

Whitchurch Highlights



17th July
2026
Issue 16

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Whitchurch Families,

As we reach the end of the Summer term, we also mark the conclusion of my second year of headship here at Whitchurch. It has been an incredibly productive school year filled with plenty of success, and I could not be prouder of everything our school community has achieved together. Below is our final roundup of the year, alongside some important updates as we head into the Summer break.



Reflecting on our Highlights this Year

Our final weeks have been an action-packed celebration of our children's hard work, talent and dedication.

- **Celebrating Achievements:** We have held our special award assemblies to celebrate children's progress and achievements during the year, including our Star Pupils and subject-based awards. In Year 6, carefully chosen children also received significant achievement awards in recognition of their exceptional progress, attainment and character.
- **Fond Farewells to Year 6:** We also enjoyed an excellent Year 6 production, which showcased the incredible talent and confidence of our oldest pupils. We wish all of our Year 6 children happiness and success as they move on to high school.
- **School Accolades:** This year, we have officially achieved several major awards, including the Green Tree Gold Award and the School Games Gold Award, reflecting our dedication to a wide range of enriching projects.
- **OPAL and Whitchurch Radio:** Our OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) scheme is truly taking shape and proving incredibly popular, making lunchtimes far more hands-on and engaging. In our latest school podcast, the School Council interviewed Miss Ward to find out all about OPAL. You can listen to this now via the news feed on our website.



- **Summer Events and Beating the Heat:** From our school Art Exhibition to our energetic Sports Days, the end of term has been packed with memory-making events. Despite some very hot weather, our children remained comfortable, focused and ready to learn, thanks to the massive benefits of our fully air-conditioned school building.

An Incredible Fundraising Milestone from FoW

A massive, heartfelt thank you must go to Friends of Whitchurch (FoW) for their tireless dedication to our school. Following a brilliantly successful Summer Fair, which raised an amazing total of **£8,072**, we can now share the FoW's grand fundraising total for the entire school year - an astounding **£14,653.13!**

We are incredibly grateful to the team for giving up their own personal time to organise these events. The resources and experiences your hard work provides make a tangible difference to every child in our school. Thank you to everyone in our community who supported, volunteered and donated.

Staffing Updates and Farewells

As we look toward the new school year, we must say a fond goodbye to some of our staff members who are moving on to new chapters. We want to thank Miss Goldsmith, Ms Patel, Mrs Whittingham, Miss Akhund, Mrs Jain, Mrs Price and Mr Orford for all their hard work and commitment to the school. We wish them the absolute best for their future next steps.

We also send our warmest congratulations and best wishes to Ms Aid, who is off to have a baby. We wish her the very best on her maternity leave and look forward to welcoming her back to Whitchurch in the Summer term of next year. Looking ahead to September, we are delighted to welcome Miss Mohamed, Miss Datoo, Mr Adelhafid, Miss Abdi and Mrs Dhall who will be joining our staff team for the new academic year.

An Important Note on Staffing and Privacy

I appreciate that staffing situations sometimes change within a school year. However, it is important to remember that schools must abide by the same privacy



laws (GDPR) and HR legislation as any other organisation. This means that while I will always update you on structural changes, I cannot legally or ethically share the length of a staff member's absence or the specific reasons behind it. I entirely appreciate that a lack of information can feel frustrating at times, but please rest assured that we are making all staffing decisions in the very best interests of the children at all times.

If you are ever worried about how any changes may be affecting your individual child, I would always encourage you to reach out, in the first instance, to your child's class teacher or Phase Assistant Head. Because they work closest with your child regarding the curriculum, day-to-day assessment and welfare arrangements, they are always best placed to support any immediate next steps.

Parental Survey and Autumn Coffee Morning

Finally, a huge thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our recent parental survey. Your feedback is absolutely vital in helping us shape the future of our school. We will be hosting a coffee morning meeting during Autumn 1 to discuss the outcomes with you and share our new School Development Plan. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Thank you all for your continued partnership, support and dedication throughout my second year as your Headteacher. Also, I would like to express thanks for the kind and thoughtful gifts you have given to Whitchurch staff and myself. Whether you are travelling abroad or enjoying a staycation close to home, I hope you all have an incredibly fun, happy and safe Summer break. Enjoy making wonderful memories with your friends and families, and we look forward to seeing you all refreshed and ready for the new school year in September.

Ms Rachel Inniss
Headteacher

**School
reopens on
Wednesday
2nd September
(gates open
at 8.40am)**

**Listen to
our latest
radio show
here**

Music Highlights



HMS Orchestra visit

A massive thank you to the Harrow Music Service Staff Orchestra for giving an amazing performance to all Year 2, 4 and 5 pupils this week. The orchestra brought a wonderful range of instruments and musical styles to life, giving the children the opportunity to experience the excitement and energy of a live ensemble performance. It was a truly inspirational, uplifting and unique experience, with everyone captivated by the musicians' skills and enthusiasm.

Events like this highlight the power of live music and help to nurture our pupils' curiosity, creativity and love of music. We are incredibly grateful to Harrow Music Service for sharing their time and talents with us and for creating such a memorable musical experience for our school community.

Mrs Leutfeld, Director of Music



Year 3 Recorder Concert

This week's Year 3 Recorder Concert brought our music calendar to a wonderful close for the school year. Every Year 3 pupil took part, showcasing the progress they have made this term and enjoying a valuable performance opportunity, which for many was their first experience of performing to an audience. The recorder programme has provided an excellent foundation in music reading, rhythm, listening and ensemble playing, while developing skills that will support pupils as they continue their musical journey.

Looking ahead, Year 4 will take part in the Bb Programme, where they will learn to play either the clarinet or the trumpet. A special thank you to our Harrow Music Service teacher, Miss Simon, for her dedication and excellent work in preparing the children for such an enjoyable and successful concert.

Music Awards



Music Awards

Many congratulations to our Whitchurch musicians for getting fantastic results, with an even higher percentage of pupils taking exams this year!

Most Promising Chorister in 2025-26

Saba (1TG), Maysa (2KK), Dua (3MS), Aarna (4HH), Zolay (5NL) and Krisha (6CM)

Outstanding Contribution to Music Ensembles in 2025-26

Elissabeth (4XL), Jia (5PS) and Kian (6ND)



Music Instrumental results - Summer Term

Huge congratulations to our young musician who passed their instrumental exams this term. A big thank you to our HMS teachers for all their guidance and hard work.

Drum Kit Shaurya (6ND) - Grade 1 with Distinction and Ella (6ND) - Grade 1
Singing Aarna (4HH) - Grade 3 with Distinction, Krisha (6CM) - Grade 4 with Merit, Akshyan (5NL) - Grade 2 with Merit and Niam (5RC) - Grade 1
Guitar Ziyen (5NL) – Grade 3 with Distinction, Elliott (6ET) - Grade 2 with Distinction, Krish (5NL) – Grade 1 with Distinction, Stefania (4AK) - Initial Grade with Distinction, Alex (6CM) - Grade 2 with Merit, Kian (6ET) - Grade 2 with Merit, Viha (5RC) - Grade 2 with Merit, Austin (4HH) - Grade 1 with Merit, Aavish (3NN) - Initial Grade with Merit, Dhanish (6ET) - Initial Grade with Merit, Yashvi (5RC) - Grade 2 and Krishay (5RC) - Grade 1
Violin Elissabeth (4XL) - Grade 1 with Distinction
Clarinet Ayesha (6BS) - Grade 4 and Alexis (6ND) - Grade 3
Flute Aarna (4HH) - Grade 1 with Merit and Anahi-Lily (6ET) - Grade 2
Piano Jasmine (5RC) - Grade 3 with Distinction

Mrs Leutfeld, Director of Music



Performance Highlights



Year 6 Production: Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies

Year 6 truly shone in this year's production of 'Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies', a spectacular performance showcasing incredible talent, confidence and teamwork. From the outstanding acting and energetic singing to the impressive choreography, everyone played a part in making the show a huge success.

We proud of the hard work, commitment and enthusiasm demonstrated throughout rehearsals and performances - our audiences were thoroughly entertained and impressed. A huge thank you to staff, families and everyone who supported the production.

Mrs Solanki



Sporting Highlights



Sports Days

After a last-minute change of plan due to the extra hot weather, we were pleased to finally hold our annual Sports Day for Years 1 to 3 and 4 to 6. Following a grey and drizzly start to the morning, the sun came out and we excitedly took part in a range of sporting events including the egg and spoon race, sack race, relay races and other fun challenges. We all made our best effort - showing determination, resilience and excellent sportsmanship throughout.

It was also great to see parents, carers and teachers dust off their running shoes and take part in the races, bringing plenty of smiles and adding to the wonderful community spirit of the morning.

Miss Francis-Dottin



Whitchurch Awards



Year 1 to 5 Awards

This week we held a special awards ceremony to celebrate the significant achievements of children across the school in a range of curriculum areas (Maths, English, STEM, Sport and Arts), as well as Star Pupils who have made excellent progress and consistently aspired to Whitchurch values.



Star Pupil Award

Emma (1TG), Tiara (1RA), Naysha (1RS); Subhan (1KB), Eveline (2DN), Maysa (2KK), Rishil (2JJ), Rebeca (2NT), Benjamin (3MD), Shiv (3MS), Amelia (3SA), Diyan (3NN), Reggie-Jack (4HH), Zai (4XL), Lavinia (4AK), Nicolas (4RS), Maya (5NL), Fehintola (5PS), Anaiya (5RP) and Hussain (5RC)

Maths Award

Vian (1TG), Jiaan (1RA), Mervin (1RS), Maya (1KB), Viaan (2DN), Teeyan (2KK), Mikhail (2JJ), Malik (2NT), David (3MD), Elyas (3MS), Omer (3SA), Daniel (3NN), Nivai (4HH), Prince (4XL), Devdath (4AK), Isla (4RS), Dhiya (5NL), Riyansh (5PS), Raiya (5RP) and Viha (5RC)

English Award

Raeya (1TG), Shreya (1RA), Issac (1RS), Mannat (1KB), Anaya (2DN), Siya (2KK), Aarav (2JJ), Rosalie (2NT), Amirah (3MD), Akshara (3MS), Eva (3SA), Daria (3NN), Aarna (4HH), Avyaan (4XL), Hasher (4AK), Dinara (4RS), Gauransh (5NL), Jia (5PS), Ava (5RP) and Tia (5RC)

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Award

Avyan (1TG), Aryan (1TG), Dhyan (1TG), Nathan (1TG), Daniel (2DN), Ariana (2KK), Jiyaan (2JJ), Taksh (2NT), Layla (3MD), Saajan (3MS), Dakshal (3SA), Moise (3NN), Rayan (4HH), Vian (4XL), Aarshay (4AK), Aqsa (4RS), Rayan (5NL), Kavir (5PS), Rafael (5RP) and Kiaan (5RC)



Whitchurch Awards



Sports Award

Alex (1TG), Jahvani (1RA), Daivik (1RS), Aiza (1KB), Rhea (2DN), Iosua (2KK), Roza (2JJ), Emma (2NT), Abhay (3MD), Saanvi (3MS), Abdullah (3SA), Ashton (3NN), Mattia-Gabriele (4HH), Maariyah (4XL), Joel (4AK), Daniel (4RS), Lara (5NL), Aanya (5PS), Rishay (5RP) and Niam (5RC)

Arts Award

Sophia (1TG), Mara (1RA), Maryam (1RS), Urvi (1KB), Krisanya (2DN), Ethel (2KK), Yusra (2JJ), Skye (2NT), Raeya (3MD), Bela (3MS), Saman (3SA), Vedanshi (3NN), Radhika (4HH), Elissabeth (4XL), Daria (4AK), Sophie (4RS), Diyan (5NL), Summer (5PS), Freya (5RP) and Jasmine (5RC)

Year 6 Significant Achievement Awards

Children in Year 6 were carefully chosen to receive awards for significant achievements including character, progress and attainment. Congratulations to all of the children who received these special awards.

Year 6 Significant Achievement Award for Progress and Attainment

Diya (6BS), Ibrahim (6ET), Saisha (6ND)
and Rihanna (6CM)

Year 6 Significant Achievement Award for Character

Eduard (6BS), Nicole (6ET), Liyana (6ND)
and Leonidas (6CM)



School Council Highlights



Whitchurch Radio - OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)

School Council have interviewed Miss Ward, our OPAL lead, to discover more about Outdoor Play and Learning - including the best part about OPAL, its benefits and plans for the future. Please take a listen to our Radio Show on the news feed of our website via the link.

Listen to
our latest
radio show
here

Ms Liu



Reading Challenge Awards



Reading Challenge Awards

Huge congratulations to all of the children who have taken part in our Recommended Reading Challenge this year! The challenge only launched in Spring 2, yet so many children have already worked their way through our recommended books, collecting certificates along the way. It has been wonderful to see so many pupils choosing to read for pleasure, talking enthusiastically about books and recommending their favourites to friends.

We are incredibly proud of every child who has taken part, whether you have read one book or completed the entire challenge. Every book you read helps to develop your vocabulary, imagination, knowledge and confidence as a reader.

We are already looking forward to September, when all children will be able to begin the challenge from the very start of the academic year. This will give everyone even more opportunities to enjoy a wide range of high-quality books, discover new authors and make fantastic progress in their reading throughout the year. Keep reading over the summer and we cannot wait to see you enjoying your new Recommended Reading Challenge books next year. Well done everyone - and happy reading!

Miss Francis-Dottin



RJP Lions: Ariyan, Zain, Liam, Eduard, Aaradhya, Timotei, Yenuka, Jessica, Anastasia, Shyam and Leea (Bronze); Ariyan, Zain, Liam, Eduard, Aaradhya, Timotei, Yenuka, Jessica, Anastasia, Shyam and Leea (Silver)

RDW Leopards: Kayra, Aarya, Aayah, Aryan, Isla, Sara, Liam, Josh, Thomas, Yehara, Zakeria, Bogdan, Sana, Saransh, Saina, Rishi, Aarav and Garg (Bronze); Isla, Yehara, Sara, Kyara, Aarav, Gorasia, Liam, Hamza, Amal, Josh, Thomas, Aayah and Rishi (Silver); Aarya, Zakeria and Aryan (Gold)

Reading Challenge Awards



RLW Jaguars: Indie and Aryiana (Bronze)

RTP Tigers: Aahil, Aaryan, Andrew, Armin, Asra, Dhisha, Estera, Ivaan, Jasveer, Josiah, Kian, Niya, Noah, Nouriya, Phanuella, Sobia, Sofia and Yug (Bronze); Aahil, Aaryan, Armin, Asra, Dhrisha, Estera, Jasveer, Kian, Niya, Noah, Nouriya, Phanuella, Sobia, Sofia and Yug (Silver)

1KB: Vladimir, Sheldon, Dhvani, Arya, Daniel, Khalilah, Aarav, Urvi, Aleena, Ariya, Maya, Bianca, Mannat, Veer, Nathan, Sepanta, Zain, Aiza, Subhan, Joshua, Nella and Raisa (Bronze); Vladimir, Sheldon, Dhvani, Arya G, Aarav, Urvi, Zainab, Aleena, Bianca, Mannat, Veer, Nathan and Sepanta (Silver); Ariya P, Vladimir and Veer (Gold)

1RA Sulayman, Liam, Inaya, Aayush, Shreya, Inuki, Tiara, Jiaan, Mishv, Antonia, Amaya, Tiyaan, Rahela, Karmen, Neeva, Vivaan and Navya (Bronze); Navya (Silver)
1TG Hana, Saba, Seline, Avyan, Arya, Charlie, Alexandra, Emma, Archer, Malav, Sofia, Raeya, Zian, Vian, Sophia, Ezra, Aleena, Ivaan, Naveen and Dishy (Bronze); Hana, Seline, Avyan, Arya, Charlie, Alexandra, Emma, Archer, Raeya and Zian (Silver); Charlie (Gold)

1RS Shriyan, Dhyani, Naysha, Maanvika, Reva, Maryam, Ruhi, Aria, Jonathan, Noah, Aadhya, Tanay and Zack (Bronze)

2NT Alexandru, Judith, Elias, Rosalie, Isai, Aarya, Rihan, Adam and Skye (Bronze)

2JJ Yasir, Eliza, Yaseer, Aadhya, Mikhail, Maheem, Rishil, Manolis, Alaya, Esha, Jiyaan, Abraham and Aarav (Bronze); Mikhail, Rishil, Jiyaan and Aarav (Silver); Aarav (Gold)

2DN Anaya, Christine, Daniel, Eveline, Kelly, Kiara, Kiera, Kryzana, Rhea, Siya and Viaan (Bronze)



Reading Challenge Awards



2KK Ariana, Lois, Ethel, Danyara and Amber (Bronze)

3NN Aavish, Anna, Arya, Austin, Avni, Beatrice, Diyan, Ella, Emma, Neel, Vaani and Vedanshi (Bronze); Stara (Silver)

3MD Abhay, Aisha A, Aisha H, Ariya, Beniamin, David, Dhilan, Eva, George, Ilyas, Iosif, Jeremy, Lana, Layla, Mehreen, Moise, Raeya, Roma, Ruqayyah, Shay, Shri and Amirah (Bronze); Abhay, Aisha H, Ariya, David, Dhilan, Eva, George, Ilyas, Iosif, Jeremy, Lana, Layla, Mehreen, Moise, Raeya, Ruqayyah, Shay, Shri and Amirah (Silver); Abhay, Dhilan, Jeremy, Layla, Mehreen, Moise and Raeya (Gold)

3MS Xianarah, Amina, Bela, Emanuel, Aiysha, Saajan, Saanvi, Aaron P, Mukti, Shiv, Saleh, Dua, Nyla, Insiya, Joshua, Kevin, Yasmine and Akshara (Bronze); Saanvi, Mukti, Yasmine and Insiya (Silver); Saanvi, Mukti, Yasmine and Insiya (Gold)

3SA Leya, Eva, Aniya, Niyam, Saman, Avira, Harshiv, Amelia, Veer, Anaya, Mishti, June, Esandi, Abigail, Stara, Dorothy, Filip, Jude, Dakshal, Matei, Riana, Yahya, Bhavyaa, Yousef, Lena and Stefan (Bronze); Leya, Saman, June, Veer, Avira, Anaya, Aniya, Yousef, Amelia, Eva, Stara, Niyam, Abigail, Riana and Neeyam (Silver); Saman, Veer, Leya, Anaya, Avira, Niyam, June and Amelia (Gold); Saman (Platinum)

4AK Daria, Matteo, Keren, Amos, Aarshay, Stefania, Tiana and Vardhan (Bronze); Keren and Aarshay (Silver); Keren (Gold)

4RS Maryam, Sebastian, Sara, Sofia, Kiya, Nataneal, Joslyn, Kevin, Sophie and Aqsa (Bronze)

4XL Dhanesh, Eloise, Avyaan, Aayat, Aylan, Dhyaan, Navya, Maariyah, Shanaya, Mark, Habib, Krushna, Nitya and Kayden (Bronze); Dhanesh, Dhyaan, Navya, Maariyah, Shanaya, Mark and Eloise (Silver); Eloise (Gold)



Reading Challenge Awards



4HH Muaaz, Reevea, Zackaria, Aiswarya, Nivai, Hannah, Aarna, Neil, Tej and Advith (Bronze); Aiswarya, Nivai, Muuaz, Hannah and Aarna (Silver)

5PS Riyaan, Sana, Aanya, Jia, Avinash, Maria, Ilinca and Summer (Bronze); Avinash, Summer, Sana, Riyaan, Aanya, Jia and Maria (Silver); Jia (Gold)

5RC Siya, Jasmine, Dheven and Rebecca (Bronze)

5RP Khateejah, Mathias, Freya, Sara, Nikita, Niam, Arjun, Shanaya, Raiya, Anaiya, Hasnaat, Tanaiya and Ava (Bronze); Freya and Anaiya (Silver)

5NL Rithvi (Bronze)

6ND Dylan, Yusuf, Shaurya, Saisha and Zak (Bronze)

6BS Rebeca, Diya, Leila, Juliet, Amiya, Ella and Melisa P (Bronze); Diya and Juliet (Silver)

6ET Dylan, Anahi, Reevea, Veer, Hasiba and Yashvi (Bronze); Anahi and Hasiba (Silver)

6CM Leonidas, Ankush and Krisha (Bronze)





FRIENDS OF WHITCHURCH

CELEBRATING AN AMAZING YEAR TOGETHER!

2025-2026 HIGHLIGHTS

THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to all our families, staff, volunteers and local supporters for making this another successful year.

Every event, donation and act of volunteering has helped strengthen our school community while raising vital funds to enrich our children's experiences.

Every contribution makes a real difference!



SUMMER FAIR SUCCESS!

£8,072 RAISED!

Thank you to everyone who attended, donated, volunteered and supported our biggest event of the year. Special thanks to:

FUNDRAISING HIGHLIGHTS

	BREAK A RULE DAY (OCTOBER)	£1,320
	WINTER FAIR (DECEMBER)	£3,173
	BAKE A MEMORY (FEBRUARY)	£175
	FEMALE HERO (MARCH)	£118
	EASTER COMPETITION (APRIL)	LOTS OF HAPPY CHILDREN!
	DISCO (MAY)	£667
	MALE HERO (JUNE)	£170.13
	BREAK A RULE DAY (JULY)	£958



Our amazing volunteers and families



Our local sponsors and prize donors

RIVER ISLAND
for match funding the BBQ & bar



Everyone who helped before, during and after the event!

YOUR MONEY, THEIR FUTURE

This year's fundraising has supported:

	OPAL Outdoor Play Programme	£6,286.49
	Recommended Reading Challenge	£5,000
	Pantomime	£8,113
	Year 2 Beach Trip	£500
	Whitchurch Leadership Programme	£568
	Forest School Equipment	£244.66
	SATs Boot Camp	£450
	End of Year Trophies	£700

GET INVOLVED!

Could you spare an hour or two?

Join our Micro Volunteers WhatsApp Group and help when you can – there's no obligation, just opportunities to support our events.

We can't run our events without volunteers – thank you for making a difference!

MICRO VOLUNTEERS



SCAN ME!

STAY CONNECTED!



Follow us on Instagram
@friendsofwhitchurch
for the latest news, updates and events!



THANK YOU FOR AN AMAZING YEAR!

Wishing all our Whitchurch families a wonderful summer break!

We can't wait to see you at our exciting events next year!

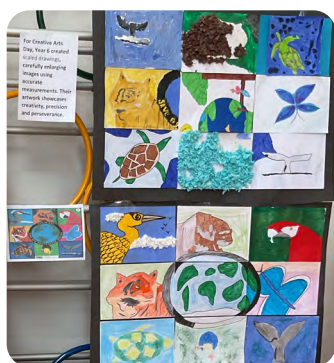
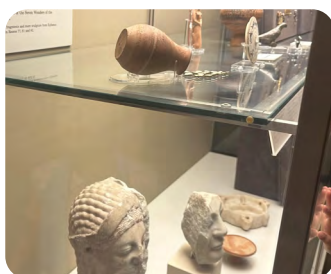
Enrichment Highlights



Year 5 visit to the British Museum

Year 5 visited the British Museum to enrich our learning about Ancient Greece in History. We spent the day exploring the Ancient Greek galleries, checking out the incredible statues and artefacts we have been learning about in class. A real highlight was looking closely at the ancient vases and trying to unpick the stories of the Greek gods painted on them, putting our decoding skills from lessons to the test. We also spent time working inside the Parthenon room, completing activities that helped us to really look at the details of the famous sculptures.

"I loved the trip to the British Museum because of the unique artefacts and overall it was a great experience." Aisha



Animal Kingdom Art Exhibition

We held a fantastic Art Exhibition to showcase the amazing work we produced during our whole school art day linked to the theme of the animal kingdom - using a range of art styles, media, materials and techniques to create our artwork. Thank you for coming along; we hope you enjoyed seeing children's wonderful work on display.

General Highlights



Green Schools Project: Zero Carbon Schools 2025-26 Programme

We are one of 180 schools around the UK that has taken part in the Green Schools Project 'Zero Carbon Schools' programme. Well done to everyone for a great effort this year, improving climate education and making positive change through collective action.

We shall continue to embed climate and sustainability learning and action across our whole school community.

"Whitchurch is committed to reducing our environmental impact while embedding sustainability into learning and daily life." Mrs Portou



Year 6 Rights Respecting School Ambassadors

A big thank you to our Year 6 RRS Ambassadors, who have made great contributions to our RRS steering team. They have worked exceptionally hard to help us achieve the RRS Bronze award, whilst actively participating in the RRS Outright Campaign. Thank you for your wonderful support.



School Games Gold Mark Award

Great news - we have been awarded the School Games Gold Mark this year for our outstanding commitment to and engagement with physical education, school sport and physical activity.



Enrichment Highlights



Year 1 visit to the SeaLife London Aquarium

Year 1 had a fantastic day exploring the London Aquarium as part of our Science learning about animals including humans. We discovered a wide variety of marine life and learned more about different habitats and animal features. A highlight was seeing the sharks and penguins up close and also having a picnic afterwards!



Year 3 visit to Neasden Temple

Year 3 had a wonderful visit to Neasden Temple, where we learned about the Hindu faith and explored the architecture of the beautiful temple. During our tour we learn more Hindu beliefs and traditions and witnessed the midday Aarti ceremony, offering a memorable insight into Hindu worship.



The Whitchurch Woodland



Year 6 Forest School sessions

Year 6 have finished Forest School sessions on a real high, ending the term with some exciting practical activities that brought together many of the skills we have developed throughout the term.

We worked brilliantly in teams to build dens and learnt how to put up woodland shelters, using a range of knots to secure our structures safely. We demonstrated excellent communication, teamwork and problem solving throughout the challenges.

As part of our final session, we also learnt about the fire triangle and how to build, start and manage a fire safely under close supervision. Using our new Kelly Kettle, along with the new Billhook and protective gloves kindly donated by Friends of Whitchurch, we helped prepare wood to boil the water for hot chocolate. We finished our final Forest School session together with hot chocolate, biscuits and marshmallows, celebrating a fantastic year of outdoor learning.



The Whitchurch Woodland



It has been a privilege to work with Year 6 and watch confidence, resilience and teamwork flourish through the Forest School ethos. We hope Year 6 leave Whitchurch with wonderful memories, practical outdoor skills and a lasting appreciation for the natural world.

We wish all of our Year 6 pupils every success and happiness as they begin their exciting journey into secondary school. Good luck, and remember to keep exploring, learning and enjoying the outdoors.

Mr Coutinho, Forest School Leader

“At the beginning of the lesson we help to maintain the woodland by plucking out weeds; the person at the end that has the most wins a treat from Mr Coutinho.” Leon

“In the forest school we learn how to take care of the forest and protect the nature around us. During our lessons we learn skills that can be used in the wilderness.” Alisa

“The forest school teaches us about concepts while being disguised in fun wholesome games including den building and insect catching.” Ankush



The Whitchurch Woodland



Green Tree School Gold Award

This year it has been amazing to see how our outdoor learning programme has grown. Together, we have inspired children to connect with nature, develop practical skills, build confidence and create lasting memories through the forest school ethos.

I am incredibly proud that our collective efforts have helped the school achieve the Woodland Trust Green Tree Schools Gold Award, recognising our commitment to outdoor learning and environmental action. Alongside this, our Garden Club has achieved Levels 1 to 3 of the RHS School Gardening Awards, with our sights now firmly set on achieving Levels 4 and 5.

These achievements would not have been possible without the enthusiasm of our pupils, the teachers and support of staff, parents and volunteers, and everyone who has embraced our vision for outdoor learning.

Thank you to everyone who has been part of this journey. We are excited to continue developing our Whitchurch Woodland and creating even more opportunities for children to learn, grow and thrive in nature.



Mr Coutinho, Forest School Leader



Inclusion Highlights



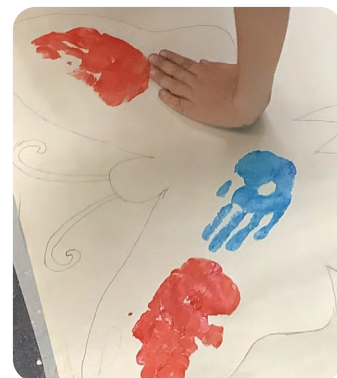
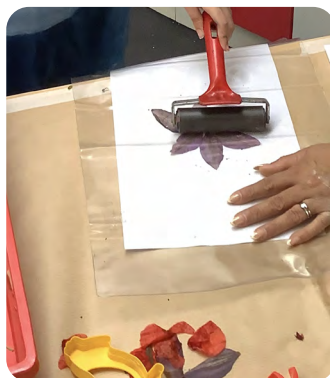
NeuraBloom Workshop

Over the last 5 weeks, we have had the wonderful opportunity to work with NeuraBloom, a fine arts programme designed to support inclusive education through neurodiverse-informed creative practice. The programme further supported children with life skills, building confidence, wellbeing and self-expression, whilst having fun and experimenting with various resources.

Across the 5 weeks we used clay, paint, Oobleck and other art and sensory tools to produce wonderful pieces of art work, tied in with our school values. We represented each school value with an animal, providing a visual representation for inspiration for creating artwork. At the end of the 5 weeks, we held an exhibition to show our parents and carers all of our beautiful sculptures and artwork in all its glory!

NeuraBloom has been a truly wonderful experience for both the children and staff working with them and we are very grateful for the opportunity to take part in such an inspiring and imaginative programme. Well done to all the children who took part; I hope you all find some time over summer to keep your creativity flowing!

Miss Tunstall



Staff Snapshot



Meet our HLTA for Inclusion - Miss Tunstall

“As the Inclusion HLTA, I am privileged to work in an environment where the focus is to ensure the children feel valued, included and empowered to achieve their full potential. I am passionate about creating opportunities for every child to succeed by recognising their individual strengths and providing the support they need to flourish both academically and personally.

A key part of my role is identifying and removing barriers to learning. Every child learns differently, and I work closely with staff, families and external professionals to ensure that learning is accessible, meaningful and tailored to each pupil's unique needs. I adapt resources and strategies, and help pupils to engage confidently with activities and learning while celebrating every step of their progress. These bespoke approaches enable pupils to build confidence, independence, communication, emotional regulation and essential life skills, ensuring they can access learning in ways that are both engaging and achievable.

Through programmes such as Life Skills, my aim is to equip children with the confidence, resilience, communication and independence they need not only to succeed in school but also to thrive beyond the classroom - whether learning to make choices, develop friendships, manage emotions, travel safely, prepare food or build independence in daily routines. These experiences help to prepare children for adulthood and enable them to participate as fully as possible in their communities.

Working as an Inclusion HLTA is both a privilege and a passion that I truly love. Every day feels like a new adventure, a fresh page and a new opportunity to see the children unlock a new skill. Seeing children grow in confidence, overcome challenges, discover their strengths and achieve goals they once thought impossible is the most rewarding part of my role. I am proud to contribute to a school where inclusion is at the heart of everything we do and where every child is given the opportunity to belong, participate and succeed.”

Autumn 2026 Lunch Menu



Allergens
are listed on
our website
(click here)

Salad bar
and bread
available
daily



	WEEK ONE 31/8, 21/9, 12/10, 9/11, 30/11	WEEK TWO 7/9, 28/9, 19/10, 16/11, 7/12	WEEK THREE 14/9, 5/10, 2/11, 23/11, 14/12
MONDAY MAINS	Cajun Chicken Pizza Served with Herb Diced Potatoes & Peas Margherita Pizza Served with Herb Diced Potatoes & Peas (V) Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans (Ve) or Tuna Mayo with Side Salad Vanilla Shortbread	Chicken Katsu Curry with 50/50 Rice & Green Beans Vegetarian Katsu Curry with 50/50 Rice & Green Beans (V) Pasta & Tomato Sauce (Ve) Apple & Sultana Flapjack	Turkey Korma Curry with 50/50 Rice & Broccoli Vegetarian Keema Curry with 50/50 Rice & Broccoli (V) Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans (Ve) or Tuna Mayo with Side Salad Orange Oat Cookie
DESSERT			
TUESDAY MAINS	Turkey Tikka Masala Curry Served with 50/50 Rice & Green Beans Sweet Potato & Chickpea Curry Served with 50/50 Rice & Green Beans (V) Pasta & Tomato Sauce (Ve) Tropical Fruit Salad	Chicken Hot Dog Served with Herby Diced Potatoes & Garden Peas Grilled Cheese Sub Served with Herby Diced Potatoes & Garden Peas (V) Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans (Ve) or Tuna Mayo with Side Salad Tropical Fruit Salad	Chicken Burger Served with Jacket Wedges & Corn on Cob Vegetable Burger Served with Jacket Wedges & Corn on Cob (Ve) (V) Pasta & Tomato Sauce (Ve) Tropical Fruit Salad
DESSERT			
WEDNESDAY MAINS	Lamb Bolognese, Served with Pasta & Broccoli Vegan Bolognese, Served with Pasta & Broccoli (V) (Vg) Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans (Ve) or Tuna Mayo with Side Salad Carrot Cake	Roast Chicken Served with Roast Potatoes, Gravy, Carrots & Peas Lentil Loaf Roast Served with Roast Potatoes, Gravy, Carrots & Peas (V) Pasta & Tomato Sauce (Ve) Garden Brownie	Lamb Bolognese Pasta Bake Served with Broccoli Vegetarian Meatballs Served with Pasta & Broccoli (V) Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans (V) or Tuna Mayo with Side Salad Lemon Drizzle Sponge
DESSERT			
THURSDAY MAINS	Chicken Fajitas Served with Rainbow Rice & Corn on Cob Quorn Fajitas Served with Rainbow Rice & Corn on Cob (V) Pasta & Tomato Sauce (Ve) Peach & Raspberry Jelly	Tuna Pasta Bake, Served with Garlic Bread & Broccoli Macaroni Cheese, Served with Garlic Bread & Broccoli (V) Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans (Ve) or Tuna Mayo with Side Salad Orange & Mandarin Jelly	Chicken Sausage Toad in the Hole Served with Mash, Gravy & Peas Vegan Sausage & Mash with Gravy, Peas & Carrots (Ve) (V) Pasta & Tomato Sauce (Ve) Strawberry Mousse
DESSERT			
FRIDAY MAINS	Fish Fingers Served with Chips & Baked Beans or Peas Cheese & Tomato Pinwheel Served with Chips & Baked Beans or Peas (V) Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans (Ve) or Tuna Mayo with Side Salad Vanilla Ice Cream	Fish Stars, Served with Chips, Peas or Baked Beans Farmhouse Omelette, Served with Chips, Peas or Baked Beans (V) Pasta & Tomato Sauce (Ve) Strawberry Ice Cream	Battered Fish, with Chips & Baked Beans or Peas Cheese & Onion Lattice, with Chips & Baked Beans or Peas (V) Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans (Ve) or Tuna Mayo with Side Salad Chocolate Ice Cream
DESSERT			

Allergen Information: Menu descriptions may not list every individual ingredient. We are aware of the presence of allergens requiring labelling, so please ask a member of the catering team should you require any more details. Vegetarian options are indicated by the symbol (V) and Vegan options are indicated by the symbol (Vg).

COOMBS
CATERING PARTNERSHIP



2026-2027 Term Dates



Holidays
during term
time are not
permitted



Autumn Term 2026

Autumn 1st	Wednesday 2nd September to Friday 23rd October
Half Term	Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October
Autumn 2nd	Monday 2nd November to <i>Friday 18th December (2pm finish)</i>
Staff Training Day	<i>Tuesday 1st September (no children in school)</i>

Spring Term 2027

Spring 1st	Tuesday 5th January to Friday 12th February
Half Term	Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February
Spring 2nd	Monday 22nd February to <i>Thursday 25th March (2pm finish)</i>
Staff Training Day	<i>Monday 4th January (no children in school)</i>

Summer Term 2027

Summer 1st	Monday 12th April to Friday 28th May
Half Term	Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June
Summer 2nd	Monday 7th June to <i>Friday 16th July (2pm finish)</i>
Staff Training Days	<i>Monday 19th July, Tuesday 20th July and Wednesday 21st July (no children in school)</i>

May Day
Bank Holiday
Monday
3rd May



IN AID OF
GREAT ORMOND STREET
HOSPITAL CHARITY

in aid of
gr:ef
encounter

SLOW
Support for bereaved families

Riya's Rainbows

SUMMER FAIR

Centenary Park, Culver Grove, Harrow HA7 2NP

FAMILY
FUN DAY
OUT

FREE
ENTRY

RIDE
TOKENS

on sale at the fair |
Contactless

FUN
ACTIVITIES,
RIDES, GAMES,
FOOD AND
DRINKS

Sunday
9th August
2026
11am - 6pm



BUMPERS CARS

INFLATABLES

STALLS

MUSIC

BAR

For more information, contact: Mukesh - 07768715333 or info@riyasrainbows.com



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SKIN BETTING

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

'Skin betting' is the term used when players gamble using virtual in-game items, such as weapon 'skins' or character cosmetics. Although these items appear purely decorative, some can hold significant real-world value. Research suggests that children as young as 13 have engaged in this type of betting, often on sites with limited age checks or safeguards, blurring the line between gaming and gambling.

UNREGULATED PLATFORMS

Skin gambling typically takes place on third-party websites that are not licensed or regulated. These platforms often lack age verification, making them easily accessible to children. By linking their gaming accounts, users can deposit skins, place bets, and withdraw winnings as cash or higher-value items – often without adults being aware these activities are happening.

REAL-WORLD VALUE

Skins may look like simple cosmetic upgrades to in-game items and characters, but some are worth hundreds or even thousands of pounds. They can be traded or sold on online marketplaces, meaning they function much like real money. When young people bet with skins, they are risking items of genuine financial value, even if no physical cash is exchanged directly.

INFLUENCER PROMOTION

Some gaming influencers and streamers have promoted skin betting sites in their content. This can make the behaviour appear normal or even desirable, potentially encouraging younger audiences to engage in these activities without fully understanding the risks involved.

SOCIAL STATUS PRESSURE

In games such as Counter Strike: Global Offensive (CS:GO) and Fortnite, rare skins can act as status symbols. Young players may feel the pressure to own high-value items to fit in with peers. This can lead them to take risks – such as using gambling sites – to obtain desirable skins, similar to how branded goods can influence behaviour offline.

LIMITED OVERSIGHT

Skin betting can take place both in-game and on external websites that parents and educators may not be familiar with. Because skin betting does not always resemble traditional gambling, it can go unnoticed until significant losses have occurred, in both items or money.

GATEWAY BEHAVIOURS

Skin betting mirrors many aspects of traditional gambling, including chance-based outcomes, reward systems and excitement. Early exposure to these mechanics can normalise betting behaviours before children and young people even reach legal gambling age. Research indicates that this may increase the likelihood of developing unhealthy habits later, particularly if early wins create a false sense of control or skill.

Advice for Parents & Educators

UNDERSTAND IN-GAME ITEMS

Familiarise yourself with the games young people are playing and learn whether they include tradable or sellable items. Titles like CS:GO and Rust are known for skin marketplaces, but similar systems are increasingly common across games.



LOOK FOR WARNING SIGNS

Be alert to changes in behaviour, such as secrecy around gaming, a strong focus on acquiring specific skins, or a sudden loss of in-game items. These could indicate involvement in skin gambling and provide an opportunity to start a conversation about it.



DISCUSS VALUE AND RISK

Help children and young people understand that cosmetic items like skins can carry real-world value. Explain that losing them through betting is comparable to losing money, therefore reinforcing the connection between in-game actions and real financial consequences.



USE CONTROLS AND SAFEGUARDS

Make use of parental controls and platform settings to restrict trading, purchases, and access to external websites. Where possible, disable marketplace features on games and monitor young people's account activity to reduce the risk of unauthorised transactions.



Meet Our Expert

Nathan David is Head of Foundation and Programme Lead for Esports Coaching at the University Campus of Esports.

Bubba Gaeddert is a Senior Lecturer and Head of Events at the University Campus of Esports, as well as President and Co-Founder of the Videogames and Esports Foundation.



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See full reference list on our website

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