

Safe, Ready and Respectful



Be Kind



Keep Improving



Never Give Up

What an incredibly busy half term this has been. The staff and children have all been working so hard. I have seen some fantastic progress throughout the school. Some of the greatest improvements I have seen have been in phonics, handwriting and maths. I have also seen so many children trying hard to always be 'safe, ready and respectful'.

The curriculum enrichment has continued. We have extended our breakfast club to include the free breakfast club from 8:15. If your child would like to attend, please book in via Arbor.

We have also had a number of recent trips. Last week year 2 enjoyed a trip into London to visit the Tower of London.



Y6 had a We will Build it Better lesson at Sele school. This is a primary school introduction to the Airbus "We Build It Better" (WBiB) project. The aim is to help children develop their Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths skills. They learned how to use different tools and the importance of safety protection. They really enjoyed making working models of robotic arms that they were very pleased to take home.

A team of boys and girls from Y5 and Y6 took part in a cross country competition at Haileybury this week. Unfortunately it was a very wet day. They had to show a great deal of resilience coping with a tough course in tricky conditions. Well done to all of them.



Harvest: Thank you for your generous gifts for our Harvest collection. The bags filled the boot of a car and they were gratefully received by Debs at Hertford Pantry.





Every School Day Counts!

Regular school attendance helps your child build confidence, make lasting friendships, and achieve their full potential by ensuring they never miss out on valuable learning opportunities.



Attendance: Today, we have given out certificates and badges for great attendance. 74 children have 100% attendance and another 41 have 95% or over. This is really pleasing. Thank you for your support with this.

Our overall attendance for the half term is 94.7%. This is a little lower than our target. We were above 95% until last week, however illness has had an impact. When your child has been unwell, please try to get them back to school as quickly as possible. If your child has a cold or is just not 100% we would be happy if you sent them in with some Calpol (that you hand in and sign for at the office) so that they can get through the day.

Punctuality. Learning starts the minute the children come into school. From 8:40 the children are gaining from learning activities. Please make sure your child is on time.



Reading. We have a constant focus on developing every child's reading skills. Every class has daily lessons learning to use phonics then to read fluently, with understanding. We have class books that are read to children and at the end of each half term we have tales together. It was really good to see so many in school today sharing stories with their children

Becoming a fluent reader opens up so many opportunities for children but it does take a great deal of practise. That's one reason that schools promote reading at home. Last term you told us that it would help if we provided more rewards to motivate your child to read at home. We now give Dojo Points for reading at home, we give badges to those who are the most consistent home readers in each class and each half term we have a Star Reader award where one child who has read consistently at home is picked to receive a book. This half term's prize went to Giovanni.



Coats and Wellies. As the weather is likely to be mixed from now on, please make sure your child has a coat in school. We will also be going back to requiring wellies on to go on the field, so please check that your child has wellies in school as well as their school shoes.

Have a great half term.

J Fisher

Type of query	Member of staff to contact
Safeguarding/child protection	Mr Fisher, Mrs Cracknell, Mrs Poole and Mrs Richardson
Any issues relating to your child or another child in the class	Email admin to arrange a meeting, sometimes a phase leader may join this meeting
If you do not feel the issue has been resolved or you may need more advice.	Step 1 Phase Leader EYFS-Miss White Year 1 - 3- Mrs Christman Yea 4 - 6 -Mr Chandler Step 2 Deputy Headteacher Mrs Hannah Cracknell Step 3 Headteacher- Mr Fisher
Inclusion/ Special Educational Needs	Mrs Smail
Looked After and Previously Looked After Children	Mrs Cracknell
Payments/Finance	Miss Byrne Mrs Tilbury
Admissions	Miss Byrne
Complaints	Please refer to school complaints policy on the <u>website</u> .

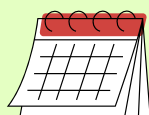
Upcoming Events

2026 / 2027

November	
Monday 2nd	Mastering number workshop for Reception parents
Wednesday 4th	Parents evening and stepping stones meetings Nursery - Year 6
Thursday 5 th	Parents evening and stepping stones meetings Nursery - Year 6
Thursday 5th	Flu vaccination - Reception to Year 6
Friday 6 th	Prospective parent tour - Reception 2027 - 10am
Monday 9th	Mastering number workshop for Year 1 parents
Tuesday 10th	Year 6 trip to the cinema
Tuesday 10th	Year 4 trip to the cinema
Tuesday 10th	Reception trip to the cinema
Wednesday 11th	Year 1 trip to the cinema
Wednesday 11th	Year 5 trip to the cinema
Wednesday 11th	Prospective parent tour - Reception 2027 - 4 pm
Thursday 12th	Year 3 trip to the cinema

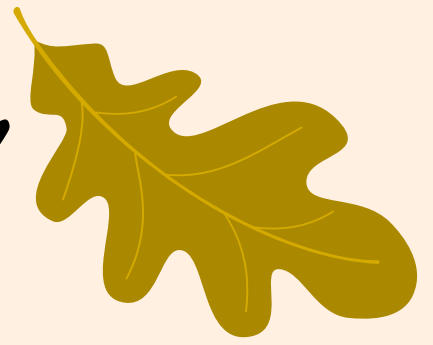
November cont..	
Thursday 12th	Parents evening and stepping stones meetings The Nest
Friday 13th	Nursery rhyme stay and play - Nursery / Reception and the Nest
Monday 16th	Mastering number workshop for Year 2 parents
Tuesday 17th	Year 4 trip to the Verulamium Museum
Thursday 26th	Y6 visit to Hertford Museum

December	
Wednesday 9 th	Decoration making 2 - 3 pm Parents invited
Wednesday 9th	Year 5 - We build it better day
Thursday 10 th	Christingle service at Hertford Baptist Church - Parents invited - PM
Friday 11th	EYFS and The Nest - Christmas sing and sign - 9am
Friday 11 th	School Christmas dinner
Monday 14 th	Year 1 and 2 - Nativity play 9am
Monday 14 th	Rock Steady concert - PM 2 pm
Wednesday 16 th	Whole school trip to the Pantomime
Thursday 17th	Year 1 and 2 - Nativity play 2.30 pm
Friday 18 th	End of term - School to finish at 1:15 pm

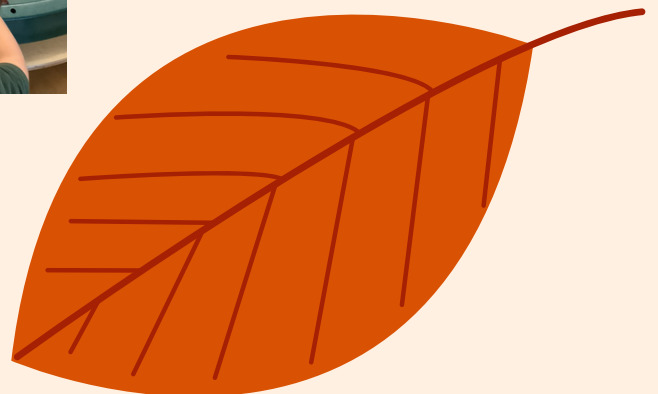




Nursery



Nursery have been very busy exploring all things Autumn. We have been on an a walk, hunting for items that we might see in Autumn. We have explored all the natural materials and made some amazing faces and patterns.





The Nest



The children have had an amazing few weeks exploring the wonderful themes of Autumn, Harvest and Halloween! We have enjoyed discovering the treasures collected during the children's autumn walks with families. We have used our senses to investigate a variety of harvest vegetables, and even got creative by making our very own delicious jam tarts.

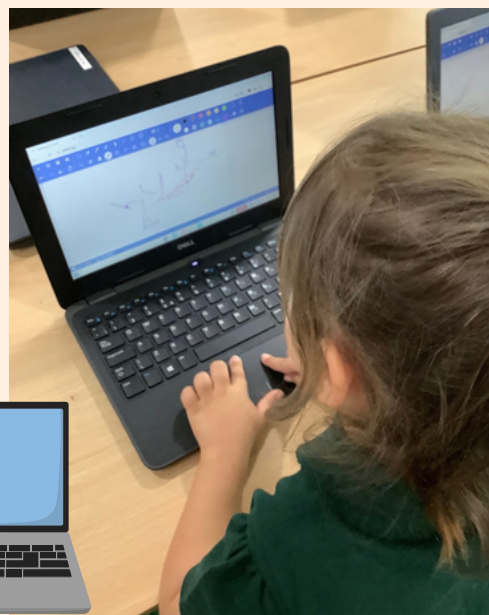
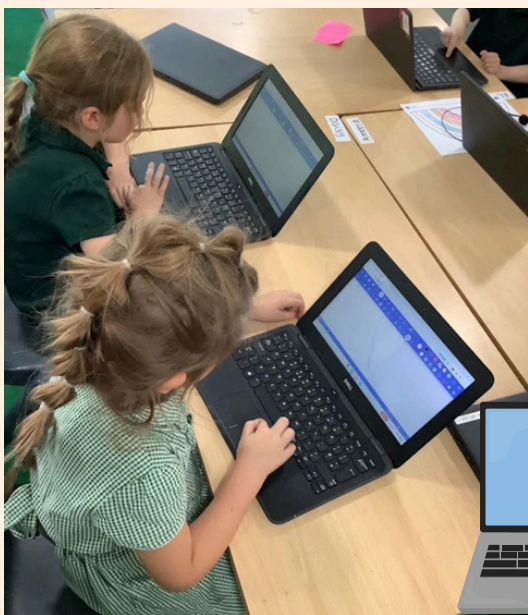
As part of our Halloween activities, we explored the inside of a pumpkin! Scooping out the pumpkin proved a little tricky for some of the children, who weren't too keen on the slimy texture of the pulp. However, we have had lots of fun getting creative and making some fantastic Halloween-themed artwork.

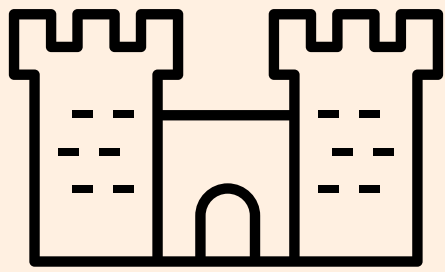
It has been a wonderful few weeks filled with exciting discoveries, sensory experiences, creativity and hands-on learning!



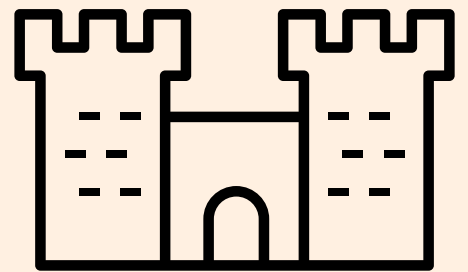
Year 1

We have had a busy few weeks. In RE, we have been exploring baptisms and christenings. In English, we have been exploring the 'Naughty Bus' and creating our own stories. In computing, we have been looking at the parts of a laptop, how to use a keyboard and mouse. They even created their own pictures using a program called paint!





Year 3



Year 3 has been hard at work in art this term, exploring the expressive world of landscape painting through watercolours! As part of their project, the children studied a range of famous landscape artists to learn how light, texture, and color can bring a scene to life. Putting their new skills into practice, each pupil created a wonderful final painting of Hertford Castle. By blending delicate watercolour washes with detailed fine-line handwriting pens, they successfully experimented with line and texture to produce vibrant, striking effects. We are immensely proud of their creativity and focus!



Year 5

The children have been absolutely amazing this half term. We can't believe we have already completed our first half term of the year. It has been packed with lots of exciting activities and wonderful learning opportunities and we are so proud of all the children. We are looking forward to all the exciting things we have planned for the next half term. We hope everyone enjoys a well-deserved break and comes back refreshed and ready for another busy and exciting few weeks

Year 5 had an amazing time on their overnight trip to Cuffley, embracing all the outdoor activities and pushing themselves to great heights – quite literally! They enjoyed making their own pizzas and eating outside in the fresh air. Although the evenings were a little chilly, spirits remained high as the children warmed up with crate stacking and taking on the mighty Gladiator! It was a fantastic experience filled with fun, teamwork and plenty of memorable moments.



Year 5 enjoyed a fantastic morning of rugby, playing friendly matches against other schools. They developed new skills, practised their teamwork and learnt the importance of communicating effectively on the pitch. It was a fun and enjoyable morning and the children should be proud of their efforts!

Uniform

A reminder that Summer dresses must not be worn when we return after half term

Trainers should be plain black - no coloured laces / velcro straps etc

Hair longer than shoulder length must be tied back and hair bands / bows etc should be either bottle green, black, white or hair coloured

Please send your child to school with a coat. Wellies must be worn if they want to play on the field.

Tales together

Please join us on the following dates to
enjoy a book or two with your child



Friday 23rd October – 8.40 – 9 am

Thursday 11th February – 8.40 – 9 am

Friday 19th March – 2.50 – 3 pm

Friday 28th May – 8.40 – 9 am

Friday 16th July – 2.50 – 3 pm



Book review

by Miss Taylor

Paddington at the Tower.

By Miss Taylor

I really enjoyed reading *Paddington at the Tower of London*. The story follows Paddington Bear as he visits the famous Tower of London with the Brown family. As usual, Paddington's curiosity leads him into some funny situations and unexpected adventures.



My favourite part was seeing Paddington explore the Tower and learn about its history. He meets some of the Yeoman Warders (Beefeaters) and discovers interesting things about the Tower, including the Crown Jewels.



The story is full of humour, especially when Paddington accidentally causes a little bit of chaos while trying to help. I also learnt some interesting facts about the Tower of London while reading.

I would recommend this book to children who enjoy funny stories, adventures and learning about famous places.



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