

CHAMBERS BURY NEWS

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



Working together to become change makers

6th September 2024

I would like to start my first newsletter of the year by saying thank you to the whole school community for such a warm and friendly welcome to the school - if you haven't yet met me please do stop and say, 'hi' when I'm on the playground before or after school.

Your children have been kind and patient with me as I've been learning the day to day routines; they have invited me in to play games with them at lunchtime and regularly checked on me to ensure I am not feeling alone. They truly are demonstrating our school values: TOGETHER, HONESTY, PATIENCE, FORGIVENESS, KINDNESS and CARING.

The start of term has been very calm with classes learning routines and expectations. Building upon the transition day last term, teachers have been spending time getting to know each pupil they teach and finding out all the wonderful activities they have been partaking in over the summer.

This week we had an art focus and pupils shared this work in celebration assembly today. We also saw awards for swimming badges, football and gymnastic medals as well as equestrian rosettes—we have a hugely talented cohort!

ATTENDANCE 2024-2025—WHOLE YEAR

Nur	Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole
100%	96%	92%	96%	97%	95%	99%	83%	94%

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

OPAL UPDATE

We are excited to be continuing the development of playtimes through our OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) program. In order for the children to be able to be outside in all weathers we have made some changes to our uniform policy (as mentioned in back in July).

Changes to Uniform policy from September 2024

We are adding some new items to the uniform policy that children will need to have in school every day from September 2024:

- A pair of named welly boots
- A named waterproof coat

If you have not yet sent these into school, please could we have them soon as we are heading into Autumn.

Thank you for your support



Parking

Mr Payne and Mr Phillips have been on the playground before school this week and monitoring the morning drop off routine. It is fantastic to see so many of our families staying fit by walking or cycling to school. We would also like to thank all of the parents who need to drive to school for their considerate parking, being mindful of our neighbours.

If you notice dangerous or illegal parking it can be reported on:

<https://www.dacorum.gov.uk/home/community-living/parking-and-travel/problem-parking/report-a-parking-problem>

Break Time Snack

Having a healthy mid morning snack can really help pupils focus and concentrate in class, therefore we encourage pupils to bring in either a piece of fruit or some vegetables each day to snack on at break time (for pupils in EYFS and Key Stage 1 this is provided by the government).

Crisps and chocolate bars are not considered to be healthy snacks so should not be brought. Please also remember we are a nut free school.

Meet the Teacher

We are very much looking forward to seeing you all for our online Meet the Teachers sessions. These sessions will enable you to understand more about the work your child will be doing this academic year and the class routines.

A link for each session will be sent out ahead of time.

Date and Time	Year Group
Monday 9 th September 4:30pm	Year 1
Monday 9 th September 5:00pm	Year 4
Tuesday 10 th September 4:30pm	Year 5
Tuesday 10 th September 5:00pm	Year 3
Wednesday 11 th September 4:30pm	Year 6
Wednesday 11 th September 5:00pm	Nursery
Thursday 12 th September 4:30pm	Year 2
Thursday 12 th September 5:00pm	Reception

Curriculum Update

Over the summer we have been working hard to update our writing curriculum. This is something we have been looking at developing for the past year and will now be moving to using Literacy Shed as a basis for our units in school. As part of this change, our spelling curriculum will also be changing and we will now be following the Spelling Shed Scheme of learning for each class.

Each week children will be taught one of the objectives from the National Curriculum. Whilst each rule will focus on a list of words to which it applies, we will no longer be sending home a list of words for children to learn in isolation. We will also no longer be testing children weekly, instead asking them to apply their learning in a number of ways.

Pupils will be given individual logins to access activities on Spelling Shed and once set up a link will be added to the class pages. Through this teachers will be able to set tasks based on the rule each week, as well as giving pupils access to a range of spelling games. Please bear with us whilst we test the logins at school and ensure pupils know how to use them before we send the login home.

Alongside a short spelling activity each week, homework will continue to be set online through Google Classrooms and our other online learning programs, such as Mathletics and Times Tables Rockstars. Each week the children will be set a short maths task, linked to current learning or to consolidate previous learning. We are currently in the process of updating all of these systems: if your children have an existing login for them they should continue to work. If your child is new to the school or missing a login, we are trying to set these up as quickly as possible.

We appreciate your patience with this. If you have problems accessing online homework please speak to your child's class teacher to make alternative arrangements.

Please also continue to encourage your child to read daily and record this in their reading diaries.

Swimming Pool

Some very observant pupils have noticed that we have had a special electrical socket installed outside—this is for a pop-up swimming pool that will be coming later in the year. This pool will be used to teach swimming lessons as part of our PE curriculum. More information will be sent out in due course.

Uniform Reminder

Having a school uniform not only looks smart but helps pupils have a sense of belonging, very similar to a football team all wearing the same kit. It has been great to see our pupils in full school uniform this week representing us proudly.

Please can I remind you that jeans, leggings and cycling style shorts are not part of the school's uniform policy. Children need trainers and PE kits in school every day although PE days will be shared at the Meet the Teacher sessions and advertised on class web pages. Earrings should be plain studs and must be removed for PE. No other jewellery should be worn—this is for health and safety reasons.

Over the summer many of you have been teaching your children how to tell the time which is brilliant! Watches can be worn in school as long as they cannot take pictures, send or receive messages (this is part of our safeguarding procedures). However if watches become a distraction they won't be able to be worn in class. Any queries please discuss with your child's class teacher.

Attendance and Punctuality

99.07% of our pupils turn up to school on time and ready to learn. Being on time is key to settling in for a day of exciting learning.

We open our doors at 8:40am and school starts at 8:45am with doors closing at 8:50am.

Years 1 to 4 will continue to line up on the playground at 8:40am and will be collected by their class teacher. Years 5 and 6 need to wait on the playground by the gate leading to their classrooms until their class doors open. Nursery and Reception will need to wait in the upper playground for the doors to open and their class teacher to welcome them in.

Apply for school on time

Applying for a school place for
September 2025

Secondary/Upper/Studio/University Technical College
Application deadline: Thursday 31 October 2024

Primary (Reception)/Junior/Middle
Application deadline: Wednesday 15 January 2025

Apply online at

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions

