



Newsletter 2

15 September 2023

Dear Parents

A great second week in school; it has been lovely to see the children settle into their classes and routines. Well done to our Reception children who have completed their first full week; we are all very impressed with your positive start.

Wishing all our families celebrating Rosh Hashanah this weekend and 'L'Shana Tovah'; Happy New Year!

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance at school is vitally important for the children to achieve their full potential. Attendance is monitored on a daily basis and the school office team will be following up any unexplained absences. All attendance data is shared with our Local Attendance Improvement Officer as well as the Department for Education. Each week I will share with you the attendance of the classes in the chart below and the class with the best attendance will be rewarded with a class attendance and certificate each week; watch out for the Tweets from classes, they get very excited!

Where attendance is causing concern, you will be invited in to school to meet with myself, and on occasion, the Local Authority Attendance Officer.

REMINDER ~ SCHOOL TIMINGS

Your child should be in class between **8:40-8:50am**.

If you arrive after 8:50am you are late and will need to enter via the school office and sign in stating the reason why you are late. Lateness is monitored and affects overall attendance marks.

Please ensure you collect your child promptly at 3:15pm.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AWARD

Our target is to be at **96%** attendance throughout the year. This week we have made it!

This week	97.2%
Week beg 4 September	96.8%
Best week to date	Week beginning 11 September ~ 97.2%



ATTENDANCE

Week beginning 11 September:

RED <95%	AMBER 95%	GREEN 96+%
Owl	Hedgehog Squirrel	Rabbit Kingfisher Woodpecker Robin Badger Fox Heron

Well done to **Rabbit Class and Kingfisher Class**.

Bellmount Wood Avenue, Watford, Herts, WD17 3PE

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

HOURS OF LEARNING LOST



This week: 04 September	393 minutes = 6 hours and 33 minutes
Last week: 04 September	504 minutes = 8 hours and 24 minutes

GOLDEN BOOK

I have a 'Golden Book of Achievement' to celebrate the fantastic learning which is taking place throughout the school. If an adult is exceptionally proud of the achievement a child has made then they are encouraged to bring their book to me or to come and tell me what they have done. I can celebrate the achievements too by rewarding the children with a golden Headteacher's award and a copy of their learning is placed in the golden book. This week the following children shared their learning with me:

Anton	Hedgehog Class	Cleo	Hedgehog Class	Lianna	Hedgehog Class
Alaya	Hedgehog Class	Vonalee	Hedgehog Class	Jacob M	Hedgehog Class
Miraj	Badger Class	Sophia	Badger Class		

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>Dylan</i>	<i>Kingfisher</i>	<i>Learn to Swim Award ~ Stage 1</i>
<i>Hari</i>	<i>Hedgehog</i>	<i>Library Summer Reading Challenge 2023</i>
<i>Amelia</i>	<i>Robin</i>	
<i>Addie</i>	<i>Rabbit</i>	
<i>Raedthtra</i>	<i>Fox</i>	
<i>Shakin</i>	<i>Fox</i>	
<i>Raedthtra</i>	<i>Fox</i>	<i>Tamil School ~ Prize Cup</i>
<i>Sophia</i>	<i>Badger</i>	<i>Banbury Stars British Cycling Road Race ~ Second Place</i>
<i>Akyra</i>	<i>Fox</i>	<i>Wallace July Chess Camp ~ First Place</i>

MY FIRST LIBRARY ADVENTURE PROMOTION FOR RECEPTION CHILDREN

Hertfordshire Libraries are running a 'My First Library Adventure' promotion for all Reception children, to encourage children to explore, join and regularly use their local library, and this week all Reception children received a 'My First Library Adventure' bookmark.

So please visit our local library in Watford - it has thousands of exciting, diverse and inclusive books to discover from picture books for families to share together, beginner reads to support early reading skills and information books on a huge range of fun and interesting topics to spark children's interests. With new books purchased every month, there is always something new to discover!

JEANS FOR GENES ~ Friday 22 September 2023

The Jeans for Genes campaign raises awareness of the daily challenges faced by those living with a genetic condition and raises money to fund projects that make a tangible difference to the lives of those affected.

On Friday 22 September we are inviting all children to come to school in jeans (trousers / skirt / shorts) on the lower half of their body and keep their uniform on the top.

It is completely voluntary to make a suggested donation of £1 donation towards the charity.

If you would like to donate £1 donations can be given as cash on the classroom door or payment can be made via the school gateway.

For more information about Jeans for Genes and the work they do please follow this link: [Jeans for Genes](#)

UNIFORM

A reminder that any previously loved school uniform can be donated to the CSA to support a re-sale and fundraising. Please drop any donations in to the school office.

RECEPTION COFFEE MORNING

We will be hosting a coffee morning for all Reception parents on Friday 22 September at 9am in the school hall. This is an opportunity to meet other Reception parents as well as myself and some members of the senior leadership team. There will also be more opportunity to find out more information about the role of Parent Reps.

We look forward to seeing you.

INCLUSION MANAGERS

We are very fortunate to have both Mrs Macnish and Mrs Parker to support with inclusion throughout the school. To ensure good continuity and communication we have allocated an inclusion manager to each class. This is to ensure they build strong relationships with families and professionals involved. Please contact your class's inclusion manager for support and advice in the first instance.

MRS MACNISH	MRS PARKER
Fox	Heron
Robin	Badger
Woodpecker	Hedgehog
Rabbit	Kingfisher
Squirrel	Owl

OPEN AFTERNOON

You are invited in to school on Friday 22 September at 2:45pm to your child's classroom to have a look at their learning that has taken place over the first few weeks of school.

Please enter and exit via your child's external classroom door.

SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES

Please have a look at our 'social media guidelines'; these have been devised by our parents for parents: [Social Media Guidelines](#)

Any class 'WhatsApp' groups that are created are done so through the parents. They are not something that is managed or controlled by the school.

UNOFFICIAL ONE-WAY SYSTEM

A reminder about the 'unofficial one-way system' for Bellmount Wood Avenue. Please enter at the junior school end (from Langley Way) and exit out on to Cassiobury Drive (by the vets). This enables the traffic to flow more smoothly in one direction and makes the road safer for pedestrians.

Please remind extend families who may be completing the school run.

WEEKLY WELL-BEING

Each week we will share one idea to promote family wellbeing. Please let us know if you enjoy it and if you have any other ideas that we could share!

This week's wellbeing idea: **Go outside and have some fun!**

COUNTRY OF THE MONTH

Each month the children explore a new country in assembly.

This month we are focussing on the country of France. Please see attached a knowledge organiser to support discussion at home.

PARENT PIT STOPS

Our parent 'Pit Stops' will take place this term. They are an opportunity to find out more information on how to support your child at home with their learning / information about school. The sessions are planned and delivered by school staff. Sessions will take place at 9am after drop off and will last approx. 1 hour; you are welcome to attend all or part of the sessions. Please see details below.

DATE	Time	FOCUS	INFO	TARGET AUDIENCE
Tuesday 19 th September	9am	Early Years Foundation Stage	How learning happens in the Early Years and how you can support at home: Book your place here: EYFS Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents with children in Nursery and Reception
Thursday 5 th October	9am	Read, Write, Inc	How our sessions are delivered in school and how you can support at home. This is a repeat of the session delivered last year Book your place here: Read Write Inc Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mainly parents in Reception and new to the school. Any parent who has not previously attended. Any parent who would like a refresher.
Tuesday 7 th November	9am	Reading	Purely focussed on supporting children with reading skills and development and comprehension skills. (This is different to the RWI session above) This is a repeat of the session delivered last year Book your place here: Reading Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mainly parents in Reception and new to the school. Any parent who has not previously attended. Any parent who would like a refresher.
Tuesday 21 st November	9am	Maths	How our sessions are delivered in school and how you can support at home. This is a repeat of the session delivered last term Book your place here: Maths Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mainly parents in Reception and new to the school. Any parent who has not previously attended. Any parent who would like a refresher.
Tuesday 5 th December	9am	Writing	How our sessions are delivered in school and how you can support at home. This is a repeat of the session delivered last term Book your place here: Writing Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mainly parents in Reception and new to the school. Any parent who has not previously attended. Any parent who would like a refresher.

SCHOOL CALENDAR DATES

I am sure you can appreciate that planning a school calendar of events is an enormous task that has to factor in so many considerations such as working parents, times of day, teachers as parents to name but a few. However we would like to gather information about which is the best day and time to attend school events. I know it will be impossible in such a large school to please all people all of the time, but we can certainly try!

Please take a few moments to complete the following questionnaire: [School Events Survey](#)

Bellmount Wood Avenue, Watford, Herts, WD17 3PE

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TERM DATES 2024-2025

It may seem like a long way off but if you are looking to book holidays for next summer and beyond you will need to know the term dates. Please scroll to the bottom of the newsletter for this information. A reminder that holidays in term time are not authorised.

PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING

Just a reminder if you have not already had the chance, please follow the link to see if you are eligible for additional support for your child in school: www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals.

This information is confidential and will not be publicly shared.

XTRA TIME WRAP CARE

Please ensure that you contact Nicole at Xtra Time in person to arrange wrap care for your child. They are very busy at the moment and may not have availability for your child to attend at short notice. It is recommended to pre-book in advance to ensure provision is available.

WEAR PURPLE DAY ~ Friday 21st July 2023

On the last day of the summer term 2023 we dressed in purple or wore butterflies in aid of the DEBRA charity ~ DEBRA is the National Charity that supports individuals and families affected by Epidermolysis Bullosa. We are delighted to announce that we raised an amazing **£162.20!** All of this money will go direct to the charity. Thank you to everyone who donated.

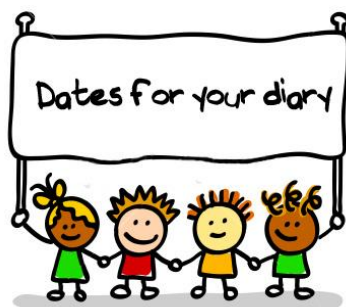
THIS WEEK'S FLYERS:

1. Cassiobury Junior School Holiday Camp
2. Social Media Guidelines
3. France Knowledge Organiser

Have a lovely weekend.

With best wishes

Charlotte Cooper
Headteacher



Autumn term 2023

Date	What's Happening?	Where?	Time?
Mon 18 th Sept	Y2 Florence Nightingale Workshop		
Tue 19 th Sept	EYFS Parent Pit Stop	Hall	9am
Wed 20 th Sept	National Fitness Day		
Fri 22 nd Sept	Jeans for Genes Awareness Day		
Fri 22 nd Sept	Reception Parents Coffee	Hall	9am

	Morning		
Fri 22 nd Sept	Open Afternoon	Classrooms	2:45pm
Wk Beg 25 th Sept	Cycle to School Week		
Mon 25 th Sept	Nursery Parents Coffee Morning	Hall	9am
Mon 2 nd October	Black History Month		
Thu 5 th Oct	Individual School Photographs		
Thu 5 th Oct	Phonics Parent Pit Stop	Hall	9am
Fri 6 th Oct	Year 1 Parents Coffee Morning	Oak Room	9am
Wed 11 th Oct	Harvest Festival (TBC)		
Wk beg 16 th Oct	Discovery Focus Week Recycling Week		
Wed 18 th Oct	Art Exhibition	Hall	3pm
Wed 18 th Oct	KS1 Parent Consultation	Virtual	Appointments
Thu 19 th Oct	KS1 Parent Consultation	Virtual	Appointments
Fri 20 th Oct	Year 2 Parent Coffee Morning	Oak Room	9am
Fri 20 th Oct	Open Afternoon	Classrooms	2:45pm
Fri 3 rd Nov	Outdoor Classroom Day		
Wk Beg 6 th Nov	Switch Off Fortnight		
Tue 7 th Nov	Reading Parent Pit Stop	Hall	9am
Wed 8 th Nov	EYFS Parent Consultation	Virtual	Appointments
Thu 9 th Nov	EYFS Parent Consultation	Virtual	Appointments
Wk Beg 13 th Nov	Well-Being Week Nursery Rhyme Week Road Safety Week Maths Week		
Fri 17 th Nov	Children in Need Awareness Day		
Fri 17 th Nov	Learning together morning	Classrooms	9am
Tue 21 st Nov	Maths Parent Pit Stop	Hall	9am
Thu 23 rd Nov	Flu Vaccination Day		
Thu 30 th Nov	Whole School Trip		
Fri 1 st Dec	SCHOOL CLOSED ~ OCCASIONAL DAY		
Mon 4 th Dec	Deco Day		
Tue 5 th Dec	Writing Parent Pit Stop	Hall	9am
Wed 6 th Dec	Reception ~ Christmas at St Luke's (TBC)	St Luke's Church	9:30am
Wed 6 th Dec	Year 2 ~ Christmas at St Luke's (TBC)	St Luke's Church	10:45am
Wed 7 th Dec	Year 1 ~ Christmas at St Luke's	St Luke's Church	9:30am
Fri 15 th Dec	Christmas Jumper and Dinner Day		
Wk Beg 18 th Dec	Christmas Parties Week		
Tue 19 th Dec	End of term for Nursery pupils		
Wed 20 th Dec	Autumn Term ends 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

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



PLEASE NOTE THESE ARE THE DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR **2024/25**
These dates are the same as the junior school.

AUTUMN 2024

Monday 2 September	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Tuesday 3 September	Autumn term starts
Mon 28 Oct – Fri 1 Nov	Half term
Friday 29 November	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Friday 20 December	Autumn term ends 1:15pm

SPRING 2025

Monday 6 January	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
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Tuesday 7 January	Spring term starts
Mon 17 Feb – Fri 21 Feb	Half term
Friday 4 April	Spring term ends 1:15pm

SUMMER 2025

Tuesday 22 April	Summer term starts
Mon 26 May – 30 May	Half term
Friday 18 July	End of summer term 1:15pm
Monday 21 July	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Tuesday 22 July	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Wednesday 23 July	Occasional Day ~ School closed to pupils