



NEWSLETTER

24TH MAY 2024

WELCOME

A very big well done to our children for all their hard work this term. We have been talking about our value 'Trust' over the last few weeks and it's been a pleasure to see our children grow. We look forward to learning about our value next half term: 'Respect'.

A polite reminder: as we strive to create a nurturing and supportive environment for all our students, we kindly ask for your cooperation in promoting respectful behaviour within our school community. It's important that we all work together to set a positive example for our children.

We have some exciting news to announce: both Mrs Arlow and Mrs Aghimien are expecting babies! Mrs Arlow will be leaving us at the end of the academic year but will be returning next summer and Mrs Aghimien will be leaving us early July and will be returning next summer also. We wish them and their families lots of happiness!

Sadly, we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Crockett who will be taking a new and exciting step into working at a council level. Mrs Crockett will be leaving us early June. We will miss Mrs Crockett but wish her well on her new venture - we've no doubt she will shine. However, we are excited to announce that Miss Parles will be taking up the role of Pastoral TA from September - well done, Miss Parles!

We will also be saying goodbye to Marie Stone, our much loved Cook for over 20 years. She has contributed so much at lunchtimes and we've all enjoyed her meals! Thank you, Marie and good luck in your new region.

Cheska Tyler
Headteacher

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE

The Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP) has been set up so that all agencies and organisations that work with children and young people can collaborate to keep them safe. Call 0300 123 4043 at any time if you are a child or young person being abused or mistreated, or if you are an adult worried about a young person. Call 999 if you're in immediate danger or if a crime is being committed.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 03/06/24 08:50am - Return to school for Summer 2
- WB 03/06/24 - Scholastic Book Fair
- WB 03/06/24 - Year 6 Elm Residential
- 04/06/24 - Year 1 Chalkwell Beach Trip
- 10/06/24 - PHSE Meeting in Sycamore Class
- WB 10/06/24 - Year 6 Oak Residential
- 11/06/24 - SEN Coffee Morning with ADD-vance
- 12/06/24 - Proud to Be Me Day
- 17/06/24 - Whole Class Photographs
- 19/06/24 - Year 3 Kew Gardens
- 21/06/24 - Occasional Day - School Closed
- 24/06/24 - EYFS Sports Day
- 25/06/24 - Non Uniform Day (bring a bottle for the Summer Fair)
- 25/06/24 - Y4 Ash Amaravati Buddhist Monastery trip
- 26/06/24 - Y4 Yew Amaravati Buddhist Monastery trip
- 26/06/24 - New Nursery & Reception Parents Picnic
- 28/06/24 - Inclusive MAT Olympics
- 01/07/24 - Year 2 Knebworth House
- 02/07/24 - Reception Paradise Wildlife park
- 04/07/24 - Year 4 Whipsnade Zoo
- 04/07/24 - Nursery Mead Open Farm
- 04/07/24 - Year 1 The Ark Synagogue Visit
- 06/07/24 - Summer Fair
- 11/07/24 - Move Up Day/Secondary Transition
- 16/07/24 - Friends School Disco
- 19/07/24 - Last Day of School - finish 1.30pm
- 04/09/24 - Start of new school year

OUTDOOR FESTIVAL

The Eco Council and some very lucky Forest School pupils had the opportunity to visit the University of Hertfordshire for a day of Outdoor Learning. This was an opportunity to take part in a variety of interactive activities within the beautiful grounds of the Bayfordbury Campus, such as pond dipping, nature art, campfire cooking and woodland treasure hunts.

Thank you to the staff and students on the Master's degree in Outdoor Environmental Education for providing such a fabulous day!



**We are kind, we aim high, we
are brave!**

BOOK CORNER

Welcome to Book Corner!

I hope you all have this in your calendars! The Scholastic Book Fair is in school the first week back after the half term holiday! Join us there to bag a bargain and help raise funds for our library.



We are pleased to report that we have had a tremendous response to our writing competition. We have had so much enjoyment from reading the entries and I am very excited to be announcing the winners in our assembly today. Well done to all those budding authors...you are all superstars.

I wish you all a very happy holiday. Keep reading!

Jane Sibbit
LKS2/Reading Leader/Class Teacher

NEW CATERING COMPANY

Our new caterers, Aspens, will be taking over looking after our school lunches after May half term. Information about this has been sent to your registered email addresses. Please do not forget to complete the Special Diets/Allergy form if your child requires a special meal.

WRITERS OF THE MONTH

Well done to all of our terrific writers of the month. Please ask your child's teacher if you'd like to come and see the display!

Berries	Khloe & Zayn	Sycamore	Maja
Conkers	Joseph	Yew	Jamal
Acorns	Sarena	Ash	Ahaan
Birch	Ziki	Pine	Jai
Maple	Alyssia-River	Fir	Jaydrien
Willow	Isabella	Oak	Patrick
Cedar	Shai	Elm	Omar
Hazel	Ben		

YEAR 3s GREEN ADVENTURE

Year 3 students have an exciting time ahead as they embark on a special gardening project: planting pizza and vegetable soup beds! This creative and educational activity will not only teach the children about gardening but also where their food comes from.

The students will be planting a variety of ingredients

commonly found in pizzas and vegetable soups. From tomatoes and basil for the pizza beds to carrots and beans for the soup beds, the children are in for a hands-on, fun-filled learning experience. We are so grateful to Mark & Grace Scoulding who have put so much time and effort into providing this fabulous opportunity.



We are also happy to thank Asda for their generous donation of gardening gloves, ensuring our young gardeners can work safely and comfortably.



SCARLET FEVER

We have had a few cases of scarlet fever across the school recently. Please be advised that if your child displays symptoms of scarlet fever you should take them to the GP. If it is a confirmed case and the GP prescribes anti-biotics then you should keep your child off school for 48 hours in order to reduce the spread and allow time for the anti-biotics to work. Your child can return to school after the 48 hours if they are feeling well enough. [Here is a link](#) to the NHS page which details the symptoms of scarlet fever.

NEWS FROM THE ECO-COUNCIL

The incredible Eco-Council continue to meet weekly to share effective ways to improve the biodiversity our school environment, and conserve the areas of wildlife we have. They do this through completing regular litter picks and discussing new initiatives discovered through research.



We have recently bought window bird feeders for Nursery, KS1 and the office and hope to see some feathery friends visiting very soon. We have also got a new water butt ready to install and some new bird boxes to put up. Thank you for all your support to help protect nature.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ENCOURAGING HEALTHY FRIENDSHIPS

Navigating the complexities of childhood and adolescent friendships can be challenging – but with the right guidance, children and young people can cultivate meaningful, supportive relationships, some of which may last for many years. These top tips provide a comprehensive approach to fostering healthy friendships among children and young people. It's important to remember, however, that each child is different, and will require an individual approach to relationship support.

1 GRANT FRIENDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Encouraging children and young people to join extracurricular activities can foster healthy friendships by providing shared interests and common ground. Engaging in these pastimes offers a platform for interaction, sometimes alleviating the social pressure of knowing what to say, and helps children develop meaningful connections.

2 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

The children and young people in our lives see how we behave, the connections that we've made and the interactions between us and others. When we model healthy friendships, we set an example and help youngsters to understand what healthy friendships looks like and how to navigate them.

3 HELP THEM LOVE THEMSELVES

Healthy friendships aren't just about dynamics with other people. They're about our relationship with ourselves. For overall wellbeing, it's important for a child to have the space to build their self-esteem and a positive self-image, as these factors can have a notable influence on the friendships they form throughout life.

4 MONITOR SCREEN TIME

Too much screen time can affect some children's wellbeing in general, but it can specifically impact friendships if it results in fewer positive social interactions. In some cases, reducing screen time and encouraging children and young people to find ways to interact face-to-face can have positive results. It's also important to remember that young people can make positive friendships online, but they will require support to do this safely.

5 TEACH PROBLEM-SOLVING

Inevitably, friendships can run into problems. However, this is also an opportunity to support children and young people to work through any difficulties that may arise. It can be tempting to intervene and try to fix these issues for those involved, but helping them consider ways of resolving conflict or managing difficult situations for themselves can help them create stronger friendships.

6 EMPOWER THE CHILD

When we give children and young people the confidence to choose their friends, navigate interpersonal boundaries and consider how they want to interact with the different people around them, we empower them to take control of the friendships they have. When young people feel in control of these things, they're more likely to make positive choices and remain aware of the signs of a negative relationship.

7 TEACH EMPATHY

'Healthy friendships' doesn't always mean 'perfect'. Sometimes, disagreements can happen. When we teach children and young people to have empathy, we help them to see both sides of a relationship; to be mindful of the challenges a friend might be facing or whatever else might be going on. This can help children and young people to build stronger friendships.

8 BE OPEN TO QUESTIONS

Talking to young people about their friendships, who they spend time with and who they interact with can open the door to questions if they have concerns. Initially, these queries may be straightforward, but if we are receptive to discussion from the outset, young people are more likely to come to us for help when they are older as well.

9 UNDERSTAND BOUNDARIES

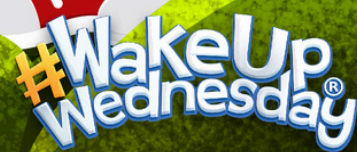
One of the keys to a healthy friendship is honouring boundaries. This can include anything from respecting personal space and belongings to acceptable language and behaviour. Understanding the importance of setting these limits and upholding those set by others can help children stay safe. If young people figure out their boundaries and feel comfortable enforcing them, they're more likely to call someone out if they go too far.

10 SPOT THE SIGNS

We can't always supervise young people: sometimes, we need to step back and give them some space. However, it's important to consider any indicators that they may be struggling in their friendships. Are they becoming increasingly irritable? Does their behaviour alter when they've been with their friends? Are they becoming withdrawn or reluctant to take part in certain activities? These could all be signs that they're finding things difficult, and we should remain alert to such changes.

Meet Our Expert

Becky Dawson is an experienced educator who has worked in primary and secondary schools for 20 years. She is a facilitator, consultant and coach working with young people and the adults who work with them, with a focus on developing understanding and skills around mental health, wellbeing and safeguarding.





TOP CHERRIES



Our Top Cherry Award is an award to celebrate exceptional behaviour, learning or manners. These children really are going above and beyond!

Class	Child's Name	Reason
Lunchtime	Kelsie (6O)	For her kind and caring nature and being an excellent role model.
Red & Ready	Yusuf (6O)	For bringing in your things from home to share with your friends at Red & Ready.
Fireflies	Leo R (2C)	For demonstrating true friendship and being kind whilst at Forest Schools. Well done.
Cherry Blossoms	Musa	For great improvement with his communication and talking! Well done, Musa!
Berries	Berries Class	For being fantastic on their first school trip. They were a delight to take out.
Acorns	Noah	For always following our school values of 'Aiming High', 'Being Brave' and 'Being Kind'.
Conkers	Khal	For coming on leaps and bounds in his reading. We are so proud of you!
Maple	Enoch	For calling out less and putting his hand up more to ask and answer questions. Keep this up!
Birch	Ezmarelda	For always having a kind and caring nature. You think about others and encourage them to have a growth mindset like you!
Cedar	Huzaifa	For always aiming high, being brave and being kind and supporting others in their learning.
Willow	Yuvan	For showing a real enthusiasm for learning and being a great listener.
Sycamore	Jayden	For always aiming high and challenging themselves further with their learning.
Hazel	Beth	For always having a positive attitude and aiming high in her work.
Ash	Daro	For always aiming high and being kind.
Yew	Ahmed Raza	For always displaying incredible manners and living the Cherry Tree values.
Pine	Safiya	For aiming high with her with her writing!
Fir	Serena	For always living out the school values and being an excellent role model
Oak	Patrick	For being an excellent sport and always engaging whole heartedly with any task assigned to him.
Elm	Khadijah	For always having a smile on her face and greeting challenges with determination

Well done, Cherries!



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