



Weekly Newsletter

20 September 2019

Making learning an adventure

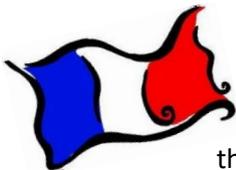
Our school value for this half-term is friendship



Dear Parents/Carers

Years 2 and 4 enjoyed their seaside and Romans workshops in school this week. Thank you to the staff who organised these and to the parent helpers who supported on the day.

Also this week, the children across the school have been working on a whole school mini art project entitled *The Dot*. The project is based on *The Dot*, a story about a caring teacher who dares a doubting pupil to trust in her own abilities by being brave enough to *make her mark*. What begins with a small dot on a piece of paper becomes a breakthrough in confidence and courage, igniting a journey of self-discovery and sharing, which has gone on to inspire countless children and adults around the globe, to the extent that 15th September is designated as *Dot Day*. I'm sure you will agree from the pictures above and below that it has certainly helped us to make our mark in this beautiful display in our school hall. Well done everyone and thank you to the members of staff who worked together to create the fantastic display.



Next week we are looking forward to celebrating European Day of Languages on Thursday by holding a *French Day* in school. This will be the perfect opportunity to learn more about the country, its landmarks, cultural practices and vocabulary across the whole school for the day. The children will spend the day in their mixed-age house groups (red, green, yellow or blue) and invited to come to school in the colours of the French flag, *le Tricolore* (no football kits please). They will take part in a variety of workshops, including a role play café, orienteering and making structures with spaghetti.

Unfortunately, pupils in Year 3 will be unable to participate in the European Day of Languages activities, as the day coincides with their Stone Age visit to Celtic Harmony and we were unable to book another date to suit the progression of their topic work in class. However, the teachers have planned their own French day for Friday and children in Year 3 are welcome to come to school in *tricolore* colours then.

Finally, we continue to have difficulties with some parents parking inappropriately in the vicinity of the school. Please see information below and help to keep our children and neighbours safe at the beginning and end of the school day.

Yours faithfully

Jonathan Walker
Headteacher



FoHBS News

18th October: the FOHBS Spooky Disco!

Tickets for the Spooky Disco are now on sale! Information about the Disco and links to the ticket site have been sent out (you can also find the links here: <https://www.highbeeches.herts.sch.uk/parents/fohbs>). Please note that tickets must be purchased online and no later than Saturday 5th October - you will unfortunately not be able to buy tickets after this date. Thanks for your understanding.

And don't forget that the FOHBS Meeting is taking place next Tuesday (24th September) 8-9pm, The Skew Bridge pub. Please come along to meet new people, find out what's going on this year and get involved.

Congratulations to the following children for their achievements this week.

- **Reception Chestnut Class** Siaana – for being a very kind friend
Alfie – for being a very kind friend and positive attitude to school
- **Reception Oak Class** Thomas – for showing such a positive attitude to school
Amelie – for being a kind and patient friend
- **Year 1 Elm Class** Dylan – for being such a good friend and helping others when they are hurt
Charlie – for trying really hard and enjoying Maths this week
- **Year 1 Cedar Class** Callum – for an excellent attitude to all areas of learning
Megan – for showing friendship and kindness to all the class
- **Year 2 Hazel Class** Caleb – for being a supportive friend
Bella – for always being kind and helpful
- **Year 2 Willow Class** Heather – for trying hard and showing the value of friendship to others
Leo for having a positive attitude to school and being a kind friend
- **Year 3 Birch Class** Eva – for always looking out for her friends
Naomi – for fantastic contributions during Maths
- **Year 3 Redwood Class** Harrison – for being committed to his learning this week
Sophie – for being resilient and working hard this week
- **Year 4 Maple Class** Dylan – for consistently trying his best in everything
Emily B – for an excellent effort using descriptive language in English
- **Year 4 Pine Class** Sophia – for showing enthusiasm and determination on our Roman day
Lottie – for showing the values of friendship
- **Year 5 Ash Class** Beatrix – for showing friendship to all the class
Aiden – for some excellent use of vocabulary in English
- **Year 5 Hawthorn Class** Finley – for consistently trying his best in every lesson
Keira – for sharing your lovely ideas with the rest of the class
- **Year 6 Sycamore Class** Emilia – for showing friendship to our visiting member of Year 6
Tom – for making a real effort in Maths
- **Year 6 Rowan Class** Alexander – for working hard and pushing himself to do his best
Sam C – for writing a wonderful alternative ending to the Highway and helping others perfect their drafts

Further Information and Reminders

Applications for Absence

Please remember to attach any appointment confirmations to applications for absence for medical appointments. Such appointments should only be emergency or specialist appointments, we ask that routine dental/optician and doctor appointments be made in the school holidays please.

Latecomers

Please note that pupil doors close at 8:55am. In order to ensure that all pupils are registered as present, any children arriving after 8:55am should be brought via the main entrance where parents must sign them into the green book outside the school office.

Attendance

Congratulations to Hawthorn class for 100% attendance this week.

Communication

Please remember to state the name and class of your child when communicating with the school.

Flu Vaccinations

All forms should have been handed to the school office with or without permission to have the flu nasal spray. If you haven't returned yours, please do so by 9am Monday morning at the very latest.

Deadlines

Please be aware that we will be sticking to any deadlines for future trips/workshops/payments etc so please read any letters/emails/messages thoroughly. Thank you.

Safe Parking

Please help to keep our children and neighbours safe at the beginning and end of the school day.

We continue to receive complaints about dangerous parking by school parents. This includes parents causing an obstruction by parking on the pavement in Ashwell Park and instances of parents parking on the yellow lines and zigzags immediately outside the school entrance. Such parking puts pedestrians at risk by forcing them to walk on the road or by blocking sight lines and making those crossing the road difficult to see.



Parents should allow enough journey time to park in an appropriate place which, whenever possible should be our Park and Ride facility at the indoor bowling club and Scout hut in Waldegrave Park. Any roadside parking must comply with the Highway Code and should not be on yellow lines or other restricted areas, on the pavement, close to a junction or bend nor blocking access to properties). There is a disabled parking bay immediately outside the school for blue badge holders.

Applications for Secondary Schools for September 2020

Parents in Year 6 are reminded that applications for a secondary school place for September 2020 must be made by 31 October 2019. More information can be found [here](#) and parents are welcome to speak to school staff for further support.

Supporting Anxiety and Emotional Needs

As a school we place a high priority on nurturing children's emotional resilience, self-confidence and self-esteem through our relationships, routines and values, through the curriculum, through planned interventions and through working with other agencies. In addition, this term we will be running a *Comfort Club* during one lunchtime each week which will be targeted at those children who sometimes need a bit of extra support and nurture through the week.

Harvest Festival

We will be celebrating Harvest Festival on Thursday October 3rd and have invited Rev Fellows into school to conduct a whole school celebration.

This year, we are once again supporting a local Foodbank and would therefore appreciate any donations of non-perishable goods. Items may include pasta, teabags, tinned fruit and tuna etc.

Please bring your harvest goods into school on Thursday morning (3/10) and place them in the school hall.

CONCERTS FOR CHILDREN
 ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH - ST ALBANS
 SUNDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2019
 AT 2.00PM AND 3.30PM



We're going on a bear hunt!

A musical adventure for children featuring music by Ian Stephens

Meet the musicians!
 Try out the instruments!

Dress as your favourite character!

Conductor: Tom Hammond
 Leader: Philippa Barton
 Follow us: @sasotweet
 www.saso.org.uk

Tickets: Children only £2
 Grown ups: £8 Under 2s: FREE
 To book: Call 07974 800445
 or visit: www.ticketsource.co.uk*

*Booking Fee Applies Registered Charity No. 1038283

St Albans Symphony Orchestra Concerts for Children Sunday 17th November 2019

Each year St Albans Symphony Orchestra puts on a Concert for Children to bring the "Symphony Orchestra Experience" to the young people in the St Albans area.

This year they are presenting two concerts on the afternoon of Sunday 17th November at 2pm and 3.30pm in St Saviour's Church, St Albans.

The concerts are informal and a great opportunity for children (of all ages!) to hear some famous and popular music, see an orchestra in action close-up and talk to the players. The opportunity to try out the instruments, under expert guidance, is always very popular. For many children this is their first opportunity to experience live music.

Click [here](#) for more information.

Diary Dates

Any amendments or additions to those previously published are shown in red text.

September	23rd	Reception Stay and Play sessions
	24th	8 to 9pm FoHBS Meeting, Skew Bridge
	26 th	European Day of Languages – French Day
	27 th	Year 3 French Day
	27 th	9:15 to 10am –MacMillan Coffee Morning led by Rowan Class
October	27 th	2:15 to 3pm –MacMillan Coffee Afternoon led by Sycamore Class
	3 rd	Harvest Festival
	7 th	Mental Health Week
	7 th	School photographer – individual and school sibling group photographs
	17 th	Tag Rugby Y5/6 @ HRFC 12-3pm
	18 th	FoHBS Discos
	22 nd	Rotary Shoebox appeal launch
	22 nd & 24 th	Parent Consultations – 4pm-7pm and 5pm-8pm respectively
	24/25	Escape Room Maths challenge workshops – KS2
	25 th	Open Classrooms – 3pm
November	4 th /6 th	Parent Rep meetings - 9am
	11 th	Anti-Bullying week
	12 th	Open morning 1 for 2020 Reception parents 9.30am - 10.30am <i>Places are limited. Please book through the school office.</i>
	TBC	Children in Need
	7 th	Girls Football
	14 th	Cross Country pm
	21 st	Open morning 2 for 2020 Reception parents 9.30am - 10.30am <i>Places are limited. Please book through the school office.</i>
December	4 th	Open morning 3 for 2020 Reception parents 9.30am - 10.30am <i>Places are limited. Please book through the school office.</i>
	4 th	Harpden Rotary Club Carol Service
	11 th & 12th	Y2 Nativity (2:30pm & 9am) – may change
	11th	KS2 Carol Services (Methodist Church) 5pm and 6.30
	13 th	Christmas Jumper Day (Save the Children)
	13th	Y1 Carol Service (in school) 2:30pm
	w/b 16 th	EYFS Nativity