



CASSIOBURY JUNIOR SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER No 18

Friday 30th January 2026

Dear Families,

Message from Miss Sherry..

There is so much going on in school at the moment. Year 6 are practising their Young Voices songs, recorder lessons are sounding great, children are active and even dancing in Year 5! I have been into many classes over this week and have seen some great learning. Governors have been in school too. Next week Year 5 are off to visit a local synagogue and we are collecting food for our local foodbank.

Accident waiting to happen on Bellmount Wood Avenue!

We have noticed an increase of vehicles stopping in the middle of Bellmount Wood Avenue and asking their child to get out of the car in the middle of the road. In order to keep everyone safe, please allow extra time to either park further away from the school and walk your child to school or, alternatively, find a safe place to park.

Thank you.

Spring Term 2026 – Consumables

Thank you to the families who have contributed to the Autumn Term consumables via the payments section on the School Gateway.

To help us to continue offering the best possible opportunities this Spring Term, we are asking for a contribution of £5 per child to cover ingredients for food tech, art, science and design technology.

We are incredibly grateful for your continued support and, if you have not contributed in the Autumn Term, the payment request is still visible for you to do so. Thank you.

Year 6 – Young Voices Audience Tickets

The audience tickets for Young Voices have been transferred to you via email or they should appear automatically on the AXS app (please refresh the page).

We are looking forward to attending the OVO Arena in Wembley next Wednesday and please read all information sent last week.

EHCP SEND Support Plan Meetings – Friday 20th March 2026

The EHCP Support Plan Meetings will be held on Friday 20th March 2026. These will be via the parents evening system and you should automatically receive a video call invite. If you would prefer the meeting to be face to face, please contact Mrs Newman via the School Office. The appointments will be emailed to you next week.

DSPL Parent, Carer and Family Newsletter – 28th January 2026

Please see the following link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/11IQJp6XIMDXQcaq0qq2F8r9naliNu7JA/view?pli=1>

Harvest Foodbank Week Monday 2nd to Friday 6th February 2026 - Donations

Instead of our normal Harvest Festival donations week in October, we decided that at this time of year, a lot of families are in need of extra support from our local foodbank.

For the whole week from Monday 2nd February we are collecting donations for them.

If you are able to donate the following items, please can they be brought into school from Monday 2nd to Friday 6th February.

The Watford Foodbank is currently low on:

- Tinned Potatoes/Instant Mash
- Tinned Fruit
- Tinned Meat
- Tinned Soup
- Tinned Custard/Rice Pudding
- Long Life Fruit Juice
- Long Life Milk

Please bring your donations to your child's class from Monday 2nd February 2026.

Thank you for your continued support.

Online Courses

Please see flyer below including the Dads Together course from Family Lives.

Online Safety Newsletter - Online Safety Newsletter Primary Feb 2026

Please see below.

Half Term Holiday Camp – CSE

Please see flyer below regarding the February half term holiday camp – please book directly with Challenge Sport and Education.

CSA Messages:

- **Cake Sale – Friday 6th February 2026**

Please see flyer below regarding the after school Cake Sale on Friday 6th February 2026. Please bring your cakes to the School Office on that morning.

- **Quiz Night – Friday 6th March 2026**

Please see flyer below..book your tickets ASAP for the Quiz Night!

Special Mentions

3 Alder - Toby N - for being a kind member of the class and helping his peers when needed, this was particularly noticed this week and **Pak Man L** - for working hard on his writing ensuring to include a range of features and lots of description. Well done!

3 Apple - Rishi P - for showing a good understanding of division in maths. He is able to show calculations with and without remainders using a variety of methods. Keep it up!

Idrees R - for regularly engaging in class discussions and for showing a good understanding of division. Well done!

3 Ash – Maariya H - for displaying learning ready behaviour consistently this week - keep it up! **Gabriel P** - for his creative narrative writing piece based on Alice in Wonderland - well done!

4 Hawthorn – Aayan P - for hard work in maths with short multiplication and **Arulmozhi B** - for thoughtful and reflective work in RE.

4 Hazel – **Isobel H** - for engaging more in class discussions, showing kindness to others and for being resilient with her learning - keep it up!

4 Holly – **Joshua W** - for persevering in maths in our topic on short multiplication and **Sienna P** - for demonstrating great skill in maths and working through problems independently.

5 Pear – **Laila L H** - for listening and responding well to feedback in her English writing and Radha for her effort in all areas of learning.

5 Pine - **Maya M** - for writing an excellent persuasive letter and remembering to include the appropriate criteria and **Safiya A** - for her great participation in all lessons but especially in Maths.

5 Poplar - **Zofia G** and **Sienna S** - for thoughtfully reflecting in RE this week on what we can learn from the story of Moses.

6 Beech – **Grace F** - for always setting a great example to others and always being ready to learn and **Edward B** - for his thoughtful answers during our guided reading lessons.

6 Maple - **Leona V** - for the excellent extra research she has done to support her persuasive speech writing in English and **William H** - for showing excellent engagement and questioning skills during reading.

6 Oak – **Layla A** - for working really hard in maths on her number skills especially fractions and for great contributions in PSHE and **Ved P** - for participating fully in many lessons and excellent listening.

Well done to..

Merak J – **4 Hazel** and **Matthew B** – **4 Holly** – for playing their cornets in Singing Assembly this week – well done!

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

Students Achievement in Inter-County Chess Tournament – Message from Sandesh, Chess Coach from Chess Challengers:

*I am writing to proudly inform you that the following students from your school represented **Hertfordshire County** in the **Inter-County Chess Tournament** held on **24th January 2026**:*

1) **Ethan T** – **4 Hawthorn** – well done!

2) **Sumedh J** – **5 Poplar** – well done!

*Hertfordshire entered two teams in the competition, and I am pleased to share that **one of the teams, which included Ethan, successfully qualified for the final, scheduled to take place in March 2026**.*

This is a commendable achievement that highlights the students' commitment, skill, and hard work, and it reflects positively on the school.



Miraj M – **4 Hazel** - has successfully completed the Hertfordshire Libraries Winter Reads Challenge. He has also competed in Dolphina's Recreational Gymnastics (Advanced Group) competition, where he won Gold medals in Floor, Vault, and Overall. He got a special award for powerful vault! Miraj has completed his Bronze Level Gymnastics and is now working towards his Silver Level – well done!

Thank you to..

Filip A and Faleehah A – 6 Oak – for being excellent Office Monitors this week – thank you!

Have a lovely weekend!

Miss Sherry and the School Office Team

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY 2026	
2 nd	Watford Foodbank collection week for Harvest – items to go to classes
3 rd	Year 5 – Watford Synagogue Visit – AM only – more information to follow
4 th	Young Voices 2026 – Year 6
6 th	Parent Rep Meeting @ 9am – Miss Sherry's Office
6 th	CSA Cake Sale – after school
16 th – 20 th	Half Term
25 th	Year 5 – Life in Ancient Greece Day – see separate correspondence
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
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
25 th	SEND Support Plan Meetings after school
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
MAY 2026	
4 th	Bank Holiday
8 th	Parent Rep Meeting @ 9am – Miss Sherry's Office
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
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

Online Safety Newsletter

February 2026

CBeebies Parenting and Apps

CBeebies Parenting is full of useful information from creative activities, recipes and information about the CBeebies apps.

CBeebies apps are free to download with no in-app purchases. Their apps include:

- Playtime Island - Fun Games for Kids App. This app includes 40 free games.
- CBeebies Learn - Early Years Learning App. This app includes games and videos and is based on the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum.
- Get Creative - Open-ended Creative Activities App. This app is free and includes lots of drawing and painting activities.
- Storytime - Reading Stories App. This app includes interactive story books.

You can find out more here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/parenting>

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version: <https://www.knowsleycitycs.org.uk/february-2026-primary/>

Using AI to alter images

AI image generator and moderator tools are widely available and often used by children. Whilst these tools can be used for creative purposes, we need to ensure our children are aware of the appropriate way in which to use them and the circumstances when they should not be used, even if harm is not intended.

What are AI image generator and moderator tools?

It is when Artificial Intelligence is used to create or modify images, for example it could be used to swap faces, change expressions or for more sinister reasons, such as to remove clothes. These images are often very realistic and therefore difficult to see that they are fake.

Privacy concerns and consent

If your child is using these tools, they need to be aware of potential loss of privacy and the importance of consent. They should know that they should only use images of other people with consent.

What does my child need to know about using these tools?

- Children shouldn't use AI tools to manipulate images of school staff. Even if the child's intention is not malicious, children should not use AI tools to create or edit photos of teachers under any circumstances.
- Manipulation of images of friends or other children – if you are using images of other people, then consent **must** always be sought.
- The tools should not be used to create images that can embarrass or hurt others - this is a form of online bullying.
- Copyright issues – who owns the copyright? These images could be reused by others, which can affect their own digital footprint.

What should I do?

- Chat to your child if they are using these tools and ascertain the reason why. Ask them to show you the images that they have created.
- Check the age ratings of any apps/websites that your child is using and set up appropriate parental controls.
- Develop your child's digital literacy by teaching them to recognise online risks and to behave responsibly online

Further information

- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-to-children-about-ai>
- <https://oursaferschools.co.uk/2025/02/18/understanding-image-consent-at-schools/>

TikTok

You must be over 13 years of age to use TikTok. TikTok is a social media platform for sharing and watching short video clips. If your child is using TikTok then make sure appropriate security / privacy settings are applied.

Account set up

It is important that your child enters their real date of birth as accounts are tailored by age e.g., Direct Messaging is disabled for accounts aged 13-15. In addition, advertisements are tailored by age. By default, accounts for people under 16 are set to private. You can read more about the other settings available, such as switching off comments and restricted mode here: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings/privacy-and-safety-settings-for-users-under-age-18>

Family Pairing

Family Pairing allows you to link your own account to your child's account. You can then set controls such as restricted mode or tailor your child's 'For You' feed by selecting keywords that TikTok will use to filter out posts. You can find out more here: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/safety-hc/account-and-user-safety/family-pairing>

What do I need to be aware of?

- **Inappropriate content and themes:** whilst against guidelines, explicit and inappropriate content can be found on this platform, for example nudity/sexual content and hate speech. Some of the songs available to lip sync to may contain inappropriate lyrics/themes.
- **Challenges:** We often see viral challenges on social media, some of which can be **risky/dangerous**. Sadly, there are reports that children have died whilst attempting online challenges. Children may not yet have developed the skills and ability to critically analyse that what they see online is not always safe for them to replicate.
- **Stranger contact:** chat to your child about how people may not be who they say they are when online.

Refresh your feed

You can refresh your "For You" feed to update the content recommended: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings/refresh-your-for-you-feed>

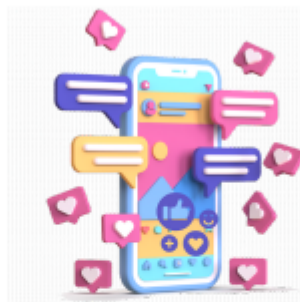
Blocking and Reporting

Show your child how to use the safety features available.

Further information

- <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/tiktok>
- <https://www.tiktok.com/safety/en/guardians-guide>

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Balance screen time tips

Internet Matters have created simple tips to help you develop healthy online habits for your child. They also answer key questions such as "how much screentime is too much" and "is gaming bad for children." Access this information here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/creating-a-balanced-digital-diet-with-screen-time-tips>

7 Steps to Good Digital Parenting

The Family Online Safety Institute have created seven steps to assist you as a digital parent. Find out more here:

<https://fosi.org/program/7-steps-to-good-digital-parenting/>

Children's Commissioner launches new guide for parents and carers

The Children's Commissioner has released a new guide to help you in managing your child's digital life. The guide was written with direct involvement from children.

It includes advice on setting boundaries such as no devices in the bedroom and how to chat to your child. You can find the guide here:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/blog/what-i-wish-my-parents-or-carers-knew-childrens-commissioner-launches-guide-for-parents-and-carers-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives/>

INGREDIENTS & ALLERGENS PANCAKE DAY MENU

Chicken Burger **(GLUTEN)**

Burger Bun **(GLUTEN)**

Halal Chicken Burger **(GLUTEN)**

Skin on Wedges

Homemade Slaw **(EGG)**

Halloumi & Mushroom Burger **(DAIRY)**

Burger Bun **(GLUTEN)**

Skin on Wedges

Homemade Slaw **(EGG)**

Warm Pancakes **(DAIRY, EGGS, GLUTEN)**

Golden Syrup

Lemon & Sugar

Chocolate Sauce

CSA CAKE SALE
6TH FEB
AFTER SCHOOL!



CAKE SALE
£1-£2
CASH ONLY!

PLEASE DONATE BAKED GOODS
TO JUNIOR SCHOOL OFFICE OR
INFANTS SCHOOL OAK ROOM
FRIDAY, FEB 6TH IN THE MORNING.
PLEASE LIST ALL INGREDIENTS -
STRICTLY NO NUTS!



Dear Colleagues

We have three online courses starting next week funded by HCC Targeted Parenting Fund. We have one course funded for Dads and male carers and two courses for mums, dads and carers who may need some additional support. We've had a good response however we do have a few places available particularly on our dad's course. Would you kindly help us fill these places by sending on to your colleagues who may want to refer and to parents and carers. We have one online booking form now that can be used by professionals and parents and carers for all courses and bookings:
<https://forms.office.com/e/AhqfPJUW6T>

- For Dads & male carers – Thursday evenings 7.00pm – 9.00pm 5 February – 26 March (excluding half term)
- For Mums, Dads & carers – Wednesday mornings 9.30am – 11.30am 4 February – 25 March
- For Mums, Dads & carers – Wednesday evenings 7.00pm – 9.00pm 4 February – 25 March

These fully funded 7-week term time courses can help with:

- Understanding how Feelings, Thoughts and Behaviour link together (including the stress response system)
- Understanding what may be influencing their child's behaviour
- Responding to a range of feelings e.g. anger, frustration, anxiety, stress and worry
- Improving communication to build better relationships
- Building on strengths
- Learning strategies to help parents and their family feel safe

If you have any questions, please do let us know.

Your support is much appreciated.

With kind regards

Fiona

Fiona Benjamin
Director and Protective Behaviours
Trainer



Social Enterprise UK
Certified Member

Dads Together



Sign up to our 6-week online group

Are you a dad and feel like you are constantly nagging at your child to get what you need?

Join our free dads together 6-week online group to help increase your confidence in parenting and improve communication and listening skills.



Wednesday 11th February to
25th March 2026

7.00pm to 9.00pm

Online via MS Teams

To book your place, call Louise on **0204 522 8700**, email **services@familylives.org.uk** or scan our QR code to use our online referral form



Scan Me!

We build better family lives together

www.familylives.org.uk



@familyLivesHertsandBeds

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County Council



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CHALLENGE
SPORT & EDUCATION

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 QR 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