

CHAMBERSBURY NEWS

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



Working together to become change makers

7th November 2025

ATTENDANCE 2025-2026—WHOLE YEAR

Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole
94.5%	96.6%	92.5%	95.1%	93.9%	94.6%	92.3%	94.2%

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

Parent Support Group

Don't forget to sign up to the parent support group — the flier is attached at the end of the newsletter.

Whatsapp/Online Games

As part of our ongoing commitment to keeping children safe, we'd like to remind parents and carers to remain vigilant about mobile phone use and online gaming.

Many popular apps and games allow children to chat with others, sometimes with people they don't know. We encourage you to regularly check your child's phone, privacy settings, and gaming accounts, and to talk with them about staying safe online.

It's important that children understand what is and isn't appropriate to share, and that they feel comfortable coming to you or a trusted adult if something online makes them feel unsure or upset.

Allergies

A gentle reminder to all our families that we are a nut-free school. Please do not send any products containing nuts in your child's lunchbox or as a snack. This includes items such as peanut butter, Nutella, cereal bars, or any other foods with nuts listed in the ingredients.

We have several children in our school with severe nut allergies, and even a small trace can cause a serious reaction. Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe and included by checking labels carefully before sending food into school.

We would also appreciate if sending grapes in for snack/lunches that these are cut lengthways to reduce the risk of choking.

Your continued support is very much appreciated.

Cross Country

Just before half term, the children unfortunately missed out on the opportunity to showcase their fantastic running skills in the planned cross country event. However, Miss Cope has been working behind the scenes so our children can compete against other schools in the local community in a similar event.

We are delighted to confirm that a new cross country event will take place on Monday 24th November, in partnership with DSSN. The event will be held at Chambersbury Primary School and supported by Longdean Sports Leaders and our Sports Ambassadors who will be helping throughout the morning. We're also excited to welcome several local schools to join us for what promises to be a brilliant and energetic event!

Football

Chambersbury put in a fantastic performance against Hobbs Hill Wood, showing great teamwork, determination and skill throughout the match.

Although the result didn't go our way, it was without a doubt our best performance of the year so far. Miss Cope, Mr Miller, and Mr Steel were incredibly proud of how hard everyone worked and how much progress has been made.

Despite the result not going our way, this week's clash with Gade Valley was without doubt our strongest performance of the season so far. From the first whistle, Chambersbury showed real determination, teamwork and energy across the pitch. The players battled hard in every area, creating plenty of chances and showing real improvement in both defence and attack. While Gade Valley managed to edge the result, the scoreline didn't reflect the effort and quality on display from our side. The passing was sharper, communication was excellent and the team spirit was second to none, a real step forward for everyone involved. Miss Cope's player of the match was Bobby S (YR5) for his sensational skills and teamwork throughout. We can hold our heads high after that performance and take plenty of positives into next week, where we look forward to another busy round of three fixtures. With the same focus and determination, there's every reason to believe results will start to go our way soon!

Jury Service

Our Year 2 teacher, Mrs Gardner, has been called for jury service next week. While she is away, the class will be taught by Mrs West who already knows the school and our routines having taught here many times.

We will ensure that learning continues as normal and that the children experience the same high-quality teaching and support they always receive. We wish Mrs Gardner well with her civic duty and look forward to welcoming her back soon.



Congratulations Mrs Stevens

We're delighted to share some lovely news — Mrs Stevens is expecting a baby! I am sure you'll join us in congratulating her on this exciting news.

Plans are being made in good time to ensure a smooth transition and continuity of learning for the class later in the school year and for the Assistant Headteacher role. We'll keep parents informed as these arrangements are finalised.

For now, we simply wish Mrs Stevens all the very best for a happy and healthy pregnancy.

School Tours

This week we have had visits from our friends at Locker Park School, Daniel Green Residential and a large number of prospective parents for our guided tours.

It has been a pleasure to show visitors our wonderful classrooms, outdoor spaces, and to share the many things that make our school such a special place to achieve and thrive.

Our pupils have been excellent ambassadors—polite, enthusiastic, and proud to talk about their learning. A big thank you to everyone who helped make our visitors feel so welcome.

Parent Survey Feedback

Thank you to all of the parents/carers that completed our survey, I really appreciate the time you have taken to share your views. The results from this survey have been overwhelmingly positive and this makes me incredibly proud of what we are achieving here at Chambersbury — we also asked for your views on, 'What improvements would you like to see at the school,' the responses to which I almost entirely agree with:

- *More social activities with parents and teachers*

This matches perfectly with our philosophy of working 'together.' I would really like to build more social activities and last year we ran a large number of workshops, held a race night, weekend workparty's and other events. Unfortunately, these weren't always well attended which is why we have had fewer this academic year. I hope that the quiz night really sets the tone for more of these social events.

- *Up to date website*

Since July, behind the scenes, we have been working on a new website which will be launched in the new year. In the meantime, we will be ensuring the information on our website is updated so that it is useful.

- *Upgrade all classrooms slowly*

Following on from our Reception classroom refurb, this is in our longer term plans and we are hoping to be able to fit air conditioning units to all classrooms (see 3rd October Newsletter).

- *Better communication weekly*

We hope that our weekly newsletter and social media accounts have kept parents/carers informed of what is happening at school; I was also hopeful that at the 'Meet the Head' evening I would personally be able to share some of the whole school updates for the year ahead (this was cancelled due to a lack of take up). I also recognise that, at times last half term, we didn't respond to parents as quickly as we would have liked to (see 3rd October Newsletter). Communication, or lack of it, can cause frustration, confusion and anxiety which I appreciate. This week, I have been able to increase our admin staffing so that we can improve on this.

- *Further staff training on children with SEND traits and techniques to use in and out of the classroom. An opportunity would be to also run a parental support group for this*

This year, we have increased the amount of time that our SENDCo, Mrs Gerber, is out of class so that she can undertake this strategic role; we work closely with DSPL8, AskSali, the School reintegration team, cohort support and many other agencies. As well as this, in the last 12 months we have also received a number of training sessions from ADD-Vance (the ADHD and Autism Trust). This term we are hosting a parent support group run by Dacorum Family Services and hope that this is well attended. We have also signposted parents to workshops around Emotionally Based School Non Attendance. That all being said, inclusion runs through every element of our school culture and therefore, I think there can never be enough training for this.

- *It would be good to have better access/communications with teachers. Perhaps communication diaries or app*

Two way communication is important, and I never underestimate the impact parents can have on pupils academic outcomes. Teachers are available for quick chats at the end of the day, or meetings can be arranged by e-mailing the school office. Currently, we don't use an app or have direct e-mails to teachers and there are many reasons for this. Partly, I need to be mindful of teachers well-being and workload: e-mails/messages sent in the evenings or weekends can have a negative impact on this. Teachers in state primary schools, unlike some secondary schools, don't get 'free periods' and therefore during lesson time I want them focusing on teaching the pupils in the room and not responding to e-mails. This doesn't mean we will never have an app or change our channels of communication and I would be interested in hearing more of your ideas on this: I can be found on the playground most mornings/afternoons.

- *Bring the nursery back!*

Closing the nursery was a very difficult decision and one that wasn't taken lightly. We looked at all the feedback, consulted the Director of Education and considered the financial implications and unfortunately it wasn't viable to continue running the Nursery.

Parent Survey Feedback Continued...

In terms of what parents feel we do well these have been shared with the staff and I am extremely pleased that the work the team do is noticed and appreciated:

- *Looking after the children and ensuring their safety and security.*
- *Safeguarding, caring, being approachable.*
- *Creating a fun and safe environment.*

Safeguarding and looking after pupils safety will always be our number 1 priority.

- *We really are impressed with the schools Instagram.*

The community feeling about this is heart-warming and truly shows togetherness. Currently, we rarely post photographs of pupils on Instagram, but this might be something we consider in the future. If we do, we would of course seek parental permission.

- *Treats each child as an individual.*
- *A nurturing environment, every child special.*
- *Making sure my child is well looked after and taught well*
- *Listen and work with the children's needs to be the best version of themselves*

This is our aim, personalised learning. We will do everything we possibly can to meet every pupils needs, whether this be by giving additional opportunities to allow pupils to shine or to provide support to help them keep up and catch up.

- *Trying new opportunities and experiences for the children to participate in*
- *After school clubs.*

We made lots of changes last year, and there will be some more this year as we help pupils with their personal development as well as academic performance.

- *Warm & welcoming environment. Very comfortable atmosphere. Very approachable staff of all levels.*
- *The sense of community that it has built.*
- *Chambersbury has a lovely supportive atmosphere and a family feel.*
- *All staff are friendly and approachable and seem to care.*

As a parent myself, it is never lost on me that you entrust us with your child for 6 hours a day, we want everyone to feel comfortable and that we are approachable.

- *Addressing concerns regarding my child.*
- *Addresses behavioural issues straight away.*
- *Tries to assist where issues may occur.*

As mentioned in the improvements, I am aware that, at times, we haven't responded as quickly as I would have liked over the last half term but I am pleased that it is noticed that we do address concerns.

- *Presence on playground in morning.*
- *Communication and transparency.*

By increasing our staffing we aim to have staff on the playground every morning and afternoon, and we hope it enables everyone to feel welcome and have a quick chat if they wish. We tend not to shy away from difficult conversations and are open and honest, we feel this approach is the most helpful for everyone.

On top of all this, I am pleased that parents/carers recognise the challenges that we face in the current educational climate and I am really touched by the personal comments that have been left. Thank you.

Key Events:

Saturday 8th November — School tour

Tuesday 11th November — Parent support group

Wednesday 12th November — Football match (home)

Wednesday 12th November — Flu immunisation

Thursday 13th November — Football match (away)

Thursday 13th November — PATCH Quiz Night

Friday 14th November — Football match (away)

Friday 14th November — Children in Need

Friday 14th November — Blending books parent workshop

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

Key Events:

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— 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

Red signifies new events/dates

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

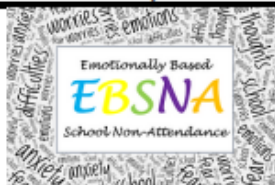
10 am – 12 noon

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



UPCOMING Events....



Doughnut Sale

Friday 24th October



Quiz Night

Thursday 13th
November



Winter Fair

Friday 5th December



Winter Disco
Thursday 11th December



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