

NEWSLETTER

Upcoming events

Information was sent home yesterday about **Handwriting Week**. Next week the children will practice their handwriting daily and there will be prizes for the 'Most Improved' and the 'Best' handwriting for each class.

Clubs will start next week so check your children's bags for letters saying which club they have been allocated.

Class Attendance

The classes with the best attendance from Friday last week to yesterday in Reception/KS1 is R-Elm with 100% attendance and in KS2 5-Sycamore with 100%.... WELL DONE R-Elm and 5-Sycamore.

Group - Reception/KS1	% Possible	% Attend
Reception Elm	100	100
2 Maple	100	98.9
1 Holly	100	98
1 Beech	100	97.3
Reception Ash	100	96.7
2 Birch	100	92.3

Group - KS2	% Possible	% Attend
5 Sycamore	100	100
6 Mulberry	100	99
6 Hawthorn	100	97.8
4 Willow	100	96.1
3 Hazel	100	95.8
4 Cherry	100	95.3
3 Cedar	100	94
5 Chestnut	100	81.8

FSM

Are you entitled to any of the following benefits?

- Income support
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit with a taxable income of no more than £16,190 and not in receipt of Working Tax Credit
- Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit)
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after employment finishes or after you start to work less than 16 hours per week

*If you may qualify for Free School Meals. This means that the school will receive additional funding for your child. This year we will receive **£1,320 for each** pupil in additional funding for each pupil who qualifies for free school meals. If you are able to register and qualify for free school meals before the end of September 2015 your child will receive a £10 book voucher. In addition each child will also be entered into a prize draw to receive free school uniform from Stevensons. More information available from the office.*

If you are in reception, year 1 or year 2 your child may be getting Universal Free School Meals but will still need to apply.

Anyone who has already applied for and is already in receipt of free school meals for September 2015 will also qualify.

Coffee Morning

Next week sees the start of our coffee mornings. Two will be taking place from 8.45am.

- Nursery and Reception - Wednesday 16th September.
- Year 3 - Thursday 17th September.

We will be discussing Pupil Premium, Free School Meals and Breakfast Club.

Young children are welcome.

We look forward to seeing you all then.

Presentation Awards

All of the children across the school have tried really hard with their presentation this week. The work in their books is amazing! Well done to the following children who have received a Headteacher's Award for their presentation.

	Best	Most Improved
1 Holly	Elliot B	Oliver E
1 Beech	Kelly C	Filip L
2 Birch	Maria A	Gracjan P
2 Maple	Yasmin A	Isobella M
3 Cedar	Gabriella A	Preston L
3 Hazel	Amya S	David A
4 Cherry	Benigna B	Abbie P
4 Willow	Emily M	Yanis O
5 Chestnut	Marysa S	Lauren M
5 Sycamore	Andrew F	Maria P
6 Mulberry	Lola P	Zak P
6 Hawthorn	Cacey Y	James C
KS1 Base Yew	Sydney A	Raed C
KS2 Base Pine	tbc	tbc

Reminder

Collection of KS2 Pupils

When you arrive to collect your children at the end of the school day, please come through the pedestrian gate and wait in the playground, not on the path, to avoid congestion outside school. Children leaving school must wait on the pavement. This will make it easier for staff to see clearly who is collecting your child before allowing them to leave calmly and safely.

Snacks

Please can we remind you to send in a healthy snack for children to eat at playtime, such as fruit or vegetables. We promote ourselves as a healthy school, therefore, sweets, crisps or chocolate are not allowed during morning break. Please note: *The school is a "nut free zone".*

Jewellery

We have had an increasing variety of jewellery coming into school this new school year. Due to the danger of earrings becoming caught whilst children play we only allow children to wear small plain studs. Children need to be able to take out their own earrings for PE and swimming. If you are considering having your child's ears pierced please make sure this coincides with the 6 week holidays as children are not allowed to take them out for the first few weeks.

Playground Equipment

Please can you help us to keep the children safe before and after school.

Unfortunately the playground equipment is to be only used during the school day and not to be used before or after school when it is not supervised. A child had a serious break of their arm last year and we would not like any child to hurt themselves.

Coming to school by scooter or bike is an excellent way to travel. Despite the playground being a great place to ride and scoot around this can cause a hazard for other children particularly younger siblings. Please can you remind your children not to ride their bikes and scooters on the playground before and after school.

Medicines

We cannot administer any medication in school. If your child has been prescribed medication which needs to be taken at intervals during the day then please talk to your doctor about ensuring that these fit around the school day. If this is not possible then you will need to arrange for someone to come into school to administer the medication.

If your child has a long term medical condition that requires medication then please contact the school office to discuss this.

All medications need to be handed in at the school office and a medical form completed.

Thank you for your support with this matter.

Meet the Teacher – Week Beginning 21st Sept 2015

Week beginning 21st September will be an opportunity for you to meet your new class teacher. Come along and find out about the routines and expectations of class. Find out how you can work with school to support your child's learning at home. Watch out for a letter coming home next week.

Meet the Teacher 2015			
	11.45am	2.30pm	3.10pm
Mon 21st		Year 3	
Tues 22nd		Year 6	Reception
Wed 23rd	Nursery AM	Year 2	Nursery PM
Thurs 24th		Year 5	Year 4
Fri 25th		Year 1	

Message to Year 5 Parents

Secondary transfer is now open to all children currently in year 6. As year 5 parents this is an opportunity for you to also go around to their open evenings to have a look at what they have on offer. Further information can be found on our carousel or on individual secondary school websites.

Year 6 - Secondary Transfer

All children in year 6 will need to apply for a secondary school place for September 2016. The online system is now open, the closing date for applications is the 31st October. Parents should apply online at www.hertsdirect.org/admissions

For those of you who do not have internet access you are very welcome to use a computer at school. If you would like any help please talk to the office staff.

The Moving-On booklet sent out in the summer term will inform you of the dates for open evenings at the secondary schools and how to apply. If you would like another copy please talk to the office.

Macmillan World's Biggest Coffee Morning - 25th September



On Friday 25th September we will be holding a coffee morning to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. Last year the September coffee morning donations across the country provided enough funding for 474 Macmillan nurses!

Please join us to support this worthy cause at Cowley Hill School on Friday 25th September between 9.30am - 10.30am. Enter via the school office please.

If you wish to send in any cakes or biscuits to help us please send these in with your child by Thursday 24th September or drop them in to the office.

We look forward to seeing you all then.

Autumn Term Dates

14 th September	Handwriting Week Clubs start
16 th September	Coffee Morning for the parents of children in Nursery and Reception at 8.45am
17 th September	Coffee Morning for the parents of children in Year 3 at 8.45am
21 st September	Meet the teacher week See table above
25 th September	Macmillan World's Biggest Coffee Morning
28 th September to 2 nd October	Year 5 & 6 Residential School Journey
13 th October	Year 3 trip
21 st October	Year 1 trip
26 th - 31 st October	Half-Term
2 nd November	School Photographer in
6 th November	School Closed
17 th December	Christmas Lunch

Please note change to School Photographer

Class Assemblies

Date	9.15am Start	9.45am Start
Friday 9 th October	3 - Cedar	1 - Holly
Friday 16 th October	4 - Cherry	2 - Birch
Friday 23 rd October	5 - Chestnut	Rec - Ash
Friday 13 th November	6 - Mulberry	N - Oak (AM)
Friday 20 th November	3 - Hazel	1 - Beech
Friday 27 th November	4 - Willow	2 - Maple
Friday 4 th December	5 - Sycamore	R - Elm
Friday 11 th December	6 - Hawthorn	

Friday 11th December at 2.30pm N Oak (PM)

Jon Hood
Headteacher