



Roots to grow,
Wings to soar

Newsletter

Spring Term

27th March 2026

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Value: Forgiveness

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of a busy and rewarding Spring Term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on all that our school community has achieved. It has been a term full of rich learning experiences, with pupils across all year groups demonstrating enthusiasm, curiosity, and a real commitment to their learning. It has been particularly lovely to see how well the children have settled into their routines, showing growing confidence and independence in their learning. We have also been delighted to welcome new families and children to our school. They have settled in wonderfully, and their presence has contributed to a school environment that feels vibrant, welcoming, and full of energy.

Beyond the classroom, we have enjoyed a wide range of sporting and musical opportunities. Our pupils have represented the school with pride in various sporting events, demonstrating teamwork, resilience, and excellent sportsmanship. Skylark's trip to Young Voices at the O2 in Greenwich was also a particular highlight. Our pupils have benefited from a wealth of enrichment opportunities, ensuring a broad and balanced experience that supports both academic progress and personal development. Our School Council put in great effort into running events on Red Nose Day and a very successful after school cake bake with donations totalling £323.00. Thank you for supporting the school when such events are run.

I am also delighted to notice an improvement in attendance this term. Regular attendance is vital for children to make the most of their education, particularly as we have continued to carry out end-of-term assessments in the core subjects this week. We greatly appreciate the continued support from families in ensuring pupils are in school and ready to learn each day. Thank you to all parents and carers who attended our information sessions this term. These have been extremely valuable in strengthening the partnership between home and school, and we look forward to continuing these sessions after Easter.

Finally, thank you to our dedicated staff, governors, supportive families, and, of course, our pupils for making this such a successful term. We look forward to building on this positive momentum in the Summer Term.

Wishing everyone a Happy and restful Easter,

Sarah Cook
Headteacher

Salvation Artwork

All the children across the school have produced beautiful Salvation art over the last week. It has created a fabulous display in our hall. It proudly shows the progression of skills by our children from the youngest to the oldest.



Events – save the dates!

Maths Homework Workshops after school on Mondays are fully up and running! Led by Ms Todd and myself, **from 3:20–4:00pm in the school hall**, these sessions are designed to support families with maths strategies and homework approaches with an opportunity for you to ask how we teach maths, as for many of us the way in which we were taught at school is very different to how we teach your children today. Please do come along with your child and their homework book to work together – we look forward to seeing you there.

Tuesday 21st April

Writing and all the many elements within the teaching of this subject will be the focus for a Parents Information Session to be held in the school hall at 3.30pm on Tuesday 21st April. The session will explain how writing is taught across the school, highlight the national curriculum requirements across the year groups, look at how it is assessed by teaching staff and talk you through what an English writing unit looks like, and the scheme we use. Alongside reading, writing is a key life skill, and we would like to support you in ways in which activities at home can help support your child in writing at school.

Woodpecker Class We have had a wonderful and busy time in EYFS celebrating Easter! The children have been learning about the Easter story and exploring its meaning through a range of activities. As part of our learning, we enjoyed fun maths activities such as *number chicks*, helping to develop our counting and number recognition skills. The children also loved our phonics game where they fed the rabbit a carrot with a word on—this was a fantastic way to practise reading in a playful and exciting way! We also had a lovely time making chocolate Rice Crispy cakes. The children carefully followed instructions and took turns! Alongside this, the children have been very busy completing their Talk Talks. They showed great confidence by singing nursery rhymes or sharing something special with the class. We are so proud of how amazing they have been—this is a wonderful way to build their oracy skills and grow in confidence when speaking in front of others.

Kingfisher Class In Science this week, Kingfisher have been taking a closer look at how our poor gingerbread men have been holding up after last week's experiment. We wanted to find out whether a gingerbread man could safely cross a river *without* needing a hungry fox—quite different from the fairytale! After dipping them in water for different lengths of time to test how waterproof they were, we left them on the windowsill to dry out for a week. We checked back in on them to see whether they'd return to their original crunchy selves. Our findings? They were a bit softer, a little crumblier, and not something you'd want to take a bite of! On Monday, some of our children had the fantastic opportunity to take part in a dance workshop at Birchwood. They were able to perform a dance created by the GCSE dance students, and it was wonderful to see them showcase their hard work in front of an audience. A big thank you to all the parents who came along to support them!

Nightingale Class In Nightingale, the children have been learning all about how important the Amazon rainforest is, both to the indigenous people that live there but also to our planet in general. We have studied how the indigenous people use the rainforest for everything they need to survive, from food to building materials, transport to medicine. They also looked at how the Amazon rainforest is being used by others and how its destruction can impact our lives and the cause the extinction of plants and animals. They have designed posters warning of the impact of losing rainforests. We have also started a very exciting writing unit all about Haiku, short but effective Japanese poems they say a lot with just a few lines. They have learnt how these poems are made up of three lines with a set amount of syllables for each line. They have enjoyed the puzzle of using the correct number of words and selecting the best word for the task and we can't wait to work more on these after Easter.

Robin Class This week, Year 4 have been busy creating Easter art for our cards. To inspire our cards, the children took a short trip to the church across the road to study the stained-glass windows. They carefully observed the colours and symbols to help inspire their own Easter artwork. In English, we have been writing Haiku poems. The class loved following the 5–7–5 structure and thinking about nature and the seasons. They especially enjoyed working collaboratively, sharing ideas, supporting one another, and celebrating their poems together. We are also delighted that many of our salad vegetables have got off to a great start indoors. The children have been checking on them eagerly, and we're all looking forward to planting them outside after the Easter break.

Skylark Class The children have been working hard to finish their non-chronological reports, with fantastic results. They have added some wonderful illustrations and captions which really help to inform their reader. They then enjoyed sharing their final versions with the rest of the class, reading them aloud to inform everyone about the worlds they had chosen to write about. In RE, we found out more about some of the ways that Easter is celebrated in different Christian churches. We then wrote our own prayer, poem, song or message that could be shared in an Easter service. The children also enjoyed making Easter cards, starting with a watercolour wash and then creating black paper silhouettes of the crosses on the hill on Good Friday.

WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Attendance this week

94%

Whole School Target Set – 96%

Please contact school **every day** of any absence. This can be done by calling **01279 777344** and leaving a message on the absence line.

If you are going to be late and will need to order a school lunch, you can either make your own selection on Arbor before 8.15 am or ring the school office before 9.15 am. Orders placed after this time may not be accepted.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



Robin
William G



STAR OF THE TERM AWARDS

Woodpecker

Daphne for getting Reception ready. She has been doing an amazing job sitting beautifully for longer periods of time and showing great listening skills.

She is a kind and caring member of our class, always thinking of others and spreading positivity wherever she goes.

Alice for being an outstanding role model! She consistently follows our school rules and expectations, showing respect, kindness and responsibility in everything she does.

Nightingale

Ruby as she listens to advice to improve her work. She is a great friend to many in the class and always makes sure that nobody is left out.

Kingfisher

Louis for always working hard and listening well in class. He is kind and considerate to others and consistently upholds our school values.

Emma for always putting tremendous effort into her learning. She is consistently kind to all her peers, making her classroom a warm and supportive place for everyone.

Robin

Oliver K for taking pride in his work, consistently following the school rules and showing good progress in learning due to hard work and focus.

Skylark

Flo for great progress in English writing and comprehension lessons this term
Gulliver for fantastic progress in maths this term and contributions to learning.

HEADTEACHER AWARD

William S for superb focus and effort in all his learning and writing a fabulous Easter poem.

READING AWARDS

The children who have been reading regularly at home have been awarded an end of term **Learning with Parents** reading certificate today. Please ensure that you do log your child's reading so that we can ensure those who are reading at home receive one. Thank you to all who do so already.



TIMES TABLES ROCKSTAR AWARDS

Will S
Joshua K
Finley K

MENU w/c 13 th April			
Day	Menu		
Monday	Pork Sausages & Gravy Red Lentil Bolognese Pasta Shells (Ve) Green Jacket Potato with Beans & Cheese (Ve) Blue	Friday 27 th March	End of Term
Tuesday	Beef Lasagne Red Plant Based Grill (Ve) Green Jacket Potato with Grated Cheese (v) Blue	Monday 13 th April	INSET DAY
Wednesday	Roast Chicken, Stuffing & Gravy Red Cheese & Tomato Puff Pastry Tart (v) Green Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayo Blue	Tuesday 14 th April	Term starts for pupils
Thursday	Quorn Burger (v) Red Butternut & Chickpea Biryani (Ve) Green Jacket Potato with Beans & Cheese (v) Blue	Tuesday 21 st April	Parents Information Session 3.30pm Hall: Writing
Friday	Fish Fillet Fingers Red Margherita Pizza (v) Green Jacket Potato with Beans (v) Blue	Monday 27 th April	School Photos
		Tuesday 28 th April	Spurs Next Gen coaching
		Monday 4 th May	Bank Holiday
		Monday 11 th May	SATs Week Year 6
		Friday 15 th May	Bouncy Day
		Monday 18 th May	Skylark Activity Week
		Tuesday 19 th May	Crucial Crew
		Mon 25 th – Fri 29 th May	Half Term
		Wednesday 3 rd June	Bags2 School Collection
		Saturday 6 th June	FPSA Summer Fete
		Wednesday 24 th June	Sports Day
		Wednesday 1 st July	Reserve Sports Day
		Tuesday 7 th July	KS2 Faith Tour
		Thursday 9 th July	Secondary Transfer Day
		Monday 20 th July	FPSA Summer Disco
		Tuesday 21 st July	Leavers Service 2pm Church
		Wednesday 22 nd July	END of TERM
		Thursday 23 rd July	INSET DAY
		Tuesday 1 st September	INSET DAY
		Wednesday 2 nd September	INSET DAY
		Thursday 3 rd September	Term starts
		Monday 21 st September	Individual photos
		Mon 26 th – Fri 30 th October	Half Term
		Friday 27 th November	Occasional Day
		Friday 18 th December	Term ends at 1.30 pm

NOTICES AND INFORMATION

The FPSA would welcome donations of second-hand books for their stall at the Summer Fete. Please drop off at the school office.

JOIN US FOR A

Cafe Church Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday 5th April
9.30am
St Mary's, Furneux Pelham

Short informal family service followed by an egg hunt

Get FREE meal plans

FREE FOR EVERYONE IN EAST HERTS!
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- CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA
- FARM SHOP
- FOOTGOLF
- MAIZE MAZE (AUGUST - OCTOBER)
- SEASONAL EVENTS - Cammashall.co.uk
- TRACTOR AND TRAILER RIDES

STRAWBERRIES - RASPBERRIES - BLACKBERRIES - BLACKCURRANTS - SWEETCORN - CHERRIES - BLUEBERRIES - SUNFLOWERS - PUMPKINS - WHEN IN SEASON!

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SEASONAL SHOP SEE WEBSITE FOR OPENING HOURS
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Easter What's On?

The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show
Thu 30th Mar 10am & 4pm & Fri 31st Mar 11am & 12.15pm
£17 | £15 Concess | Ages 3-6

We invite you and your loved ones on an unforgettable journey that will delight anyone from ages 1 to 99, as The Very Hungry Caterpillar jumps off the page and onto the stage! It's truly one VERY magical hour.

The Cat in the Hat
Mon 30th Mar 12pm & 4pm
£17 | £15 Concess | Ages 3+

Experience mischief and mayhem in this acclaimed stage adaptation of Dr Seuss' 'The Cat in the Hat'. A lively and engaging first theatre experience for children aged 3+, based on the best-selling book.

Kids Crafts - We're In a Spin
Tue 30th Mar, Wed 31st Mar & Thu 30th Apr - Tue 7th, Wed 8th, & Thu 9th Apr | £2 per child | Ages 3-11

This Easter we are in a spin! Come and make different spinning stuff each week. Drop in between 10am-5pm - Let us know you're coming online. Please note that these events run on a first-come-first-served basis.

The Man Who Was Magic
Wed 1st Apr | 7.30pm
£26.50 | £19 M&G | Ages 12+

Dare to believe in magic as the UK's #1 magic show returns with a completely new and uplifting production for 2025! You're invited to a night of wonder, as secrets unravel and the impossible becomes possible.

KINGS AND QUEENS CHESS CLUB PRESENTS

CHESS

CAMP

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NORTHGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL, CM23 2RL
0900 - 12:00
10th APRIL 2026

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28th March - 12th April

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Easter Farm Day Pass
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Easter Themed Activity Book
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Easter Bunny Riddle Trail
Farm Bingo & spot the Easter Bunny
See the Lambs, Rabbits & Farm animals
Walk around the farm

Additional Activities
Meet the Easter Bunny
Easter Egg Hunt
Lamb Bottle Feeding
Goat Walking
Tractor & Trailer Rides
Fairy Trail

Book online www.churchfarmardeley.co.uk

Parenting Support

Family Toolkit

Free

Session Details
24th April - 22nd May
09:30 - 11:30
The Methodist Church,
Bishops Stortford CM23 3AZ

For families with children aged 2 to 5 years old. A great course to learn some new ideas about how to manage children's behaviour and get the best out of family life.

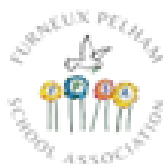
Booking is required!

MORE INFORMATION: hertsfamilycentres.org CALL US ON 0300 123 7572

YMCA Hertfordshire Family Centre Service

More for young people
More for young people
More for young people

Commissioned by Hertfordshire County Council



NOTICE BOARD

WHAT IS THE FPSA?

THE FPSA IS A REGISTERED CHARITY RUN BY A COMMITTEE OF PARENTS AND STAFF WHO ARRANGE SOCIAL EVENTS AND RAISE MONEY TO ENHANCE THE EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE OF OUR CHILDREN AT THE SCHOOL. OUR SUPPORT CAN BE SEEN THROUGH PURCHASING NEW EQUIPMENT, EDUCATIONAL SUBSCRIPTIONS, BOOKS & TRAINING.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

TALK TO YOUR CLASS REP AND SEE HOW YOU CAN HELP.

COME ALONG TO THE NEXT FPSA MEETING AND JUST LISTEN TO SEE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER OR CONTRIBUTE YOUR SKILLS IN ANYWAY.

SHARE YOUR IDEAS AND KNOWLEDGE WITH US.

SUPPORT OUR EVENTS AND FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES.

UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY 26TH MARCH – SCHOOL DISCO 5.30-7PM. TICKETS ARE £5 AND CAN BE PURCHASED ON ARBOR UNTIL 12 NOON ON THE DAY OR CASH AT THE DOOR.

FRIDAY 27TH MARCH – EASTER TRAIL FOR THE CHILDREN AT SCHOOL.

FROZEN FRIDAY ICE LOLLY SALES. WILL START AFTER SCHOOL ON FRIDAY 17TH APRIL AND RUN EACH FRIDAY FOR THE SUMMER TERM. £1 EACH.

SATURDAY 6TH JUNE – SUMMER FETE IN THE SCHOOL FIELD – PLEASE SAVE THE DATE! MORE INFO TO FOLLOW.

RECENT FUNDING ACHIEVEMENTS

PAEDIATRIC FIRST AID TRAINING FOR STAFF

PICTURE NEWS SUBSCRIPTION

36 MONTH FFT READING SUBSCRIPTION

→ →

CONTACT US

YOU CAN CONTACT US ON: FPSA@FURNEUXP.HERTS.SCH.UK OR VIA YOUR CLASS REP

Don't forget to purchase your School Disco Tickets via Arbor



CLASS REPS

WOODPECKER – RACHAEL ROBINSON

KINGFISHER – SARAH KAUFMAN

NIGHTINGALE – HEIDI SMITH

ROBIN – SARAH KAUFMAN

SKYLARK – HEIDI SMITH

NEXT MEETING

DATE TO BE ADVERTISED SOON

