



Newsletter No 3, 19th September 2026

Message from the Head Teacher

As we begin another exciting school year, I would like to take a moment to highlight the importance of **good attendance and punctuality**. For children in primary school, every day brings new opportunities to learn, develop friendships, build confidence and experience something new. Missing school means missing out on these opportunities, even relatively small amounts of absence can add up over time.

The Department for Education statistics show that, during the 2024/25 academic year, pupils in state-funded primary schools missed **5.2% of their possible school sessions**. Nationally, **13.5% of primary-aged pupils were persistently absent**, meaning they missed at least 10% of their possible sessions. To put this into a more meaningful perspective, **10% absence is roughly one day missed every two weeks**. Across a primary school career, regular absence at this level can mean missing a considerable amount of teaching, alongside important experiences such as class discussions, practical activities, assemblies, trips and time with friends.

It is also important to remember that **attendance is about more than a percentage**. A child who is in school every day has the opportunity to benefit from the full curriculum and to develop the routines and resilience that come from being part of school life.

Being on time matters too. Good punctuality is an important part of good attendance. Arriving just a few minutes late might seem insignificant, but those minutes can quickly add up. More importantly, children who arrive late can miss the start-of-day routines, instructions, early learning activities and opportunities to settle themselves ready for the day.

We completely understand that children are sometimes genuinely unwell and need to stay at home. Our message is not about sending children to school when they are too ill to attend. Instead, we ask families to work with us to **reduce avoidable absence and make sure children arrive at school on time whenever possible**.

As a school, we will continue to support families where attendance is a concern. Our shared aim is simple: **to give every child the best possible opportunity to learn, thrive and enjoy school**. So, as we look ahead to the year, please remember:

Every day counts.

Every lesson counts.

Every minute counts.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us make every school day count for every child.
Have lovely weekend

Mr Dodd

News

School Photos

Next Friday the school photographer will be visiting to take all pupil photos. Please could you ensure that your child is neatly dressed in full uniform.

If you have a child in nursery who does not usually attend on a Friday, you may still visit to have their photo taken. Please come to the school office with them at 9.20am when the rest of nursery will be having their photos taken.

House Captains

Congratulations to our new house captains who have been elected this week:

Amber	Edie and Nyra
Emerald	Ola and Thomas
Ruby	Heather and Sophia
Sapphire	Charlie and Nabil

Dates for your diary

Please see the following dates below. Further events will be notified via parentmail and class pages or on future newsletters.

Fri 25 th September	Individual school photos
Sat 26 th September	Cross Country – Gayhurst
Thurs 1 st October	Y3 Stone Age workshop
Mon 5 th October	Stop and Share
Mon 5 th October	FOLKS AGM
Mon 12 th – Fri 16 th October	No teacher-led clubs this week
Mon 12 th October	Y4 Egyptian workshop
Tues 13 th October	Y2 Great Fire of London workshop
Tues 13 th October	Pupil Progress meetings 3.30-7pm
Wed 14 th October	Pupil Progress meetings 3.30-7pm
Tues 20 th October	Y1 Trip to Bekonscot
Wed 21 st October	FOLKS Movie Night
Thurs 22 nd October	Pizza and Hot Dog lunches
Mon 26th Fri 30th October	AUTUMN HALF TERM
Thurs 5 th November	Flu immunisations
Wed 11 th November	Y4 Trip to Ashmolean Museum
Fri 13 th November	FOLKS Crazy Hair day
Fri 20 th November	Y3 Trip to Verulamium
Sat 21 st November	Cross Country - Hervines
Wed 25 th November	Y2 Roald Dahl Museum trip
Wed 25 th November	Y5 Discover Bucks trip
Fri 4 th December	FOLKS Christmas Fayre
Thurs 10 th December	EYFS Christmas Production 9.30am
Thurs 10 th December	Christmas lunch
Thurs 10 th December	FOLKS Movie night
Fri 11 th December	EYFS Christmas Production 9.30am
Tues 15 th December	KS1 Christmas Production 2pm
Wed 16 th December	KS1 Christmas Production 9.30am
Wed 16 th December	FOLKS Panto trip (evening)
Thurs 17 th December	Christmas Party and Jumper morning
Thurs 17 th December	LAST DAY OF TERM – SCHOOL FINISHES AT 1.00pm

Achievement Assembly

Certificates of Merit

Awarded To	Class	Awarded For
Aliyah	Reception	Kindness and Respect
Zadie	Year 1	Kindness
Ebraheem	Year 2	Ambition and Creativity
Molly	Year 3	Ambition, Resilience and Respect
Aiden	Year 4	Creativity
Gabriella	Year 5	Creativity and Resilience
Eidan	Year 6	Ambition

Picture News



In the news this week

UK Prime Minister Andy Burnham has pledged that, by Christmas, everyone sleeping rough in England will be offered a safe place to stay. Accommodation will be found to end the need for sleeping rough. There will also be practical support for any health needs, as part of a £442m investment.

Things to talk about at home ..

- Share your response to the pledge that no one will be sleeping rough this Christmas.
- Can you think of some different ways that people can help others in their local communities?
- Can you share a time when you needed help from others? What help did you need and who helped you?



**UN Rights
of the Child**



Every child has the right to a safe and secure home with the support they need to grow and thrive.



Week commencing 21st September ... at a glance

Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	Pupil Photos. Y5 Forest schools
Saturday	Cross Country race - Gayhurst