Newsletter

Newsletter 20 **3rd July, 2026**

Assembly themes: Next week – Winning & Losing
Following week – Endings and moving on

Dear Parents and Carers,

The year seems to have flashed by and I cannot believe how near to the end of term we are! We have all enjoyed a much cooler week – however, the children and staff coped brilliantly during the heatwave. We are fortunate to have air conditioning in the new block and some areas of the school. Staff worked really hard to support each other in sharing the cooler spaces and making their rooms available to those in warmer classes. We are keeping arrangements under review and have contingency plans should we have another heatwave, to ensure we can remain open to all children. Thank you for your support in sending the children in wearing suncream, with named hats and water bottles.

Recent events

There are so many people I am grateful to for their contribution to the school and making learning so engaging and so much fun for the children. Our STEM week, organised by Mrs Foster and Mrs Broad, was fantastic! We really appreciate the parents and former pupils who came in to deliver workshops, give talks and lead activities.

Art Day was equally as exciting; led by Miss Grainger, the children looked at the work of Andy Goldsworthy and then created their own beautiful, natural sculptures. Today, it may look as if we have survived a storm, with debris strewn about, but they did look amazing. One of the themes of the day was to value the process as much as the finished article – just as well!

We have also taken children to watch the Hitchin Girls School Gym and Dance Display and were delighted to spot our former pupils. Year 2 had a wonderful visit to Shepreth Wildlife Park – despite the heat, they managed to find plenty of shade and had an amazing time. There are still more things to look forward to, before the end of term, and we look forward to sharing these with you.

Open Evening

Thank you very much for coming along to our Open Evening – it was lovely to see how excited the children were to show you their classrooms and talk to their teachers. We also appreciate having the opportunity to share their learning with you. We hope you enjoyed it too.

Maypole Costumes

Please could all items of the Maypole and Country Dancing costumes be returned to school – we have two events coming up which we urgently need them for. Thank you!

Summer Do

Thank you to everyone who came along to the Summer Do and to those who worked hard to make it such a success. This is one of our main fundraising events and the children are really looking forward to enough money being raised to pay for a new trim trail – we are well on the way towards it.
Particular thanks go to:

- Dance Club – the children gave a wonderful performance. They worked really hard choreographing and practicing their dance routine after school every Friday!
- David Brett-Lavelle, helped by Paul and Oliver (our former pupils) – cooked the food and made all the salads. They worked so hard and the food tasted incredible.
- Charlie – Our amazing PTFA Chair and his brilliant team, Robert, Keith and Colin.
- The small, but very hardworking, group of parents who helped throughout.
- Darren and Su Murley – running the Treasure Hunt.
- Codicote Farm Butchery – providing the meat for us at cost.
- Our dedicated staff who helped before, during and after the event.

Village Day – 18th July

Congratulations to our joint winning Village Day Queens – Phoebe and Amber, King – Noah, and attendant – Lily! Well done too, to the winner of the Poster Competition – Edward in Year 5 – and to all the year group winners.

We are currently making accessories for children taking part in the parade. Please let us know if your child would like to join us, by completing and returning the slip at the end of this newsletter or completing this very short form. The theme this year is ***Children's Books***, so our walking float will be as crayons, for 'The Day the Crayons Quit'.

The Maypole and Country Dancers will also be performing. If your child is part of this club and will be taking part in the performance, please note this on the slip/online form, so that costumes can be allocated. Thank you!

Sponsored Walk

Please could sponsor forms and any money collected be returned to the school office by Wednesday 8th July, so that it can be banked before the end of term. Thank you!

Funky Hair Day

On Friday 17th July, children may come into school with funky hair, with the request of a small donation to the PTFA – suggestion £1 per child.

Countdown to the Summer Holidays

Monday 6th	Tuesday 7th	Wednesday 8th	Thursday 9th	Friday 10th	
Piano Assembly – 9:05am	Strum and Sing Ukulele Assembly – 9:05am **Year 5 Cross Curricular Day Monks Walk School 9 - 3 p.m.** **New Nursery children & families visiting 2.00 p.m.**	**Maypole and Country Dancers performing at The Bury**	**Year 6 visiting New Schools** Moving up morning for other Year groups	**Stevenage Sporting Futures Award Evening 7.00 p.m.** Nominations for Phoebe and Matthew Stevenage Football Club	
Monday 13th	**Tuesday 14th**	**Wednesday 15th**	**Thursday 16th**	**Friday 17th**	**Saturday 18th**
	Maypole and Country Dancers performing at Poynders Meadow	**Reception – Codicote trip**		**Funky Hair Day** Come to school with funky hair – with a small donation to the PTFA.	**Village Day 12.30 p.m** Parade assembles in 'The Opening' **3.45 p.m.** Dancers meet Mrs Pollard by maypole
Monday 20th	**Tuesday 21st**	**Wednesday 22nd**			
Nursery & Reception Sports Day 9.30 a.m. School field behind new building	**Sports Day 9.15 am Years 1 & 2** Sports Field **1.15 p.m. Years 3-6** Sports Field	**Leavers' Service at St Giles 10.00am** Year 6 families welcome **Farewell to Year 6 1.15pm** Courtyard **1.45pm - Term ends**			

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

Yours sincerely,

Liz Pollard
HEADTEACHER

Cafe Church - Sunday 5th July 10am in PMH

There is always a warm welcome, delicious pastries and good coffee at St Giles Cafe Church in PMH on the first Sunday of the month from 10am. The July theme is Ups & Downs. All are very welcome.

Village day Parade and Dancing

My child: Class:

Would like to take part in the parade:

(Years 4-6) Will be taking part in Maypole/Country dancing:

Signed: Date: