books at participating book stores – you can check out the book choices for this year by clicking on [this link](#).

Reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's future success – more than their family circumstances, their parents' educational background or their income. We want to see more children with a life-long habit of reading for pleasure and the improved life chances this brings them. Spending **just 10 minutes a day** reading and sharing stories with children can make a crucial difference to their future success and it's fun for all involved!

Bellmount Wood Avenue, Watford, Herts, WD17 3PE

Email: admin@cassioburyinfants.herts.sch.uk Telephone: 01923 222782

We will be celebrating World Book Day in school with a number of events:

- **School Book Fair** – to be held in the **Oak Room 8:45am and 2:45pm Mon 27th Feb – Fri 3rd Mar**. Books have been handpicked by Miss Applegarth to specifically appeal to the children at our school. All books are £5 each, with 100% of any profits going directly back to school to purchase new books for our children. Cash payments only.
- **Thursday 2nd March**
 - **World Book Day dress up** as a book character or author
 - All children to receive their **Free book token** (please note this cannot be spent at the school book fair)
- Throughout the week: live, online story telling events with authors and illustrators for different year groups; Mystery Reader; and sharing favourite stories in class

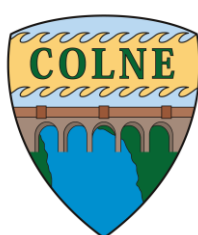
Remember, you can see all of the fun and exciting learning that the children do by searching for **#CassInfReading** on Twitter, or by looking on the Social Media Wall on our school [website](#).

HOUSE POINTS

We have counted up the house points for the end of the spring term 1 ~ **Well done to CHESS!**



395



375



369

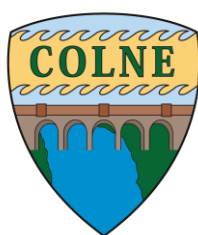


354

Overall house points for the whole year to date ~ **well done to CHESS!**



1100



1041



897



946

CSA READATHON

Information was sent to parents this week with regard to our Readathon event which is being run by The Cassiobury Schools Association (CSA). The flyer is attached to this newsletter too.

CSA DONATION

We are delighted to announce that the recent donation from the CSA of £2500 has enable the school to purchase 15 iPads for the children to use to support their computing curriculum learning as well as other subjects. We are hoping with the next CSA donation to purchase an additional 15 iPads so we have a class set. Thank you to everyone for supporting CSA events and enabling us to make this addition to our resources.

Bellmount Wood Avenue, Watford, Herts, WD17 3PE

Email: admin@cassioburyinfants.herts.sch.uk Telephone: 01923 222782

DEC COLLECTION FOR TURKEY-SYRIA ~ UPDATE

Following on from before half term we are delighted to announce that the final figure for donations is an amazing £1,027.07 all of which will be donated to the charity. We would also like to give a huge 'Thank you' to Ozlem (Eren's mum) who kindly organised for the remaining clothing from our 'Cut your carbon' campaign to be sent to support those affected by the earthquake.

AUTHOR VISIT

We are very excited to announce that Award-winning Author-illustrator Claire Alexander is visiting our school in person on Monday 24th of April, to open our revamped library and give a literacy-boosting assembly based on her new book, The Think-Ups! To order a signed and dedicated copy of her book to be collected on the day - see attached letter.

COFFEE MORNINGS / SHARING ASSEMBLY

We would like to continue with our year group coffee mornings this term and will incorporate them with our sharing assemblies in the hope that more parents will be able to attend. Each time we have our sharing assembly the Oak Room will be **open to parents from that year group** with refreshments available. Once sharing assembly has finished the parents from that class can join.

The only exception is Nursery parents so we have added in some additional dates.

There are also some dates linked to 'Learning Together Mornings' which is open to all parents.

Please see below the dates for each year group:

DATE	YEAR GROUP COFFEE MORNING	SHARING ASSEMBLY
Friday 3 March	1	KINGFISHER
Friday 17 March	Nursery	
Friday 24 March	2	BADGER
Friday 5 May	1	ROBIN
Friday 12 May	1	HEDGEHOG
Friday 19 May	Reception	RABBIT
Friday 26 May	ALL	
Friday 9 June	Nursery	
Friday 16 June	Reception	WOODPECKER
Monday 10 July	Nursery	SQUIRREL
Friday 14 July	Reception	OWL

EARLY WARNING CORONATION EVENT ~ 5th May

On Friday 5th May we will be holding a joint event with the Junior School to celebrate the King's coronation. We are still finalising plans across the two schools and will update you as soon as possible; for now save the date in your diary.

SUMMER TERM DATES

Please see the table below for the planned events due to take place in the summer term. I am hoping these dates are fixed but I will inform you as soon as possible should any changes need to happen.

Date	What's Happening?	Where?	Time?
Fri 21 April	No Screen Day / Litter Pick		
Fri 28 April	International Dance Day		
Mon 1 May	BANK HOLIDAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED		
Fri 5 May	Robin Sharing Assembly	Hall	9am
Fri 5 May	Year 1 Coffee Morning	Oak Room	From 9am
Fri 5 May	Coronation Event	TBC	TBC
Mon 8 May	BANK HOLIDAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED		
Thu 11 May	CLASS PHOTOS		
Fri 12 May	Pyjamarama Day ~ come dresses in your PJs		

Bellmount Wood Avenue, Watford, Herts, WD17 3PE

Email: admin@cassioburyinfants.herts.sch.uk Telephone: 01923 222782

Fri 12 May	Hedgehog Sharing Assembly	Hall	9am
Fri 12 May	Year 1 Coffee Morning	Oak Room	From 9am
Wk beg 15 May	Well-being week		
Wk beg 15 May	Walk to School Week		
Fri 19 May	Rabbit Sharing Assembly	Hall	9am
Fri 19 May	Reception Coffee Morning	Oak Room	From 9am
Fri 19 May	Outdoor Learning Day		
Mon 22 May	Heritage Day		
Wed 24 May	Reception Class visit to St Luke's		
Fri 26 May	Learning together morning	Classrooms	9am
Fri 26 May	Coffee Morning for all	Oak Room	From 9am
Mon 5 Jun	Environment Day		
Fri 9 Jun	Nursery Coffee Morning	Oak Room	From 9am
Fri 16 Jun	Woodpecker Sharing Assembly	Hall	9am
Fri 16 Jun	Reception Coffee Morning	Oak Room	From 9am
Wk beg 19 Jun	Creative Focus Week		
Wed 21 Jun	World Music Day		
Fri 23 Jun	Open Afternoon	Classrooms	2:45pm
Fri 30 Jun	INSET DAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS		
Wed 5 Jul	New to Reception Parents Meeting	Hall	9:15am
Thu 6 Jul	New to Nursery Parents Meeting	Hall	9:15am (TBC)
Wed 5 Jul	KS1 parent consultation	Virtual	3.30-6pm
Thu 6 Jul	KS1 parent consultation	Virtual	3.30-6pm
Fri 7 Jul	Sports Day ~ joint event with the Junior School		
Mon 10 Jul	Squirrel Sharing Assembly	Hall	9am
Mon 10 Jul	Nursery Coffee Morning	Oak Room	From 9am
Mon 10 Jul	EYFS Reports to parents		
Thu 13 Jul	Transition Day 1	Classrooms	N/A
Fri 14 Jul	Owl Sharing Assembly	Hall	9am
Mon 17 Jul	Transition Day 2	Classrooms	N/A
Tue 18 Jul	Y2 Performance	School Hall	9:15am
Wed 19 Jul	Y2 Performance	School Hall	2pm
Thu 20 Jul	End of term for Nursery pupils		
Fri 21 Jul	Wear Purple Day		
Fri 21 Jul	Summer Term ends 1:15pm		

FREE SUPPORT FOR HERTFORDSHIRE FAMILIES

The Hertfordshire Family Centre Service have lots of fun activities for families this spring! As the cost of living continues to rise, it helps that all of their sessions are free and also drop-in. Run by professional, qualified staff in Early Years, their groups offer a wide range of activities for you and your children to enjoy and play together. They are an opportunity for you to meet other local families and get advice and support from the Family Centre team. As well as lots for under 5's to enjoy!

Their regular groups include

- Baby Group (pre-walkers) - drop in and meet other families with young babies in a supportive, stimulating and friendly environment. This session is for babies to play and for you to discover more about their development and support your own wellbeing as a new parent
- Active Rhyme Time (6-18 months) – a fun session including active rhymes and songs for you and your baby and toddler. The groups are a great way to meet other families and develop your child's communication and physical skills
- Physical Fun (18 months +) - join the team for a fun, active session. A way to meet other families and enjoy lots of fun games and play opportunities to support your child with their physical development

Bellmount Wood Avenue, Watford, Herts, WD17 3PE

Email: admin@cassioburyinfants.herts.sch.uk Telephone: 01923 222782

These groups run at different venues across Hertfordshire and you can drop into any of them, there is no need to book. Family Support staff will be on hand to answer any questions that you may have and if you need any extra help, they can point you in the right direction. For the latest What's On guide please see their website: [Family Centre Service](#)

REMINDERS

HERTS MIND NETWORK PRESENTATION AT CASSIOBURY JUNIOR SCHOOL

Cassiobury Junior School will be hosting a presentation by Herts Mind Network on the subject of Children's Mental Health for parents and carers.

It will be on Monday 27th February from 6pm to 6.45pm in the Junior School Hall with a 15 minute Q&A session thereafter.

To book a place at this event, please visit the following link: [Herts Mind at Cassiobury Junior School](#)

WORLD BOOK DAY ~ Thursday 2nd March

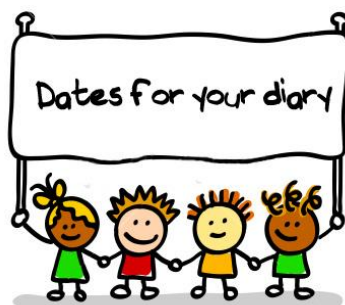
On Thursday 2nd March we will be celebrating World Book Day. We would like the children to come to school dressed as their favourite character.

Attached Flyers:

1. CSA Readathon
2. Author visit

With best wishes for a lovely weekend

Charlotte Cooper
Headteacher



Spring term 2023

Date	What's Happening?	Where?	Time?
Thu 2 March	World Book Day		
Fri 3 March	Kingfisher Sharing Assembly	Hall	9am
Wk beg 13 March	STEM Focus Week		
Tue 14 March	World Maths Day		
Thu 16 March	Open Afternoon	Classrooms	2:45pm
Fri 17 March	Kidzania Trip ~ Year 1 and Year 2		
Tue 21 March	World Poetry Day		
Wed 22 March	EYFS parent consultation	Virtual	3.30-6pm
Thu 23 March	EYFS parent consultation	Virtual	3.30-6pm
Fri 24 March	Badger Sharing Assembly	Hall	9am
Wk Beg 27 March	Well Being Week		

Bellmount Wood Avenue, Watford, Herts, WD17 3PE

Email: admin@cassioburyinfants.herts.sch.uk Telephone: 01923 222782

Mon 27 March	KS1 Reports to Parents		
Tue 28 March	Y1 Spring Extravaganza	School Hall	9:15am
Wed 29 March	Y1 Spring Extravaganza	School Hall	2pm
Thu 30 March	End of term for Nursery pupils		
Fri 31 March	Spring term ends 1:15pm		



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

SPRING 2023

Thursday 30 March	Spring term end for Nursery ~ usual school timings
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



PLEASE NOTE THESE ARE THE DATES FOR THE_ACADEMIC YEAR **2023/24**
These dates are the same as the junior school.

AUTUMN 2023

Friday 1 September	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Monday 4 September	Autumn term starts
Mon 23 Oct – Fri 27 Oct	Half term
Friday 1 December	Occasional Day ~ School closed to pupils
Wednesday 20 December	Autumn term ends 1:15pm

SPRING 2024

Thursday 4 January	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
--------------------	---------------------------------

Friday 5 January	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Monday 8 January	Spring term starts
Mon 19 Feb – Fri 23 Feb	Half term
Thursday 28 March	Spring term ends 1:15pm

SUMMER 2024

Monday 15 April	Summer term starts
Mon 27 May – 31 May	Half term
Friday 19 July	End of summer term 1:15pm
Monday 22 July	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Tuesday 23 July	INSET ~ School closed to pupils