



8th May 2026

## Newsletter No 29

### Message from Mr Bullivant

It has been another busy and exciting week in school, with lots of excellent learning taking place across all year groups.

Year 6 have been working incredibly hard as they prepare for their SATs tests next week. The children completed their final tuition session this week, celebrating with a fun quiz and a well-earned lolly treat. We are extremely proud of all the effort, determination and resilience they have shown throughout the year, and we know they will all do amazingly well. Good luck, Year 6! We will also be running a breakfast club for Year 6 pupils each morning during SATs week and look forward to seeing everyone bright and early at 8:00am.

Year 5 have been impressing us with their Computing work this week. I had the pleasure of seeing some fantastic coding taking place, with children creating game mechanics and incorporating speech and language features into their games. Their creativity and problem-solving skills have been wonderful to see.

Year 1 returned to school this week to some very exciting news — their Aqua Dragon had finally hatched! The children were thrilled and it was lovely to see how carefully and responsibly they have been looking after it as part of their RSE learning around caring for living things. This has also linked beautifully with learning about Sir David Attenborough as he celebrates his 100th birthday.

Meanwhile, EYFS were delighted to receive a mysterious visit from a pirate, who left behind a treasure map for the children to investigate. I wonder where it might lead... hopefully not to my office! The excitement and imagination this sparked throughout the week has been fantastic to see.

We were also thrilled to receive the exciting news that Cherry Tree won our local *Beat the Street* competition! A select group of pupils have been invited to Firstsite to collect our certificate, and we are delighted to have also won a £70 book voucher for the school. Well done to everyone who took part and helped us achieve this fantastic success.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Warm regards,

Mr Bullivant

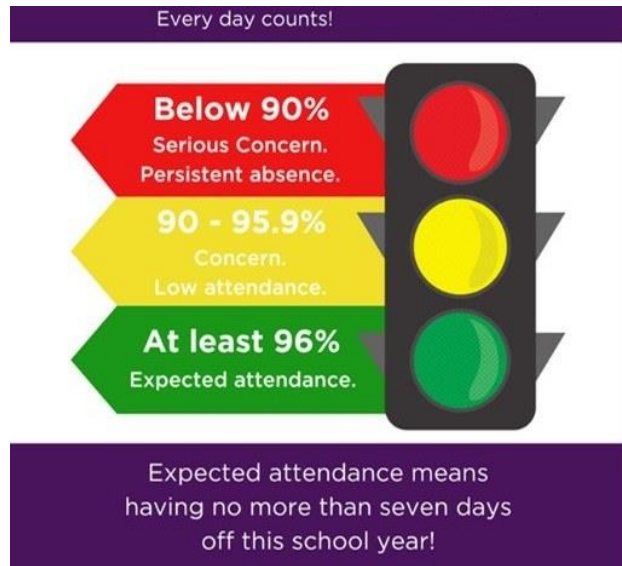
## Attendance Matters

Good attendance is essential for children to make the most of their learning and to fully take part in all the experiences school has to offer. Every day in school really does count, and even small amounts of absence can quickly add up to lost learning time.

To help raise the profile of good attendance across the school, we have recently launched an exciting new initiative called **Attendopoly**. Each week, the three classes with the best attendance — particularly those achieving or exceeding our school target of **96%** — earn the opportunity to roll the dice during our **Celebration Assembly**.

Where they land on the board could lead to a range of exciting prizes for the class, making attendance something we can all celebrate together. - last week Year 4 enjoyed hot chocolate with Miss Symonds!

We look forward to seeing which classes make it onto the Attendopoly board next week. Thank you, as always, for your support in ensuring children arrive at school every day, on time, ready to learn.



Attendance results – week ending 8th May 2026

EYFS	98.81 %
Year 1	98.86 %
Year 2	97.62 %
Year 3	98.08 %
Year 4	97.73 %
Year 5	94.89 %
Year 6	96.76 %
Whole School	97.52 %
YTD (from 01.09.2025)	94.31 %

## Summer Term 2026 Dates

Dates for the Summer Term

Monday 11th – 15th May 2026 - SATs week

Friday 15th May 2026 - Year 6 non uniform day

Monday 1st June 2026 - Inset day

Monday 1st June -12th June - Year 4 Multiplication checks

Monday 8th June 2026 - Sports Day – KS1 9-10.45am – KS2 1.15-3pm

Tuesday 9th June 2026 - Year 6 Crucial Crew

Thursday 11th June 2026 - Sports day reserve – KS1 9-10.45am – KS2 1.15-3pm

Friday 12th June 2026 - Group Photos

Monday 15th June 2026 - SEND coffee morning Yr5/6 transition

w/c Monday 8th June 2026 - Phonics Screening check for Year 1 (and some YR2 pupils)

Thursday 18th June 2026 - Year 6 1st transition day at Thurstable

Thursday 25th & Friday 26th June - Year 6 Transition days at TLA

Thursday 25th June 2026 - Year 6 transition day at St Helena School

Thursday 25th June 2026 - Year 6 2nd transition day at Thurstable

Thursday 25th June 2026 - Year 6 transitions day at Paxman Academy

Thursday 25th June 2026 - EYFS Meet the Teacher 9.30-11.30am – transition / move up day

Monday 29th June – Friday 6th July 2026 - One Plan Meetings

Tuesday 30th June 2026 - EYFS Stay & Play 4-5pm

w/c Monday July 6th 2026 - Reports out during this week

Tuesday 7th July 2026 - SATs results released. These will be checked and shared with pupils and parents/carers as soon as possible.

Tuesday 7th July 2026 - Year 6 performance to parents

Wednesday 8th July 2026 - EYFS Stay & Play 2-3pm

Thursday 9th July 2026 - iROCK concert invitation only

Thursday 9th July 2026 - School Disco

Friday 3rd July 2026 - After School Clubs finish

Monday 13th July 2026 - Open Classrooms – parents invited

Tuesday 14th July 2026 - Gardening Competition

Thursday 16th July 2026 - Year 6 Leavers' Assembly

Friday 17th July 2026 - Last day of term.

Monday 20th July 2026 - Inset day

## Achievements Outside of School

We are keen to celebrate the children's achievements outside of school and would love to hear from you if your child has taken part in something special they enjoy. Please send a brief description and a photo if you wish, of your child's achievement to be included in the newsletter.

### Florence Yr 1 Out on the Water



Florence loved taking the kayaks and paddle boards down to Nayland and learnt to stand on the paddle board and used the oars herself on the kayak!

### Top skills from Alicia (year 4) & Tiana (year 5)

Alicia proudly represented her flyball team at a competition in Lakenheath on Saturday, where she independently handled her dog, Jax. She showed great confidence and skill throughout the event, while also supporting a new member of her team. Her hard work and teamwork paid off, as Alicia and Jax achieved an excellent first-place finish.

Her sister, Tiana, also competed at the event, independently handling a dog for the team. Both Alicia and Tiana demonstrated great skill and teamwork, with Tiana achieving an excellent second-place finish with a team dog called Bucky she handled for the first time.

Flyball is an exciting, fast-paced team dog sport. In a race, teams of four dogs compete in a relay. Each dog runs over a line of hurdles to a spring-loaded box, which they trigger to release a tennis ball, then catch the ball and race back over the hurdles to their handler. As one dog returns, the next is released, making timing and teamwork essential. The first team to have all four dogs complete the course cleanly wins the race.



## Kings & Queens in Year 1

Well done to Thomas in year 1 who made this fantastic castle with his dad for his history topic, Kings & Queens.



## Special Award for Writing



A certificate template for a 'Special Award' featuring a rainbow, stars, and a pencil. The text on the certificate includes 'A certificate of achievement', 'Special Award', and 'Awarded to'.

Year	Awarded to
EYFS	Taisonas
Year 1	Emily-May
Year 2	Tofunmi
Year 3	Rleigh
Year 4	Samantha
Year 5	Tiana
Year 6	Yaryna

## Times Tables Rock Stars & Numbots Challenge



We are trying to increase engagement of the pupils with the excellent Numbots and TTRS programmes.

We will be handing out a certificate for the child, in each class, who has engaged the most with their class TTRS/Numbots on a weekly basis.

Please encourage your child to play at home.

Year group	Most points achieved this week
1	Ivy
2	Lucas
3	Jacob
4	Rhylee
5	Daisy
6	Ruby-Sue

## Useful Info



Are you worried about your child travelling to secondary school on their own in September?

Is your child anxious about travelling to school by bus for the first time on their own?

Being able to travel independently is a key life skill.

Travel Training gives people with SEN or additional needs the confidence and skills to travel on buses and trains independently. We can also help with walking routes.

Anyone can refer using our online referral form, we aim to be in touch within 10 days

[www.travel-training.co.uk](http://www.travel-training.co.uk)

[Travel.training@essex.gov.uk](mailto:Travel.training@essex.gov.uk)

03330322872

Please take a look at our travel training video by clicking here: [Travel Training, The journey to independence - Essex County Council](#)



## Autism Anglia

We'd like to highlight Autism Anglia's Community Connect — a *free* support service specifically for children with neurodiverse needs and their families.

**!** No diagnosis needed **!** Support available even if your child is just *on a pathway* or you're exploring possible neurodiversity

They can help with: 🌟 Autism-related questions or concerns 🌟 Communication and social interaction 🌟 Emotional regulation 🌟 Sensory needs 🌟 Anxiety or behaviour linked to neurodiversity

Find out more here:  <https://www.autism-anglia.org.uk/our-services/community-connect/>

If you're unsure if this service is for you and you'd like some advice, don't hesitate to ask.

**Mrs Donnelly**

## Cherry Tree Foodbank

At Cherry Tree, we understand that life can sometimes bring unexpected challenges, and there may be times when a little extra support with food is needed. That's why we're launching the **Cherry Tree Foodbank** — a resource available to all our families whenever it's needed.

To help us keep the foodbank stocked, we welcome donations of **long-life food items**, including:

- Cereals
- Long life milk
- Tinned potatoes
- Pasta and rice
- Sauces
- Tinned vegetables
- Baked beans
- Tinned pies
- Tuna and other canned goods

Every contribution, big or small, makes a real difference.

If you'd like support, please don't hesitate to get in touch. You can call, email, or drop by to speak with me directly. I'll be happy to put together a food hamper for you, and I can also provide food bank vouchers if needed.

Together, we can support one another and make sure no family goes without.

Warm regards,

Miss Symonds

## Communication with school.

When trying to communicate with members of staff at Cherry Tree, please bear in mind that they are working extremely hard with the children.

We aim to acknowledge all parent communication within 48 hours - this includes phone calls and emails.