

Newsletter



Newsletter 21

17th July, 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

The school year has raced by and it seems astonishing that we are days away from the summer holidays. In this newsletter, I have included information relating to next week and for the school year ahead. Thank you for supporting our Funky Hair Day – the children look incredible and seem to be enjoying trying out their new hairstyles!

This is always a very poignant time. We have so many wonderful memories of happy times with your lovely children and lots of things to celebrate. However, we also have to say goodbye to our fantastic Year 6 children – many of whom we have known for most or all of their lives – along with their families, who have become such an important part of our school family.

I hope that everyone has a relaxing and enjoyable summer and look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Tuesday 2nd September.



Thank you!

We are really proud of our harmonious, happy and hardworking staff team and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their dedication and commitment. I feel truly privileged to work with such generous and talented people. Thank you too, to everyone who has supported the life and work of the school over the past year:

- Our wonderful families – thank you parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, for your unstinting support and kindness.
- Everyone who helps us at occasions and events, the PTFA and our regular helpers.
- Charlie Unwin, who leads the PTFA and works hard in front, and behind the scenes, to help the school in more ways than you could imagine!
- The governors, chaired by Debbie Williamson, who give up significant quantities of time to ensure that they fulfil their roles effectively, and support the school in numerous ways. I would also like to congratulate Debbie for winning the Jane Brown Award, presented by the Codicote Parish Council for her dedication to the community. It was truly deserved!



Farewell Year 6

In the words of Winnie the Pooh, ‘Goodbye...? Oh no, please. Can’t we go back to page one and do it all over again?’ It is always very hard to say goodbye to our Year 6 children and ‘lend them’ to their secondary schools. I always say that once you are part of Codicote School, you always belong here and we look forward to them coming back to visit and perhaps, even working here in the future...

Year 6 have been a wonderful year group, and we will miss them enormously – particularly on a Friday morning, when they have never failed to delight me with their enthusiasm and dancing, as well as their singing. They have been great role models to younger children and have represented the school flawlessly in numerous areas, notably in Sport, Dance and Music. They have also worked hard to achieve equally impressive results in the recent SATs tests and are also great fun and a pleasure to be with.

Their parents have also been an important part of our school community and we are very sad to be saying goodbye to a number of families, many of whom have a long association with us. They include the following: Allinsons, Carraras, Charalambides, Eames, Lloyds, Milles, Mountstevens, Redferns, Scales and Weavers. We do hope that all our families will remember that they will always be welcome here and hope to see them at future events.

For your interest, these are the schools the Year 6 children will be moving onto:

Monks Walk: 14	Hitchin Boys: 6	Hitchin Girls: 1
Bishops Hatfield Girls: 1	Katherine Warington: 1	St. Georges: 1
The Priory School: 1	Sir John Lawes: 1	Roundwood Park: 1
Kingshott: 1	Haileybury: 2	



Last Day of Term – Wednesday 22nd July

Year 6 parents are warmly welcomed to join us at St.Giles Church, at 10 a.m. on the last day of term for the Leavers' Service. If they wish, they may walk up with us or meet us at church. Sunglasses are advised – regardless of the weather!

At 1.00pm, we will meet on the Year 6 playground, ready for a prompt start when all classes are gathered, to present the attendance medals and say farewell to Year 6. This is expected to finish at 1:45 p.m., and all families are welcome to join us.



Sports Day

Next Monday, we will be holding Foundation Stage Sports Day at 9:15am, on the field behind the new building.

On Tuesday, Years 1 and 2 will be competing in the morning, starting at 9.30am, with KS2 in the afternoon at 1.30pm. The children and staff have been busy practising, so we plan to go ahead, whatever the weather, unless the conditions make it hazardous! We suggest that you bring a fold up chair or rug to sit on and a sun umbrella for shade. Children need to come to school with a named hat and water bottle, wearing a high factor sunscreen, with an additional named bottle in their bag should they need to top up during the day.

To ensure the safety of the children, and smooth running of races, adults will need to remain on the spectator side of the track. The finish line needs to be kept clear so that the children aren't daunted and it makes it easier to award the place cards to the children. At the end, the children will return to their classrooms, where they can be collected from as usual. All parents and grandparents are welcome!



Attendance and Term Time Holidays

We take good attendance at school extremely seriously, as we know how important it is for children's learning, social development and success in their education. As you may be aware from previous newsletters, there has been a new law in place regarding term time holidays and unauthorised absences. Schools and Local Authorities have a legal obligation to follow this legislation and I would not wish any parent to be in a difficult position, because they were unaware of potential consequences.

If a child is off school for 10 sessions (usually five days) or more, in a ten week period, and the absence is unauthorised, a fine of £80, per child, per parent is issued. If this is not paid within 21 days, it is doubled.

If you get a second fine within 3 years it will be £160. If you do not pay the fine in 28 days you may be taken to court for keeping your child out of school.

If your child is off school with unauthorised absences 3 or more times within the 3 years you will not be fined but court action is likely. This can result in a fine of up to £2,500, a community order or a jail sentence up to 3 months. The court could also give you a Parenting Order

If you are planning an absence from school, there is a form available on the school website and via the school office, which must be filled in. Absences can only be authorised illness or for exceptional circumstances; these are considered to be for events which are rare, significant, unavoidable and short – for example an emergency or close bereavement. It is rarely possible to authorise holidays. If the reason for an absence is given as illness, but information comes to the attention of the school which could indicate otherwise, the school is expected to investigate further.

All details regarding attendance are included in the attendance policy, which can be found on the school website. Mrs Martin is also happy to answer any queries.



Village Day

Thank you to everyone who have let us know that they will be part of our parade for Village Day. We would like the children to wear one colour, and we will send home a hat for them to wear. Thank you to our Village Day Club, led by Miss Churchill, Mrs Pyle and Miss Grainger, for organising these, and our props.

The dancers have been given their costumes to take home – it is really important that they wear/bring these with them, as we do not have any spares.

We will meet the children in the parade, the Queens, King and Attendant at The Opening at 12:30pm. Dancers are performing slightly earlier at 3:30pm, so I will meet them by the Maypole at 3:15pm, ready to lead on. We look forward to seeing lots of you to wave to on Village Day!



Sports Awards

On Friday evening, Mrs Mason, Miss Doran and I had the pleasure of attending the Stevenage Sporting Futures Awards, along with Matthew and Phoebe, who had both been shortlisted for awards. We were delighted to celebrate Matthew winning an award for achieving the top result in rowing in the District, and Phoebe, winning Highly Commended in the Primary Elite Performer category. Huge congratulations to them both!



School Uniform

I am sure that many children will be doing extra growing over the summer holidays and will need new uniforms for September. Please remember that we re-cycle our pre-loved uniforms free of charge and you are most welcome to see what we have available in your child's size.

Uniform is also available from our supplier – Uniform Monkeys – whether you buy the uniform from their website or an alternative source, this is a really good reference point as the correct uniform is clearly pictured on the website. [Codicote Primary Archives - TheUniformMonkeys](http://www.theuniformmonkeys.co.uk)

We are proud of our uniform and all children are expected to wear it, from Reception to Year 6.

Uniform

- Navy blue skirt, culottes, pinafore dress, navy blue or grey school trousers or shorts. No leggings.
- Pale blue/navy polo shirt* or pale blue shirt
- Navy blue cardigan* or sweatshirt*
- White, grey or navy socks/tights
- Sensible black flat shoes
- Blue/white check dresses or playsuits for summer

*Items with logo available

P.E. Clothing

All Children require plimsolls or trainers for outdoor games. P.E. uniform is as follows:

- Navy T shirt with school logo
- Blue Shorts – with elasticated waist - not cycling shorts
- Blue Sweatshirt/Blue track suits bottoms for cold weather

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

Yours sincerely,

Liz Pollard
HEADTEACHER