



School Notices

Welcome to this week's School Notices. As a school we try to support the busy lives of our families by consolidating communication to one weekly newsletter, and these are posted to the school website each Friday as an easy point of reference.

In addition to this don't forget about our FAQ page on the school website. Our aim is to provide the answers to your questions when you think of them, as opposed to you being restricted by school hours, so please let us know if you there's anything you would find helpful so we can add it in 😊.

<https://hartsbourne.org.uk/parent-hub/>

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A Note from Mr Harper



Good afternoon!

I'm not sure how you've all found this week, but I'm pretty sure it must have started in mid-August, perhaps even earlier!

Very early on in my headship, I learned that one of my most important jobs is to provide something like 'big picture context' to our devoted and marvellous staff. Every September without fail they explode like greyhounds out of the traps, desperate to get absolutely everything perfect from the word go. Every lesson must come with outstanding outcomes, every piece of work beautifully presented, every routine and system they implement adopted instantaneously. They do this not because they're delusional about the realities of how long it takes for a new class to 'bed in', but because they're desperate to pack in as much learning, enrichment and happy memories as they can into each day. And when, inevitably, things don't go exactly as they hoped in these crucial, formative first weeks of the academic year, they abandon all sense of perspective and declare themselves failures most high, incapable of teaching a grandmother to suck eggs, and lament the day their educative powers failed them. I may be embellishing ever so slightly, but the point is that they all care, so much, about giving your children the best possible year they can, that my job is to smile and remind them that it's literally only Week 2, and that just like every class we have ever had, they will get there. Easy for me to say perhaps, but the benefit of being slightly removed from the hustle and bustle of the chalkface is that I can see clearly how many children have made an incredible start to the year, how many routines are already established and how content and happy everyone looks. It's going to be another fantastic year.

I've included this next appeal further on in School Notices but I wanted to signpost you to Ofsted Parent View, the website where you can publicly proffer your opinion about our school. The Bushey St James Trust members and trustees are keen to know your thoughts about our school (as am I!) in time for their first committee meeting at the start of October. The survey doesn't take long to complete but also gives you a free-text option if you have opinions to expound! If you can spare the time, even (or especially) if you're happy with the work we're doing, please click [this link](#) and share your views.

Shana Tova, have a lovely weekend and we will see you all next week!

Mr Harper





Dates For Your Diary

Date	Event
Wednesday 16 th September	Reception Parents - Phonics Workshop
Friday 2 nd October	Flu Vaccinations - First Visit
Wednesday 7th October	Early Finish (1.30pm) - Trust Wide Training
Monday 12 th October	Carmel Jane - Individual School Photos
Friday 23 rd October	Harvest Assembly (Year 3 and Year 4)
w/c Monday 26 th October	Half Term Holiday
Monday 2 nd November	School Closed - INSET
Tuesday 3 rd November	First day of Term
Monday 9 th November	Year 6 - Sports Partnership Athletics Festival
Tuesday 10 th November	Parents' Evening (Early) - 3:45 – 6:25pm
Tuesday 10 th November	No Choir
Thursday 12 th November	Parent's Evening (Late) - 5:00 – 7:40pm
Thursday 12 th November	No Forces Club
Monday 16 th November	Year 6 - Crucial Crew Trip
Friday 20 th November	Flu Vaccinations - Second Visit

Early Closure - Wednesday 7th October

On Wednesday 7th October we will be closing at 13:30 as all staff across the Bushey St James Trust have mandatory safeguarding training that afternoon. Children will have lunch and afternoon registration as normal, and then be available for collection from external classroom doors at 13:30. We apologise for any inconvenience caused and will endeavour to provide you with more notice of these rare occasions in the future.

Hartsbourne FC

Mr Bidewell and Mrs Somaiya had a great first training session this week with Hartsbourne FC 2026-27, but have asked if all children could be equipped with studded football boots for when the pitch gets slipperier, and shin pads for protection.

Parking

A plea to everyone to try and be considerate of pedestrians when parking outside of school in the morning and afternoons. There were reports of cars mounting the pavement at the same time as children were walking on it this week, and I don't need to tell you how dangerous that could be. We communicate regularly with our local PCSOs, who periodically attend to observe parking outside school but ultimately if everyone parks safely and considerately, there is no problem.

Parent View

It's that time of year where we start seeking your opinions regarding what our school does well, and where we could improve. Rather than using our own form this year, we would like you to click the link below and complete the official Ofsted Parent View questionnaire. Thank you in advance!





Delivering Special
Provision Locally



PARENT /CARER COFFEE MORNINGS 2026/27

The aim of these relaxed meetings

- To provide a safe space where you can talk freely about your child/young person and your family, and the challenges you are facing
- To help signpost parents/carers to the correct services/information
- To enable parents/carers to meet other local parents and connect with like-minded people in their community that may be going through similar challenges
- To be a listening and understanding ear, without judgement
- To help parents/carers feel that they are being supported and are not alone

Parents are welcome to bring along toddlers and children - including those that may be struggling to attend school for whatever reason. And of course, refreshments will be provided!

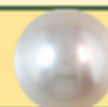
Please join us to find out about the support available locally and to meet other parents and carers of children with SEND.

DSPL9 are delighted to welcome professionals from [SPACE Herts](#) (1.10.26) [OneYMCA](#) (9.2.27) and [ADD-Vance](#) (17.6.27)

- 1st October 11am-12.30pm @ASDA Community Centre [SPACE Herts](#)
- 9th February 10.00-11.30am@ Westfield Family Centre [OneYMCA](#)
- 17th June 10-11.30am @The Green Room, Bournehall Primary [ADD-Vance](#)

If you would like to attend or to find out more please email us at enquiries@dsplarea9.org.uk

Friday 11th September 2026 – Pearl: maintains focus, stays on task, ignores distractions and has good listening skills with peers and adults.



Year 1 – Delina always tries her best to maintain focus, stay on task and avoid distractions and Jameson is an excellent listener, always showing respect towards both his peers and adults.

Year 2 – Anaaya always shows excellent listening skills when working with adults and peers and Jaxson ignores distractions, remaining focused in all lessons.

Year 3 – Rish ignores distractions and demonstrates excellent listening skills, while Ava remains focused and consistently stays on task.

Year 4 – Akram shows brilliant focus and attention to detail during lessons and Fatima listens carefully to others ideas in class.

Year 5 – Leah is always one of the first to listen in the class and shown great focus. Harry has engaged with lessons and always eager to participate. Well done to both of you!

Year 6 – Sanam always shows her peers respect when listening to them and giving support and James has maintained such great focus in all lessons, being a great role model.

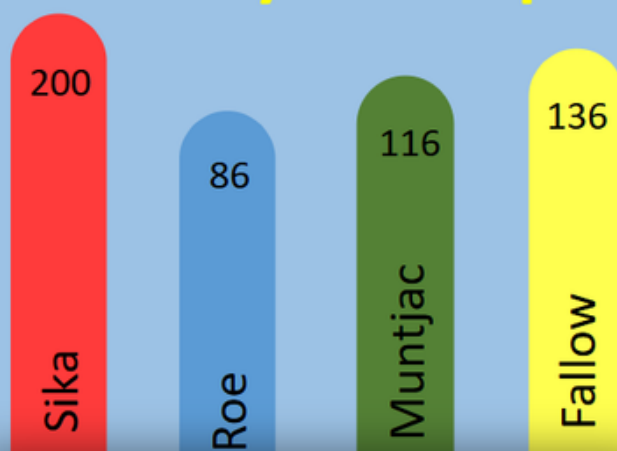
This week Clive the Carrot is awarded to...



Year 5



Housepoints – Friday 11th September 2026



Sika wins!



Class Specific Messages



Year 6 - Permission to Walk Home

As you may already be aware, in Year 6 parents have the option to give consent for their child to walk/travel home by themselves at the end of the school day.

We do ask that parents let us know that this is ok by consenting via Arbor. If you do not wish to give consent yet (some parents prefer to wait until the Spring or Summer Term) then please feel free to just leave the request as pending until you would like to.

Just a reminder that if your child is travelling to and/or from school independently, then they are able to bring in a basic mobile phone (preferably not a smart phone) which they should hand to Miss Richards each morning to be returned to them at the end of the school day.