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Newsletter

27th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

The spring term was a little shorter than the autumn term, but we still managed to fit in many lovely activities!

The children and staff had a wonderful time on World Book Day. On the day, the children enjoyed breakfast in the classrooms with their friends and shared their favourite books. Each class also chose a favourite author and participated in a competition to decorate their classroom doors based on their author's books. All classes received a special book of their choice for the class reading corner and the winning class received books to the value of £50 for their reading corner. All the decorations look amazing and have really brightened up the school. The winning class was Year 3 for their wonderful decoration based on the work of Lewis Carroll.

In addition, Morrison's Community Champion, Yvette, also donated several wonderful books to the school. It was a lovely surprise, and we are very grateful to Yvette and Morrison's for their generosity.

Thank you to everyone who attended our Mother's Day events. It was lovely to see so many of you and hear how much you enjoyed the sessions. A number of you said that you enjoyed the opportunity to participate in activities with your child. You also said that you appreciated the time to have coffee, cake and a chat with other parents. We are so happy that you enjoyed them and we are planning events for Father's Day in June. We will send more information nearer the time.

Thank you also for your generous donations to our Easter raffle and for your support in buying tickets for the raffle and for our school discos. We appreciate everything that you do to support our school and the children. All the money raised will be spent on projects and resources for our children.

Looking ahead to next term, Mrs Devonshire has secured some funding for our Bio-diversity project and there are a number of activities planned for the school grounds over the term. Two weeks ago Mrs Devonshire, Mrs Boshoff and their husbands removed turf from the corner of the school field ready for the children to plant our wildflower meadow and a family gardening session has been planned for Saturday 18th April from 9 am to 12 noon. All details of the project and the family gardening morning can be found in Mrs Devonshire's letter sent to parents on the 16th March. If you would like to be involved, please do contact the school. All help will be gratefully received.

I hope all of our children have a safe and restful holiday and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 13th April.

Best wishes,

Elaine Close

Headteacher





Let's start with a big *thank you* ...

Thanks to your incredible support and generosity, we have raised the following amounts this term:

£110 for Comic Relief

£550 from the sale of Mother's Day gifts

£450 from the Years 2 to 6 disco

£700 from our magnificent Easter raffle



iRock Concert

Last Friday, some children across the school performed for the first time in front of the whole school and their parents! They have worked so hard to practise their songs over the past few weeks. I know Zac, the iRock teacher, has lots of new things lined up for the rock bands after Easter. A big well done to all the children who took part!

If you would like further information about iRock lessons, please click on the link below, which will take you to their website:

[iRock School of Music | In School rock and pop band lessons](#)

Nursery September 2026

We still have a few places available in our Nursery for September 2026. If you have a child born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023 and are looking for a Nursery place, please complete the application form below:

[Click here to go to Nursery 2026 application form](#)

YEAR 6 NEWS

This half term, we have enjoyed creating our own stories using speech. In PE, we have had fun putting together balance routines. We are really enjoying learning about Britain at war, and we will continue this topic after the holiday.

Please remember that the Year 6 classroom will be open daily from 8.15am after Easter for drop-in revision sessions.

Have a lovely Easter holiday, and I look forward to seeing you all next term - there is lots to look forward to!

Mrs Freeston and Miss Segard

YEAR 5 NEWS

Our English this half-term has been inspired by 'The Watertower' by Gary Crew. The children have been building up to writing a recount of a suspenseful event. Among other things, we have been focusing on our sentence structure, with the children creating a mixture of simple, compound and complex sentence.

In Maths, we continued work on fractions before moving to units of measure. The children have been learning to convert units of measure and solve questions involving units of measure.

Swimming has been a highlight for many of the children, even those that were nervous about it. It has been wonderful to witness the children show great resilience and make a fantastic effort in their sessions.

Mr Chan, Miss McMenamin, Mrs Geddis and Miss Watson

YEAR 4 NEWS

Year 4 have had another very busy half-term. In Maths, we have been learning the names and properties of different quadrilaterals, as well as how to recognise lines of symmetry in 2D shapes. In English, we have enjoyed reading real-life unsolved mysteries and have had fun writing our own newspaper stories. In Art, we have been using watercolour paints to create our own landscapes. We have continued learning about mountains and rivers in Geography and have been learning about everyday, programmable devices in Science. The children have continued to practise their times tables during Friday maths lessons, to give them lots of confidence, ready for the government test in June. They would still benefit from continuing to play the times tables games and use the singing times tables (Table Toons') at home as well.

Well done Year 4!

Mrs Devonshire and Miss Rasool

YEAR 3 NEWS

Year 3 have had a great half term. At the beginning of the half term, they made clay ammonites and designed their own fossils. We wrote an explanation on how fossils are formed to match their ammonites! We have been learning about volcanoes and other natural disasters. The children enjoyed learning about the different types of volcanoes and the ring of fire! A big well done to all the children for their hard work this half term especially the excellent behaviour during their swimming lessons. I know the instructors have been really impressed! We look forward to starting some exciting new topics after Easter and of course, our class trip to St. Albans.

Mrs Boshoff, Mrs Hearson and Miss Noble

New Lunch Menu

There will be a new lunch menu when we return after Easter. A copy is attached to this newsletter.

Our school caterers, Herts Catering, will be increasing the price of their meals from 1st April. Junior meals will cost £3.55.

YEAR 2 NEWS

Another Poketastic half term has flown by in Year 2. We have really enjoyed learning about plant survival in science, especially planting bean seeds in our classroom. We put them in different places and gave them water (well, most of them!). We even named them! We were very surprised to find that Ronaldo germinated first, especially as we put him in a dark cupboard. This helped us to understand that seeds don't need light to germinate.



We thought you might like to see Ronaldo!

We have also enjoyed writing narratives in English based on the book *Julian Is A Mermaid*, doubling and halving numbers in maths and learning a new reggae song in music (the aardvarks are drinking cans of coke apparently!).

Keep up the incredible learning Year 2.

Mr Phillips and Mrs Wilson

YEAR 1 NEWS

We have had a very busy term in Year 1! In English, the children have enjoyed reading *Martha Maps It Out* and creating their own stories about a journey that they took. The final writing task was to publish their stories into a booklet and they were brilliant! The children are working hard with their writing and focusing on writing in sentences with a capital letter and a full stop.

In maths this term the children solved mathematical word problems and used different British coins to make amounts. The children enjoyed World Book Day and loved sharing their books with the children in Year 5. Our brilliant door display about the *Gruffalo* made us all very proud. We have come to the end of our Geography topic about London, and the children have learnt lots about the landmarks in London and compared London to other cities. Well done on another AMAZING term!

Ms Gunther, Mrs Jones and Mrs Fearn

RECEPTION NEWS

Reception have had a fantastic half term learning all about different fairy tales. We've read some great 'alternative' tales, created story maps and used our home corner to role play different stories. The children have been working really hard and made such good progress.

We hope you all have a relaxing Easter break, and we will see you soon for more fun and experiences.

Miss Webster, Miss Sawyer and Mrs Willis

NURSERY NEWS

We started our half term with the very exciting delivery of some duckling eggs. We were so lucky to watch them hatch and then made sure they had everything they needed to grow happily and healthily.

Our topic in nursery was Once Upon a Time, and we have been reading a different traditional tale each week and basing our learning around each one.

In PE we have used our imaginations to act out the stories. We made bridges to walk and climb over like the Billy Goats Gruff and had fun pretending to be different types of beans when we played the bean game!

We have become expert storytellers as we have practised how to retell stories and made our own books too. This was fun but a challenge because we had to learn how to use the hole punches and thread treasury tags to hold our books together!

Jack and the Beanstalk has been our favourite story because we like pretending to be the giant. We all really enjoyed taking part in our science experiment to make rain clouds at the top of the beanstalk, using shaving foam and food colouring.

During this half term we have also been learning to write our names - everyone is doing so well and proudly recognises and can write letters from their names. We have been practising our counting and number recognition skills too, by singing lots of number rhymes and playing counting games. Well done everyone, we look forward to seeing you all after the Easter holidays.

Mrs Denton, Mrs Anderson and Mrs Jones

Diary Dates

An up to date list of diary dates will be sent out with this newsletter.



No Tech Zone

Children are not permitted to bring iPads or tablets onto the school site.

Parents may request permission for children in Years 5 and 6 who walk home on their own to bring a phone to school, which must be handed in on arrival at school.

Please label your child's belongings

We have a mountain of lost property which cannot be returned to children because it is not named!

Please ensure everything your child brings into school is named, so we can return it if it is misplaced.

If your child accidentally brings home an item with another child's name on it, please return it as soon as possible.

Labelling Checklist

School Uniform, especially jumpers and cardigans

PE Kit

Coats

Shoes, trainers and wellies

Hats and gloves

Drinks bottles

Lunch boxes and snack pots

Family Support Worker News

We have been celebrating **Resilience** in the Rainbow Room this half term. We have noticed how resilience is something that can be practised and strengthened, especially when we choose to keep trying if things get tough. We've also shared examples of how mistakes help us learn.

Pre-loved Uniform

We have really enjoyed selling pre-loved uniform in the Community Room on Wednesday mornings. We have so many lovely items looking for a new home, so if your child needs some new uniform, please do come and check our stock before heading to the shops.

Attendance Matters

So far this year, 31 pupils have had 100% attendance, and 147 pupils have 95% and above. We recognise and value all the hard work that goes into ensuring children are in school and ready to learn each day.

Please check your child's current attendance percentage using the Arbor app. You can use the attached Attendance Ladder to see how your child's attendance measures against national expectations.

Citizens Advice Bureau

Some of you may already have met Kate from Citizens Advice North Herts. Citizens Advice North Herts are here to give advice on benefits, housing, debt, scams, energy and have lots of information about other organisations that can also help families. Kate is holding an Advice Session next term in school (date to be agreed). This means instead of having to go to their office in town, or contacting them by email or phone, you can talk to a trained CAB advisor at school. This would be a confidential appointment that we would book for you.

Kate says 'We know that life is busy and complicated and managing to make ends meet is hard for most people at the moment. That's why we want to make it easier for you to talk to someone by being here after school drop-off and maybe you can then tick one thing off your to-do list".'

We'll let you have more details next term, but if you're interested in booking an appointment, just let us know.

Mrs Grace Read and Mrs Vicki Burnett



*We hope you have an enjoyable Easter holiday
and look forward to seeing the children again
on **Monday 13th April at 8.45 am.***