

## This Week's News

**Friday 5th September 2025**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new academic year. It has been really wonderful to see all the children return to school and to hear about their summer adventures. We welcome our new children in Nursery, Reception, Year One and Year Four. We also welcome their families to our school community and we hope that they all settle in well.

We have also welcomed three new staff members. Ms Hart is our new Office Manager, Miss Stringer is our new Chestnut Class Teacher and Miss Sturgess is our new Teaching Assistant, also in Chestnut Class. They have settled in very well to our staff team.

We have been working hard over the summer to improve the school. The hall has been painted and looks wonderfully fresh. Bonsai and Maple classrooms have also been decorated and we thank David Carter for his painting expertise and help. KS1 also have a new canopy over their outside area. This extra learning space will be wonderful for the children to use throughout the year and it will extend and enhance the provision for Maple Class. Our new library is expected to arrive any day now and we are extremely excited to develop this space and give the whole school an greatly enhanced reading area. I will share developments as they happen.

This week Cherry Class have come back to school beautifully, happy, and smiley and trying their best to listen to learn the new routines. They have been focusing on getting to know the classroom and each other as well as what they will be doing at school. It has been a lovely beginning of the year and Miss Stout and Ms Carta are looking forward to seeing how the year progresses.

Maple Class have really enjoyed seeing their friends and finding out all about each other in Classroom Bingo. They have had lots of fun exploring their new outside learning area - building towers and train stations in the construction zone and enjoying some mindful weaving. They were also very excited to pick some reading for pleasure books to take home.

It's been a fantastic first week back at school for our Year Three and Four children. They have settled in beautifully and are already showing great enthusiasm for the year ahead. They started the week by helping everyone get familiar with the classroom. They played some fun games – a favourite was the classroom treasure hunt, which helped them learn where everything is while having lots of fun. They did their first writing in Chestnut class, making postcards all about our summer holidays and it was lovely to hear about everyone's adventures and experiences! They also spent some time practising handwriting. They dived into their learning with their first math's lessons, recalling number bonds and learning how to find the difference between numbers. It's been a busy and exciting start with their new adults and they are looking forward to a brilliant term ahead.

Bonsai Class have enjoyed familiarising themselves with their new classroom and resources. Everyone returned looking smart and eager for the year ahead. The Pirate Game made a welcome return where our Year Six pupils enjoyed teaching the Year Five pupils different strategies. Each child completed their own film reel with self-portraits, their loves and their future career goals. Last year Mrs Morrice built the foundations of the Bonsai Lego tree with the previous Year Six pupils building the trunk. Today we built upon the foundations as the new Bonsai class completed the build. It is a representation of how much we will grow this year.

We look forward to seeing you all next week at our 'Meet the Teacher meetings' and our EYFS Coffee morning.

Please also remember to bring a pair of named wellies into school and put them on the welly rack outside each classroom.

Do enjoy the newsletter and the welcome letter from Louise Russell, our Chair of Governors who also welcomes you all to the new academic year.

Have a restful weekend.

Jacqui Walton-Jones

Headteacher

### Autumn Term Dates 2025

8th Sept - Maple Class 'Meet the Teacher' —2.50pm

9th Sept —Bonsai Class 'Meet the Teacher' —2.50pm

8th Sept - External Clubs start

10th Sept—Chestnut 'Meet the Teacher' —2.50pm

11th Sept—EYFS Coffee Morning—9.00am

15th Sept—Teacher Clubs Start

19th Sept—Parent Council Meeting —9am

19th Sept—Jeans for Genes Day

17th Sept—Home Learning books sent home

2nd Oct—National Poetry Day

6th Oct—Space Week

10th Oct—World Mental Health Day - wear yellow

10th Oct—Wellbeing workshops for whole school

13th Oct—Parents Evening 3.30—5.30pm

13th Oct—No Games, Lego or Choir Club after school

20th Oct —Donations for Harvest into school

22nd Oct—Parents Evening 4.30—7.30pm

22nd Oct —No Lego or Netball Club after school

24th Oct—Break the Rules Day

27th Oct—Half Term

# Welcome from the Chair of Governors

Hello everyone,

On behalf of the Governing Body, a very warm welcome to the start of this new school year. Whether you are returning after the summer or joining Flamstead Village School for the very first time, it's wonderful to have you with us. I would also like to extend a special welcome to our new staff members - we hope that you are settling in well during your first few days.

My name is Louise and I am Chair of Governors here at Flamstead Village School, I have two children, one who is currently at the school and one that has just started senior school after completing eight happy years here.

I am fortunate to work alongside a dedicated and knowledgeable board of governors, many of whom who have served for a number of years, bringing a wealth of experience. Our current governors are Jacqui Walton-Jones and Amy Pike (Staff governors), Sam Carter (Vice Chair), Will Franklin, Mary Jenkin, Mandy Evans, Sue Wright and Giles Tully.

You'll often see us around the school and at different school events, but you can also contact us by emailing the school office or learn more about our roles on the school website. The beginning of a new school year always brings a buzz of excitement—it's a fresh start, full of opportunities to learn new things, make new friends, and achieve together. As governors, our role is to support the school and ensure every child is given the very best chance to succeed, reflecting the school's commitment and aligning with the school values.

I would like to give a huge thank you to our staff for all their hard work in preparing for the new term, and to our families for the support you provide every day. It was wonderful to see the children looking so smart and enthusiastic as they arrived at school on Thursday.

With best wishes,

Louise Russell  
Chair of Governors  
Flamstead Village School

# Photo's from this week



### Cherry Class



### Maple Class



### Bonsai Class

### Chestnut Class



**Congratulations to Penny, Robin, Cordelia and Joni for completing the Summer Reading Challenge. They each received a book worm keyring and 10 house points.**



# Secondary School Applications

All Year Six pupils will need to apply for their Secondary School place by 31st October 2025

**Please see the email that was sent home.**

All admissions literature is available via live webpages at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions) and all school based information is accessible through the updated and extended online schools directory at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/)



**Umbrellafest is happening THIS Saturday, 6th September, from 1–6pm at The Event Space, Pond on the Parade, Watford!**

### **Get ready for:**

Live music and performances from Electric Umbrella and friends.  
A colourful celebration of inclusion, creativity, and joy.  
Sing-alongs, dancing, and surprises throughout the day.  
Family-friendly fun where everyone is welcome.

It's going to be bold, loud, and unforgettable and the best part? **It's free!**

So grab your friends, bring your brightest yellow, and join us as we fill Watford with music and joy.

## Attendance this week

**For the two days we have been back at school we have had 87% attendance. This should be 100%, especially at the start of term.**

**Please do not take holidays during term time.**

# Friends of Flamstead School

## BREAK the RULES DAY



### Rules to be broken include:

1. Wear school uniform
2. Bring a healthy lunch or snack
3. Have neat hair
4. No temporary tattoos
5. No nail varnish
6. No make-up
7. Wear school shoes

Here's how it works:

£1 per rule you would like to break. Or £5 for as many rules as you would like!

Payable in class or via card in the main playground at drop-off

### When?

Friday 24th Oct

Parentkind  
Member Association