Newsletter 5 9th October 2026

Dear Parents

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

This week	**96.7%**
Week beg 28th September	**96.7%**
Best week to date	Week beginning 21st September ~ **97.2%**

ATTENDANCE
Week beginning 5th October September :

CLASS	RED <95%	AMBER 95%	GREEN 96+%
HERON			**97%**
FOX	**95%**		
BADGER			**97.2%**
ROBIN			**98.7%**
KINGFISHER			**97.3%**
HEDGEHOG			**97%**
WOODPECKER			**97.3%**
RABBIT			**99.7%**
OWL	**93.7%**		
SQUIRREL	**93.8%**		

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

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: 5th October	**456 = 7 hours and 36 mins**
Last week: 28th September	**544 = 9 hours and 4 minutes**

40 THINGS BINGO!
This half term's challenge is to achieve **ALL 4 CORNERS.**
Well done to the following:

Pupil	Class
Jaylan	*Hedgehog*
Inaya	*Fox*
Freddie	*Fox*
Cassian	*Kingfisher*
Musa	*Kingfisher*

Pupil	Class
Eric	*Hedgehog*
Anayah	*Fox*
Aviraj	*Fox*
Hayla	*Kingfisher*
Archer	*Kingfisher*

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ART EXHIBITION

We are excited to announce we are hosting our very own Cassiobury Art Exhibition which is taking place on Wednesday 21st October from 2:45pm to 3:30pm. Please come and have a visit.

You are able to purchase your child's art work for £10 ~ please be aware this is a **CASH ONLY** sale and don't forget your bag for life!

If you are unable to visit the exhibition, there will still be a chance for you to purchase your child's art work from Thursday 22nd October; the office will send out details on Wednesday 21st October.

PARENT PIT STOPS ~ FINAL CALL

A reminder to sign up for our up and coming reading and writing workshops:

Monday 12th October	9am	Year 1 Reading and Writing Workshop	A session on how we teach reading and writing in school followed up with a 'hands on session' working alongside your child	• Year 1 parents only	Year 1 sign up
Thursday 15th October	9am	Year 2 Reading and Writing Workshop	A session on how we teach reading and writing in school followed up with a 'hands on session' working alongside your child	• Year 2 parents only	Year 2 sign up
Friday 16th October	9am	Phonics	A session on how we teach phonics in school followed up with a 'hands on session' working alongside your child	• Reception parents only	Reception sign up

COUNTRY OF THE MONTH

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

SIGNIFICANT FIGURE OF THE MONTH

This month we have focussed Theodosia Salome Okoh, a renowned Ghanaian teacher, artist, and sports administrator best known for designing Ghana's national flag. Please have a look at the attached knowledge organiser and share with your child.

LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN CONSULTATION

The public consultation on the draft Local Transport Plan for Hertfordshire went live on Monday 28 September and will run until Monday 9 November 2026; HCC would like to hear your views.

The draft Plan and consultation survey is available by following the link above.

The draft Plan includes a long-term vision to 2050, strategic objectives, monitoring framework, and the policies that will guide the delivery of transport services and infrastructure across the county.

The draft Plan aims to:

- Support sustainable growth across Hertfordshire
- Improve accessibility, safety, and connectivity for residents, businesses and visitors
- Enhance transport choice and encourage more sustainable travel
- Contribute to wider environmental, economic and quality of life outcomes

REMINDERS

HARVEST FESTIVAL – Wednesday 14th October 2026

The children will be participating in a Harvest Festival assembly on the morning of Wednesday 14th October 2026.
If you are able to donate the following items for our Harvest Festival, they can be brought into school on the morning of Wednesday 14th October 2026.
The Watford Foodbank is currently low on:

Tinned Potatoes/Instant Mash	Tinned Soup	Long Life Milk
Tinned Fruit	Tinned Custard/Rice Pudding	Tuna
Tinned Meat	Long Life Fruit Juice	Pasta Sauce

They currently do not need cereal, pasta, rice or baked beans.
Please bring your donations to your child's class on the morning of Wednesday 14th October 2026.

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION
You will have received information as to how to nominate to become a Parent Governor; please take time to have a read through and consider the role. Our current Governors will be on the playground next week at pick up and drop off to answer any questions you may have.

AUTHOR VISIT ~ Tuesday 13th October
We are delighted to let you know that professional storyteller **Liz Fost** will be visiting our school on **Tuesday 13th October** to read *The Most Magnificent Moose* by *Rachel Bright*. During the visit, children will have the opportunity to listen to an engaging live reading, enjoy the story together and take part in the experience of sharing a book with a storyteller.
If your child would like a **signed copy** of the book, parents can pre-order using the link below**.** Please note that **orders must be placed before 11am on Monday 12th October**, as late orders cannot be guaranteed. This is a lovely opportunity for children to keep a special memento of the day.
We are looking forward to giving the children a memorable storytelling experience: Chiltern Bookshop Order Form

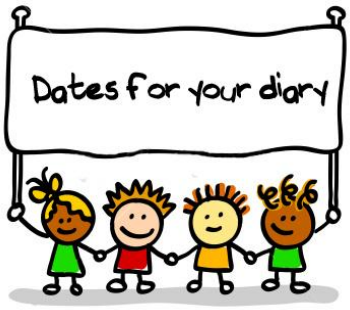
THIS WEEK'S FLYERS/LINKS:

1. Ghana Knowledge Organiser
2. Theodosia Salome Okoh Knowledge Organiser
3. SWHP Christmas Appeal Poster
4. HCL What's cooking at school
5. Challenge Sport & Education Half Term Holiday Camp

Have a lovely weekend.

With best wishes

Charlotte Cooper
Headteacher



Autumn 26

Date	Event	Where?	Time?	Parents invited?
OCTOBER				
October	Black History Month			
Mon 12th	Yr 1 Reading & Writing Workshop	Hall	9am	Yes
Tues 13th	Liz Fost Author Visit	Hall	9am	
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			
Weds 21st	Art Exhibition	Hall	2.45pm	Yes
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			

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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

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

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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 2028	
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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