



Weekly Newsletter

Friday 4 September 2026

Making learning a lifelong adventure

Our school value for this half-term is  **confidence**

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back!

It has been lovely to welcome colleagues and families back to school from their summer holiday this week and to continue to get to know our new Reception cohort who have attended for half days this week and will be in school full-time from Wednesday next week (9 September). Our newest pupils have settled in well and the staff team are enjoying getting to know them. This week we were also pleased to welcome two new colleagues to the teaching staff team: Mrs Melanie Trew (Reception Chestnut Class) and Miss Nicole Lang (Y2 Hazel Class).

The children in Year 1 upwards have also transitioned into their new classes successfully and we are grateful to parents for helping them to return with positive mindsets and smart uniforms, ready for the new academic year. On Tuesday morning the children in Years 1 to 6 joined together for a start-the-new-school-year assembly in which we explored the importance of confidence, taking our inspiration from British Athlete Amy Hunt, who won no less than four gold medals in the European Athletics Championships in Glasgow in August, and reflecting on these questions: *what are you confident about, what helps you to more confident and how can you inspire confidence in yourself and others?*

Confidence is one of our six school values and parents will hopefully notice that, following work with our Resident Artist during the summer term, representations of these have now been displayed around the school as a reminder of these *golden threads* running through our relationships, learning and development at school. See picture (right) of one of the images painted on dining room wall and look out for the new display in the main hall.



We had an excellent turn-out for our Year 6 meet the teacher session this morning and look forward to welcoming parents from the other year groups in our sessions next week.

Allergy Safety in Schools

Some parents may be aware of the publication of new *statutory guidance* for allergy safety in schools – sometimes referred to as *Benedict's Law*. This was published during the school holidays and strengthens schools' responsibilities for managing allergies and preventing anaphylaxis.

As a school, we welcome the new guidance and are pleased to be able to confirm that we were previously already meeting the majority of the expectations laid out in the document. This includes our completing individual healthcare plans for children at risk of allergic reactions (generally those with adrenaline auto injectors - AAI's, sometimes referred to as *epipens* – and those with asthma inhalers), regular training on allergy and anaphylaxis for all staff and the acquisition of spare AAI's. Following the publication of the guidance, we will plan to increase the number of spare AAI's we hold in school and are drafting a specific allergy safety policy, which we expect to be able to publish in the next few weeks.

Yours faithfully

Jonathan Walker
Headteacher

Further Information and Reminders

Diary Dates

Please see below for a list of events this term and key dates for the spring and summer terms. We publish these in advance to help parents plan and, whilst every effort is made to avoid having to amend them, we occasionally need to make changes that may be beyond our control.

4 to 10 September 2026	<i>Year Group Meet the Teachers Sessions:</i> • Year 5 - Mon 7 Sept 8:50am • Year 2 - Mon 7 Sept 2:30pm • Year 3 - Tues 8 Sept 8:50am • Year 1 - Tues 8 Sept 2:30pm • Reception - Wed 9 Sept 8:50am • Year 4 - Thurs 10 Sept 8:50am
Wed 9 September 2026	<i>Reception pupils begin full days</i>
Friday 9 October 2026	<i>Pupil Flu Vaccinations</i>
Thurs 24 Sept 2026, 1:30pm	<i>Year 6 Leaders to Harpenden Peace Day Service.</i>
24 & 25 September 2026	<i>Y6 pupils host MacMillan Coffee Morning</i> • Thursday 24 Sept, 9am – Rowan Class • Friday 25 September, 9am – Sycamore Class
Fri 2 and 9 October 2026	<i>FoHBS Movie Nights</i>
Monday 5 October 2026	<i>Pupil Photographs</i>
Monday 12 October 2026	<i>Harvest festival – King's Pantry Food Bank and hygiene bank led by Revd JF</i>
Friday 16 October 2026	<i>FoHBS Wine Tasting event</i>
W/b 19 October 26	<i>Parent Consultations</i> • Tuesday 20, 3:45 to 7pm • Thursday 22, 3:45 to 7pm
23 October 2026	<i>School closes for half-term break at normal time</i>
Monday 2 November	<i>School opens for Autumn Term 2</i>
26 November 2026	<i>FoHBS Wreath Making Workshop</i>
Friday 4 December 2026	<i>School closed for Occasional Day</i>
Tuesday 1 Dec 2026 9am	<i>Reception Nativity #1</i>
Thursday 3 Dec 2026, 9am	<i>Reception Nativity #2</i>
Wed 2 December 2026	<i>Rotary Carols at Methodist Church (Y6 choir)</i>
Thursday 10 Dec 2026, 2:15pm	<i>Year 1 Christmas Carols around the Tree</i> • 2: pm - Elm Class • 2:30pm - Cedar Class
Monday 14 December 2026	<i>Year 2 Nativity</i> • 1:15pm - Willow Class • 2:15pm - Hazel Class
Sat 12 December 2026	<i>FoHBS Christmas Fair</i>
Wednesday 16 Dec 2026	<i>5pm - KS2 Red and Yellow House Carol Service</i> <i>6:30pm - KS2 Blue and Green House Carol Service</i>
Thurs 17 December 2026	<i>School Christmas Dinner and Discos, and L & D Christmas Jumper Day</i>
Friday 18 Dec 2026, 2pm	<i>School closes at 2pm for Christmas holiday</i>

Spring Term	
Tuesday 5 January 2027	<i>School opens for Spring Term 1</i>
Friday 8 Jan 2027	<i>Spring Curriculum Newsletter to parents</i>

Thurs 28 Jan '27, 2:30pm	<i>KS2 Test Information Meeting for Y6 Parents</i>
Friday 5 February 2027	<i>Year 6 Mid-year reports to parents</i>
8 and 11 February 2027	Y6 Parent Consultations - Monday 8 February, from 3:30 to 5:30 - Thursday 11 February, 1:30pm to 4:30pm
8-12 February 2027	Be Safe Week
Friday 12 February 2027	School closes for half-term break
Mon 22 February 2026	School opens for Spring Term 2
Thursday 4 March 2027	<i>World Book Day (arrangements TBC)</i>
Monday 15 March 2027	Reception to Year 5 Mid-year reports to parents
w/b 15 March 2027	Rec to Y5 Parent Consultations - Tuesday 16, 3:45 to 6:30pm - Thursday 18, 3:45 to 6:30pm
23 March 2027	Spring Music Festival, Eric Morcambe Centre
Wednesday 24 March 2027	<i>2pm – KS2 Speakers Cup Final</i>
Thursday 25 March 2027	<i>9.00am - K1 Speakers Cup Final</i>
Thurs 25 March 2027, 2pm	School closes for Easter holiday

Summer Term	
Monday 12 April 2027	School opens for Summer Term
Fri 16 April 2027	Curriculum overview to parents
Friday 23 April 2027	St George's Day
22-23 April 2027	Year 4 Residential – Paccar (Provisional TBC)
Wednesday 24 May 2027	Class Group Photographs
Tuesday 25 May, 1:30pm	Year 5/6 Sports Day
26-28 May 2027	Year 6 Residential – Grafham Water
Friday 28 May 2027	School closes for half-term break at normal time
Tuesday 8 June 2027	School opens for summer term 2
Tuesday 8 June, 1:30pm	Year 3/4 Sports Day
7 – 18 June 2026	Y4 Multiplication Tables Check
8-11 June 2027	Special Curriculum Week
14-18 June 2027	Y1 Phonics Screening Check
Thurs 17 June 2027, 9:15am	YR/1/2 Sports Day
Friday 18 June 2027	Music on the Field event
Thursday 8 July 2027	Transition Day
Friday 9 July 2027	Pupil reports out to parents
Tues 20 July 2027, 1:30pm	school closes for summer holiday

