

Dear Families,

What a busy and positive start to the term! In the first four weeks of the academic year all pupils have settled quickly into routines and there is some excellent learning taking place across the school.

A quick celebration

Children have settled into daily routines calmly and confidently - morning arrivals, classroom expectations and end-of-day collection are running smoothly.

Teachers report strong engagement in lessons: enquiry in science, lively reading sessions, and creative work in art. Our Reception children are making good progress with independence and routines are well established.

Staff are using early assessment information to identify pupils who may need additional support so interventions can start promptly.

We hope your children are talking about their learning, bringing home work and spelling lists, wanting to share books or describe an experiment or project.

Our Values

Our school values underpin everything we do. Please read the short explanation below. They are practical behaviours we expect pupils to practise and ways families can support these at home.

- **Honesty**

In school: children take responsibility for their actions and tell the truth even when things go wrong.

At home: model honest conversations, encourage your child to explain what happened rather than hide mistakes.

- **Kindness**

In school: pupils show care for others, include classmates and help when they can.

At home: praise small acts of kindness, encourage sharing and talking about feelings.

- **Respect**

In school: children listen when others speak, use polite language and look after school property.

At home: set expectations for respectful behaviour online and offline; celebrate polite, thoughtful actions.

- **Responsibility**

In school: pupils take responsibility for their learning, equipment and classroom routines.

At home: give age-appropriate responsibilities (packing their bag, looking after homework) and praise follow-through.

- **Resilience**

In school: children try again after a setback and ask for help when they need it.

At home: encourage a growth mindset — focus on effort and strategies rather than fixed ability.

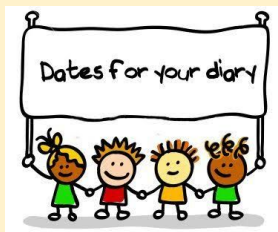
- **Curiosity**

In school: pupils ask questions, explore new ideas and enjoy discovering things.

At home: follow up on questions they bring home, visit the library or watch short educational clips together and talk about them.

Thank you for your continued partnership — together we inspire, aspire and achieve.

Lorraine Machingauta
Principal



Friday 2nd October -
Tempest Photography

Monday 12th October -
World Mental Health Awareness Day

Thursday 1st October -
31st October - **Black History Month**

Friday 16th October -
Just One Tree Day

Monday 19th October -
Friday 23rd October -
Scholastic Book Fair

Tuesday 20th October -
Parents Evening

Thursday 22nd October -
Parents Evening

Friday 23rd October - End
of **Autumn 1 Term**

Monday 26th October -
Friday **30th October** -
Half Term

Monday 2nd November -
Autumn 2 Term starts

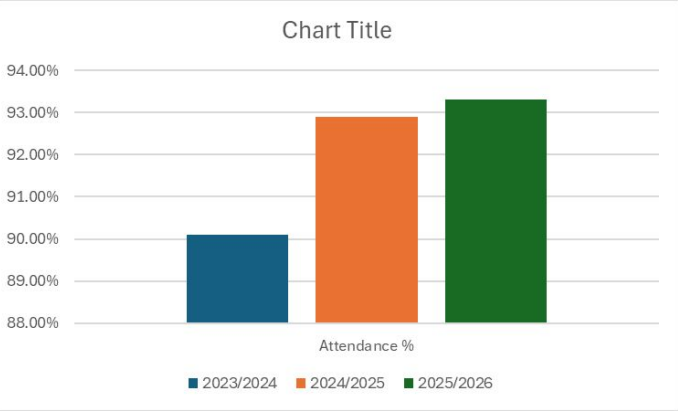
Thursday 5th November -
Boccia Festival - Boccia Club

Thursday 5th November -
Year 5 Trip to Hampton Court Palace

Thursday 12th November
- **The Great Fire of London & Monarchs workshop for Year 1 & 2**



Dear Parents & Carers,



Over the past three years, our school community has worked incredibly hard to improve attendance. This represents hundreds of additional learning opportunities for our pupils and reflects the positive partnership between school and home.

We would like to thank all of our families for the vital role you play in supporting good attendance. By working together, we have created positive habits and routines that help children attend school regularly, arrive on time and make the most of every school day.

As we move forward into the 2026-2027 academic year, we will continue to celebrate:

- ★ Excellent attendance of 100%
- ★ Strong attendance of 95% and above
- ★ Pupils who make significant improvements in their attendance
- ★ Classes who work together to achieve the highest attendance each term

Regular attendance supports children's learning, friendships, confidence and overall well being.

Attendance Award - Autumn Term



EVENT DETAILS



MINIONS & MONSTERS CINEWORLD HIGH WYCOMBE

Yellow, adorable and utterly incomprehensible, Minions live to serve evil villains. But in this story, a tribe of Minions is having trouble

Accessibility Information

- ✓ Wheelchair Access
- ✓ Audio description
- ✗ Relaxed Screening
- ✗ Audio Loop System
- ✓ Subtitled (HOH)

Certificate Date: 19 Nov 2026
Time: 10:00 - 11:40

We have secured cinema tickets for pupils in Year 1-6 which will be awarded to pupils with 100% attendance from the start of the term to the 13th November.

Whole School Attendance

Attendance percentage

School	96.5%
National	96.3%
Local Authority	96.6%

EVENT DETAILS



KANGAROO CINEWORLD HIGH WYCOMBE

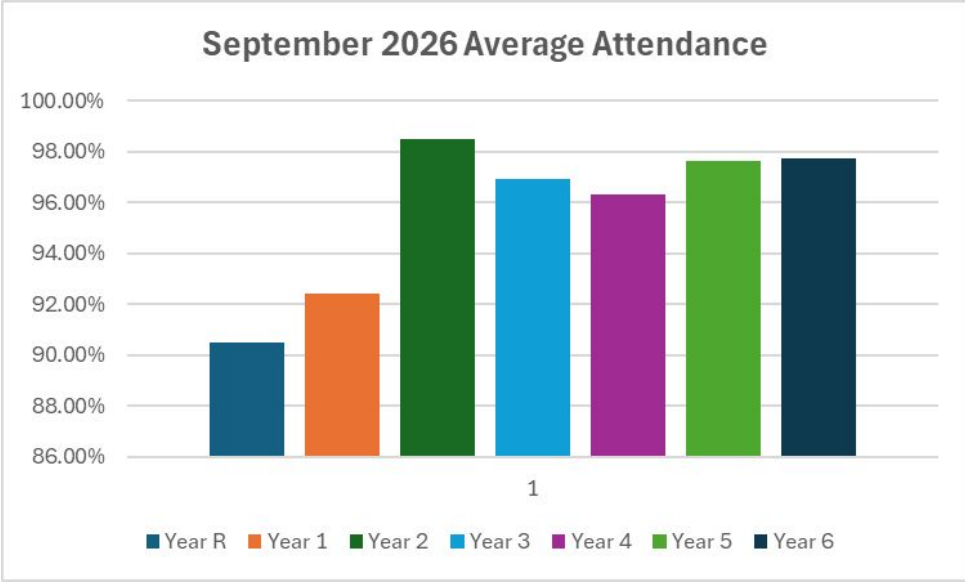
Former pro-surfer and Australian TV weather presenter Chris is down on his luck. So when he crashes his car outside a small town in the mid

Accessibility Information

- ✓ Wheelchair Access
- ✗ Audio description
- ✗ Relaxed Screening
- ✗ Audio Loop System
- ✗ Subtitled (HOH)

Certificate Date: 24 Nov 2026
Time: 10:00 - 12:00

Year R	90.50%
Year 1	92.40%
Year 2	98.50%
Year 3	96.90%
Year 4	96.30%
Year 5	97.60%
Year 6	97.70%





Pupil Leadership Roles

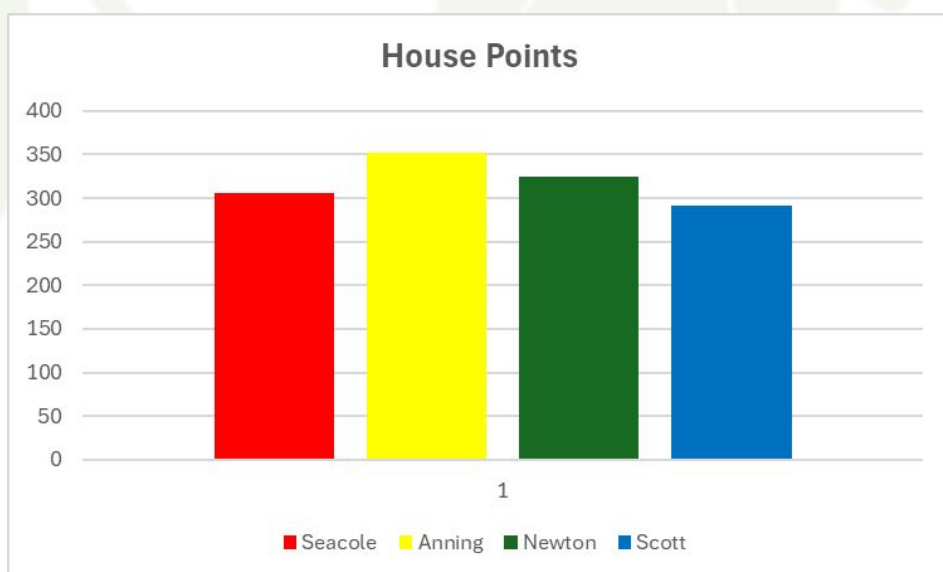
Huge congratulations to all pupils who have taken on leadership roles across the school. We are excited to work with them to move Hannah Ball Academy forward.

We value pupil leadership because it puts our values into action, strengthens learning and helps children become confident, responsible young people. Leadership roles give pupils real responsibilities, for example, leading assemblies, supporting younger children at breaktime, organising charity or eco projects, and representing their classmates at pupil panels. Through these duties pupils practise honesty, kindness, respect, responsibility, resilience and curiosity in everyday situations, so those values become lived habits rather than words on a wall.

Pupil leaders also strengthen the school community. They amplify the pupil voice to staff, governors and families, help run events such as open mornings and sports days, and support two-way communication between home and school. We make sure leaders reflect the full diversity of Hannah Ball , across ages, backgrounds and needs — so every pupil can see themselves represented.



House Points



Wow Badges



A huge welcome back to all our families as we kick off the new school term! It has been wonderful to see so many bright faces—and so many active legs—filling the school gates this month.

A massive WELL DONE to everyone who has been walking, scooting, and cycling to school! Choosing active travel not only clears the morning air and reduces traffic around the gate, but it also gives our pupils a fantastic boost of energy to start their day.

We have had an amazing **110** children earn their September badge. Let's keep those pedals turning and shoes walking all term long!



The ABC Model: How to Create a Safe Online Environment for Your Child

In today's digital world, ensuring your child's online safety is a top priority. The ABC Model provides a structured approach to creating a secure and supportive digital environment for your child, focusing on three key principles: Access, Boundaries, and Communication.

- Access: Implementing safety settings, parental controls, and privacy measures to manage and monitor digital exposure.
- Boundaries: Establishing clear rules around screen time, online behavior, and family technology use.
- Communication: Engaging in ongoing conversations about online safety, risks, and responsible digital habits.

By following this model, parents can not only protect their children from potential online risks but also help them develop healthy and responsible digital habits.

Internet Matters supports parents with comprehensive resources and expert guidance to help them navigate the ever-changing world of child internet safety.

Activate



Activate parental controls

Use the controls and tools available from broadband providers, online platforms and apps to install safe search settings, block inappropriate content and prevent contact from strangers.

Balance



Balance screen time

Agree a good balance for your children's screen time, taking education and leisure content into account. Encourage active screen time over passive and consider setting limits for the total hours spent online each day.

Check



Check and chat

Check which apps your children use and the relevant age limits for each platform. And talk regularly about online safety and what they might come across so you can work together to manage any risks and keep online experiences positive.

So, to help you get started, they've created the ABC online safety checklist.

https://www.internetmatters.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/ABC-online-safety-checklist-_Internet-Matters_Feb25.pdf

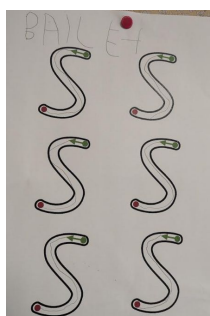
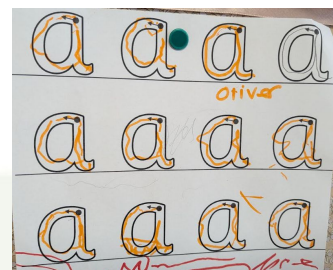


A heartfelt welcome to all our families joining the Hannah Ball Academy community. It has been a pleasure to see the children settle into their new surroundings with such enthusiasm.

They have been wonderfully resilient, enjoying the exploration of their new classroom environment and getting comfortable with the daily routines.

Phonics

We have had an exciting start to our early reading journey by introducing the Essential Letters and Sounds (ELS) phonics scheme. The children have quickly begun learning the first few sounds and are beginning to form letters.



Maths

The children have been counting out from a larger group with various objects to 5. Outside the classroom, we have been learning to subitise (say it, don't count it) with dice games.



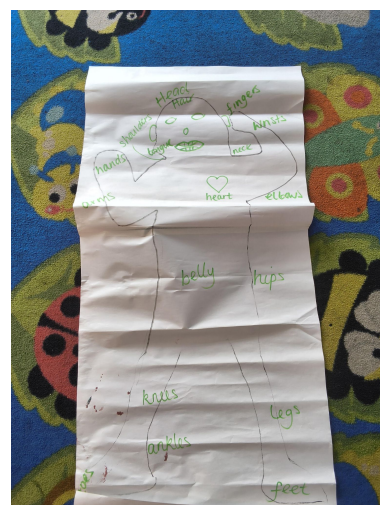
Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Children are strengthening their PSSED skills through collaborative play. They are actively learning their friends names, demonstrating an understanding of how to share toys and resources, and developing the ability to cooperate and work together towards common goals.



Understanding the World

We have been learning about the human body. We drew around our friend and labelled the body parts. We learnt about important internal organs (like our heart and brain) and how they work.





RE : The creation Story

In RE this term we are studying Christianity and The Creation story. We started off by making some beautiful creations of our own. The children enjoyed using their imagination to cut and stick patterns and different shapes onto their drawing pad. They also used stencils and their own drawings to complete their work. Some of the self feedback they gave were 'I am happy with my creation', 'I am proud of my creation' and 'I like my creation'. Over the coming weeks we will be using this as a point of reference. It was lovely to see them enjoying having the freedom to create what they wanted to.



ENGLISH : The Three Little Pigs

In English this term we are learning about The Three Little Pigs.

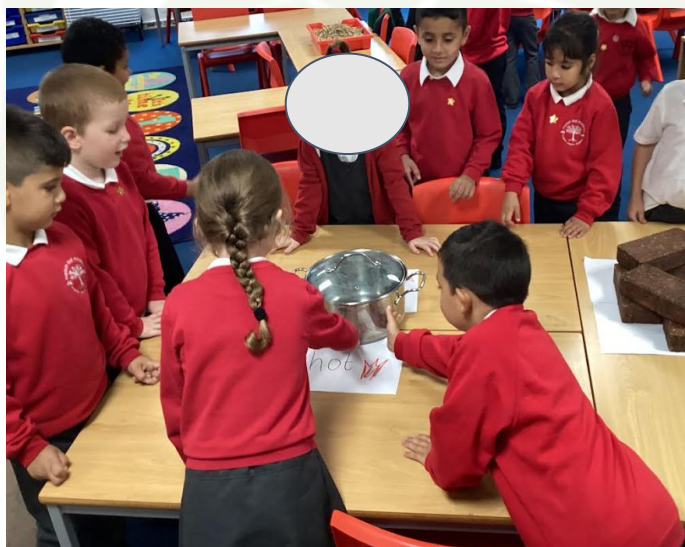
The children have been busy memorising the story using our story map and actions. The classroom was also turned into the setting of the story with interesting building materials and worrying pots of water for them to explore! It has been wonderful to see the children getting involved in retelling the story to each other, and showing high fascination with the characters and the events. The children have had lots of opportunities to talk, role-play and write about the events of the story and we have been so pleased with the efforts they have made.



SCIENCE : Seasonal Changes

In science we are learning about Seasonal Changes and the different types of weather we might see in autumn and winter in the UK. Children started the unit by explaining what they already know about the seasons either through words or pictures.

There were some fantastic drawings explaining their love of eating ice cream in the summer or throwing snowballs in the winter. We are looking forward to discovering more about how the seasons affect what people wear and what they do, and doing our very own weather reports.



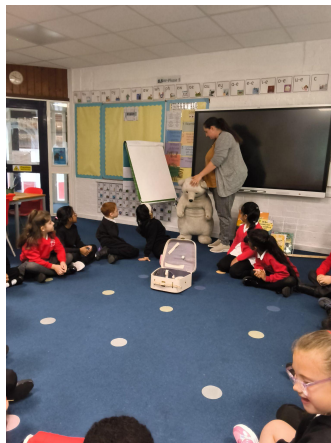
Year 2 Highlights



We have had a great start to year 2. A big difference coming into year 2, is the need to become more independent. I am so proud of how hard they have been working on this as well as organising themselves.

English

We had a visit from a polar bear, who mysteriously turned up in our classroom with a suitcase. We explored the items in the suitcase and discussed why the polar bear may have needed them on his journey. It was pleasing to see the children then learning and enjoying the story 'The journey home.' They have been using different adjectives to describe the characters and have impressed me with some of their suggestions.



Science

Our topic is about uses and suitability of everyday materials. The children particularly enjoyed reading 'the smartest giant in town' and explaining why the materials were suitable for the objects' new purposes. We also learnt that some objects may be made out of multiple materials.

Topic - Geography

We have been exploring 'why is our world wonderful?' We learned about the countries and capital cities in the UK using atlases as well as amazing places around the world. The children were amazed by some of these places, particularly Mount everest and the Great barrier Reef!

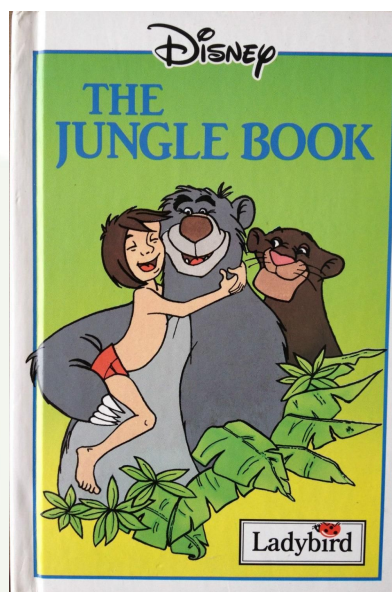


Year 3 Highlights



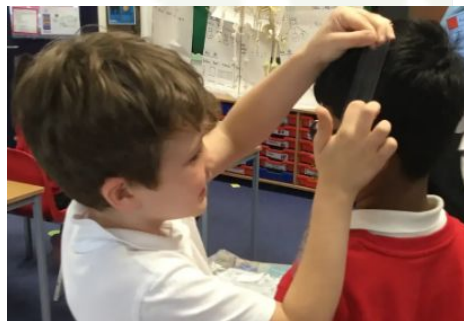
We have had a brilliant start to Year 3! The children have adapted wonderfully to their new class routines and have shown fantastic enthusiasm for their learning right from day one.

We are diving into *The Jungle Book* to inspire our creative writing! The children are learning to bring their jungle descriptions to life by carefully selecting powerful verbs and vivid adjectives. To add drama and detail to their writing, they are crafting imaginative similes and using sentences of three.



In Geography we are exploring tropical rainforests across the globe. We are examining the distinct layers of the forest, learning about the climate and discussing why these biomes are so vital to our planet.

In Science we are studying how bodies move! The children are identifying human and animal skeletons, learning how muscles work in pairs and conducting practical activities to see how different creatures move.



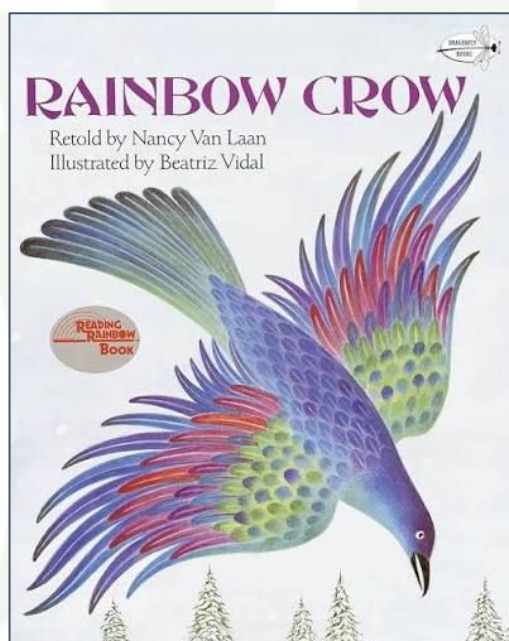
Year 4 Highlights



It has been a fantastic start to the new academic year, with so much wonderful learning already taking place! The children have settled brilliantly into their new routines and have already taken on designated pupil leadership roles with immense pride and responsibility.



In English, we have jumped straight into our new creative writing unit based on *Rainbow Crow* and the children have been busy innovating our own imaginative versions. We cannot wait to read their finished, published stories!



The class has also made a cracking start with getting into a rhythm with their times tables. While we still have plenty of work ahead of us, we are confident that with continued practice at home, in Maths Club, and during class sessions, the children will make steady progress.



Thank you Year 4, for working so hard throughout September! We hope to see this great determination continue for the rest of the year.

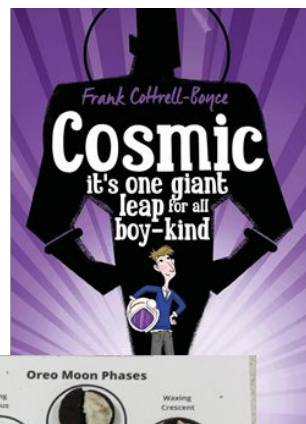
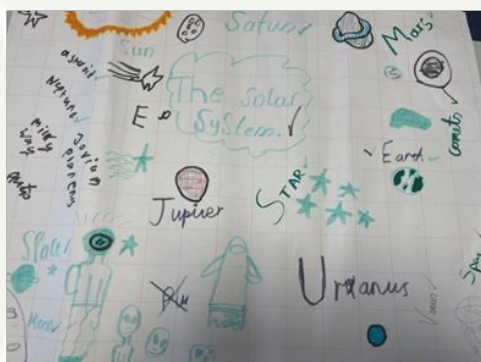
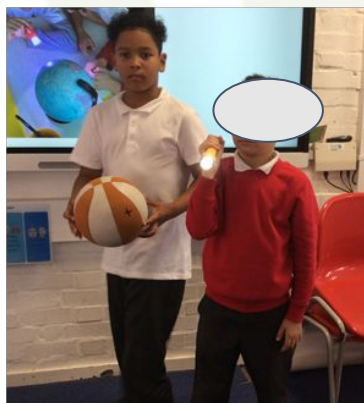
Please do check your child's planner for all the relevant login details for websites to aid their learning at home and complete any weekly homework tasks. **These are: TTRS, Purple Mash, Magma Maths and Google classroom**



Earth and Space

This term, Year 5 has been learning about **Earth and Space** in Science and linking it to what they are doing in English, reading the book *Cosmic* by Frank Cottrell-Boyce. They have been creating character flaw stories with a focus on setting and have shown real resilience when describing the space centre in the middle of The Gobi Desert.

In Science, they have learnt the order in which the planets orbit the Sun, researched the individual planets, made a life-sized model of the Solar System and used torches and balls to explain what causes day and night. Working in groups, they made a model of the phases of the moon out of chocolate biscuits.



The Alps

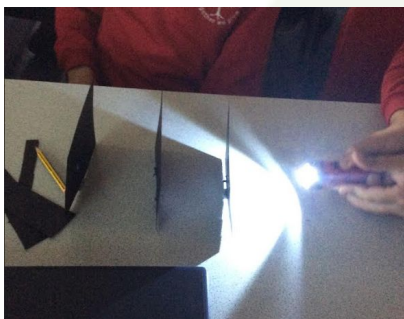
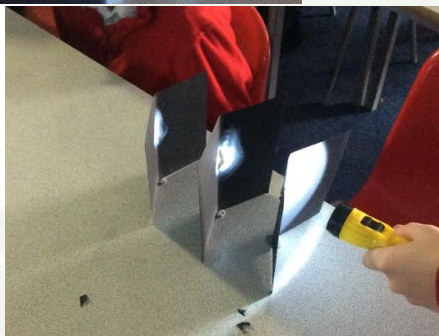
It's been an exciting start to the year as the children have started a new topic on The Alps. We've used Google Earth to locate key physical and human features, learnt a song to remember the eight Alpine countries and identified why people visit them.





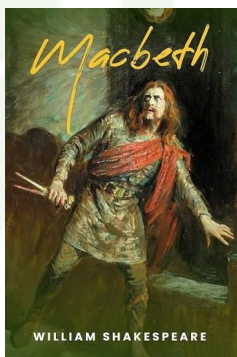
Thank you so much to all the parents and carers who were able to attend our **Meet the Parents** presentation! It was lovely to speak with you all and share our plans for the exciting year ahead.

- **Homework Support Reminder:** All homework assignments will regularly be posted on **Google Classroom** and **Magma Maths**. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you or your child ever need any support navigating these platforms or accessing homework tasks.



Science

In Science, we have been investigating how light travels. Through hands-on classroom experiments, the children tested and proved that **light travels in straight lines and does not bend**. To enrich our learning, we also explored the fascinating world of **bioluminescence**, looking at organisms that produce their own natural glow.



A Trip to Shakespeare's Globe!

An eventful September started with a brilliant trip to **Shakespeare's Globe** in London! The children were truly in awe of the iconic open-air theatre and left buzzing with excitement - many were actively pleading to watch a full show there for our next trip!

(Perhaps a great weekend outing idea for some families as we dive deeper into our Shakespeare unit in writing!)



SATs Prep with a Twist!



We've officially started our SATs preparation, but with a fun twist to keep things engaging. Rather than standard worksheets, the children went on an active **Arithmetic Scavenger Hunt** across the school grounds to test and apply what they remember about place value. It was a fantastic way to sharpen their maths skills and build confidence right from the start.

Thank you for your warm support as we begin this special final year for your children.



Mental Health
Support Team
Buckinghamshire



FOR PARENTS
AND CARERS

FREE
LIVE WEBINARS

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH



DATES:
OCT – DEC
2026



TIME:
6PM – 7.30PM

To register, scan the QR codes on the next page!



01865 901566



bucksmhst@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

*PLEASE NOTE: YOUR CHILD MUST ATTEND AN MHST SCHOOL FOR ACCESS TO THE WEBINARS. IF YOU ARE UNSURE, PLEASE CONTACT US.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SECURE YOUR PLACE:

Topic	Date	Link	QR code
Common Mental Health Challenges– Primary	Wednesday 14 th of October 2026	https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/2b8ff722-6d11-41f8-bb18-6bbd8629190b@759ac89b-2aa4-4973-b048-e6903b46a8b6?source=copylink&cvShareLinkDialog	
Common Mental Health Challenges– Secondary	Thursday 12 th of November 2026	Introduction to Common Mental Health Challenges – Secondary Join meeting in Teams Microsoft Teams	
Childhood Anxiety – Primary	Tuesday 17 th of November 2026	https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/ad704aaf-24f2-44c6-ad80-21d6ca0eab7@759ac89b-2aa4-4973-b048-e6903b46a8b6?source=copylink&cvShareLinkDialog	
Adolescent Anxiety– Secondary	Monday 7 th of December 2026	https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/2db7761e-794d-43d1-a918-cdba15533956@759ac89b-2aa4-4973-b048-e6903b46a8b6?source=copylink&cvShareLinkDialog	



CELEBRATING BRITISH FOOD FORTNIGHT AT PABULUM

Monday 28th September - Friday 9th October

British Food Fortnight is an annual celebration of Britain's farmers, growers, producers and the fantastic food they provide.

At Pabulum, we're proud to serve fresh, seasonal and responsibly sourced ingredients every day. This British Food Fortnight, we're shining a spotlight on some of the British produce featured across our menus and the farmers, growers and suppliers who help bring it from farm to fork.

What's in Season This Autumn?

Autumn brings an abundance of British produce, including:

- Apples
- Potatoes
- Butternut squash
- Cauliflower
- Carrots
- Pears
- Onions

By choosing seasonal ingredients, we can maximise freshness and flavour while supporting British agriculture.

This autumn, seasonal favourites such as potatoes, carrots, cauliflower and butternut squash can be found across our menus, from roast dinners and vegetable sides to pasta dishes and even some of our desserts.



British Produce on Our Menus

Keep an eye out for some of these British-grown ingredients appearing in your child's meals over the coming weeks:

Crispy Roast Potatoes

Many of the potatoes we serve are grown at **Fairfields Farm in Essex**, providing the perfect accompaniment to our roast dinners.

Spiced Roasted Cauliflower

Our cauliflower is often sourced from **Boundary Farm in Wingham, Kent**, where grower Trevor Bradley produces quality seasonal vegetables.

Pasta with Squash & Tomato Sauce

The butternut squash used in this popular dish is frequently grown at **Green Lane Farm in Kent** by **Dickie Ovenden**.



We are working with our catering team to ensure our students eat enough fibre throughout the day. Please see the flyer attached for more information and opportunities to win shopping vouchers.

86%
OF KIDS IN THE UK AREN'T GETTING ENOUGH FIBRE ★
* National Diet & Nutrition Survey

DON'T WORRY. WE HAVE A PLAN!

OUR EXPERTS HELP TO MAKE IT SIMPLE

YOUR SCHOOL IS SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD TO EAT MORE FIBRE!
Our Discover Beans programme for schools will help your child become more familiar with eating beans and pulses.

DISCOVER BEANS

FIBRE MATTERS EXPLAINED IN JUST 75 SECONDS BY OUR CELEBRITY EXPERTS
WATCH NOW!

RECIPES FUN ACTIVITIES INSPIRATION AND MORE...

VEG POWER ONLINE

WIN £1,000 WORTH OF SHOPPING VOUCHERS

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National Literacy Trust
Change your story

Take 10 to read
#Take10toRead

GO ALL IN.
BRITISH COUNCIL
OFFICIAL ATTEMPT

Thursday 8 October, the National Literacy Trust and British Council will attempt to set a new GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ title for the most people reading online in 12 hours, creating a shared reading moment that connects people across the UK and around the world. From 9am to 9pm, a series of hour-long online events for all age groups will feature authors and creators and each session will include 10 minutes when everyone reads together. Participants can read whatever they're into, from books and comics to magazines and articles, in any language, and only need to join one session to count towards the record attempt. Find out more by clicking the link below.

https://literacytrust.org.uk/events/take-10-record-attempt/?dm_i=7ZBZ,156Z,10AY0,42CT,1,0,0,0



There are lots of interesting things to see and do as you walk, wheel or scoot to school. How many of these activities can you tick off on your Autumn Street Safari?

Find a pretty feather ☐	Spot a bird and draw it ☐	Make art using fallen leaves ☐	Hug a big tree ☐
Look under a rock - who lives there? ☐	Find a red leaf ☐	Make up a scary story ☐	Juggle with pinecones ☐
Jump over a puddle ☐	Pretend to be a squirrel asleep for the winter ☐	Learn why leaves change colour ☐	Spot a zebra crossing ☐
Say hello to a neighbour ☐	Dance around a mushroom ☐	Close your eyes and listen - what do you hear? ☐	Stamp on a pile of leaves ☐

Name: _____ **Age:** _____



AUTUMN FAMILY WALKING ACTIVITIES



Going for a walk is a great way to explore your local area and have fun with your friends and family. Notice what you can smell, feel, hear and see as you walk in a local park or green space - it might surprise you!

Did you discover a sticky mushroom or make an autumn mandala? We'd love to see your autumn finds! Your parents or carers can share your photos and videos on social media using the hashtag #AutumnStreetSafari

WHY NOT TRY...



Write a poem or story about a raindrop's journey down the street.



Use the items you collect on your walks to create an autumn nature mandala.



Make a hedgehog house from an upturned plastic box filled with dry leaves.



FIND OUT MORE ABOUT INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH BY SCANNING THE QR CODE OR VISITING [LIVINGSTREETS.ORG.UK/AUTUMN](https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/autumn)



Living Streets is the UK charity for everyday walking and the people behind the Walk to School campaign.

[LIVINGSTREETS.ORG.UK](https://www.livingstreets.org.uk)