



Weekly Newsletter

17th April 2026

Making learning a lifelong adventure

Our school value this week is **resilience**



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to the summer term! It has been good to see everyone again this week after the Easter break and the children have quickly settled back into their routines.

This week we started a short focus on *Resilience* - the last of our *Three Rs* from our revised school values. In assembly, we looked at this through the lens of the Artemis II astronauts who returned from the first manned lunar mission in over 50 years last weekend.



On a not unrelated theme, this week our Year 5 classes have each enjoyed a Minecraft-based STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) workshop, run on behalf of the Royal Air Force STEM programme. See picture (left). With a focus on disaster relief and working in teams, the children used STEM skills to complete various virtual tasks in the aftermath of an earthquake. Our Year 6 classes will be undertaking the same challenge next week.

Today, our Reception children have enjoyed and, I'm sure learnt lots from, their second off-site trip. This was a visit to the Eric Morecambe Centre for a production of Juila Donaldson's *Tales from Acorn Wood*, alongside a study of the local area, which included a visit to Rothamsted Park and a tour of Waitrose (other supermarkets are available)! Pictures right.



Next Thursday is St George's Day and those children who are in Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Rainbows, Brownies or Guides are welcome to wear their uniform for the day. Any Junior Children who need to wear PE kit for day could change in or out of it for the morning or afternoon as appropriate or could wear their scout scarf with their PE kit.

Yours faithfully

Jonathan Walker
Headteacher



Headteacher Awards

Congratulations to the following children for their achievements this week.

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|--|
| | Kit | For building a wonderful 200 using the big wooden bricks. |
| • Reception Chestnut Class | Menaya | For always making the right choice and being an amazing role model. |
| • Reception Oak Class | Daphne | For fantastic writing about Titch! |
| | Alex | For fantastic independent writing! Brilliant progress! |
| | Ella | For working hard in English this week, focussing on handwriting and spelling. |
| • Year 1 Cedar Class | Milo | For contributing so well in all his lessons this week. |
| | Eden | For writing a lovely postcard in English. |
| • Year 1 Elm Class | Otis | For a brilliant first week of the summer term. You have joined in with learning and completed some great work. |
| | Bella | For a great start to the new term in Year 2. You have shown improved resilience when coming in, in the mornings. Well done. |
| • Year 2 Hazel Class | Toby | For excellent explaining in Maths when having to regroup numbers to double or half them. |
| | Alex | For making a huge effort to neaten his handwriting. Well done! |
| • Year 2 Willow Class | Chloe | For making a huge effort to carefully follow steps when doubling and halving. Well done! |
| | Ted | Showing resilience in handwriting this week! Well done. |
| • Year 3 Birch Class | Ellie | Showing resilience in maths when working on formal written multiplication. Well done! |
| | Arthur | For his keen and confident approach in maths lessons. |
| • Year 3 Redwood Class | Saja | For always trying her best and asking questions if she is unsure. |
| | Emma | For making excellent contributions to our English lesson by confidently identifying persuasive features in a range of texts. |
| • Year 4 Maple Class | Dylan | For working well with his partner when creating a timeline of the different kings and queens in Britain. |
| | Haniya | For working hard to improve in maths this week. |
| • Year 4 Pine Class | Ruba Wali | For her thoughtful observations and reflections in art. |
| | Harrison | For careful work when identifying and measuring angles. |
| • Year 5 Ash Class | Sara | For showing resilience in all subjects and always striving to improve. |
| | Angus | For always showing great respect to the school, your class mates and adults around the school. |
| • Year 5 Hawthorn Class | Liliana | Working hard to improve your understanding of angles in maths. |
| | Kesara | For enthusiastically sharing her impressive knowledge of the circulatory system |
| • Year 6 Rowan Class | Amelie | For her growing confidence and sharing her ideas and questions more class |
| | Costa | |
| | Clara | For her excellent diary entry in role of a Victorian prisoner. |
| • Year 6 Sycamore Class | Alfred | For his brilliant attitude in the return to school for the Summer term. He turns up every day ready to learn and eager to make progress. |
| | Tilly | For her wonderful work on her sprinting, sprinting technique and straight line running. Well done! |
| • PE Awards Infants | Lyra | For her excellent and thoughtful learning in our sprint technique practices. Well done! |
| | Casper | For some strong work on his fielding in rounders. Well done! |
| • PE Awards Juniors | Felicity | For her focused work on her springing technique – it really shone through in her running. Well done! |

Sports Desk

ECB Dynamos Girls' Club at Harpenden Cricket Club is open to girls age 8 to 11 Years old on Fridays at 6pm from 8 May 2026. For more information, please see the attached flyer.

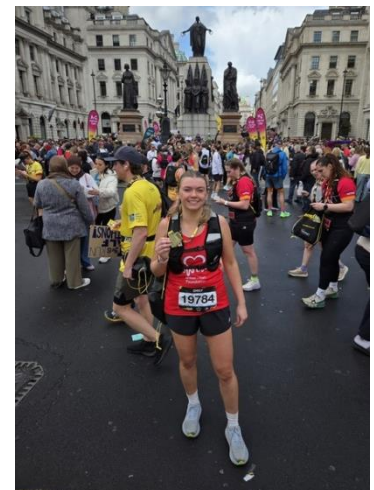
Community Matters – On-the-Run Day Sundays

London Landmarks Half Marathon

Congratulations to Year 6 teacher Miss Emily Pike who ran the *London Landmarks Half Marathon* last Sunday, before returning to school on Monday, as if she had just been for a walk in the park! Miss Pike was raising money for the British Heart Foundation and her JustGiving page is still open [here](#) with more information and details of how to give for any parents who would like to do so.

The London Marathon - Sunday 26 April 2026

Mr Andy Harris, headteacher at St Helen's in Wheathampstead, will be running the London Marathon in just 2 weeks' time to raise money for Emily's Fund - a trust established by close friends of his who tragically lost their 8 year-old daughter in 2022 to an incurable brain tumour. Emily was a pupil at Redbourn Primary School and her mother is a teacher at Roundwood Primary.



In the months after Emily's death, her family established *Emily's Fund* - a supporter group within *The Brain Tumour Charity* which has already raised almost £150,000. Only 3% of the government spend on cancer research goes to brain cancer and the money raised in Emily's name is targeted directly into research to help find a cure for this devastating disease.

The dedication shown by Emily's parents, Sarah and Andy, along with their son Harry, to raise money and awareness for this cause, in the face of intolerable pain that no parent should have to face, is truly inspirational and the Harpenden Consortium of Headteachers has agreed to share the details of Mr Harris's London Marathon challenge with parents across all of our schools. Anyone who feels prompted to sponsoring his run or to donate directly to Emily's Fund can do so by following these links.

[Andy Harris's London Marathon Page](#)

[Emily's Fund](#)

FoHBS Colour Run – Sunday 17 May 2026

FoHBS have already sold quite a number of tickets for this exciting new event. They will be turning the High Beeches school field into a high-energy, colour-packed fun zone the children won't forget. See this week's FoHBS News for more information, or [click here](#) to book.

Wheathampstead 2k and 10K Fun Run – Sunday 17 May 2026

Unfortunately, this event clashes with our own FoHBS Colour Run. However, parents and pupils can run their own mini marathon at the annual Wheathampstead Fun Run in May and can book a place here. The event includes an element of inter-schools' competition, more details of which can be found on [their site](#).

Further Information and Reminders

Attendance

Congratulations to Elm and Hawthorn classes who have the best attendance this week, with 100% and 98.9% attendance. More information can be found on the [Attendance and Leave of Absence page](#) of our website.

Smart Uniform - The High Beeches Way

Many of the children have returned looking smart in their school uniform or PE kit (Junior children where this for the whole day on PE days). Please help them to do so by ensuring that they are in the correct uniform or kit, including footwear and by ensuring that they adhere to hair and jewellery rules.

This helps us to set high expectations for conduct and learning (look smart - think smart)and helps to maintain our sense of shared identity as a school family. For older children, this will also help ensure your child is ready for the even more stringent uniform expectations at secondary school.

Full uniform expectations can be found on the [School Uniform page](#) of our website.

Considerate Parking

As always, we do ask parents and other adults who take and collect children from school to park safely and to be considerate of our neighbours when parking in the vicinity of the school site as follows:

DO


- ✓ Allow enough time for the journey and arrive on time
- ✓ Walk or park and stride, if you can
- ✓ Use the carpark at Crabtree Fields
- ✓ If parking on the street, park at least 10m away from a junction

DON'T

- X Park on a pavement
- X Block or obscure an entrance, driveway or junction
- X Park on double-yellow lines at any time.
- X Park on Zig-zags or single yellow lines at the stated times

LUTON MADE: VAUXHALL

The Exhibition




Visit the new temporary Vauxhall exhibition to learn more about Vauxhall Motors history in Luton.

Opening weekend events:

- Family fun day
Saturday, 2nd May 2026
- Classic car day
Sunday, 3rd May 2026

Opening: 2ND MAY 2026



Stockwood Discovery Centre
London Rd, Luton LU1 4LX

2nd May - 28th June 2026

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@Lutonmade_vauxhall • lutonmade@luton.gov.uk

Wind Band Day!

at Mid Herts Music Centre

Woodwind, Brass, and Percussion players - join us for a fun-filled day of music making!
This event is aimed at students in year groups 4-9.
Students need at least 2 terms of playing experience.
Students will be grouped in bands suited to their standard.



Wednesday 20th May 2026
9.30am - 2.30pm
Mid Herts Centre for Music & Arts
£30 per pupil



01707 270025 | www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/HMS-MidHerts



Diary Dates <i>New or amended events</i>	
Tuesday 21 April, 2:45pm	<i>KS1 Tests and Assessments – Y2 Parent Information Meeting</i>
Thursday 23 April 2026	<i>St George's Day</i>
23-24 April 2026	<i>Year 4 Residential - Paccar</i>
23 April 2026	<i>St George's Day – wear scouting or guiding uniform if applicable</i>
Friday 24 April 2026	<i>FoHBS Discos</i>
Thursday 30 April 2026	<i>Year 3 class assemblies: 9am Birch Class, 2:45pm Redwood Class</i>
Thursday 30 April, 2:50pm	<i>Reception Sit Together and Read event</i>
Monday 4 May 2026	<i>School closed for Early May Bank Holiday</i>
Thursday 7 May 2026	<i>Year 4 class assemblies: 9am Maple Class, 2:45pm Pine Class</i>
11-14 May 2026	<i>KS2 Tests</i>
Friday 15 May 2026	<i>Y2 class assemblies: 9am Hazel, 2:45pm Willow</i>
Friday 15 May 2026	<i>Y6 Hemel Snow Dome</i>
Sunday 17 May 2026	<i>FoHBS Colour Run</i>
Monday 18 May 2026	<i>Year 1 Knebworth House and Gardens Visit</i>
Thursday 21 May 2026	<i>Year 5 class assemblies: 9am Ash Class, 2:45pm Hawthorn Class</i>
20-22 May 2026	<i>Year 6 Residential - Paccar</i>
Friday 22 May 2026	<i>School closes for half-term break at normal time</i>
Monday 1 June 2026	<i>FoHBS Legoland Trip</i>
Tuesday 2 June 2026	<i>School opens for summer term 2</i>
2 – 12 June 2026	<i>Y4 Multiplication Tables Check</i>
2-5 June 2026	<i>Special Curriculum Week – STEM</i>
Thursday 4 June 2026	<i>Class Group Photographs</i>
8-12 June 2026	<i>Y1 Phonics Screening Check</i>
Tuesday 9 June 2026	<i>Reception trip to Hertfordshire Zoo</i>
Thursday 11 June 2026	<i>Y3 Kew Gardens Visit</i>
Tues 16 June '26, 1:30pm	<i>Y3/4 Sports Day</i>
Friday 19 June 2026	<i>Music on the Field event</i>
Tues 23 June 26, 1:30pm	<i>Y5/6 Sports Day</i>
Wednesday 24 June 2026	<i>Class Group Photographs</i>
Thurs 25 June 2026, 9:15am	<i>YR/1/2 Sports Day</i>
Friday 26 June, 2:50pm	<i>Reception Sit Together and Read event</i>
Monday 29 June 2026	<i>Y5 Young Mariners Visit</i>
Tuesday 30 June 2026	<i>Year 1 class assemblies: 9am Elm Class, 2:45pm Cedar Class</i>
Monday 6 July 2026	<i>Y1 Woburn Safari Park Visit</i>
Thursday 9 July 2026	<i>Transition Day</i>
Friday 10 July 2026	<i>Pupil reports out to parents</i>
Saturday 11 July 2026	<i>FoHBS Summer Fair</i>
14 & 15 July 2026, 6:00pm	<i>Year 6 leavers' production</i>
Mon 20 July 2026, 6pm	<i>Year 6 leavers' event (TBC)</i>
Mon 20 July 2026, 9:30am	<i>HB's Got Talent</i>
Tues 21 July 2026, 9am	<i>Year 6 leavers' assembly</i>
Tues 21 July 2026, 1:30pm	<i>school closes for summer holiday</i>