

Newsletter



Newsletter 21

19th July, 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I cannot believe we have come to the end of another school year at Codicote! As always, the children have been an absolute delight, and we have all been impressed with the enthusiasm, positivity and commitment they have shown to their learning and school life. They have created so many happy memories through the past three terms, to take forwards to the next school year.

We have all enjoyed being in the new building too. It has met all of our expectations and it has been lovely to have so much space, after all of the years of being crammed into one building. We have also appreciated a furniture removal free end of term – the first we can remember for years!

On behalf of all of the staff, I would like to thank you for your fantastic support throughout the year – you and your children are amazing! I hope that everyone has a relaxing and harmonious summer holiday, and look forward to seeing everyone in September.



Staff

As Mrs Wood starts her maternity leave, we wish her, Mr Wood and Arthur every good wish for their new baby.

Very sadly, we have to say goodbye to Beth Whitbread. Beth has been with us for 11 years, starting as a member of our lunchtime staff, and then adding 326, Breakfast Club and Learning Support Assistant roles to her repertoire! Throughout lockdown, Beth was part of the tiny, but mighty team of people, who were with me in school every day. She leaves us to return to a career in book-keeping. We will certainly miss her and wish her every happiness and success for the future.



Year 6

Our Year 6 children have been a wonderful class, and it has been a pleasure to watch their progress through school. We are proud of each and every one of them – they have undertaken every task and responsibility given with a cheerful, conscientious attitude and have brought so much kindness to all they have contributed. We wish them every success at their new schools, and hope that they will keep in touch with us. They will be much missed.

We will also miss their parents very much – many of whom have been with us for a long time, and this is their youngest child, so their formal association with the school has come to an end. They have supported us in so many different ways; for this, we are very grateful. This year we say goodbye to: The Barrells, Barrows, Corbetts, Grimshaws, Hawthorns, Kordes, MacDonalds, Reeds, Russells, Sheppards, Traies and Waites. We have loved sharing your children's learning journey with you and hope you will stay in contact.

For interest, these are the schools the children will be joining in September:

Monk's Walk	The Priory School	Katherine Warrington
Hitchin Boys	Hitchin Girls	Loreto College
Bishops Hatfield Girls School	Kingshott	The Highfield School
Richard Hale	St. John Henry Newman	Beaumont School

Parents may also be interested to see the tremendous academic achievements of the children too – they have all done extremely well, and can be proud of their achievements.

KS2 SATS results	Age related expectations		Working above age related expectations		Average Scaled Score	
	School	National 2024	School	National 2023*	School	National
Reading	93%	74%	30%	28%	108	105
Maths	82%	73%	41%	23%	107	104
Writing	93%	72%	41%	13%	N/A	N/A
SPAG	89%	72%	41%	N/A	108	105
RWM	78%	61%	19%	7%	N/A	N/A

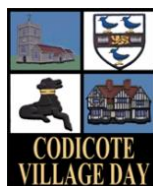
*2024 National score for working above age related expectations not yet available



Last Day

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 1.15, we will meet on the courtyard, to say farewell to Year 6. This is expected to finish at 1.45 p.m.. Children will then return to classes for collection.



Village Day Arrangements – Saturday 20th July

Congratulations to our Village Day Queen: Hattie, King: Alex, and Attendants: Amber & Naomi. We will meet them, and the children in the walking float, at The Opening from 12.30pm – ready to leave at 12.45 p.m. The children in the parade have been given an M & M circle to wear – they can wear a plain t-shirt of any colour, with the circle attached. Thank you to Beth for organizing this.

The Country and Maypole dancers have already been given their costumes to take home – they will need to bring these with them/wear them on Saturday. The children will be dancing at 4.00 p.m. so we will assemble by the maypole in the main arena at 3.45 to organize the dancing pairs. We look forward to seeing you there!



Dancing

I was extremely proud of all of the Maypole and Country Dancers who went to Poynder’s Meadow this week. They performed the full Maypole sequence, followed by three country dancers and were brilliant! They were also beautifully behaved, and a credit to the school and their parents.



Open Evening

It was lovely to see so many of you at the recent Open Evening; I hope you enjoyed the opportunity to look round the school, meet your child's teachers and see which classroom they will be in next year. Thank you very much to Year 6 for their Hatwalk/Catwalk presentation – the hats have been amazing! If you were not able to come, you would be very welcome to visit your child's new classroom in September.



Twenty is Plenty sale

Thank you for your support for the Twenty is Plenty sale, where everything was sold for 20p – all profits will be going to Water Aid. Thank you very much to Miss Grainger, Mrs Pyle and the Eco Team for organising this.



The BFG

We recently enjoyed an amazing story telling session with the actor Anthony Pedley. He told the story of the BFG with a series of props and kept us all enthralled. I am sure you may have heard about the parts the children found funniest, when they came home!



Rev.Christie Gillfeather

On Wednesday, Debbie Williamson – our Chair of Governors – and I, along with a number of Codicote families, attended the Welcome Service at St. Giles for Christie, our new vicar. Christie will be with us at the Leavers' Service next week. We are all looking forward to her being part of our school family – she will be leading assemblies with the children and, in September, will join the Governing Body.



Café Church

Thank you very much to the children and families who joined us at Café Church on Sunday 7th July. Although we were small in numbers, the children's singing was amazing! It was a lovely occasion, and I know that everyone will be made most welcome to future Café Church sessions.



Glazed Creations

As many of you will know, from the amount of items brought home, we do a lot of clay work in school. Recently, we had a malfunction with our kiln, and it is now awaiting repair. Thankfully, help was at hand! Both Priory School in Hitchin and the lovely Kelly, from Glazed Creations in Royston, fired all of our work, for nothing! We really appreciate their kindness, and hope you enjoy the children's pottery, when it makes its way home.



Thank you

There are many people who give huge commitment to the children and life and work of the school. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our amazingly talented and hardworking staff team. It is a pleasure to work with each and every one of them – their commitment to the children, and life and work of the school is incredible, and they are so much fun to work with! They give up considerable amounts of their own time to lead clubs, take children on residential journeys and attend events outside school hours.

I am grateful, too, to our governors, led by Debbie Williamson as Chair, who again work really hard to ensure that all aspects of the school's work is supported and challenged appropriately. The children are so lucky to have such a resourceful and capable team overseeing their education.

Last, but not least, thank you to our very hardworking PTFA team – led by the legendary Charlie, who give so much to provide 'extras' for the children. This year, they have paid for the pantomime coaches, subsidised school trips to reduce the cost to parents and funded the new sensory garden. We are very fortunate to have them.



Sports Days

Thank you to everyone who came to watch the Early Years Sports Day today. The children were fantastic, and despite the very warm conditions, took part in very event, trying their very best! We were so proud of them all!

On Monday, we will be holding our KS1 and KS2 Sports Days on the new school field. KS1 (Year 1 and Year 2) will start at 9.15a.m. , with a circuit of activities in house teams. This will be followed by flat races. The Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6) Sports Day will begin at 1.15p.m., and will include a variety of competitive races. Parents and grandparents are most welcome to attend. Please can you bring camping chairs/a rug to sit on?

To ensure the smooth running of Sports Day, and safety of the children, we request that adults remain on the spectator side of the track, and do not cross it to talk to, or sit with, their children. All children will need a water bottle and a hat, and to come to school with suntan lotion of an appropriate factor already applied. They can wear a t-shirt in their house colours, but do not need to do so.

We aim to continue with Sports Days irrespective of the weather – unless it is dangerous for the children to take part. We know that children really look forward to their races, and that parents have had to organise their diaries in order to attend. If the weather is unsettled on Monday, please could you send your child in with a waterproof coat?



Uniform Reminder

Good quality donated school uniform will be available for parents to take on Sports Day, as part of our recycling targets. For parents buying uniform, items are available from either the school supplier – [Uniform Monkeys in Letchworth](#) – or local shops and supermarkets.

The uniform is as follows:

- Navy blue skirt, pinafore dress, culottes or trousers, or grey trousers/shorts.
- Pale blue/navy polo shirt*
- Navy blue jumper/sweatshirt/cardigan/school fleece*
- White, grey or navy socks/tights
- Sensible black flat shoes
- Blue/white check dresses or playsuits (summer)

P.E. Clothing

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

- Navy Round-necked T Shirt with school logo*
- Navy Shorts
- Navy Sweatshirt/Navy track suits bottoms for cold weather

Hair should be kept clean and tidy and should not be brightly coloured or worn in any extreme style. No patterns or tramlines should be shaved into the hair or eyebrows. Hair should not be shaved below a grade 2.



House Trophy

The children have earned an incredible amount of house points over the year for excellent behaviour and hard work. Although the winning house took an early lead and maintained it, the results for the other houses were very close and any one of them could have finished in second place, right up to today! The final results are as follows:

Bury: Winners!
St. Giles: 2nd place
Mimram: 3rd place
Lodge : 4th place

Congratulations to Bury!

I hope everyone has a very enjoyable and relaxing summer, and look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday 3rd September, at 8.50 a.m.

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

Yours sincerely,

Liz Pollard
HEADTEACHER



Community News



Back to school shoes

We have been made aware that back to school fitting appointments are available at John Lewis and Clarks in Welwyn Garden City. These can be booked online to skip the queues.

[Children's Shoe Fitting Service \(johnlewis.com\)](http://johnlewis.com)

[Measure & Fit - Book a Clarks Shoe Fitting | Clarks](#)



Sports and Social Club

PC Stuart Stone will be at the Sports & Social club during café time (9.30 – 12) on Wednesday 14th August. Come along and meet him for a chat!



Public Transport Saver Card Scheme

Parents and Carers may be interested in the Herts Saver Card scheme, for 11 – 19 year olds, which reduces the cost of public transport. This cost £20, if applied for online, and gives a 50% discount on single and return bus tickets and Intalink connect tickets. Further information can be found at:

[Travel to school | Hertfordshire County Council](#)

Term Dates 2024 - 2026

<u>2024 - 2025</u>	<u>2025- 2026</u>
<p><u>AUTUMN TERM 2024</u> Monday 2nd September 2024 – Friday 20th December 2024 (Half term: Mon 28th October – Fri 1st November) Inset Days: Monday 2nd September Friday 25th October Occasional Day: Friday 29th November</p>	<p><u>AUTUMN TERM 2025</u> Wednesday 3rd September, 2025 – Friday 19th December 2025 (Half term: Mon 27th – Fri 31st October) Inset Days: Wednesday 3rd September Friday 24th October Occasional Day: Friday 28th November</p>
<p><u>SPRING TERM 2025</u> Monday 6th January 2025 – Friday 4th April 2025 (Half term: Mon 17th – Fri 21st February) Inset Days: Monday 6th January</p>	<p><u>SPRING TERM 2026</u> Monday 5th January 2026 – Friday 27th March 2026 (Half term: Monday 16th – Friday 20th February) Inset Days: Monday 5th January</p>
<p><u>SUMMER TERM 2025</u> Tuesday 22nd April – Wednesday 23rd July 2025 (Half term: Mon 26th – Fri 30th May) May Bank Holiday: Mon 5th May Inset Days: Friday 6th June Wednesday 23rd July</p>	<p><u>SUMMER TERM 2026</u> Monday 13th April – Thursday 23rd July 2026 (Half term: Mon 25th – Fri 29th May) May Bank Holiday: Mon 4th May Inset Days: Friday 5th June Thursday 23rd July</p>