



CASSIOBURY JUNIOR SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER No 20

Friday 13th February 2026

Dear Families,

Message from Miss Sherry..

Shrove Tuesday/ Chinese New Year

Next Tuesday is a day of celebration for many of you, either starting Lent with Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day) or celebrating Chinese New Year. So, whether you are starting Lent, Ramadan or seeing in the New Year, I do hope it is special for you all. This weekend is one for love after all. Happy Valentine's Day!!!

Legami Pens

I am aware that Legami pens are a new craze for those who like to swap and collect. This is a polite request not to bring these into school.

Ramadan

Ramadan is due start on the 19th February until approximately the 19th March. Each year we ask that parents email the school admin address to **notify us** whether their child will be fasting and any additional information about whether their child can break their fast if they are struggling. Please help us with this so that we are prepared. Thank you

Please note that, in line with guidance, all students are expected to participate in PE lessons and must have their PE kit in school. Staff will be reminded about keeping an eye on children who might be fasting.



Non - uniform day for Electric Umbrella – Friday 27th February 2026

The now famous **Electric Umbrella** are due to visit the school on Thursday 5th March 2026. We are really looking forward to the visit and their positive inclusive message to students. They do have their own costs to cover, which they have asked us for. We have decided to have a non - uniform day on Friday 27th February to try and raise £300 for Electric Umbrella.

We will add a payment request on the School Gateway and also have the yellow collection buckets on the gates – thank you in advance for your contributions.

Year 6 Residential payments

If your child is attending the Year 6 residential trip in June 2026, please ensure that your payments are up to date. The next instalment, if you have not paid this already, is due on Friday 27th February 2026. Thank you.

DSPL9 Parent, Carer and Family Newsletter – 11th February 2026

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VyeSkY2wQpVBaWluJfMDWDxB8OCXb01-/view?usp=sharing>

SEND Support Plan Meetings for the Spring Term 2026

You should have received an invite for an online meeting for Tuesday 24th March 2026 via the parents evening system. The online meetings are with the Class Teacher.

Spaces Still Available

Please see the [flyer below](#) for the Challenge Sport & Education Holiday Camp being held in our School Hall over half term – please book directly with the club.

Infant School Nursery Applications

A reminder that the Infant School Nursery applications for September 2026 close on Friday 27th February 2026. For an application form, please see their website: [Nursery Admissions](#)

Chess Challengers Club – spaces available for Spring Term 2

Please see the [flyer below](#) regarding the Chess Challengers Club – spaces available for Spring Term 2. Please contact the club directly.

Message from Sandesh - Congratulations to our Chess Challengers students on their fantastic tournament successes!

*Well done to **Ethan T (Year 4)** and **Sumedh J (Year 5)** for representing **Hertfordshire County** at the Inter-County Chess Tournament on 24th January 2026.*

*Congratulations to Stars Barred Chess Tournament participants from year 3— **Ayd M, Felix F, Florence A, Lara S, Freddie E, Francis B, Jake S, Maahir W** .*

*Joint Runner-Up: **Louis M** with **Harry P (Year 3)** and **Sophie C (Year 4)** winning 3rd Prize.*

*Thank you to all parents for supporting your children in these opportunities. **Very limited spaces are available after half term and will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Once these places are filled, students will be added to a waiting list to join the Chess Club.***

Meet the Author – Iona Rangeley – 21st February 2026

Please see the [flyer below](#) regarding the author visiting Watford Library on 21st February 2026.

What's on over half term?

See the [flyers below](#) for information regarding “What’s on” over half term and the [attached](#) flyers.

Special Mentions

3 Alder - Ammar A - for writing a brilliant free verse poem about a topic of choice which was inspired by Kit Wright's The Magic Box. **Felix F** - for sharing his knowledge of forces and magnets and using great explanation skills during our science lesson this week.

3 Apple - Jess H - for working hard on improving her handwriting, showing a good understanding of taught concepts and for always being positive - keep it up!

Florence A - for showing a good understanding of taught concepts, engaging in all class discussions and for being careful with her learning by self-checking and correcting. - Well done!

3 Ash – Niamh P - for showing kindness and empathy to another child on the playground and **Jannah N** - for her beautiful and creative poetry about nature in English - keep it up!

4 Hawthorn – Aydin H - for doing detailed and careful work in RE and **Katya M** - for displaying a steadfast work ethic in all her lessons.

4 Hazel – Raedthra B - for your dedication in all of your learning and for being a fabulous helper in maths this term. Super impressive—well done!

4 Holly - Zackariah E - for making some great improvements with his handwriting and **Eloise R** - for working hard in Maths when rounding decimals.

5 Pear – Alex P - for his clear explanations when problem solving in maths and **Boris C** - for his positivity during our Design Technology lessons.

5 Pine - Kyle P - for anticipating when help was needed around the class. Working hard on his English work and **Nakshatra B K** - for being an excellent classroom assistant for the past term.

5 Poplar - **Reya R, Zofia G** and **Charlotte J** - for being great helpers this week with cooking. Thank you!

6 Oak – **Taha A** - for actively taking part in the class discussion and **Ayadh A A** - for participation and showing interest in the Science lesson.

6 Maple – **Amelia P** - for her dedication and resilience in maths. She has made excellent progress in both methods and independence. Keep it up! **Ashwin C** - for choosing a really interesting and important topic to explore for his Room 101 speech and finding some good research to use for it.

6 Beech - **Adrian N** - for showing real focus and effort across all work but particularly in writing and **Sharwin K** - for being kind thoughtful and considerate to others, and being a great reading buddy.

Well done to..

A message from Miss Rosewall

WELL DONE to all of my **English group** who have written wonderful, thoughtful and creative poetry this week based on the theme of nature - I am so impressed!

Aria P – **4 Holly** – for playing the violin to the whole school in Singing Assembly this week – well done!

Audrey L – **4 Holly** – for playing the piano to the whole school in Singing Assembly this week – well done!

Sophia P – **5 Pear** – for playing the violin to the whole school in Singing Assembly this week – well done!

Anaahat K - **3 Apple** – for passing Stage 4 swimming and is now on Stage 5 swimming – well done!



Maahir W – **3 Apple** - participated in a 3 hour Chess Tournament, hosted at Nascot Wood School. He ranked 5th place out of 22 participants in his age group, and received a certificate – well done!

Thank you to..

Nana-Yaw K-Y and **Simran S** – **6 Maple** – for being excellent Office Monitors this week – thank you!

Have a lovely half term week!

Miss Sherry and the School Office Team

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY 2026	
16 th – 20 th	Half Term
25 th	Year 5 – Life in Ancient Greece Day – see separate correspondence
27 th	Non-uniform Day – raise funds for the charity, Electric Umbrella
MARCH 2026	
6 th	Parent Rep Meeting @ 9am – Miss Sherry's Office
6 th	CSA Quiz Night – more details to follow
11 th	Spring Term Concert – more details to follow
12 th to 17 th	Book Fair – open to parents and children
13 th	Year 4 Dress Rehearsal to whole school
16 th	Year 4 Production – AM – more details to follow
17 th	Year 4 Production – PM – more details to follow
19 th	Year 3 Science Workshop – see separate correspondence

20 th	EHCP Support Plan Meetings – see separate correspondence
23 rd	Year 6 Ben Kinsella Trip – 6 Maple
24 th	Year 6 Ben Kinsella Trip – 6 Oak
24 th	Year 3 St Luke's Church visit
24 th	SEND Support Plan Meetings after school * CHANGE OF DATE
26 th	Year 6 Ben Kinsella Trip - 6 Beech
27 th	Spring Term 2026 ends @ 1.05pm – non uniform
APRIL 2026	
13 th	Back to school for the Summer Term 2026
17 th	Parent Rep Meeting @ 9am – Miss Sherry's Office
21 st	Careers Afternoon – Year 6 – more details to follow
22 nd	Year 3 – Roman Day – History off the Page – see separate correspondence
MAY 2026	
4 th	Bank Holiday
6 th	Class Photographs
8 th	Parent Rep Meeting @ 9am – Miss Sherry's Office
11 th to 14 th	Year 6 SATs Breakfast and SATs week
15 th	Year 6 Dress Up Day – see separate correspondence
18 th to 22 nd	Year 6 Bikeability – more details to follow
25 th – 29 th	Half Term
JUNE 2026	
5 th	Parent Rep Meeting @ 9am – Miss Sherry's Office
JULY 2026	
3 rd	Parent Rep Meeting @ 9am – Miss Sherry's Office
6 th	Crucial Crew – Year 6 – see separate correspondence
6 th & 7 th	Parent/Teacher Consultations – more details to follow
21 st	Year 6 Leavers Production and Assembly – see separate correspondence
23 rd	Summer Term 2026 ends @ 1.05pm – non uniform
SEPTEMBER 2026	
1 st	Inset Day – school closed
2 nd	Inset Day – school closed
3 rd	Autumn Term starts
OCTOBER 2026	
26 th – 30 th	Half Term
NOVEMBER 2026	
27 th	Occasional Day – school closed
DECEMBER 2026	
18 th	Autumn Term 2026 ends at 1.05pm – non uniform
JANUARY 2027	
4 th	Inset Day – school closed
5 th	Spring Term 2027 starts
FEBRUARY 2027	
15 th – 19 th	Half Term
MARCH 2027	
24 th	SEND Support Plan Meetings after school
25 th	Spring Term 2027 ends at 1.05pm – non uniform
APRIL 2027	
12 th	Summer Term 2027 starts
MAY 2027	
31 st – 4 th June 2027	Half Term
JUNE 2027	
25 th	Inset Day – school closed
JULY 2027	
21 st	Summer Term 2027 ends at 1.05pm – non uniform
22 nd	Inset Day – school closed

HOLIDAY CAMP AT CASSIOBURY!

NEW LOOK COURSES offering Sports, Games, Arts & Crafts, Indoor Activities, Outdoor and Nature activities, Scavenger Hunts & more!

WD17 3PD

AGES 5-11 YRS

**FLEXIBLE TIMINGS
BETWEEN 8AM - 5PM**

STARTING FROM £22

**CHOOSE FROM SPORT ALL DAY
OR A MIX OF ACTIVITIES**



**SCAN OR OR CLICK
HERE TO BOOK**

For more information, please email
info@challengesporteducation.co.uk
or text/call 07719315932



**LED BY THE
CASSIOBURY TEAM
INCLUDING**

Malachi & Ella



CHALLENGESPORT.EDUCATION



Meet the Author: **Iona Rangeley**

Saturday 21 February
Watford Library at 11am

Meet Iona Rangeley at Watford Library as she tells us all about her fabulous new creation, Cecily Sawyer, and her thrilling, mysterious and very funny adventures - and find out whether you have what it takes to be a spy!

Recommended for children aged 7+.

This event is part of our Winter Reads programme 2025-26.

Tickets: £5 per person



What's On over February Half-term



**Wild Play at Leavesden
Country Park
17th February**

Join Groundwork East this February half-term to take part in FREE nature play sessions. Learn more about your local greenspace and nature through scavenger hunts, natural art and play. Suitable for under 9s however, siblings are welcome. All children must be accompanied by an adult at ALL times.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/wild-play-leavesden-country-park-tickets-1980713651852t>



**WATFORD
BOROUGH
COUNCIL**



**Wild Play - Watford
Oxhey Park Bridge**

Various times on 16th & 18th February

Learn about Watford's wildlife and heritage through fun family activities.

Suitable for ages 3-9 with their parents/guardians (other siblings welcome).

FREE nature play sessions.

For more info and booking please visit:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/wild-play-watford-tickets-1980184529232>

Cassiobury Park Hub Events

Bird Craft - 17th Feb at 10.30am

Storytime - 19th Feb at 10.30am

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/cassiobury-park-hub-team-18604052103>



Zookeeper 2
17 February 2026



The SpongeBob Movie: Search for SquarePants
18 February 2026



Films showing at
Watersmeet Theatre

<https://www.watersmeet.co.uk/february-half-term>



Watford Pancake Race
17th February at 2.30pm
Pondside, The Parade,
Watford



This much-loved event will feature business relay races, accessible races and children's races, making it inclusive and fun for all.

Highlights include a special appearance from Harry the Hornet, post-race refreshments at the Library Café. All funds raised will support Watford Mencap's vital work with children and adults with learning disabilities and their families and the Watford Community Fund supporting Watford organisations helping families and individuals.

<https://www.w3rt.org/the-watford-pancake-race-2026t>



The Pump House Theatre,
Watford

19th - 21st February

Rickmansworth Players
Youth present everyone's
favorite ogre in Shrek The
Musical JR

<https://pumphousewatford.co.uk/events/shrek-jr/>



South West Herts Partnership Advice: ADULT MENTAL HEALTH

INTRODUCTION

We all have Mental Health. Mental health encompasses our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It's the way we think, feel, and act, and it influences how we cope with daily life, interact with others, and make decisions. Just like physical health, mental health is a spectrum, ranging from good to poor, and can fluctuate over time.



TOP TIPS/TOOLS

IMMEDIATE SUPPORT IF YOU ARE FEELING OVERWHELMED

- Make an appointment with your regular GP, as this is usually the first point of contact for anyone suffering with low mood.
- Ring or text a **friend or family member**
- Contact **Samaritans** any time on 116 123. They offer a listening service.
- **SHOUT** offers text support any time, text SHOUT to 85258.
- Telephone **NHS 111** by dialling 111.
- Go to your local **accident & emergency** department if concerned about mental health/feeling suicidal



SIGNPOSTING LINKS

- **NHS** <https://www.hpft.nhs.uk/contact-us/out-of-hours-helpline/>
- **HERTS MIND** www.hertsmindnetwork.org
- **CALM** <https://www.thecalmzone.net/get-support>
- **Family Lives** <https://www.familylives.org.uk/how-we-can-help/confidential-helpline>



IMPORTANT FACTS

It's okay to ask for help. We all need some help at some point asking for help is not a weakness, it's a strength!

ASK FOR HELP WHEN FEELING OVERLOADED

Work out what helps you and set aside certain times in the day and week to fill your cup and empty your 'Overflowing Bucket'. If you're having difficulty setting aside that time, ask yourself what gets in the way and ask for help from family and friends.

Self-care should be an essential part of your daily routine.

Quality Time—spend quality time with Friends and Family.

Hobbies – find something you enjoy doing and that makes you feel calm.

Go offline—being on social media can be overwhelming. Reduce time spent online to help you clear your mind.

Feed Your Soul—eat well and have a good sleep routine to promote energy and ability to manage daily tasks.



<https://www.southwesthertspartnership.org.uk/>



swhp_familysupportservice





Chess Challengers Club

UK's No.1 leading chess club

Cassiobury Junior School

Bellmount Wood Ave, Watford WD17 3PD



Starts on Tuesday 24th Feb 2026

Time: 3:20pm to 4:30pm

Chess Lessons & Tournaments

Age : 6 yrs and above

Register: chess.challengers@outlook.com

Our students participates in UK's prestigious tournaments
London Junior Chess Championship,
British Chess Championship

Encourage your child to explore a new skill !