Newsletter 7 23rd October 2026

Dear Parents
We made it! Our first half term of the new school year completed and a very long half term; I think we all deserve a well-earned rest! A very big WELL DONE to all our Nursery and Reception children (and parents!); you have had a fantastic start to school and we are all so proud of how well you have settled in to school life.

I wish you all a lovely and relaxing half term holiday.

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

This week	**94.3%**
Week beg 5th October	**96.7%**
Best week to date	Week beginning 21st September ~ **97.2%**

ATTENDANCE
Week beginning 12th October September :

CLASS	RED <95%	AMBER 95%	GREEN 96+%
HERON			**99.3%**
FOX	**90%**		
BADGER	**94.6%**		
ROBIN			**98.5%**
KINGFISHER	**91.7%**		
HEDGEHOG	**92.6%**		
WOODPECKER	**94.4%**		
RABBIT	**89.6%**		
OWL			**97%**
SQUIRREL		**95.6%**	

Well done to **Heron 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: 12th October	**282 = 4 hours and 42 mins**
Last week: 5th October	**456 = 7 hours and 36 mins**

Bellmount Wood Avenue, Watford, Herts, WD17 3PE
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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
Sebastian	*Rabbit*	*Swim England ~ Learn to swim stage 1*

40 THINGS BINGO!

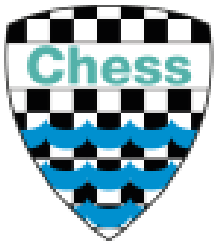
This half term's challenge is to achieve **ALL 4 CORNERS.**
Well done to the following:

Pupil	Class
Leela	*Owl*
Blake	*Owl*
Maya	*Owl*
Leo	*Woodpecker*
Max	*Rabbit*
Apollo	*Rabbit*
Mohammed	*Heron*
Krishav	*Heron*
Fionn	*Heron*
Beau	*Heron*
Jack	*Heron*
Kiansh	*Heron*
Amalia	*Robin*
Amadeea	*Robin*
Charlie	*Robin*
Phoebe	*Robin*
Saathvik	*Robin*
Frank	*Hedgehog*
Luna	*Hedgehog*
William	*Hedgehog*
Lola	*Hedgehog*

Pupil	Class
Layla	*Owl*
Anaaya	*Owl*
Anaya	*Woodpecker*
Ella	*Woodpecker*
Etta	*Rabbit*
Leo	*Rabbit*
Yassin	*Heron*
Sheryl	*Heron*
Manay	*Heron*
Reeva	*Heron*
Esther	*Heron*
Benny	*Robin*
Tina	*Robin*
Suleiman	*Robin*
Reuben	*Robin*
Jinora	*Robin*
Eleanor	*Robin*
Eloise	*Hedgehog*
Ilya	*Hedgehog*
Saraya	*Hedgehog*

HOUSE POINTS

We have counted up the house points for the end of the summer term ~ **Well done to COLNE!**



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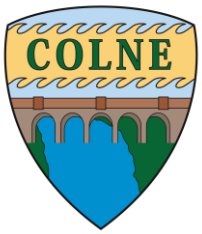

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LEARNING POWER CREATURE TROPHY

At the end of every half term, the class teachers nominate a pupil in their class who they believe have shown great skill in one of the 6 areas. We also have nominations for a 'behaviour and manners' trophy for children who consistently follow our Golden Rules and a PSHE and Well-Being Trophy for pupils who show kindness and empathy towards others. Once all the nominations are in, the names are put into a hat and a winner is drawn. The trophies are then presented to the pupil in our final assembly before a holiday. The trophies remain in school but the children bring home a certificate.

I am delighted to announce that the winners for Autumn 1 are:

TROPHY	PUPIL	CLASS
Resilience ~ Tortoise	Reyan	Heron
Reflective ~ Chameleon	Sheryl	Heron
Resourceful ~ Spider	Finley	Fox
Team Player ~ Bee	Miraya	Fox
	Amaya	Robin
	Haris	Hedgehog
Behaviour and Manners	Blake	Owl
PSHE	Margot	Hedgehog
Sporting Excellence	Yusha	Heron

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AUTUMN TERM REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS
Will be having our first parent consultation on either Wednesday 11th November or Thursday 12th November. Information about how to book your virtual meeting will be sent to parents after half term on Monday 2nd November; please ensure you book an appointment to speak to your child's teacher.

A MESSAGE FROM FOOD BANK
On behalf of everyone at Watford Foodbank, I wanted to extend our heartfelt thanks for your generous Harvest Festival food donation. Your contribution will make a meaningful difference to local families who are facing difficult times, and your support helps us continue providing essential assistance to those who need it most.
It was wonderful to see your school community come together with such kindness and enthusiasm. Acts of generosity like yours strengthen our wider community and remind us how powerful collective care can be.
Please pass on our gratitude to all the students, staff, and families who took part. Your efforts are truly appreciated.
As a school we donated a total 199kg. Thank you for your generous support.

ART EXHIBITION
Thank you to everyone who attended our art exhibition on Wednesday; we hope you enjoyed the wonderful display of our budding artists. If you were unable to attend the art exhibition and would like to purchase your child's framed picture you can pay online via the school gateway only please - we cannot accept cash payment after the exhibition has closed. Please make payment by Tuesday 3rd November. All artwork paid for online will be kept safely in school over half term and distributed via the classrooms by Friday 13th November.

ONLINE SAFETY
Please can I remind parents that they should have in place measures to keep their children safe outside of school. Children speak in school about computer games that they play at home that are not age appropriate. Please be mindful of the age restrictions that are on computer games and ensure that your child is only accessing a game that is appropriate. Each game has an age 'logo' similar to those found on DVDs and looks similar to this:

Your child should not be playing or viewing a game that is above their chronological age as the material in the games will be unsuitable.
Also be aware of websites and apps that may not be appropriate eg some of the games on 'Roblox' are inappropriate if parental controls have not been set up correctly.
For more information, please have a look at this website: Common Sense Media and our school esafety page: Esafety
Please also see attached a termly newsletter from Herts for Learning.

CLUBS
After the half term break the following clubs will be open to Reception children. Please contact them directly to sign up or to be added to any waiting list:
Samurai Kickboxing
Charlotte Amelia Dance
Xtra Time Football
Arty Amber - If there is sufficient interest this club will run on Fridays as well as Tuesdays
Zumba - Limited availability - please contact the club to arrange a trial class

FLU VACCINES
Vaccination UK will be returning to school on Wednesday 4th November to vaccinate any children that consented and missed the original session in September.

PARENT PIT STOPS ~ MATHS

A reminder to sign up for our up and coming Maths workshops; please sign up below. The sessions will be approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes long.

Friday 6th November	9am	Year 1 Maths Mastery	A session on how we teach Maths in school followed up with a 'hands on session' working alongside your child	• Year 1 parents only	Sign up here!
Monday 9th November	9am	Year 2 Maths Mastery	A session on how we teach Maths in school followed up with a 'hands on session' working alongside your child	• Year 2 parents only	Sign up here!
Monday 9th November	2pm	Rec Maths Mastery	A session on how we teach Maths in school followed up with a 'hands on session' working alongside your child	• Reception parents only	Sign up here!

CSA

Please see the attached flyers for information about the Halloween drawing competition along with the school disco taking place on the 20th November. Please sign up and pay for tickets via the School Gateway and remember you must include the allergy information and collection arrangements.

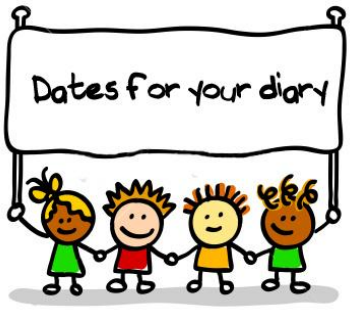
THIS WEEK'S FLYERS/LINKS:

1. CSA Bonfire Bake Sale Friday 6th November
2. St Andrew's ~ Light Show
3. South West Herts Partnership Newsletter
4. South West Herts Partnership Parenting Courses
5. South West Herts Partnership - What's on
6. On-line Safety Awareness Newsletter Autumn 2026
7. CSA Halloween Drawing Competition
8. CSA School Disco 20th November

Have a lovely half term holiday.

With best wishes

Charlotte Cooper
Headteacher



Autumn 26

Date	Event	Where?	Time?	Parents invited?
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

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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

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

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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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