

News for this week

18th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

The weather has certainly changed and Autumn has arrived. Please ensure your child has a named coat in school each day please and they are adequately dressed for the weather.

We had a lovely Jeans for Genes Day today—thank you for your donations on Arbor.

The elections for our new School Council for this year took place on Friday. The children were excited to vote and took their responsibilities very seriously. The results will be announced next week in assembly. I spoke to the children about our values of 'Respect' and 'Resilience' and how we manage our feelings should anyone be disappointed. All the candidates should be very proud of themselves for delivery superb speeches and wanting to represent the school in such an important role.

Apart from the elections, it has been a quiet and settled week in school and many children have enjoyed starting their new teacher led clubs this week. We continue to model the rules and routines in class and have high expectations of the children. Please reinforce these expectations at home so together we can ensure our children have the best start to this academic year.

Cherry Class have enjoyed their week in school and continuing to learn 'All About Me' and their friends. During circle time, the children talked about their feelings with Jigsaw Jenie, whilst in Art, they drew their families. Their first full PE lesson was full of team games and great sportsmanship. The nursery rhyme of the week has been 'Hickory Dickory Dock'.

In Art, Maple Class finished their stone painting project, creating a world of wonderful creatures out of pebbles. Year 1's favourite lesson this week was playing a Maths game, showing off their subitising skills. In Science, they were introduced to the idea of life cycles with Julia's Donaldson's Monkey Puzzle book, learning that offspring don't always look like their adults in the animal world.

This week, Chestnut Class have been busy learning all about regrouping in Maths, developing their understanding through practical activities and problem-solving. In Art, they have been sketching and shading from nature, focusing on detail, texture and tone. In Science, they have created their own models of teeth using plasticine and labelled the different parts, helping them to understand their structure and function. They particularly loved taking their teeth moulds home to show their parents!

What a wonderful week Bonsai Class has had. The children have now completed their second lesson with their coach from 'Sporting Kids', demonstrating excellent football skills and teamwork. Science was very exciting this week; the children used water, red food colouring, Cheerio's, marshmallows, and raisins to create a model of a blood sample. They were able to use this model to talk in depth about the components of blood and their functions. Be sure to ask a member of Bonsai class about this—they have some extremely interesting facts to share!

Next week the children will be having their nasal flu vaccination and our Years 5 & 6 Girls have a Tag Rugby event to look forward to.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Mrs Walton-Jones

Headteacher

Autumn Term Dates 2026

22nd Sep—Nasal Flu Vaccinations YR to Y6  
22nd Sept—Y5 & Y6 Girls Tag Rugby event  
24th Sep—ADPRs sent home for individual pupils  
28th Sep—HCL Themed Harvest Lunch Menu  
1st Oct—Poetry Day & HCL Themed Burger Lunch Menu  
2nd Oct—Wonder Dome Workshop—all pupils  
5th Oct—Space Week  
6th Oct—Bonsai Class Trip to Sky Studios  
9th Oct—World Mental Health Day—Wear yellow—Donate £1  
12th Oct—Parent Consultations 3.30—5.30pm  
13th Oct—Y6 Health Check Questionnaires  
14th Oct—Chestnut Class Volcano Workshop  
16th Oct—Bonsai Class Assembly  
21st Oct—Parent Consultations 4.30pm—7.30pm  
22nd Oct—Harvest—Donations for Luton Food Bank  
23rd Oct—Break the Rules Day  
26th Oct—HALF TERM  
2nd Nov—Back to school  
4th Nov—Individual school photos  
5th Nov—HCL Themed Bonfire Lunch Menu  
11th Nov—Remembrance Day  
12th Nov—Flu 'mop up' day & HCL Themed Diwali Lunch Menu  
13th Nov—Children in Need Day—Non uniform—Donate £1  
16th Nov—Anti Bullying Week  
17th Nov—Yr 6 Health Checks by Nursing Team  
23rd Nov—UK Parliament Week  
26th Nov—Gift for the North Pole shop—Non uniform day  
27th—Occasional Day—School closed



## Bright Stars



### Bright Star Awards - Friday 18th September 2026

|                  |                 |                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Nursery</b>   | <b>Maya</b>     | For joining in with PE even when she felt nervous.                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Reception</b> | <b>Maverick</b> | For his fantastic tidying and being a good friend.                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Year 1</b>    | <b>Malaya</b>   | For being a wonderful role model in Maple Class - following classroom expectations and always trying her best.                                                                       |
| <b>Year 2</b>    | <b>Frankie</b>  | For being kind, helpful and making an excellent start to Year Two.                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Year 3</b>    | <b>Joni</b>     | For working super hard in Science this week when making moulds of our teeth. You worked carefully to identify the canines, incisors and molars in your model.                        |
| <b>Year 4</b>    | <b>Alfie</b>    | For being a great role model this week. You have followed routines, listened to in your lessons and respected adults in the classroom. Thank you for being an inspiration to others. |
| <b>Year 5</b>    | <b>Evie</b>     | For challenging herself to extend her ideas when planning a spooky story in English.                                                                                                 |
| <b>Year 6</b>    | <b>Lewis</b>    | For always listening diligently in lessons and using what he learns to improve his own work.                                                                                         |

### Attendance

| Year Group       | Attendance for the week beginning 14th September |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Nursery</b>   | 88%                                              |
| <b>Reception</b> | 93.33%                                           |
| <b>Year 1</b>    | 97.4%                                            |
| <b>Year 2</b>    | 84.38%                                           |
| <b>Year 3</b>    | 89.38%                                           |
| <b>Year 4</b>    | 92.86%                                           |
| <b>Year 5</b>    | 98%                                              |
| <b>Year 6</b>    | 95.71%                                           |

**Make sure you arrive to school on time please and come into school each day.**

**OVERALL SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS 93.6% FOR THIS WEEK**

### Home Learning Superstars

| Year Group      | Reading                                       | Numbots/ TTRS                                |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Cherry</b>   | Oscar, Quinn, Reuben, Theo, Axel, Dax, Elise, | Oscar, Mabel, Axel, Max, Quinn, Reuben, Theo |
| <b>Maple</b>    | Marlee, Robin, Edie                           | Jessica, Leo, Oscar, Reggie                  |
| <b>Chestnut</b> | Austin, Matilda, Ella, Leo, Alfie, Cordelia   | Austin, Daisy, Joni, Matilda, Rosie, Finley, |
| <b>Bonsai</b>   | Henry, Evie, Alice, Theo, Darcy E, Darcy S    | -                                            |

**Each week, we check who has met the home learning expectations. The new chart above shows which children in each class met those expectations.**

**Congratulations to all these pupils who had extra break time this week.**





# Photos of our wonderful week



## Cherry Class



## Maple Class



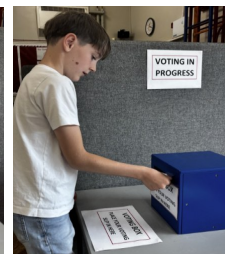
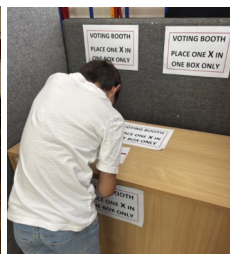
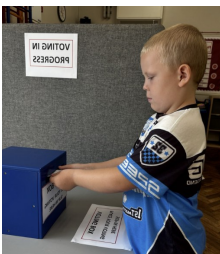
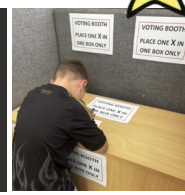
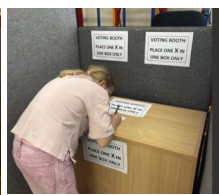
## Chestnut Class



## Bonsai Class



## School Council Official Voting



# Family Information

## Parent and Carer Information newsletter

Please click onto the link below for information and support for families.

DSPL8 aim to bring together information about support and services for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, as well as their families.

[DSPL8 - Newsletter](#)

## SEND PARENT AND CARE INFORMATION FAYRE 13TH OCTOBER

BOOK YOUR FREE PLACE BELOW - see the flyer attached to our newsletter

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1993007271399?aff=oddtcreator>

## Parents/Carers talk about Self Harm and Recovery

On **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October**, Carers in Herts, supported by Herts Mind Network, are running an evening Zoom session from **7pm to 9pm** which aims to support Parents/Carers of children and young people who have experienced self harm.

The session will explain more about self harm, share practical ideas and strategies to help young people towards recovery, while providing an opportunity for families to ask questions.

To book, please visit: [Self-Harm - Support for Parents and Carers](#)

## Village Show

Congratulations to the following children who were awarded certificates for the Village Show Poster Competition.

First Prize—Mia

Second Prize - Harrison

Third Prize - Austin



**SEND PARENT AND CARE INFORMATION FAYRE-  
BOOK YOUR FREE PLACE BELOW**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1993007271399?aff=oddtcreator>



Delivering Special  
Provision Locally

**DSPL8 SEND  
Parent & Carers Information Fayre**

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2026

9.30am until 12.30pm

At the the Grove Hill

Adventure Playground

Redbourn Road, HP2 7BA

**BOOK YOUR SPOT**

*This **FREE** event is for Parents and Carers of Children  
with SEN or Disabilities; we will have local  
services/providers information stands, activities for  
children & refreshments!*



Dear Parents/Carers,

Below you will find a quick description of each page with some contact information and some booking links, but for all the important information head to each page.

| <u>TOPIC</u>                                                         | <u>BOOKING/INFORMATION</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>SEND Parent &amp; Carer Information Fayre</b>                     | FREE information fayre for Parents and carers of Dacorum with children with SEND. Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> October from 9.30am @ Grovehill Adventure playground, check out the Eventbrite page here: <a href="#">SEND Info Fayre</a>                                   |
| <b>ADD-Vance</b>                                                     | FREE Autism and ADHD support groups and workshops to parents/carers and young people. Pages 4 has information what they have on offer. Please visit their website for more details: <a href="#">ADD-Vance</a>                                                           |
| <b>Beezee</b>                                                        | FREE interactive workshops and courses for families to build healthier habits.<br>Email: <a href="mailto:hellohertfordshire@maximus.co.uk">hellohertfordshire@maximus.co.uk</a><br>Phone: <a href="tel:01707248648">01707 248648</a>                                    |
| <b>Bounce Forward: Raise Resilience</b>                              | FREE 6 week course for parents and carers livin in Dacorum; course aims to help better support your child through life's up and downs and everything in between. Click the link to register: <a href="#">Raise Resilience</a>                                           |
| <b>Families in Focus</b>                                             | FREE online courses for parents and carers of school aged children, page 8 has the current courses that are running but for more information please contact: <a href="mailto:bookings@familiesinfocus.co.uk">bookings@familiesinfocus.co.uk</a>                         |
| <b>Hertfordshire SEND Community Directory &amp; SEND Local Offer</b> | Online help, guidance and parents/carers workshops from Hertfordshire County Council.<br><a href="#">SEND Community Directory</a><br><a href="#">SEND Local offer</a>                                                                                                   |
| <b>Monthly EBSNA Coffee Mornings</b>                                 | FREE coffee mornings for Dacorum Families to talk all things EBSNA. There are professional-led sessions and parent-led sessions they take place at the Bennetts End Community centre, dates can be found on page 10.                                                    |
| <b>Coram Family Lives Groups and Workshops</b>                       | FREE course and workshops for familoes to buikd better lives together. For more information please contact:<br>Phone: <a href="tel:02045228700">0204 522 8700/8701</a><br>email: <a href="mailto:services@coramfamilylives.org.uk">services@coramfamilylives.org.uk</a> |