

# CHAMBERSBURY NEWS

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*Working together to become change makers*

21<sup>st</sup> November 2025

## ATTENDANCE 2025-2026—WHOLE YEAR

Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole
95.7%	96.4%	92.5%	94.5%	94.1%	94.7%	92.6%	93.3%

<https://www.chambersbury.herts.sch.uk/attendance/>

### Change-Makers and Record Breakers!

This week I received an e-mail that announced the winners of the Hertfordshire Heroes Christmas card competition — in this e-mail it explained that, in fact, all of the winning entries were from pupils in our school!

Well done to Indie, Teddy, and Robyn (all in Year 5) who have won this competition! A big thank you and well done must also go to Mrs Gavin who has supported and guided these pupils.

We have always been a school that has performed particularly well in art competitions but we believe this year is a record even for us! Not only have we won the Hertfordshire Heroes Christmas card competition, we also had a pupil win the Mayors Christmas Card competition and another pupil win the MPs Christmas Card competition! That's 5 different Change-Makers winning art competitions!

If your child loves art, don't forget there is an art camp being held at Chambersbury in January!

### Adverse Weather

Wednesday morning saw a blizzard of snow hit Hemel Hempstead. This caused much excitement for the pupils (and some concern for staff and parents!)

Early in the morning, we risk assessed the school site and made the decision that the site was still safe and we were able to remain open. Thank you to Mr Phillips, who helped grit paths and made sure everyone could arrive safely!

### Welly Boots

With the changing weather, now would be a great time to check that welly boots still fit and aren't leaking.

As part of the OPAL project, pupils are allowed to go on the grass through the winter, but they must have their welly boots on. Going on the grass without welly boots, would initially be a level 1 consequence but those that continue to do so might end up not being able to go outside at break/lunch until they have learnt the expectations.

### Feedback from visitors

This week we received some lovely feedback from visitors that I was showing around the school: one visitor spoke about how well behaved pupils were with one pupil holding a door open for them and saying good morning.

Another visitor commented, having walked through the hall whilst Year 5 were having a dodgeball lesson, noticing how calm the pupils were and how brilliantly they listened to the adults instructions when they needed to stop for us.

## CHAMBERSBURY IN THE TOP 6% OF SCHOOLS IN ENGLAND!

England Rocks went incredibly well this week - well done to Years 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 for all your hard work. In the final leader boards our school came 230 out of 4,356 schools across the country with an average of 1,144 correct answers per pupil. **This means we are statistically in the top 6% of schools in England!**

Over the 3 days our children worked hard to answer a total of 138,472 questions correctly! Amazing work.

Well done to our top scorers in each class and across the school. Well done Year 4 for being the highest scoring class.

Position	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	WHOLE SCHOOL
1st	Savannah	Elsie	Ohzzean	Aimen	Evie O	Ohzzean
2nd	James	Rhys	Moeen	Teddy	Dheshan	Aimen
3rd	Muhammad	Anastasiia	Tudor	Rares	Alfred	Moeen

Just because this competition is over doesn't mean you should stop now. Keep practising and look out for some competitions within school coming soon.

### A Busy Week Ahead

Next week is an incredibly busy week at school: there is the cross country event on Monday, Year 3 & 4 Chiltern Open Air Museum trip on Tuesday, Cinema trip on Wednesday morning, Year 1 athletics on Wednesday afternoon, a football match on Thursday and of course we also have bikeability running all week!

We organise all of these experiences to support pupils personal development and to broaden their cultural capital, meaning all pupils at Chambersbury can achieve and thrive.

### Occasional Day and INSET Day

Please be reminded that Friday 28th November is an occasional day and Monday 1st December is an INSET day meaning that the school is not open to pupils on these days.

All maintained state schools in Hertfordshire have 1 occasional day each academic year and 5 In Service Training days.

*'Teachers' wellbeing across the UK is at its lowest level since 2019, according to the charity Education Support.'*

I am sure many of you will have seen in the news this week that *"teachers' wellbeing across the UK is at its lowest level since 2019, according to the charity Education Support."* This is a deeply concerning trend, and as a school leader, staff wellbeing remains extremely important to me.

In order for school staff to be able to do their jobs well, they need the time, space, and support to plan the best lessons, build strong relationships with pupils, and bring energy and creativity into the classroom. When staff feel valued and supported, the whole school community benefits — most importantly, the pupils.

Please help me in supporting staff wellbeing by valuing and supporting them. Please be mindful that e-mails, particularly those written with ChatGPT or other AI, can come across with an unintended tone

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we can make sure that our school remains a place where both pupils and staff can thrive.

### Ashes

I know many children will be keen to watch the Ashes over the coming weeks, but please be mindful of how many hours of sleep they are getting.

## Parent Support Group

Due to lack of take up, we are postponing the Parent Support Groups being run by Dacorum Family Services — we put these groups on to help and support parents. The positive that I am taking from this is that there are no parents in our school that have concerns or issues, would like support with behaviour, have children with worries or fears or need support with attendance. If this changes, please do get in touch and we will happily help you with accessing support.



## Year 3 Learning Assembly

This afternoon we had our first Learning Assembly — thank you to everyone that attended.

Year 3 showcased the learning that they have been doing this term. They shared their work from their Science topic about rocks and soils, some fantastic writing about Mary Anning, spoke in French and showed off their beautiful poppy Art. We loved their version of 'We will rock you' about different rock types.

We look forward to Year 4s next Thursday.



## Year Events Calendar

In order to help improve communication, attached to this newsletter is a Year Events Calendar. This is a guide and, of course, is subject to change but we hope it helps you understand our plan for the year ahead.

## Maths Advisor

On Wednesday, our Maths Advisor visited, she worked alongside our Year 1 and Year 4 teachers with the focus being on adapting the curriculum to help move pupils learning on rapidly and how their reasoning skills can be developed.

These advisor visits, which we pay for, are just one of the many ways that we are improving academic outcomes for all pupils.

Don't forget pupils have access to Mathletics, which can be accessed online, to help them practice and rehearse their maths learning.

## Staff Training

Congratulations to Mr Dodd and Mrs Gerber who this week completed their training to become Mental Health leads in our school.

Mrs Wilson and Mrs Sticking have also undertaken bereavement training recently to help and guide anyone that needs support.

Having the most well trained staff is key to our aim for Chambersbury Primary School to be a place where each individual is cared for deeply, valued and respected.

## Breakfast Club and Chambersbury Lane Gate

Our earlier start to breakfast club and the opening of the Chambersbury Lane gate appears to be going well — we will continue to monitor this but so far, so good.

Did you know our breakfast club is the cheapest around? I can also only find one breakfast club that is open earlier than ours locally!

## Owl Art Competition

We can now announce the winners and runs up for the owl competition:

Winners: Evelyn-Rose, Isla O, Elsie P, Charley-Mai

Runners up: Kylo, Alfred, Blossom, Evie O, Teddy P, Nancy, Ivy, Mila

Well done everyone!

## Key Events:

Monday 24th November — Cross Country event

Monday 24th November — Thursday 27th November — Year 5 & 6 Bikeability

Tuesday 25th November — Parent support group

Tuesday 25th November — Year 3 & 4 Chiltern Open Air Museum trip

Wednesday 26th November — Cineworld trip

Wednesday 26th November — Year 1 Athletics

Thursday 27th November — Football match

Friday 27th November — Year 4 Learning assembly

Friday 28th November — Occasional day

Monday 1st December — INSET

Friday 5th December— Football match (home)

Friday 5th December — PATCH Winter Fair

Friday 5th December — Phonics in action parent workshop

Tuesday 9th December at 14.15-15.15 — Reception and Year 1 Nativity

Wednesday 10th December — Year 2 Victorian day

Thursday 11th December at 9.30-10.30 — Reception and Year 1 Nativity

Thursday 11th December 1.30pm—Panto

Thursday 11th December— Winter Disco

Friday 12th December — Year 2 Learning assembly

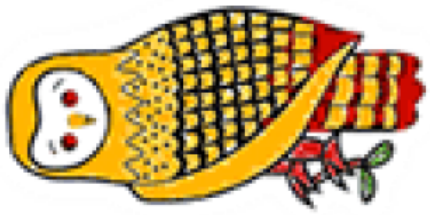
Monday 15th December — iRock concert

Tuesday 16th December — Christmas dinner

Tuesday 16th December — Panto

Friday 19th December at 13:30 — End of term

# Chambersbury Calendar 2025-2026

Autumn 2 2025	Spring 1 2026	Spring 2 2026	Summer 1 2026	Summer 2 2026
<p>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November – All return</p> <p>Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025 – Occasional day (school closed)</p> <p>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025 – INSET Day</p> <p>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025 – End of term (pupils finish at 13:30)</p> <p>Christmas holiday: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2025 – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2026</p>	<p>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – INSET Day</p> <p>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – INSET Day</p> <p>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – All pupils return</p> <p>Half term holiday: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2026 – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026</p>	<p>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February – All return</p> <p>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – End of term (pupils finish at 13:30)</p> <p>Easter holiday: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2026</p>	<p>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 – INSET Day</p> <p>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2026 – All pupils return</p> <p>Half term holiday: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026</p>	<p>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June – All return</p> <p>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2026 – End of term (pupils finish at 13:30)</p> <p>Summer holiday: Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2026 – Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2026</p>
<p>SEND DSSN Can do Sports Event 12.11.25</p> <p>PATCH Quiz Night 13.11.25 7:30pm</p> <p>Year 6 Height and Weight check 19.11.25</p> <p>Year 3 Sharing Assembly 21.11.25 2:30pm</p> <p>Year 5 &amp; 6 Bikeability Course 24.11.25 – 27.11.25</p> <p>Whole School Cross Country 24.11.25</p> <p>Year 3 &amp; 4 Trip to Chiltern 25.11.25</p> <p>KS2 Cinema Trip 26.11.25</p> <p>Year 4 Sharing Assembly 27.11.25 2:30pm</p> <p>Year 1 DSSN Sports Hall Athletics 26.11.25</p> <p>Tea &amp; Times tables Parent Workshop 03.12.25 8:45am</p> <p>Pupil Parliament Christmas Displays 03.12.25</p>	<p>Year 5 &amp; 6 Young Voices Trip 04.02.26</p> <p>Parents Evening</p> <p>Year 6 Children at War Experience 04.12.25</p> <p>PATCH Winter Fair 05.12.25 3:30pm – 5pm</p> <p>Reception &amp; Year 1 Nativity 09.12.25 2:15-3:15pm 10.12.25 9:30-10:30am</p> <p>Year 2 Victorian Workshop 10.12.25</p> <p>Year 5 Hampton Court Trip 10.12.25</p> <p>Christmas Panto 11.12.25</p> <p>PATCH Winter Disco 11.12.25</p> <p>KS1 3:30-4:15pm KS2 4:30-5:30pm</p> <p>Year 2 Sharing Assembly 12.12.25 2:30pm</p> <p>iRock concert 15.12.25 9:00am</p> <p>Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day 16.12.25</p>	<p>Year 4 Sharing Assembly 06.03.26 2:30pm</p> <p>Year 2 Sharing Assembly 13.03.26 2:30pm</p> <p>Year 3 Sharing Assembly 20.03.26 2:30pm</p> <p>Egg Decorating Competition</p> <p>iRock Concert</p> 	<p>Year 6 SATs 11.05.26 – 14.05.26</p> <p>Year 6 Residential 03.06.26 – 05.06.26</p> <p>Ducklings in School</p>	<p>Year 4 Multiplication Check 01.06.26 – 12.06.26</p> <p>Year 1 Phonics Screening 08.06.26 – 12.06.26</p> <p>Sports Day</p> <p>PATCH Summer Fair</p> <p>Year 5 &amp; 6 Production</p> <p>iRock concert</p> <p>Year 2 &amp; Year 6 Graduation</p> <p>Year 6 Leavers Celebrations</p> <p>End of Year Reports</p>
<p>More events and dates will be added as the year goes on and we will let you know if anything changes. Please keep an eye on the school newsletter and other communications.</p>				



# P.A.T.C.H

Parents and Teachers of Chambersbury



3:30PM  
TILL 5PM  
CASH ONLY



**WINTER FAIR  
& SANTA'S GROTTO**

**FRIDAY 5TH DEC**  
**CHAMBERSBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL**



**JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF FUN,  
GAMES & FESTIVE TREATS!**

BOOK SANTA THROUGH ARBOR OR EMAIL  
[S.MITCHELL@CHAMBERSBURY.HERTS.SCH.UK](mailto:S.MITCHELL@CHAMBERSBURY.HERTS.SCH.UK)

**P.A.T.C.H**

Parents and Teachers of Chambersbury

# WINTER FAIR

**TOMBOLA  
DONATIONS  
NEEDED**

**HAND IN BY  
27<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**

**CLEARING OUT BEFORE CHRISTMAS?  
DONATIONS OF PRE-LOVED TOYS, BOOKS, GAMES,  
GIFTS, CRAFTS, CANDLES, ETC. ARE WELCOMED.**

**WE WILL COLLECT BOTTLES & CHOCOLATES  
IN EXCHANGE FOR NON-UNIFORM DAY ON  
THE DAY OF THE FAIR- 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER.**

# HELP US BRING OUR OPAL AREA TO LIFE!

Our children have been dreaming big — and we need your help to make it happen!

## CAN YOU DONATE SMALL WORLD RESOURCES?



- Large animals (farm, jungle, or zoo animals)
- Dinosaurs
- People figures
- Vehicles or construction toys
- Natural materials (stones, logs, shells, etc.)



These resources will help us create exciting small world play opportunities in our Opal Area outside — one of the top wishes on our children's play wishlist!

♥ Your donations, big or small, make a huge difference!

If you have any items to spare, please bring them to the school office





## Anxiety and Attendance

**Date**

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025

**Time**

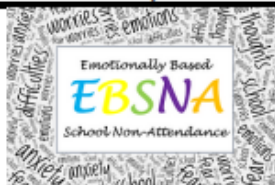
10 am – 12 noon

The session will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams  
and in person at  
Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School, HP3 8ER

**Is your child struggling to come into school?**

A **free** workshop for parents:

- What is anxiety? – signs to look out for
- Strategies to manage anxiety and improve resilience and attendance
- Understand your child and their responses and behaviour



**For more details and to book, please email:**

[jnethercoat@hobbshillwood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:jnethercoat@hobbshillwood.herts.sch.uk)

Please include contact details, name of child's school and whether you would like to attend

online or in person

Tel: 01442 401222 Ext: 5

Mia's  
**REBEL**  
Crafters

2<sup>ND</sup>, 5<sup>TH</sup> & 6<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY

8:45AM - 3:15 PM

AGE 6-11 YEARS

£35 PER DAY

CHAMBERSBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL

HILL COMMON, BENNETTS END, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD. HP3 8JH



FRI 2<sup>ND</sup> JAN  
ROCKSTAR CAMP  
DESIGN YOUR OWN  
ROCK/POP INSPIRED 3D  
HEAD AND INSTRUMENT



MON 5<sup>TH</sup> JAN  
FASHION & SHOE DESIGN  
EXPERIMENT WITH FABRICS,  
PAINTS AND GEMSTONES TO  
DESIGN YOUR OWN 3D SHOE  
AND 2D OUTFITS



TUES 6<sup>TH</sup> JAN  
PORTRAITS  
LEARN EXCITING  
TECHNIQUES TO  
CREATE 2D & 3D  
PORTRAITS



Email [miasrebelcrafters@gmail.com](mailto:miasrebelcrafters@gmail.com) to book