

# Newsletter



Newsletter 1

September 6<sup>th</sup> 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! It has been a fantastic start to the new school year, with all of the children settling really well into their new classes. We are all excited for our Nursery children joining next week – particularly the big brothers and sisters already in school! I hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable summer; we are all looking forward to working with you over the year ahead.



## Staff

We have always valued the relationship we have with Parents and Carers and are committed to working with you to support the children. We are fortunate to have a number of staff who can help in different ways, alongside the class teachers and me. The following people will be able to answer a range of different queries and can all be contacted via the school office.

Role	Member of Staff
<b>Office Manager</b>	Mrs Jen Martin
<b>Office Admin</b>	Mrs Sheila Bundy
<b>Site Manager</b>	Mr Richard Martin
<b>School Cook</b>	Mrs Elaine Martin
<b>Head</b>	Mrs Liz Pollard
<b>Deputy Head</b>	Mr Kevin Browne
<b>Senior teacher</b>	Miss Kate Grainger
<b>Special Needs Coordinator</b>	Mrs Emma Gloyn
<b>326 After School Club Coordinators</b>	Mrs Sue Mansell & Miss Emma McKenzie
<b>Breakfast Club Coordinator</b>	Miss Emma McKenzie
<b>Chair of Governors</b>	Mrs Debbie Williamson
<b>PTFA Chair</b>	Mr Charlie Unwin

Jen Martin is usually the best person to help with any general queries, and can liaise with class teachers for email communication, and/or to organise a mutually convenient time to meet with you. Communication is treated confidentiality. Her email address is: [admin@codicote.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@codicote.herts.sch.uk)  
For anything I can help with, my direct email address is: [head@codicote.herts.sch.uk](mailto:head@codicote.herts.sch.uk)

Sadly, Mr Martin will be leaving us at the end of the month, as has been promoted to the post of General Manager at Mid Herts Golf Club. He has made a significant, positive impact on the school during the time he has been with us, and been an absolute joy to work with. He will be much missed but we wish him every happiness and success for the future. Meanwhile, we are in the process off recruiting a new Site Manager and will keep you up to date with our progress.



## Year 6 Leavers

We were really sad to say goodbye to our lovely Year 6 children and families at the end of the summer term, but enjoyed celebrating their time with us. They very kindly gave us gifts to continue to develop our

gardening projects – there is a beautiful outdoor ceramic planter and a trough – which has been placed in the atrium to add some indoor colour. We hope all of the children’s first days have gone well and look forward to them visiting us in the future.



### PTFA

This year’s AGM for the Parent & Friends Association (PTFA) is on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm in the school staffroom. We benefit hugely from the work of the PTFA, who raise money to enhance the children’s learning. They recently funded the sensory garden, and have purchased all of the outdoor play equipment and the school mini bus. They also pay for the coaches for the whole school pantomime trip, which significantly reduces the cost to parents.

We welcome all parents and carers to the PTFA and really need some more people to join – either as part of the helpers bank, or to join the committee. Please come along to find out more – the group is very friendly and would love to see you.



### Class Assemblies

Date	Class	Date	Class
19.9.24	Year 6B	14.11.24	Year 2
10.10.24	Year 5	21.11.24	Year 3C
17.10.24	Year 4	28.11.24	Year 3P
7.11.24	Year 1	5.12.24	Year 6D

You are most welcome to join us at our Class Assemblies, starting at 9:05am, where the children share some of the things they have been doing in class, with the rest of the school. These may change, subject to school events, so it is always advisable to check with your child, their teacher, or the School Office the day before.



### Clubs

Day	Before School	Lunchtime	After School – 3.20 – 4.15 p.m.
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Cross Country</b> Years 4 – 6 Meeting by the new field gate at 8.20 a.m.	<b>Maypole/Country Dancing</b> Years 4-6	<b>Netball</b> Years 5 & 6 <b>Computing</b> Years 4-6 <b>Ukulele Club</b> – Year 4 <b>Forest School</b> – Year 1*
<b>Tuesday</b>		<b>Tennis</b> Years 1 & 2	
<b>Wednesday</b>		<b>Choir</b> KS2 <b>Mini Movies</b> Year 2	<b>Girls Football</b> Years 5 & 6
<b>Thursday</b>		<b>Mindfulness</b> Years 5 & 6 <b>Tennis</b> Years 3 & 4	<b>Football</b> KS2
<b>Friday</b>		<b>Taskmaster Club</b> Year 3	

Clubs start w/c 9<sup>th</sup> September, apart from Forest School which will run from 14<sup>th</sup> October to 25<sup>th</sup> November.

All clubs, apart from Tennis, are voluntarily run by school staff, so are free to children. Children are expected to attend the clubs they have chosen every week. School teams, such as those for football and netball, are selected from the children who attend the club. Tennis club is run by the Welwyn Tennis Coach Mark Howard, and there is a small charge. Please contact the school office for more information.



### Dates & details!

The dates for the term, and academic year are included at the end of the newsletter. We are currently booking school outings for the year, and will publish these as soon as possible to help with future budgeting. There are a few events where I thought you would appreciate further information, as soon as possible - these are as follows:



#### Harvest Festival Service

We will meet at St. Giles Church, at 9.00 a.m. on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October for the Harvest Service. Nursery and Reception will be holding their own service in school. Registers will be kept open until 9.30, to help parents who need to drop children in two places.

We support home based and overseas charities on alternate years, and this year will be collecting donations for the Codicote Foodbank. Items which are always in high demand include:

Packets	Tins	Jars	Toiletries
Pasta	Meat	Cooking sauces	Body Wash
Rice	Veg	Jam	Shampoo
Cereals	Fruit	Marmalade	Conditioner
Deserts	Beans	Spreads	Deodorant



#### Evening Carol Service with Year 2, 6 & Choir

At the Carol Service, on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm, Year 2 will be performing their Nativity Play and their parents and carers are warmly invited to join us. Choir members from Year 6 will be singing carols, and there will be readings from Year 6 children too. Children from Year 6 who do not wish to do readings/are not in Choir,

will not need to attend.



#### School Uniform

Thank you for sending your children into school looking so smart and with everything labelled. If you haven't had time to do this yet, please could you make sure everything is named, so that we can return lost items easily. A few children are currently wearing grey pinafores or skirts – the uniform colour is navy, and white shirts – the correct colour is light blue or navy. A reminder went out in the Newsletter before the summer holidays. We have several items of uniform in stock which are available free of charge, which we would be happy to provide so that all children are wearing the correct school uniform colours.



#### Secondary School Visits

The online application system for Secondary School places for September 2025 has now opened. Secondary Schools will be holding their open evenings over the next few weeks. Parents of Year 6 children will need to make their applications for Secondary places by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024. Information has been sent home regarding the process involved. The open evenings for some local schools are as follows:

School	Date	Time
<b>Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School</b>	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	5.00 – 8.00 pm
<b>Hitchin Boys School</b>	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> September *needs to be booked via the school	6.00 – 8.30 pm.
<b>Hitchin Girls School</b>	Tuesday, 24 <sup>th</sup> , Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> September and Wednesday 2 <sup>th</sup> October *needs to be booked via the school	Open mornings
<b>Katherine Warington School</b>	Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> September	9.00 a.m – 1.00 p.m.
<b>Monks Walk School</b>	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	5.00 – 8.00 p.m.
<b>Richard Hale School</b>	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> September Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	6.00 – 8:30 p.m. 4.00 – 6.30 p.m.
<b>The Priory</b>	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	5.30 – 8.30 p.m.

Most schools offer morning tours, which can be booked on the schools' websites. Details about all schools in Herts is available at <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions>

As ever, if you would like any support with making your application, please do not hesitate to contact me.



### Snacks & Nuts

As you will be aware, children in Years Nursery to Two have a morning snack provided for them. Children in Years 3 – 6 may bring in a fruit/vegetable snack – e.g. carrot sticks, rice cakes, plain oatcakes or breadsticks for morning break time. Nuts are not an option as we have a number of children with allergies and need to ensure their safety. If your child has a particular dietary need, which requires them to have an alternative snack, we are happy to discuss this with you. Thank you for your support.



### Allergies, Asthma, Medical Conditions and Epi-pens

We are currently updating our information sheets for children with any condition which might require additional care or support. If this applies to your child, please return the form at the bottom of the newsletter, so that we can make sure that the information is shared with all relevant staff, and any necessary arrangements are put into place. If it is easier for you, the information can be supplied to the School Office via email.

Please remember that I am always happy to discuss any issues with you. Thank you for reading this newsletter.

Yours sincerely,

Liz Pollard  
HEADTEACHER

## Dates & Events set for Autumn 2024

Date		Event	People involved
17.9.24	7.00 p.m.	PTFA AGM - 7p.m.	Parents, Carers & Staff
18.9.24	All Day	Skipping workshop for KS1 & KS2	Children & staff
19.9.24	7.00 p.m.	Governors Meeting	Governors
26.9.24	All Day	Individual & Sibling School Photos	Children & Staff
3.10.24	All Day	World Poetry Day	Children & Staff
9.10.24	p.m.	Diocesan Harvest Festival - St Albans Cathedral	30 choir members & Staff
11.10.24	9.00 a.m.	Harvest	Children & Staff
23.10.24	5.00 - 7.00 p.m.	Parent Consultations	Teachers & Parents
24.10.24	8.30 - 9.30 a.m and 3.30 - 5.30 p.m.	Parent Consultations	Teachers & Parents
25.10.24	All Day	INSET day - School Closed to children	Staff
28.10.24		<b>Half Term</b>	
8.11.24	a.m.	Year 6/7 transition conference	2 Year 6 children & Mrs Pollard
15.11.24	All day	Flu Vaccinations	Children & Staff
28.11.24	7.00 - 9.00 p.m.	PTFA shopping evening	Everyone
29.11.24	All Day	Occasional Day - School closed	Everyone
10.12.24	12.00 p.m.	Christmas Dinner	Children & Staff
11.12.24	All day	Play Dress rehearsals	Children & Staff
12.12.24	10.30 a.m.	Reception Play	Children, families & staff
12.12.24	2.30 p.m.	Year 1 Play	Children, families & staff
12.12.24	7.00 p.m.	KS2 Plays	Children, families & staff
13.12.24	10.30 a.m.	Nursery Play	Children, families & staff
13.12.24	7.00 p.m.	KS2 Plays	Children, families & staff
16.12.24	a.m.	Party - Reception	Children & Staff
16.12.24	6.30 p.m.	Year 2 & 6 Carol Service	Children, families & staff
17.12.24	9.00 a.m.	Panto!	Children & Staff
18.12.24	p.m.	Party - KS1 p.m.	Children & Staff
19.12.24	p.m.	Party - KS2	Children & Staff
20.12.24	1.15 p.m.	Term Ends	Everyone

