

CHAMBERSBURY NEWS

[WWW.CHAMBERSBURY.HERTS.SCH.UK](http://www.chambersbury.herts.sch.uk)



Working together to become change makers

14th November 2025

ATTENDANCE 2025-2026—WHOLE YEAR

Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole
94.5%	96.8%	92.5%	94.8%	94.1%	94.4%	92.5%	94.4%

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

P.A.T.CH Quiz night

Yesterday evening, the school hall was buzzing with excitement as parents, teachers, and friends gathered for our P.A.T.CH Quiz Night. The event brought together a fantastic mix of competitive spirit and community fun.

Teams tested their knowledge across rounds ranging from general trivia to music and film — with plenty of laughter (and a few friendly debates!) along the way.

A huge thank you goes to everyone who attended, or helped organise the evening. Thanks to your support, we raised £240 for future school projects and resources. Thank you to those that donated prizes including: Locker Park School and Mr Steve Austin (who was also a fantastic quiz master!)

Congratulations to our winning team, continuing their winning streak — The Governors (team: The Mallbies), who claimed the much coveted P.A.T.CH Quiz trophy and eternal bragging rights until next year!

Events like this truly showcase the wonderful community spirit at our school. We can't wait to see you all again at the P.A.T.CH Winter fair!

Attendance

This week I invited Hertfordshire in to look at our school attendance procedures and review these.

We have received very good feedback with this and attendance, including the number of severely absent or persistently absent pupils, is significantly better than last year. This is reflected in the parent survey results.

Please be aware that fixed penalty notices will have to be issued for low attendance - but more importantly, if your child has low attendance they won't be making the progress (academically and socially) that they should, and if they feel that school attendance is optional, there is a greater chance that you will have difficulties getting them into school in the future.

'My child's attendance on Arbor doesn't seem correct'

I do also need your help, having listened to your feedback on the parent survey, a couple of you have mentioned that you believe that your child's attendance on Arbor isn't correct — if you feel that this is the case, please e-mail the office with the dates and what you believe the error is and we will cross check these. Please title this e-mail 'Arbor Attendance.'

8. Chambersbury has high expectations of pupils attendance and punctuality

● Strongly agree	36
● Agree	15
● Neutral	1
● Disagree	0
● Strongly disagree	0



'Trying to keep all parents happy - an impossible task'

This was one of the responses to the parent survey although it was echoed by many others in response to, 'What do you think are the biggest challenges facing Chambersbury?'

We recognise that with such a diverse parent community, it can be difficult to meet everyone's expectations all of the time and I am pleased that our parent community recognise and understand this. Our aim is to make decisions that reflect the best interests of all pupils and the wider school community, while maintaining clear and consistent communication with parents. It is important that parents enable us to do our jobs and support our work.

Today, at Chambersbury we have 179 pupils — a number that is increasing as more parents move their children here due to the success that we are having. Staff at Chambersbury go above and beyond to help families and provide opportunities for pupils. One example being Miss Cope, who this week alone has not only given up 3 afternoons to attend football fixtures, but time to arrange these with other schools, pick teams, travel to and from away games and write up reports of them. Likewise, Miss Alford and Mrs Dibble will be attending the Hemel Christmas Lights switch on, on Saturday to provide an opportunity for pupils to perform. We also have a number of parents and local residents that volunteer, whether that be to read with pupils, to run P.A.T.CH events, maintain the school grounds or to sit on the governing body.

I truly hope that all of this additional, non-statutory work is appreciated as they all do this to provide the best experiences for your children.

Owl Art Competition

Well done to everyone that entered the Owl art competition, the House Captains shortlisted these and I then selected a winning owl.

The winning artists will be announced next week!

Both the winning artists and those shortlisted will have their art displayed in the school hall. Well done everyone!

A special thank you to the house captains and Mrs Gallagher for organising and running this competition.

David Taylor Visit

Today we had a visit for our local MP David Taylor as he had something special to deliver to one of our pupils...

Iris, in Year 6, received a special prize for being a winner of the MP's Christmas Card competition! We are incredibly proud of Iris for doing so well and producing such a fantastic design.



Panto Date Change

We have received a message from the company organising our panto this year to say they have had to change the date due to their staffing. The new date for the panto is Thursday 11th December.

Events like this are just another way that we make school irresistible and unmissable!

DSSN Can Do Event

This Wednesday, a group of children from across the school had the exciting opportunity to take part in a special sports festival designed to promote teamwork and respect. Throughout the day, the pupils engaged in a range of fun, energetic activities that encouraged them to support one another, communicate positively and celebrate each other's efforts. The children represented Chambersbury brilliantly and returned full of enthusiasm, having enjoyed a memorable day of sport and collaboration.

Behaviour Assembly

Please find the slides from my behaviour assembly this week included in the same e-mail as this newsletter.

We regularly revisit behaviour with individuals, classes and as a whole school as we understand the importance of both valued and detrimental behaviour on pupils achievement and sense of belonging.

Our behaviour approach is an inclusive one in which pupils are recognised in a variety of ways for valued behaviour, such as certificates and sharing work with myself. We also address detrimental behaviours by having consequences.

Consequences come in two forms: educational consequences (the teaching of how to behave) and protective consequences (provision put in place to stop the behaviour from reoccurring). Just like learning anything, learning how to demonstrate valued behaviour can take different pupils different amounts of time to understand; like with our teaching, there isn't a one size fits all approach and whilst consistent, there is bespoke support in place for individuals. Consequences, both educational and protective, are not public displays and whilst a consequence such as staying in for some of lunchtime might be seen by other pupils, many consequences such as phone calls home, support from Dacorum Education Support Centre etc., will not be seen.

Next week assemblies will focus on kindness, bullying and what 'I' can do.

Children in Need

It was wonderful to see everyone dressed up to support Children in Need today, this is one of the charities our Charity Reps decided to support this year.

Keep reading our newsletters for communications about further charity events being held.

Blending Books Parent Workshop

I hope everyone that attended the parents workshop today found it helpful. Reading is a key life skill and if we can work together to support pupils as soon as they start Reception they will be able to make good progress throughout their education.

Chambersbury Lane Gate

In order to support parents and hopefully reduce the number of cars on the road (with climate change in mind), we are going to trial opening the Chambersbury Lane gate for breakfast club.

The reason this is usually closed at this time of day is because in previous years, members of the public have used the school as a cut through — which can lead to equipment being damaged, litter being dropped amongst other things.

We will monitor this situation and communicate if there are any further changes.

Parent Support Group

Due to no parents signing up, we cancelled this weeks Dacorum Family Services parent support group.

We have offered these support groups to help parents with helping your child manage their worries and fears, gain ideas for managing challenging behaviour, tips for supporting your child's school attendance, whole family wellbeing and to provide a safe space to discuss any parenting concerns or issues.

Please use the experts at Dacorum Family Services to support you. If these support sessions are not being taken advantage of, I will not be able to continue running them for you.

Another Designated Safeguarding Lead Trained!

Well done to Mrs Gerber who has completed her training to become a Designated Safeguarding Lead — this now means we have 5 fully trained DSL's: Mrs Gerber, Mrs Stevens, Miss Alford, Mr Dodd and Mr Payne! This is by far the highest number of DSL's per pupil that I am aware of in any school in Hemel — safeguarding is our priority!

Football

On Wednesday, we played a football match against Cuthbert Mayne and delivered a much-improved performance. The team worked hard throughout the game and were rewarded with two fantastic goals, scored by Freddie (Year 5) and Dheshan (Year 6). Although the final result didn't go our way, the players showed great determination, teamwork and progress, making it a performance to be proud of.

On Thursday, we played a football match against Greenway and showed real improvement, especially in the second half. The team gave their best effort from start to finish, demonstrating determination and resilience. Although the result didn't go our way, the players should be proud of their hard work and positive attitude throughout the match

P.A.T.C.H.
Parents and Teachers of Chambersbury

WINTER FAIR

TOMBOLA DONATIONS NEEDED

HAND IN BY 27TH 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 - 5TH DECEMBER.**

Key Events:

Tuesday 18th November — Parent support group

Wednesday 19th November — Year 6 height and weight

Wednesday 19th November — Football match (home)

Thursday 20th November — Football match (away)

Friday 21st November — School tour

Friday 21st November — Year 3 Learning assembly

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

Thursday 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

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



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

Helping your child to manage worries and fears

Gain some ideas for managing challenging behaviour

Tips and advice on how to support your child's school attendance

Support in developing good routines and boundaries in the home to help the whole family

A safe space to discuss your parenting concerns and issues

Whole family wellbeing... practical activities to support everyone

4-week Parent Support Group run by Dacorum Family Support

This four-week group is designed with parents in mind, to give tips, advice and support on a range of parenting areas with the aim to improve things for you and your family.

Venue: Chambersbury Primary School

Date: Tuesday 11th, 18th, 25th November & 2nd December

Time: 09:15 to 10:45am

To book a space on this 4-week group, please contact us on 01442 401222

Option 5 or by emailing jnethercoat@hobbshillwood.herts.sch.uk

Limited spaces available!

Can't wait to meet you all!



DACORUM
FAMILY SERVICES
NORTH & EAST



Anxiety and Attendance

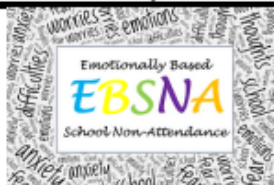
Date Tuesday 25th November 2025

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

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

CHALLENGE
SPORT & EDUCATION

CHAMBERSBURY AFTER SCHOOL CHILDCARE

Daily after school childcare
until 6pm each day for
children in Reception -
Year 6

Outside sports

Inside games /
activities

Flexible Booking

BOOKING / MORE INFO

Click [HERE](#)

Email info@challengesporteducation.co.uk



Mia's
REBEL
Crafters

2ND, 5TH & 6TH 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 2ND JAN

ROCKSTAR CAMP

DESIGN YOUR OWN
ROCK/POP INSPIRED 3D
HEAD AND INSTRUMENT



MON 5TH JAN

FASHION & SHOE DESIGN

EXPERIMENT WITH FABRICS,
PAINTS AND GEMSTONES TO
DESIGN YOUR OWN 3D SHOE
AND 2D OUTFITS



TUES 6TH JAN

PORTRAITS

LEARN EXCITING
TECHNIQUES TO
CREATE 2D & 3D
PORTRAITS



Email miasrebelcrafters@gmail.com to book

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

