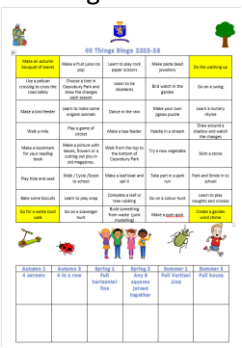
Newsletter 2 18th September 2026

Dear Parents
We've had a great week in school! The children enjoyed their fitness sessions on Wednesday as part of National Fitness Day and we celebrated our first fundraising day with Jeans for Genes.

40 THINGS BINGO
We launched our 40 Things Bingo with the children today in assembly. Your child will have a copy of their 'bingo card' in their reading record. Each half term I set the children a challenge to achieve.
This half term's challenge is to do the activities in each of the four corners. Once an activity is complete, colour in the square. Once all four squares are coloured the children can bring their sheet to me for a 'well done' stamp, a golden housepoint and a mention in the newsletter! I look forward to seeing how many children can complete this challenge!



WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AWARD
Our target is to be at **96%** attendance throughout the year.

This week	**96.6%**
Week beg 7th September	**96.3%**
Best week to date	Week beginning 14th September ~ **96.6%**

ATTENDANCE
Week beginning 14th September :

CLASS	RED <95%	AMBER 95%	GREEN 96+%
HERON	**94.1%**		
FOX			**98.6%**
BADGER			**97%**
ROBIN			**98.3%**
KINGFISHER		**95.7%**	
HEDGEHOG			**98.3%**
WOODPECKER	**94%**		
RABBIT			**98.6%**
OWL		**95.6%**	
SQUIRREL			**96.7%**

Well done to **Fox Class and Rabbit Class** who had the highest attendance this week.

Bellmount Wood Avenue, Watford, Herts, WD17 3PE
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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: 14th September	**577 = 9 hours and 37 minutes**
Last week: 7th September	**347 = 5 hours and 47 minutes**

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
Jack	*Heron*	*Library Summer Reading Challenge* *PSD Academy Summer Football Camp 'Player of the Week'*

MODESHIFT STARS

We were delighted to be awarded a 'Good Level' with Modeshift Stars during the summer holidays. Thank you for all your support with travel initiatives and walking to school. This accreditation needs renewing each year and I am very proud that we have maintained our 'Good Level'. Look out for initiatives this year to support our renewal.

OPEN AFTERNOON ~ Friday 25th September

You are invited in to school on Friday 25th September at 2:45pm to your child's classroom. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to visit your child's classroom. As much of our learning has been hands-on and practical these first few weeks this is just an opportunity to have a look around the classroom.

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

Please can you visit your younger child's classroom first and they can then join you with the older child.

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.

Please can I reinforce that the parent WhatsApp group should be a place for supportive and respectful communication. School staff are dedicated professionals who deserve to be treated with courtesy and respect at all times. If you have concerns about any aspect of school life, these should be raised directly with the school through the appropriate channels rather than discussed negatively on messaging platforms. Thank you for helping us maintain a positive and respectful school community.

LABELLING UNIFORM

Please can you ensure that all uniform is labelled; we are always able to repatriate named clothing. Any unnamed clothing is kept in our lost property boxes in the main office entrance.

FLU VACCINATION UPDATE
The Vaccination UK team were here this morning to administer the flu vaccine to those that consented. They will be returning on 4th November for a 'catch up' session for the classes they didn't get to and for the children that were absent.

CSA AGM
The CSA are the Cassiobury Schools Association and are a group of people who raise much needed funds for the school. The AGM is taking place on Wednesday 7th October 2025 at 8pm in our school Oak Room. The funds raised from the CSA goes directly to both schools and is put to good use to support the learning and curriculum enrichment of our children. It would be lovely to see you support the CSA in their endeavours and the more the merrier; many hands make light work!

WORLD CAR FREE DAY TUESDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER
World Car Free Day is an annual event that encourages people to leave their cars at home and try alternative, sustainable transport like walking, cycling, and public transport for the day. The event aims to reduce car usage and its associated negative impacts, such as air pollution and CO2 emissions, while promoting friendlier streets, cleaner air, and greener futures.
We hope that you are able to take part and walk to school on Tuesday or if walking is too far, please try to park and stride using our suggested routes.

SOUTH WEST HERTS PARTNERSHIP (SWHP)
South West Herts Partnership is a family focussed/needs-led partnership working alongside children and their families to ensure access to a wide range of early support with a non-judgemental friendly approach. As a school we 'buy-in' to their service which can help families within our school community. They regularly send newsletters and information about the services they offer and we pass these on to you as a 'flyer'; these are detailed below.

MY FIRST LIBRARY ADVENTURE ~ Reception children
Hertfordshire Libraries are, once again, running the My First Library Adventure promotion this autumn. Its aim is to encourage Reception children to visit, join and regularly use their local Hertfordshire Library to support their 'learning to read journey'. The initiative runs from mid-September to 19 December 2026.
Children who complete the 'Adventure' are entered into a prize draw. This year the library are excited to be working with local author Alice Hemming and with illustrator Nicola Slater, creators of the award winning 'The Leaf Thief ' series of picture books. Fifty children will win a personalised signed copy of one of their picture books. Two lucky children will win a read & draw-a-long with Alice and Nicola at their local library, for their whole school class!

REMINDERS

PARENT PIT STOPS

DATE	Time	FOCUS	INFO	TARGET AUDIENCE	BOOKING LINK
Friday 25th September	9am	Relational Practice (Positive Regard)	This is a new initiative we introduced to the school last year to enable the staff to better support the children with behaviour and well-being	• All parents	Positive Regard sign up

CLUBS
A reminder that some of our school clubs still have spaces. Please take a look at the clubs page on the school website for details on how to book.

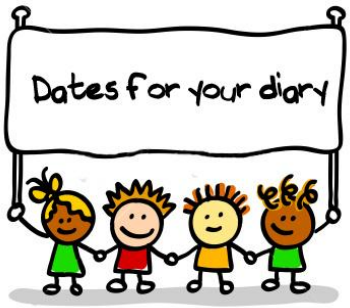
THIS WEEK'S FLYERS:

1. Beezee Bodies – making healthy lunches
2. Free Football Taster Session - Cassiobury Rangers
3. My First Library Adventure - for children in Reception in September 2026 - info for parents & carers
4. **Raring2Go** Newsletter

Have a lovely weekend.

With best wishes

Charlotte Cooper
Headteacher



Autumn 26

Date	Event	Where?	Time?	Parents invited?
	SEPTEMBER			
Fri 25th	Relational Practice Parent Workshop	Hall	9am	Yes
Fri 25th	Open Afternoon	Classrooms	2:45pm	Yes
OCTOBER				
October	Black History Month			
Thu 1st	Individual School Photos			
Wed 7th	Y1 Harvest Workshop at St Luke's			
Mon 12th	Yr 1 Reading & Writing Workshop	Hall	9am	Yes
Wed 14th	Harvest Assembly			
Thu 15th	Yr 2 Reading & Writing Workshop	Hall	9am	Yes
Fri 16th	Rec Reading & Writing Workshop	Hall	9am	Yes
Wk Beg 19th	Creative Focus Week Recycling Week			
Fri 23rd	Focus week open afternoon	Classrooms	2:45pm	Yes
Half term				
NOVEMBER				
Fri 6th	Yr 1 Maths Mastery Workshop	Hall	9am	Yes
Mon 9th	Yr 2 Maths Mastery Workshop	Hall	9am	Yes
Mon 9th	Rec Maths Mastery Workshop	Hall	2pm	Yes
Week beg 9th	Nursery Rhyme Week			
Wed 11th	Remembrance Day			

Wed 11th	EYFS & KS1 parent consultation	Virtual	Appointment	Yes
Thu 12th	EYFS & KS1 parent consultation	Virtual	Appointment	Yes
Fri 13th	Christmas Jumper Collection			
Fri 13th	Children in Need			
Week beg 16th	Road Safety Week Maths Week			
Tue 17th	ESafety Day			
Fri 20th	Learning Together Morning	Classrooms	9am	Yes
Wk beg 23rd	Wellbeing Week Parliament Week			
Thu 26th	Outdoor Learning Day			
Fri 27th	School Closed Occasional Day			
DECEMBER				
1st / 2nd / 3rd	Christmas Jumper shop (TBC)			
Fri 4th	Deco Day			
Tue 8th	Whole School Panto ~ TBC			
Fri 11th	Christmas jumper and dinner day			
Wk beg 14th	Christmas Parties			
Mon 14th	Y1 Nativity at St Luke's	St Luke's	9:30am	Yes
Wed 16th	Reception Nativity at St Luke's	St Luke's	9:30am	Yes
Wed 16th	Y2 Nativity at St Luke's	St Luke's	10:45am	Yes
Thu 17th	Nursery Nativity	Hall	9am	Yes
Thu 17th	End of Term for Nursery	Usual timings		
Fri 18th	End of Term for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2		1pm	

PLEASE NOTE THESE ARE THE DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR **2026/27**

AUTUMN 2026	
Mon 26 Oct – Fri 30 Oct	Half term
Friday 27 November	Occasional Day ~ School closed to pupils
Thursday 17 December	Autumn term ends for Nursery ~ normal hours
Friday 18 December	Autumn term ends 1pm

SPRING 2027	
Monday 4 January	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Tuesday 5 January	Spring term starts
Mon 15 Feb – Fri 19 Feb	Half term
Wednesday 24 March	Spring term ends for Nursery ~ normal hours
Thursday 25 March	Spring term ends 1pm

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SUMMER 2027	
Monday 12 April	Summer term starts
Mon 31 May – 4 June	Half term
Friday 25th June	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Tuesday 20 July	Summer term ends for Nursery ~ normal hours
Wednesday 21 July	End of summer term 1pm
Thursday 22 July	INSET ~ School closed to pupils

PLEASE NOTE THESE ARE THE DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR **2027/28**

AUTUMN 2027	
Wednesday 1 September	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Thursday 2 September	Autumn term starts
Mon 25 Oct – Fri 29 Oct	Half term
Friday 3 December	Occasional Day ~ School closed to pupils
Thursday 16 December	Autumn term ends for Nursery ~ normal hours
Friday 17 December	Autumn term ends 1pm

SPRING 2027	
Tuesday 4 January	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Wednesday 5 January	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Thursday 6 January	Spring term starts
Mon 14 Feb – Fri 18 Feb	Half term
Thursday 30 March	Spring term ends for Nursery ~ normal hours
Friday 31 March	Spring term ends 1pm

SUMMER 2028	
Tuesday 18 April	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Wednesday 19 April	Summer term starts
Mon 29 May – 2 June	Half term
Thursday 20 July	Summer term ends for Nursery ~ normal hours
Friday 21 July	End of summer term 1pm
Monday 24 July	INSET ~ School closed to pupils

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