



News on the Nineteenth

WITH *God*
ALL THINGS ARE
possible

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January 2026

	<p>HAPPY NEW YEAR We hope that you all had a healthy and happy Christmas. Thank you for the lovely cards, good wishes and gifts. Hoping and praying for a wonderful 2026.</p>	<p>HALF TERM 16th - 20th February EASTER BREAK 30th March-13th April Children return on Tuesday 14th April</p>
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ARE YOU 'NUT AWARE'?
Did you know that 1 in 55 children are estimated to have a peanut allergy? (Food Standards Agency, 2016.).

For some, a reaction to exposure to nuts can be mild. For others, coming into contact with a nut can have serious consequences. It is, therefore, vital that robust measures are in place to minimise the risk to any child with a nut allergy.

We have children in our settings with a nut allergy and some of them are likely to have a severe reaction, therefore, we aspire to be a 'nut free' zone.

Staff do their annual training for asthma and anaphylaxis awareness this half term. Please ensure any medical health care plans are up to date.

Please do not send nut products into school for snacks or packed lunches.

YOUNG VOICES CONCERT AT THE O2 ARENA

Our school choir attends the Young Voices Concert at the London O2 Arena on 22nd January.

We're so excited to be going to perform there. Lots of our families will be there to enjoy the atmosphere. Good luck to the choir.



VALUE: HOPE

Our value this term is **Hope**. We will be exploring stories about hope in the Bible, including how we can have hope each day and how we can find hope when times are tough to keep us resilient.

Biblical hope isn't based on chance; it's founded on God's character and promises, like His unfailing love and faithfulness.

The children will explore their hopes, goals and dreams for the future.

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope" Romans 15:13

DREAMS AND GOALS - SPRING 1

This half term, **Spring 1**, our Jigsaw unit is '**Dreams and Goals**'. This unit will focus on goal setting, identifying success and achievements, identifying obstacles and overcoming them, learning styles, team skills and co-operation, perseverance, motivation and new challenges, our future dreams and having a positive attitude to succeed.

We are linking this to our school focus of developing resilience.



Whole-School Weekly Celebration Targets

Dreams & Goals	Agent	Characteristics
Stay motivated when doing something challenging	Resilient	Power of Yet
Keep trying even when it is difficult	Resilient	Perseverance
Work well with a partner or in a group	Considerate	Collaboration
Have a positive attitude	Confident	Power of a positive attitude
Help other to achieve their goals	Considerate	Collaboration
Are working hard to achieve their own dreams and goals	Confident	Ambition

In this unit, we deploy our agents.

AGENT CONSIDERATE - THE POWER OF WONDER



Agent Considerate - the power of thoughtfulness Agent Considerate is very **thoughtful** and thinks deeply. This agent enjoys **collaborating** with others and shows **courtesy** towards others' ideas, opinions and beliefs. Agent Considerate has **empathy** for people, shows **compassion** and can **forgive** them when things go wrong. Agent Considerate is a good **listener** and tries hard to be **friendly** and **inclusive** of everyone which makes for a very popular agent.

AGENT RESILIENT - THE POWER OF YET

Agent Resilient demonstrates **perseverance** when taking on new challenges and uses **grit** to overcome obstacles. This agent has incredible **bouncebackability** and **optimism**, even when stuck in the **learning pit**. Agent Resilient knows that the **power of yet** helps us to be resilient along the learning journey. When tackling something difficult, Agent Resilient shows **bravery**, **determination** and **commitment** in achieving their goal.



AGENT CONFIDENT - THE POWER OF POSITIVE ATTITUDE

Having **faith** in their own capability, their knowledge and **understanding** is a key aspect of Agent Confident. This agent is gaining **wisdom** whilst embarking on a learning journey. Agent Confident has the **ambition** to achieve their goals and realise their potential. On their journey they show **humility** to ask for help if needed and feel **empowered** to maintain their vision. Deploying Agent Confident leads to improved **self-efficacy** which is a learner's belief that they can succeed.

Check out the website to see the videos about our Agents

Y3 HISTORY TRIP TO THE BRITISH MUSEUM

This half term, our children are learning about Ancient Civilisations: Ancient Egypt, Rome, Ancient Greece and The Aztecs.

As part of our history studies, on the **28th January**, Y3 will be going to see the Egyptian mummies at the British Museum.

They will learn all about the Pharaohs who ruled Ancient Egypt and learn about their beliefs of the after-life by seeing the sarcophaguses and mummies.



READING CHALLENGE TERM

Spring is our reading challenge term.

For the children, the challenge is on.... How many books can they read this term? How many authors can they try? Can they read equal amounts of non-fiction to fiction?

The aim is for every child to read daily, from a range of sources: books, newspapers, comics, adverts, magazines, myON, Epic! the internet etc.



Children in Y1-6 must keep a record of their reading. Children in Y2-6 can quiz on Accelerated Reader to develop their comprehension and improve their reading age. Teachers will be looking for children to reward by putting their name forward for a limited edition **Wormley Reader Bear** and other prizes.

Don't forget to record reading together in the children's reading records as these are vital as evidence in assessing children's reading to see if they read widely and with commitment to books.



HOW TO GET A BLUE PETER BOOK BADGE

Do you love books and reading? If you do, this is the badge for you! Find out how to apply for the Blue Peter Book badge now.

To earn this badge all you need to do is tell us about a book you've enjoyed reading recently and draw a character or scene from the book.

We'd also love to hear about any books that have sparked your imagination. So, what are you waiting for? Pick up a book, explore your school library, or become a member of your local library and you could be on your way to earning your very own Book badge!

POETRY RECITALS

As part of our focus on oracy, this term we will be considering how to link performance poetry with our oracy framework. Poetry is an oral tradition and is therefore an obvious context for children to hone and develop their oracy skills.



Performance poetry provides an excellent context for students to practice presentational talk; talk that is carried out with the needs of a listener or audience in mind. So we are asking you to save the following dates to come into school and see the performances:

Wednesday 4th March 9.15am - Reception / Wednesday 4th March 2.30pm - KS1

Thursday 5th March (World Book Day) 9.15am / LKS2 / Thursday 5th March 2.30pm - UKS2
Nursery will send their own information out about timings and location but it will be 5th March.

Providing children with an audience sends an important signal about the value of what they have to say. For many, the realisation that people will listen to them, so long as they are brave enough to speak up is the greatest learning they will take from an opportunity such as this.

WORLD BOOK DAY

We will be celebrating **World Book Day** on **Thursday 5th March**.

This important annual celebration provides a fantastic opportunity to focus on reading for pleasure, supporting children's autonomy in book choice, and embedding a habit of reading that brings a wide range of benefits.

World Book Day will be bigger and better than ever during the **National Year of Reading, 2026**.



As we are linking our performance poetry with World Book Day, children may be asked to dress for their performance.

The World Book Day charity releases a brand new line-up of £1 books, and issues tokens to schools. Children will receive a £1 book token to spend.

BUILDING VOCABULARY AND READING/WRITING FLUENCY

In Reception, your child has around 45 high frequency words to learn over the year - the aim is for them to be able to *recognise* these words and to *be able to read them on sight*. Children learn these words as part of their phonics learning and may also read these words in their reading books.

High frequency words are *common words* - words that appear very often in written texts. They are a mixture of **decodable words** (words that can be sounded out) and **tricky / exception words** (words in which the English spelling code works in an unusual or uncommon way, which means the words have to be learned and recognised by sight).

It is really important that children learn how to read these words as they will make up a large proportion of the words they will be reading in everyday texts.

They also need to learn to *spell* these words as they will find they will need to use them a great deal in their writing. (Research has shown that just 16 words, such as 'and', 'he', 'I' and 'in', but also the more phonetically-difficult 'the', 'to', 'you', 'said', 'are', 'she' and 'was', make up a quarter of the words in a piece of writing, whether it's for adults or children.)

	Decodable words	Tricky / exception words
Phase 2 phonics high frequency words	a, an, as, at, and, back, big, but, can, dad, had, get, got, him, his, if, in, is, it, mum, not, on, of, off, up	the, no, to, into, go, I
Phase 3 phonics high frequency words	down, for, look, now, see, that, them, this, then, too, will, with	all, are, be, he, her, me, my, she, they, was, we, you
Phase 4 phonics high frequency words	went, children, it's, just, from, help	come, do, have, like, little, one, out, said, so, some, there, were, what, when

In Years 1 and 2, the list is expanded and includes 'about', 'because', 'once', 'could', 'house', 'laugh', 'people', 'their', plus days of the week, months of the year and the child's own address and the school's address. By now children are expected to be able to read most of them and progress to writing some of them.

This table shows the kinds of high frequency words children will be learning to read and spell during Key Stage 1:

	Decodable words	Tricky words
Phase 5 high frequency words	don't, day, old, made, I'm, came, by, make, time, here, saw, house, very, about, your	Oh, their, people, Mr, Mrs, looked, called, asked, could

How can you help your child? Help them learn. Make it fun and don't overdo it.

For example, why not try:

- **Flashcards** - but don't use drawings alongside or your child may simply stick to looking at the drawing, not the letters
- **Cut out high frequency word lists** and stick them in a prominent place (the fridge, the back of their cereal packet, etc.), so your child has a visible reminder while they're learning them
- **Memory games** - place flashcards downwards for a game of pairs.
- **Make sure your child sees you reading.** You are their best role model.



PUNCTUALITY

Please ensure that children are arriving at school punctually by **8:55 at the latest.**

Learning begins as soon as the children enter the classroom at 8:45

A late start is very difficult for children.

You will need to sign them in at the office if they are late and provide a good reason for the lateness.



LEARNING

CONSULTATIONS

This term's dates are below:

Tuesday 24th March

and

Wednesday 25th March

Appointments will be set up on Arbor and you will receive an email when the booking system opens.

SCHOOL DISCO

Tickets will soon be on sale for the School Disco on **Friday 6th February**

Reception: 2pm - 3.15pm. Tickets £3 (this will be voluntary as it's during school time)

Years 1-3: 3.30pm - 4.45pm. Tickets £5 and include a drink, packet of crisps and a glow stick

Years 4-6: 5:00pm - 6.15pm. Tickets £5 and include a drink, packet of crisps and a glow stick **Come along for a boogie!**

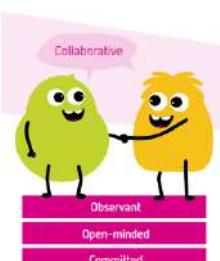


NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK 9th - 13th MARCH

We are currently planning for our **Science Week**.

The theme is **CURIOSITY**.

We will be curious about water, seas and oceans and what lies beneath and around them. As part of our studies children in Y1-Y6 will be visiting an aquarium. KS1 will visit Sealife Adventure in Southend-on-Sea and KS2 will visit SEA LIFE aquarium in London.



We will be developing critical and creative thinking skills as well as specific scientific skills such as predicting, planning, fair testing, observing, recording and concluding throughout the week.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING NATIONAL ASSESSMENT IN 2026

KEY STAGE 1:

The Y1 Phonic Screening will take place in the week **8th - 19th June**



Department
for Education

KEY STAGE 2:

The Y4 multiplication tables check will take place in the 2 weeks **1st - 12th June**

The KS2 SATS is timetabled from **11th - 14th May**

ROCKSTEADY

Would your child like to play in their very own rock band?

Rocksteady in-school band lessons are the perfect opportunity for your child to learn new skills, develop friendships and have the time of their life.



Watch this short video to see what learning in a band could do for your child's well-being:

<https://www.rocksteadmusicschool.com/watch-video/>

OUTDOOR PLAY

The weather has started to get very cold again recently and since all of the children in school concentrate extremely hard in lessons, at break times they will go outside to play, except in very bad weather.



Please ensure that your child has a **warm coat or waterproof jacket**, clearly labelled, in school each day.

Unless it is pouring with rain, PE and games may well be outside - children must have the appropriate clothing for this also.

Children in YN and YR spend 50% of their time outside so would benefit from, hats, gloves and wellies in school each day please.

TT ROCKSTARS

Please support your children to keep up with multiplication tables practice using

TTRockstars

[https://ttrockstars.c
om/](https://ttrockstars.com/)

and general maths using

Freckle

[https://student.freck
le.com/login](https://student.freckle.com/login)

HEALTHY EATING

Food Scanner App (Public Health England)

We are trying hard to encourage healthy eating including eating vegetables and fruit at lunchtime. It is quite hard work!

However, it is very important to establish healthy eating habits from a very young age.



Download the free NHS Food Scanner app

You could help by downloading the Food Scanner app.

The NHS Food Scanner app brings food labels to life and helps families make healthier choices.

Simply scan the barcode to see how much sugar, saturated fat and salt is in your food and drink then choose one of the healthier swap suggestions. The app is part of a healthy eating campaign and the 'scan, swipe, swap' take-home pack has plenty of resources to help encourage children to build healthier habits for life.

Find the resources

here: <https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools/topics/healthy-eating/overview>

We also need your help teaching children to cut their food with a knife and fork please.

CONTACT DETAILS

Have you had a new phone with a new number for Christmas?

Have you moved?

Please make sure that you have let the school know of any important changes in case we need to contact you in an emergency.

FREE BREAKFAST AT WORMLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE



Just a reminder that Wormley Community Centre offer a free breakfast at the community centre every week day.



H·A·B·S

STRENGTH IN MIND

THERAPEUTIC SERVICES

Coffee & Connection

Talk | Listen | Support

Feeling overwhelmed?

Worried About Your Child's Wellbeing?

Struggling With Emotions or Family Life?

You're NOT alone.

Join us in a relaxed, welcoming space to talk, share and get expert support.

We Offer a Safe, Welcoming Space where you can:

- Talk through challenges.
- Share what's on your mind.
- Get guidance from qualified professionals.

Support Available From:

Family Support Workers | Child & Adult Counsellors | Psychotherapists



Date:

23rd January

Time:

9.30-11.30

Location:

Wormley
Primary School

Follow us on social media



Hope Achieve Believe Succeed



01992 303331 (Ext 5)



admin@habscharity.org.uk



habsfamily.co.uk

SHOE AID

Shoe Aid Stepping Up Charity can provide shoes and boots for children and adults who are unable to afford new ones.

You can follow the link below:

<https://www.shoeaid.co.uk/>

to find out more.



FREE COURSES AND WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS & CARERS

These are all funded by Herts County Council so are free for parents to attend.



Courses: Phone 07512 709 556 to book

6-Weeks	Location	ID	Dates 2026	Day	Time
Talking Additional Needs	FULL Online	797	6th Jan to 10th Feb	Tue	8.00-9.30pm
Talking Additional Needs	Online	796	3rd Feb to 17th Mar	Tue	9.45-11.15am
Talking Families	FULL Online	799	8th Jan to 12th Feb	Thu	8.00-9.30pm
Talking Families	Online	798	5th Feb to 19th Mar	Thu	9.45-11.15am
Talking Families	Online	800	5th Feb to 19th Mar	Thu	8.00-9.30pm
Talking Anxiety in Families	Online	801	4th Feb to 18th Mar	Wed	9.45-11.30am
Talking Teens	FULL Online	804	5th Jan to 9th Feb	Mon	7.45-9.15pm
Talking Teens	St Albans	802	4th Feb to 18th Mar	Wed	7.00-9.00pm
Talking Teens	Online	803	5th Feb to 19th Mar	Thu	7.45-9.15pm
Talking Anger in Teens	FULL Online	805	6th Jan to 10th Feb	Tue	7.45-9.30pm
Talking Dads	FULL Online	806	7th Jan to 11th Feb	Wed	7.45-9.15pm
Talking Dads	Online	807	2nd Feb to 16th Mar	Mon	7.45-9.15pm

Parents can book by phoning 07512 709556 or email bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk

We have been asked to share a short survey as part of local health inequalities work in Hertfordshire. The survey is aimed at children and young people, as well as parents and carers from Asian backgrounds, and focuses on experiences of accessing health and wellbeing support. If you would like to respond, please check out their website : <https://thesandbox.mindler.co.uk/>

A WISH FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR IN 2026

Wishing you all a year of hope, community, love and kindness.

Our God is a 'with us' God. On the heels of the celebration of the birth of our King, that reminder has the power to carry us right into a fresh, new start.