



Weekly Newsletter

12th June 2026

Making learning a lifelong adventure

respect...responsibility...resilience...kindness...confidence...honesty

Dear Parents/Carers

This Week in School

This week, despite the weather, our Reception and Year 3 children have been exploring living things in off-site visits, which have really helped to bring some of the more abstract parts of the curriculum to life. The Reception children were very excited to take a coach to the Hertfordshire Zoo on Tuesday to explore *Animals Great and Small* (picture right) and the Year 3 children turned botanist in their visit to Kew Gardens yesterday to explore the life-cycles of plants and how they impact on the world and its eco-systems, and (by virtue of the weather) the water cycle (pictures above)!



Many thanks to the various parent volunteers who attended these visits, to the admin team for supporting the planing of the trips and the school staff for planning and leading them.

Next week sees the first of our annual Sports Days (with Year 3/4 Sports Day on Tuesday afternoon) and our *Music on the Field* event, on the theme of *Folk Songs from Around the World*, on Friday afternoon. All year groups are participating in this with singing and, in some cases, instrumental work, as well as our school choir. Parents are invited to attend this relatively informal event and to bring picnic blankets or chairs to sit on the field and watch the performances, and need not book in advance.

Arrangements for Sports Days

Parents are also invited to come and watch their children participating in their sports day and are reminded that these take place in key stages or phases over 3 different occasions. This means that, on each occasion, the remaining 4 or 5 year groups are in normal lessons around the school and, quite rightly, we must ensure the entry and exit of visiting parents and other family members to the school site is managed safely and without presenting safeguarding risks or disruption to learning. For this reason, parents and families are requested as follows:

1. *Pre-school siblings may attend sports days and sit on parents laps or remain strapped into a pram or buggy.*
2. *Parents and other family members should enter the school site via the gate closest to our Reception classrooms which will be open 15 minutes before the start of the event and will be locked for the duration of the event itself.*
3. *Parents will not be able to enter or leave the site after the start of the event, as the gates will need to remain locked for safeguarding reasons.*
4. *Parents and other family members should remain in their viewing areas on the school field for the duration of the event.*
5. *Although parents are free to move around the field to watch the field events, they are requested not to seek to be with their child during any of the events or to cross the running track during the track events.*
6. *Any parents who are unavoidably detained may be able to enter through the main entrance foyer and will need to wait until school staff are available to escort them through to the field. Any who unexpectedly need to leave the event should ask a member of school staff to accompany them to the main entrance.*
7. *Toilet facilities are not easily available for guests on the field and the Discovery Den toilet may be used in the event of urgent need! Please do not enter the main school building.*

Yours faithfully

Jonathan Walker

Headteacher

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Headteacher Awards

Congratulations to the following children for their achievements this week.

- **Reception Chestnut Class** Ava For writing sentences independently about his trip to the zoo.
Yelina For always being so focused in phonics. Well done!
- **Reception Oak Class** Isaac For very good listening and behaviour on our trip to the zoo. He was great company!
Leo For creating a lovely map of the zoo after our trip!
- **Year 1 Cedar Class** Ollie For great work on fractions this week and being up for a challenge!
Elsie For contributing great ideas and answers during whole class discussions.
Asher For enthusiasm for learning and always being keen!
- **Year 1 Elm Class** Phoebe For working really hard on her 'Monster hunt' story.
Kyan For his fantastic work exploring halves and quarters in Maths.
- **Year 2 Hazel Class** Eden For being a great learning partner and consistently trying her best, especially in English
Noah C For showing positivity in learning and using the past progressively creatively.
- **Year 2 Willow Class** Mollie For Super detail when writing with apostrophes for contractions. Well done!
Alex For Super reasons when writing with apostrophes for contractions. Well done!
- **Year 3 Birch Class** Emily For excellent work in Geography when carrying out fieldwork and creating her own map.
Tilly For some fantastic descriptive writing this week in English inspired by the Iron Man
- **Year 3 Redwood Class** Blyth For observantly mapping our school grounds and nature area in geography.
Elise For working really hard to subtract hours and minutes in Maths.
- **Year 4 Maple Class** Dylan BC For his brilliant work with angles this week in maths.
Rose For always being an excellent role model - you listen attentively, are kind to others, and are a resilient learner. Well done!
- **Year 4 Pine Class** Rafe For showing resilience and determination when preparing for and completing the MTC.
Jake For a great effort exploring properties of triangles in maths.
- **Year 5 Ash Class** Sara For making such a great progress in reading this year through hard work and perseverance.
Colby For writing an excellent poem on the theme of friendship and using simile to great effect.
- **Year 5 Hawthorn Class** Lilliana For always working well with your peers and bringing kindness to the classroom.
Eddie For your perseverance and hard work in improving your grammar.
- **Year 6 Rowan Class** Edward For being the driving force behind their Dragons Den team, Leading with confidence.
Juliet For effective use of figurative language in her setting description.
- **Year 6 Sycamore Class** Emily For all her hard work in her Dragons' Den project – working in her own time at home!
Alfred For his excellent working writing his own fantasy story inspired by the novel, Skellig :)
- **PE Awards Infants** Elodie For excellent work with her 'ready position', allowing her to move quickly in order to stop a rolling ball. Well done!
Grace For great work with her 'toe taps' control with a football. Well done!
- **PE Awards Juniors** Reenie For really pushing herself to improve on her distance in long jump. Well done!
Flossy For showing excellent movement off the ball to make herself available for a pass from a team mate. Well done!
Ama For her excellent efforts in javelin trials. A great attitude to learning and improvement. Well done!

Supporting Families






Baking BUDDIES
Let's get ready to **BAKE**

You are invited to join Baking Buddies for our new Saturday morning SEND-friendly family baking experience.

These sessions are especially designed to create a safe and supportive space for parents and their child/ren to spend quality time together and bake recipes from all around the world.

Our first session is on Saturday 27th June from 9.30-12.30pm followed by a fundraising session for SpaceUK on Sunday 12th July.

Contact Sabrina at hello@bakingbuddiesfun.co.uk for more information or to book one of our sessions.

FREE ONLINE SUMMER 2026 WORKSHOPS FOR HERTS PARENTS/CARERS

June/July Dates

Online Workshops funded by Hertfordshire County Council	Day	Date	Time
Applying for an EHCP	Mon	1.6.26	19:00 - 20:30
Preparing for an EHCP Review	Wed	3.6.26	10:00 - 11:30
Understanding Anxiety	Fri	5.6.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Manage Anxiety	Mon	8.6.26	19:00 - 20:30
Tips & Tools to Support Puberty	Wed	10.6.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Build Self-Esteem	Mon	15.6.26	19:00 - 20:30
Understanding Medication Options	Wed	17.6.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Support Social Skills	Mon	22.6.26	19:00 - 20:30
Tips & Tools to Manage Eating Difficulties	Wed	24.6.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Support Emotional Development	Mon	29.6.26	19:00 - 20:30
Tips & Tools to Manage Everyday Changes	Wed	1.7.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Support Executive Function	Mon	6.7.26	19:00 - 20:30
Tip & Tools for Positive Behaviour	Wed	8.7.26	10:00 - 11:30

"That was so amazing. I have done many training sessions about ASD through my work but that was the most honest & informative session I have ever had"

"I picked up so many ideas to try which I'm sure will be an enormous help, thank you so much"

01727 833963 <http://www.add-vance.org> herts@add-vance.org

Book your FREE ticket on <http://add-vance.eventbrite.com/> or visit our website

These workshops are funded by Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund and are open to residents of Hertfordshire only.

Sports Desk

Congratulations to Y3 pupils Josh L, Thomas, Josh I, Elliott and Tom, who were all awarded players' awards at Harpenden Colts end of season awards last weekend.

Further Information and Reminders

Attendance

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

Variable Summer Weather

The children have coped very well this week with *it's wet break – it's not wet break (in, out - shake it all about)* associated with this week's very wet yet changeable weather. It looks like it might be settling down for at least the next week or so, but do please make sure that children have a suitable raincoat in school just in case and that they have sun cream applied and a sun hat and water bottle with them when sunny weather is forecast.

A message from the Eco Council

June is Clean Air Month, and Thursday 18th June is Clean Air Day! During this month, we will be learning about how important clean air is for keeping us healthy and helping our planet.

Clean air is especially important at school because it helps children breathe more easily, stay active, and concentrate better in lessons. We can all help by walking, cycling, scooting to school where possible, and by remembering not to leave car engines running outside the school gates.

Our Eco Councillors will be taking part in some fun activities in school to help learn more about looking after the environment and keeping our air clean. Attached are some suggested activities for children to try at home with their families too!

Healthier Air

Travel around Hertfordshire County with us this June as we learn about the air around us and how it can be healthier.

Join the activities throughout the month or complete them during the week of Clean Air Day on the 18th June 2026.

Access the activities via the QR code, or web link.

Scan for healthier air month activities



Hertfordshire.gov.uk/healthierairmonth

Day 1 Kick off your healthier air month by writing your pledge below. Could you walk, cycle or scoot to school more this month?

Day 30 Why not finish off the healthier air month by reading the Auntie Duck story book



My Healthier Air Pledge:

Day 6 The air quality affects plants and wildlife too. Why not try Lichen spotting



Day 12 What's in the air? Have a go at making an air pollution catcher



Could you share some facts about the air around us with others?



Let's clear the air

Day 18 - Clean Air Day! Who is being idle about air quality? Find out with the vehicle idling survey



Day 24 How healthy are your streets? Could you complete a Healthy Streets feeling and measurement survey



Diary Dates <i>New or amended events</i>	
Tues 16 June '26, 1:30pm	Y3/4 Sports Day
Friday 19 June 2026 2pm	Music on the Field event
Tues 23 June 26, 1:30pm	Y5/6 Sports Day
Thurs 25 June 2026, 9:15am	YR/1/2 Sports Day
Friday 26 June, 2:50pm	Reception Sit Together and Read event
Monday 29 June 2026	Y5 Young Mariners Visit
Tuesday 30 June 2026	Year 1 class assemblies: 9am Elm Class, 2:45pm Cedar Class
Monday 6 July 2026	Y1 Woburn Safari Park Visit
Tuesday 7 July 2026	Autumn Clubs Portal Opens 6.30pm (external providers book directly)
Thursday 9 July 2026	Transition Day
Friday 10 July 2026	Pupil reports out to parents
Saturday 11 July 2026	FoHBS Summer Fair
14 & 15 July 2026, 6:00pm	Year 6 leavers' production
Mon 20 July 2026, 6pm	Year 6 leavers' event (TBC)
Mon 20 July 2026, 9:30am	HB's Got Talent
Tues 21 July 2026, 9am	Year 6 leavers' assembly
Tues 21 July 2026, 1:30pm	school closes for summer holiday