

CHAMBERSBURY NEWS

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Working together to become change makers

4th September 2026

ATTENDANCE 2025-2026—WHOLE YEAR

Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole
91.5%	95.6%	98.9%	89.2%	96.4%	98.8%	90.7%	94.9%

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

Welcome Back

What a fantastic week back it has been! In the Summer term, teachers and teaching assistants took time to share information with each other to support transition and this has really paid off with a smooth start to the year. Our pupils have settled back extremely quickly and have already begun their learning — across the school, I have seen pupils learning about Roman numerals, writing stories, using place values equipment and maybe most importantly learning their new class routines.

Welcome to all of our new families as well, not only have we been joined by an amazing group of Change-Makers in Reception we have had others join in Year 3 and in Year 4, with others due to start in Year 1 and Year 6. I hope you will all feel at home here and am sure your children will flourish! If you are new and unsure of anything, please reach out and we will help you.

Attendance Advisor Visit

Last year our levels of attendance was record breaking and we have started the year as we mean to go on, already holding our first meeting with our county attendance officer.

We know that pupils that attend school more regularly achieve higher, have stronger friendships and are happier.

If you need help with getting your child to school please reach out to us and we will be able to support you or put you in touch with a service that can.

Meet the Teacher

To give you another opportunity to see what our school is like, this year, our Meet the Teacher sessions will take place in person in your child's classroom from 3:30pm–4:00pm. This is a great opportunity to meet your child's teacher, see their classroom and hear about the learning and expectations for the year ahead. Children are very welcome to come along with you. Please check the Key Dates page at the end of this newsletter for the dates.

Year-group-specific slides will be uploaded to your child's class page after the meeting for anyone unable to attend. We would love to see as many of you there as possible!

Congratulations Mrs Gerber!

At Chambersbury, we already celebrate our pupils progress and achievements but it isn't just pupils that are learning new things — over the last year Mr Gerber was studying for her National Professional Qualification in Special Educational Needs NPQSEN. This course involved months of studying, research, multiple assessments as well as a final assessment task. I am incredibly proud, but not at all surprised, to share with you that Mrs Gerber has passed this assessment and her certificate is on it's way! Well done Mrs Gerber!

Therapeutic Thinking

We follow the Therapeutic Thinking approach to behaviour management, meaning that we try to understand what is causing detrimental behaviour and teach pupils to demonstrate valued behaviour instead.

I take detrimental behaviour very seriously and therefore have commissioned the Therapeutic Thinking team to visit our school and undertake some work with myself, teachers, teaching assistants, Governors and you.

Parents/carers are invited into school on Monday 28th September, straight after school at 3.15pm until approximately 4:15pm to learn more about our therapeutic approach to behaviour, how consequences are used and what we can do together to ensure all pupils are doing the right thing. Please book your space via Arbor.

Office Hours

Communication, or lack of, can lead to frustrations and misunderstandings. We are always reviewing our processes, and I want to make you aware of a couple of points.

We aim to respond to parental requests within 2 working days - obviously there will be times when this is not possible.

We are adjusting how our office works which means on a Friday we will not be taking on new tasks unless they are urgent.

The aim is that this will keep operations running smoothly and so that we are able to support you and our pupils more effectively.

Free Breakfast Club, Snacks and Lunches

You will have received a letter this week about our FREE breakfast club, I hope that you find this helpful.

Pupils are welcome to bring in a healthy, nut free, snack to have at breaktimes, such as vegetables or fruit. Crisps, chocolate, sweets etc are not healthy snacks.

It was me! Much like the TV show, 'Undercover Boss,' on Wednesday, disguised in my chefs outfit, I went to work in the school kitchen serving school dinners. I must say, pupils across the school were polite and well mannered saying 'please' and 'thank you', thoughtful in how they took only what they were going to eat from the salad bar and the real chef, Laurah, had prepared amazing meals! If your child hasn't tried school dinners, they might be worth ago.

Fidgets

For some pupils, fidgets can be very helpful for their learning. They can help them regulate, focus and concentrate. Toys however, can be distracting, cause falling outs and stop pupils from learning.

Not all pupils require a fidget in school, in the same way that not all pupils need to wear glasses, have a coloured overlay, pencil grip, chair band, chewie, etc. At Chambersbury, we believe that fair isn't everyone having the same, it is everyone having what they need to be successful.

Mrs Gerber has been working on how fidgets are used and which fidgets are appropriate for school. Please see the attached flier for clarification. I am sure some of you will have questions about this, but please do not worry over the weekend — if you are in doubt, please speak to Mrs Gerber or your child's class teacher.

Key Dates

Attached is a list of some of the key dates this term — there are more to be added once they are confirmed (such as sporting events). You might notice that we have an INSET day on the 27th November and an Occasional day on Monday 30th November, this long weekend might be the perfect time for a cheaper holiday without negatively impacting your child's attendance.

Newsletter Format

As some of you might be aware, Microsoft will no longer be supporting Publisher after the end of the month. I am exploring different programmes and formats in which to communicate the important and interesting information that goes in to our weekly newsletter. Watch this space!

Key Events:

Wednesday 9th September — Year 6 Forest School begins

Wednesday 9th September — Year 4 Meet the teacher

Thursday 10th September — Reception Meet the teacher

Friday 11th September — Year 3 Meet the teacher

Monday 14th September — Year 6 Meet the teacher

Tuesday 15th September — Year 1 Meet the teacher

Wednesday 16th September — Year 2 Meet the teacher

Thursday 17th September — Year 5 Meet the teacher

Friday 18th September — Flu Vaccinations

Friday 25th September — National Teaching Assistants Day

Monday 28th September — Therapeutic Thinking Parent Session

Monday 5th October — Year 6 Height and Weight

Wednesday 21st October — Year 5 Forest School begins

Wednesday 21st October — Teacher/Parent Consultations

Thursday 22nd October — Teacher/Parent Consultations

Monday 26th October — Half term

Monday 2nd November — INSET day

Wednesday 4th November — Year 6 School trip (Children at War)

Wednesday 11th November — Year 3 & Year 4 School trip (Chiltern Open Air Museum)

Friday 13th November — Year 4 Class assembly

Friday 20th November — Year 3 Class assembly

Thursday 25th November — Year 5 School trip (Hampton Court Palace)

Friday 27th November — INSET day

Monday 30th November — Occasional Day (school closed)

Tuesday 1st December — Year 5 & 6 Bikeability

Friday 4th December — Year 2 Class assembly

Wednesday 9th December — Year 3 Forest School begins

Key Events:

Thursday 10th December — Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 10th December — Christmas craft day

Friday 18th December — End of Term (School finishes at 13:30)

Red signifies new events/dates



CHAMBERSBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learning, Growing, Achieving, TOGETHER

Looking for the right primary school for your child?

Come and see what makes Chambersbury special

A welcoming one-form entry primary school where every child is known, valued and supported.

Discover our engaging curriculum, caring staff and inclusive community support.



WRAPAROUND CARE

7:40AM - 6:00PM

Breakfast Club, After School Club and Holiday Club available



GOLD SCHOOL GAMES AWARD

Nationally Recognised for Sport

Celebrating excellence in PE, physical activity and healthy lifestyles



OPAL PLAY

Award-Winning Outdoor Play

Developing creativity, resilience, teamwork & independence through outdoor play

BOOK A SCHOOL TOUR

Come and meet our pupils, staff and Headteacher.



TOGETHER



HONESTY



PATIENCE



FORGIVENESS



KINDNESS



CARING

FIDGET EXPECTATIONS AT CHAMBERSBURY

Fidgets are tools that help us with our learning.

  Fidgets are not a universal resource and should only be used where agreed by the parent/carer, class teacher and SENCO.	  Use a fidget that helps you focus and learn	  Use one fidget at a time.	  Keep it quiet and safe	  Use it without distracting others
  Do not bring toys from home. Fidgets should easily fit into one hand.	  Do not swap, trade or share	  No noisy, flashing or distracting items	  Do not use during teacher input if it stops learning	  Do not bring large collections or multiple fidgets

APPROVED FIDGETS

If a fidget becomes a distraction, staff may request for it to be put away or replace it with a fidget provided by the school.



fidget cube/pad



marble mesh



sensory rings



Thera Putty / Blu Tack



small stress ball



fidget stone



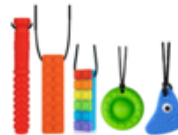
Sensory fidget cubes



fidget ring



spikey sensory ball



chewelry



plush

ONLY if discussed with SENCO and used as a **transitional** object



Tools help us learn.
Toys distract us.



Helps us focus



Helps us regulate



Must be used responsibly

*This is a working document and may be adapted and updated over time to ensure it continues to reflect current needs, support and provision.



CHAMBERSBURY
PRIMARY SCHOOL

PLEASE
DONATE
♥
BUCKETS
AND
SPADES

FOR OUR NEW
OPAL PLAY SAND PIT!



Your donations will help
make playtimes even more
FUN, CREATIVE & ACTIVE!



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Learning, Growing, Achieving, TOGETHER



♥ **THANK YOU!** 😊