



NEWS ON THE NINETEENTH

Wormley C of E Primary School (VC)
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Have Faith, Show Respect, Take Responsibility and Achieve
www.wormleyprimary.co.uk

With God
all things
are
possible

December 2025

<p>DATES</p> <p>INSET DAY 5th January 2026 Children return to school on 6th January 2026 HALF TERM 16th - 20th February</p>	<p>WISHING YOU A JOYFUL CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR</p>	
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CHRISTMAS ROCK STEADY CONCERT



Our Rock Bands also performed in a Christmas Concert on **Tuesday 9th December**.

Each of the bands - made up with children from Reception to Y6 - performed to family, playing tracks from popular bands.

If your child would like to join one of our Rock Bands in January, please contact
<https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/>

We are particularly looking for vocalists but there is space for keyboard, drum and guitar players too.

NATIVITIES AND CONCERTS



We hope you enjoyed the nativities and carol concerts performed by the children in Nursery, Reception, Y1, Y2 and Y6.

It is a really special occasion to see the children dressed as characters from the Christmas story or in Christmas jumpers and hats singing their hearts out!

Our children are such great performers.

WORMLEY'S BAKE OFF COMPETITION

A big THANK YOU to all of the children and adults who entered Wormley's Bake Off Competition. Our cook was the judge and she was amazed at the creativity of ideas! It wasn't an easy job to select some winners ... but here they are: George G, David C, Connor, Cara, Lynette and Tamzin.



Our adult winner was Daniella with this amazing Santa's sleigh!

Our raffle and
Bake Off
Competition
funded our
Pantomime this
year. Thank you.



CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME

The children enjoyed the pantomime tale of Robin Hood this week on Tuesday 16th December.



"Oh no they didn't!"

"Oh yes, they did!"

There was lots of laughter, singing and shouting, "He's behind you!"

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

We all enjoyed a fabulous Christmas lunch yesterday 17th December.

Well done to our cooks!



ATTENDANCE - EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

This is the Department for Education's tool for monitoring attendance. It provides up to date information about a school's attendance figures.

It also compares our school to similar schools in our county (A) and nationally (B).

A	Attendance measure	Percentage	Ranking ⓘ
Overall attendance	95.5%	You are ranked 204th out of 397 schools	
Overall absence	4.5%	You are ranked 204th out of 397 schools	
Authorised absence	3.4%	You are ranked 184th out of 397 schools	
Unauthorised absence	1.1%	You are ranked 257th out of 397 schools	
Persistently absent	9.1%	You are ranked 138th out of 397 schools	
Severely absent	0.6%	You are ranked 201st out of 397 schools	

B

Your overall attendance
95.5%

You are in decile 5, the top
40-50% of schools

The DfE expect the children's attendance to be **95% and above**.

Of the 417 children of school age in Wormley, 87 children had 100% attendance this term.

READING CHALLENGE TERM

Spring Term is **Reading Challenge Term**

Over the coming Spring Term, we will have an **even greater focus** on reading. Children will be encouraged to read whatever possible, as much as possible, wherever possible.

In Early Years and Year 1, children are learning the phonic code through our Phonics programme **SMART KIDS The Code**. By mastering the code, the children learn to read words, sentences and books. Children work their way through a series of books which are initially phonically decodable. This builds their fluency and teaches them new vocabulary. We like children to read the same book several times so that their fluency really develops. When they read fluently, they can understand more easily what they are reading.



Comprehension is developed through thinking about the text and answering questions about the text.

Reading a book with your child over and over will really help them with fluency and comprehension.

Then you can talk to them about the book to see if they have understood what it was about.

Children need lots and lots of practice to become fluent.

If children have access to a device, they can enjoy e-books too. Teachers will post links to The Code e-books on Tapestry and in the Google Classroom.



Renaissance

Star Assessments

For children in Years 2-6, we have invested in **Star Reader** - a tool to assess children's reading age and comprehension. Children take an assessment every half term and this gives them a **Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD)**. This identifies the zone in which they can read books fluently and independently.

All of our school books have been given a ZPD so we know that children are reading books that are pitched just right for them. As soon as they finish a book, they can complete a quiz through the **Accelerated Reader** site. This checks their comprehension. Over time, children will increase in their fluency and comprehension and move to a higher ZPD. You can track your child's progress this way too.

We track each child's progress every 6 weeks. We can tell which aspects of reading are secure and which they need to develop further.

In addition for children in Y3-6, we have invested in on-line reading materials. This means that children will be able to read appropriate texts whenever they wish to, wherever they wish to through MyON.

MyOn is a digital library with hundreds of e-books for children to choose from. These books are linked to your child's age and can be tailored to their interests. These digital books will allow you and your child to read books together at home.



The website allows your child to interact with books by highlighting sections, annotating with virtual post notes and listening to text. We are able to track what children are reading, when they are reading and how often.

To enhance our home learning we will also be using **MyOn** to set reading and writing home learning for your child to complete. These tasks will help your child to engage with the digital library and deepen their understanding of the texts. Your child's teacher can view the books they have read and how long they have read for too. Our mission is that no child leaves our school without reaching their reading potential!

PARENT GUIDE FOR MYON

1. Enter the web address: <https://www.myon.co.uk/>
2. Select **Wormley Primary School**
3. Enter your child's username and password (these are case sensitive)
4. You are now in the digital library
5. Choose a book by browsing through the categories or search for a specific book that fits your child's interests and/or ability



Filter by:

- Topic
- Accelerated Reader ATOS Book Level
- Year Level
- Story type: long or short



6. Read or listen to the book.

Once you have chosen a book, simply hover over the book and click **read**

MyON books offer audio narration - a great tool for younger readers or if children want to read a more challenging text, or just to relax! Your child also has access to thousands of news articles on myON news, with 5 articles added daily. The articles are available in English, Spanish and French.

We will be rewarding great reading habits with raffle tickets.

Each week, children will be able to win books, comics or a rare 'Wormley Reader Bear'.

At the end of the term, 4 winners will receive **family tickets to the cinema**.





BROXBOURNE MENTAL HEALTH TEAM COFFEE MORNING

Jess Souras from the Broxbourne Mental Health Team invites you to a coffee morning here in the Community Classroom at Wormley CofE Primary at 9am on Monday 12th January 2026.

This is a good opportunity to discuss child anxiety, challenging behaviour or anything else that might be parental challenges at the moment. Jess offers one to one work with parents and one to one sessions with Yr 6 students.

Please feel free to come down and have a chat 😊

IMPROVE CHILDREN'S MATHS FLUENCY WITH TTROCKSTARS PARENT GUIDE

We recommend a "little and often" approach; 3 minutes practice a day, 4 or 5 times a week is a good target.

What are the different Game Modes?

Single Player

Jamming 4 or 8 coins/correct answer	The only game mode without a timer, players choose the table and operation (× or ÷ or both) they want to practise. Answer 10, 20 or 30 questions.
Gig 10 coins per correct answer	Gig games last 5 minutes and contain up to 100 questions, which come in 'waves', starting with the 10s, then the 2s, 5s, 3s, 4s, 8s, 6s, 7s, 9s, 11s and 12s. Novices are not expected to get past the 5s. Gigs provide the child (and their teacher) with a simple measure of their current skills, which is why learners should concentrate fully for the whole Gig as they won't get another try until next month.
Garage 10 coins per correct answer	Players are given a personalised set of 6 multiplication questions (and their matching division questions) in each round. The questions they get keep adjusting to provide the best fit for every learner's needs. This is probably the best game made for improving their recall while they're still learning.
Studio 1 coin per correct answer	Here your child earns their Rock Status, which is based on their Studio Speed. The faster they are the better their status. Studio Speed is the average of the most recent 10 Studio games. Suitable for confident players.
Soundcheck 5 coins per correct answer	Soundcheck games ask 25 multiplication questions (up to 12×12), allowing 6 seconds for each question. Suitable for confident players.

Multi Player

Festival 1 coin per correct answer	Children compete against others from around the world, with their identities protected behind their rock names. Suitable for confident players.
Arena 1 coin per correct answer	Children race against other members of their class who are logged in and choose same arena name at the same time. Arena games use the same smart question algorithm as Garage games.
Rock Slam 1 coin per correct answer	Players challenge their classmates or teachers to answer as many questions as they can in 60 seconds, setting a score for the challenge to beat. Pupils don't need to be online at the same time.

Tournaments

Battle of the Bands - groups of children within the same school (usually classes, year groups or teams) compete to have the highest average score per player.
Top of the Rocks - like a Battle of the Bands between schools. The winning class school is the one with the most correct answers per person.

Important: Each correct answer (in any game mode) earns 1 point towards the team's total in addition to the coins earned. For example, in Garage games each correct answer is worth 1 point for the team and 10 coins for the player.



DEADLINE FOR A RECEPTION PLACE

Please be aware that the deadline for applications to Reception is **15th January 2026**. Parents will need to make an application by the closing date to ensure their application is considered as on-time.

An **Under 11s Leaflet** was sent in November to Hertfordshire residents whose children are born between **01/09/2021** and **31/08/2022**.

Parents should apply online at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions or alternatively if they cannot access the internet, they can request a printed version of the website information and application form from the Hertfordshire County Council Customer Service Centre by calling **0300 123 4043**.

NURSERY EDUCATION AT WORMLEY CofE PRIMARY SCHOOL

We are taking applications for Nursery places for **September 2026**. This school is able to offer places for 30 hours provision in addition to 15 hours nursery provision.

Application forms can be found on our website <https://wormleypprimary.co.uk/>

PRESCHOOL



Wormley Preschool is an extremely popular, high quality provision in our local area. If you are considering pre-school learning for your child, it is best to put their name on the preschool waiting list as soon as possible.

You can complete the application through their website

<https://wormleypreschool.co.uk/>

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER



Loving Father,
May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary
and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas;
and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be
among you and remain with you always.
Amen

May the Lord Bless You And Keep You

Happy New Year

Hertfordshire Children and Young People's Mental Health Service Directory

The services below provide a combination of early intervention and more specialist support for children and young people's mental health. Click the service name or scan the QR code to be redirected to more information.



Telephone service

Online/virtual service

Face to face service

Referral required

Chathealth 0-5

NHS Talking Therapies

Chathealth 11-19

PALMS

Children's Crisis Assessment and Treatment Team

Rephael House Counselling

Children's Wellbeing Practitioners

Safe Space

CHUMS Bereavement Support

School Nurses and Duty Line

Educational Psychologists

Signpost

Families First

Single Point Access (SPA)

First Steps ED

Specialist CAMHS

Health for Kids

Spectrum Family and Young People's Service

Health for Teens

Step 2

Herts Haven Cafés

The Sandbox

Just Talk

Togetherall

Just Talk Ambassador Scheme

WithYOUth

Lumi Nova

YCT Counselling

Mental Health Support Teams in Schools (MHSTS)

Youth Talk Counselling

NESSie Parenting

Young Minds Parent Helpline

Reaching developmental and emotional milestones, learning healthy social skills and how to cope when there are problems. Mentally healthy children have a positive quality of life and can function well at home, in school, and in their communities.

Difficulties with normal life problems, poor self confidence, low self esteem, low aspirations, difficult family relationships, poor peer relationships, experimental substance misuse, bereavement, poor concentration, difficulty sustaining relationships, some worries, low mood.

Many worries, high levels of anxiety, persistent low mood, body image concerns, behaviour puts peers at risk, persistent or high risk substance misuse, risk taking behaviour, unable to display empathy, difficulty coping with anger or frustration, bereavement by suicide/suspected suicide, withdrawn or unwilling to engage, disruptive or challenging behaviour, unable to maintain peer relationships (bullying, bullied or aggression etc).

Mental health problems which are:

- Persistent, complex and severe
- Present in all environments (home, school, with peers)
- Beyond a normal response to life's problems

Deliberate self harm requiring hospital treatment, suicidal ideation with imminent plan and means, psychotic episode (hearing unexpected voices, unrealistic or racing thoughts not related to physical or substance misuse), intentional overdosing, persistent inability to engage with services or support offered, risk taking behaviour with no underlying mental health disorder, unresponsive to treatment and continuing to decline.

<https://www.justtalkherts.org/media/documents/Mental-Health-Support-Guidance-for-professionals-working-with-children-and-young-people-CYP-JB.pdf?0000>