

# Broxbourne CE Primary School Newsletter

## HEADTEACHER UPDATE

We have had another enjoyable, productive and busy week. As always, thank you for your continued support of our school community.

### **House Football Tournament – Years 3 & 4**

A huge well done to all our Year 3 and 4 boys who represented their houses this week in the exciting culmination of the House Football Tournament. The children showed fantastic sportsmanship, determination and teamwork – values we are so proud to see shining through.

The atmosphere on the pitch was brilliant, with pupils cheering one another on and celebrating every goal, save and pass. It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm and encouragement across the teams.

When all the points were added up, the results were as follows:

- 1st Place – Blue Badgers 7 points/6 goals*
- 2nd Place – Yellow Foxes 7 points 4 goals*
- 3rd Place – Green Hedgehogs 5 points/4 goals*
- 4th Place – Red Squirrels 5 points/3 goals*

Every player should feel proud of their contribution and in representing their house.

### **Our New School Website**

We are very pleased to announce the launch of our brand new school website this week! If you haven't already visited it, please do take a look and explore what is there.

In particular, we encourage you to visit the calendar section and note down the key dates for this academic year currently showing. This section will be updated regularly and more dates will be added as the year progresses, so please check back often to stay up to date.

### **A Visit from Mrs Catlin**

I am also very pleased to inform you that Mrs Catlin was able to visit our staff after school on Tuesday this week. It was such a joy to welcome her back into the building.

Mrs Catlin is continuing to recover well, and we hope that she will be able to see our children in the not too distant future. Please do keep her in your thoughts and prayers as she continues along the road to full health.

***Dream, Believe and Achieve with God***



Autumn Term Issue 4

26th September 2025





### Thought for the Week

As we reflect on the resilience shown by our children in sport, in learning, and by members of our wider school family, we are reminded of these words:

*“But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles;  
they will run and not grow weary,  
they will walk and not be faint.”  
– Isaiah 40:31*

We hope all in our school community feel fulfilled, strengthened and inspired by this sentiment.

Wishing you all an enjoyable, and relaxing weekend over which the European team triumph in the Ryder Cup!

I hope to see you all at our Harvest Service next Friday afternoon.

Best wishes Paul Miller



### **OUR FINAL ROUNDS OF YEAR 3 & 4 HOUSE FOOTBALL – TEAMWORK, DETERMINATION, AND PLENTY OF GOALS!**





### **HARVEST FESTIVAL FOOD UPDATE**

Further to the notice in last week's newsletter, this year, we kindly ask that you send in individual portions rather than family-sized packs. For example, single tins, small jars, or individual packets are ideal, as they can be more easily distributed to those in need.

Thank you for your generosity and support in helping us make a difference in our community.

### **HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE**

Our Harvest Festival Service will be held in St Augustine's Church next Friday, 3rd October at 2.15pm. As usual you are very welcome to join us for this service. If you are coming along to the church with a younger child, we request that they sit with you in the pews and are supervised, so that they do not disrupt the service in any way. We encourage parents to show respect for other people's opportunity to worship and to ensure everyone is able to fully enjoy the service. If your child is unable to sit quietly, please feel free to take them out of the main church and wait in the inner porch, until they are able to return.

Monetary contributions at the service will be divided between the Kingfisher Council's chosen charity "The British Red Cross" and this year's Bishop of St Alban's Harvest Appeal 'Rewrite Their Future'. Their work in Uganda and Zambia is focused on building schools and improving access to education in some of the world's most under-resourced communities

If you are not able to attend the service, **please collect your child/children via the side entrance of Church, at 3.00pm**. Staff will be unable to admit parents/carers who arrive significantly after the service has begun. Please ensure class harvest contributions are brought on **Monday, 29th September**.

There is **NO SWIMMING** next Friday. Thank you.





### **UPDATE WITH MRS CATLIN!**

We had a lovely chat with Mrs Catlin this afternoon on the screen in the classroom. We told her all of the things we are enjoying in Year 1 and she even read us a story! We really enjoyed seeing her and we think she enjoyed seeing us too! We are sending Mrs Catlin lots of love and hugs and well wishes and can't wait to see her in person once she is a little stronger.

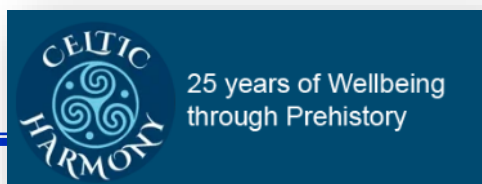


### **YEAR 3**

### **CELTIC HARMONY**

**Wednesday, 1st October**

Please arrive at school promptly, ready for a swift departure.





## SCIENCE WEEK IS COMING



The week of 20<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> October is our Science week (the week before half-term). We are planning lots of engaging activities for our young Scientists to support their enquiry skills, including scientific thinking, questioning and explaining. Our PTA will be running the fantastic Science shop again too!

It would be great to hear from any parents, family or community members who have a Science

background or STEM related career, and who would be willing to join us during this week to tell or show us a little something about what they do. Please let the office know if you think you can help.



**SCIENCE WEEK  
SCIENCE SHOP**

Monday 20th-Wednesday 22nd October

AFTER SCHOOL 3.00-3.30pm  
OFFICE/FRONT PLAYGROUND

ALL ITEMS £1 - £4



## INTRODUCING OUR BRILLIANT PTA – COULD YOU SPARE A LITTLE TIME TO BE PART OF IT??

### PTA: Who Are We?

With the PTA AGM having been held last week we thought now would be a good time to introduce your active PTA for 2025/26.



Kate Osborne  
Chair

This will be my second year as Chair following a 2-year stint as Co-Chair with Andy and Jen. I have a daughter in Year 5 and have really loved taking part in the PTA over the last 6 years. It's a lot of fun to participate in the PTA and I have made some wonderful friends along the way. I particularly enjoy getting involved in the events where you get to see the school and kids in action. I encourage anyone who has any questions or interest in taking part to come say hi – you will find me in the front playground at drop off and pick up on Wednesdays and Fridays.



Jen Conway  
Vice Chair

Hello! I have been involved with the PTA for 6 years and have loved every minute. My children are in Year 3 and Year 6 but I also teach Year 1. I know how lucky we are to have such an active PTA who create fun experiences and raise valuable funds to enhance what we as a school can offer our children. Get involved people.



Lauren Shand  
Treasurer

I've been part of the PTA for 7 years and have served as Treasurer for the past 2. With daughters in Year 6 and EY1, I first joined to meet other parents, as being a full-time working parent meant I wasn't always around at drop-off or pick-up. It's been such a rewarding experience to be part of a fun, enthusiastic, and dedicated team that puts on amazing events for our children.



Laura Seaton  
Committee Member

I have been a parent of the school for 8 years now, I have children in Years 6, 3 and EY2, and have loved being a member of the PTA, helping with fun events the children love. The PTA do a fantastic job raising valuable funds for our school and I look forward to giving my time where possible to create wonderful experiences our children can all enjoy.



Leanne Marsh  
Committee Member

I have been part of the PTA for 4 years. I have 2 children at the school in Year 1 and Year 3. I think the PTA do such an incredible job in raising funds for the school and putting on such successful events for children, parents and community. It has been an absolute pleasure to be a part of such an amazing hard-working team and have made such amazing friends along the way! Some people say business and pleasure shouldn't mix but, in this circumstance, it's always guaranteed!!



Jade Wilson  
Class Rep Coordinator

Hi, I'm Jade, mum to Bailey in Year 3. I've been part of the school community for 10 years and on the PTA committee throughout. For the past nine years I've also coordinated the class reps. Ours is a close-knit, welcoming school with one class per year, and the PTA plays a big part in making it so special. From pantomimes and science weeks to Christmas and summer fairs - even the weekly lolly sales - these events bring families together, create lasting memories, and provide valuable extras for the children. I'm also a big believer in smartphone-free childhood, and there's a parent WhatsApp group for anyone interested in support and ideas for alternatives as children move through Key Stage 2. Please do reach out to me or your class rep if you'd like to join. I'm proud to be part of a team that helps make our school such a strong, supportive community.



Claire Weeks  
Secretary

This will be my third year in the role of Secretary! I have a little girl in Year 1, and I have really loved getting involved with the school community since she started. The committee are lovely and welcoming and do so much to help throughout the year. It is lovely to help to create events that the children are going to really enjoy and to know that you are raising much needed funds to give all our kids the best experience during their time at the school. The Summer and Christmas Fairs are spectacular, but there is nothing like seeing your child either enjoying themselves with their friends at the disco, or the look on their faces at the gift sales while they select presents for their loved ones. They are very special times that I am so grateful to get to be a part of.



Becky Watson  
Committee Member

Hi! This is my 8th year of being involved with the PTA which I love being a part of! I have 2 daughters in Year 6 and 3, and I'm also a TA in Year 1. I really enjoy being involved with the planning and preparing of all the events throughout the year. One of my favourites is the summer fair, which sees our whole community come together enjoying themselves.



Jenna Horrigan  
Committee Member

I began helping with the PTA when my eldest child joined the school in EY1. I now have two children at the school. One in Year 3 and one in EY2. I really enjoy being part of the PTA. I especially enjoy helping to plan events for the children and seeing how much joy and excitement they bring. The PTA plays such an important role in supporting the school, raising funds, bringing families together, and creating memorable experiences that enrich the children's time at school.



Let's a small World and PTA Brings Us Together



Thank you! 

**Lily Hawthorne**  
**for your fantastic support**  
**and for raising**  
**£1128.00**

**April 2025**

Your wonderful support makes a real difference to children affected by hair loss and also helps fund vital research into childhood cancers



hello@littleprincesses.org.uk www.littleprincesses.org.uk 01432 352359

The Hannah Tarplee Building, 22-25 Berrington Street  
Hereford HR4 0BJ

Registered Charity No. 1176160



### **ASHRIDGE HOUSE ILLUMINATED – FAMILY RAFFLE PRIZE!**

We're delighted to share some festive news! *Ashridge House Illuminated* is back this year, bringing Hertfordshire's biggest Christmas light trail to life once again. The beautiful Grade II\* listed gardens will be transformed with over 20 sparkling light installations, exciting new features, a festive food village, and even a spectacular 115ft Observation Wheel for breathtaking views.

To spread some Christmas cheer, the organisers have kindly donated a **family ticket (2 adults & 2 children)** – worth £80 – for us to raffle as part of our PTA Christmas fundraising. This is a wonderful opportunity for one lucky family to experience the magic of Illuminated together.

Keep an eye out for details on how to take part in the raffle – and good luck!



### **HOUSE POINT LEADERS**

This week's winners are.....

**Red Squirrels**



**REMINDER:** The House that wins the House Cup for the greatest number of weeks each term will enjoy a non-uniform day in the final week of term.

The children should wear an item of clothing in their house colour!



# WREATH MAKING NIGHT

with Libby Ayres of Thatch Flowers

Wednesday 3rd December, 6-9pm

£65

(includes prosecco on arrival and  
refreshments)

Deposit £25 by 24th October

Balance £40 by 14th November

---

Parish Centre at St Augustine's Church, Churchfields

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTH VIOLENCE

Youth violence affects one in four children in the UK, but it doesn't have to. When parents, carers, and educators understand the risks, they're better placed to support young people. The right support, mentoring, therapy, and guidance can help young people affected by violence to feel safe, manage conflict, and make positive choices.

## UNDERSTANDING YOUTH VIOLENCE

### WHY DO YOUNG PEOPLE COMMIT SERIOUS VIOLENCE?

A recent study surveyed over 10,000 young people affected by violence, asking why serious violence occurs among their peers, such as an assault involving a weapon or sexual violence. The most common reasons given were due to a personal characteristic of the victim e.g., race, religion, sexuality, gender, a gang or school rivalry, and being provoked. While not all young people face these issues, many lack the emotional regulation skills needed to manage provocation.

### WHAT ARE SIGNS A YOUNG PERSON IS AT RISK?

Children and young people often express that something is wrong through behaviour rather than words. Be alert to signs such as sudden mood changes, secrecy around friendships, excessive phone use, unfamiliar slang, unexplained injuries, fear of school, aggression, going missing, or substance use. They may also be associating with older peers. These behaviours can indicate underlying issues that can lead to violence.

### ONLINE INFLUENCES

Social media plays a powerful role in normalising and escalating violence. Platforms like TikTok and Snapchat can expose young people to harmful content, often shaped by algorithms. Many see violent material that distorts reality, leading to fear and desensitisation. A recent study found 70% had seen real-world violence online, and 80% felt less safe in their communities. Alarmingly, 39% said it made them more likely to carry a weapon. Online conflict can often spill into real life, with serious and sometimes tragic consequences.

Opportunity  
Community  
Wellbeing  
Respect

UNCERTAINTY  
CONFLICT  
FEAR

### WHEN IS VIOLENCE MORE LIKELY TO HAPPEN?

For children and young people in England and Wales, the hours between 4 pm and 8 pm – just after school – carry a particularly high risk for serious violence. This can stem from conflicts that escalate during the school day, online arguments, or simply moving through unfamiliar areas on the way home. Understanding this risk helps us support safer travel and routines. Our recent report found that over one in three young people don't feel safe in the area they live in, and 36% don't feel safe walking the streets.

### WHY MIGHT A YOUNG PERSON CARRY A WEAPON?

Young people may carry weapons due to fear, threats, peer pressure, or a false sense of protection. Many young people tell us they feel unsafe and carry weapons 'just in case', while others may be influenced by social media, peers, or criminal activity. Some don't realise it's illegal or may believe it earns respect.

### WHERE IS VIOLENCE MORE LIKELY TO HAPPEN?

Violence often happens in certain places. Busy areas like transport hubs carry risk simply because lots of people gather there. Other hotspots, like places linked to drug activity, attract those more likely to be involved in violence. Some areas become risky due to poor supervision, such as under-resourced public spaces. Understanding where violence tends to occur helps us guide young people safely through their communities and advocate for better support and safer spaces.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### TALKING TO CHILDREN ABOUT STAYING SAFE

Choose a safe moment for the conversation, emotionally and physically. If a child is upset or angry, help them settle before discussing serious topics. Listen actively without judgement, even if what they share is difficult. Avoid interrupting and offer advice when the time feels right. If you're worried, you're not alone; support is available.

### AVOID CONFLICT & MANAGE ESCALATIONS

Encourage young people to consider the 'Safe T's' – Trust instincts, Take a breath, and Talk to a trusted adult. When triggered or provoked, they may react from their 'survival brain', unable to think clearly about the consequences. Taking a breath helps calm, and helps them access their 'thinking brain'. Remind them that moments pass, and seeking support from trusted adults builds resilience and safer decision-making.

### HELP CHILDREN UNDERSTAND CONSEQUENCES

Young people can be searched by police or teachers if suspected of carrying a weapon. If found with a knife, they could face arrest and criminal proceedings. A conviction can result in a criminal record. Even being present during a violent assault, encouraging it, filming, or sharing footage can lead to prosecution. Open and honest conversations can help children understand these risks and make safer choices.

### REPORT INFORMATION

We all have a role in preventing violence. If a child shares concerns, you can act. For educators, it's important to follow your school's safeguarding procedures. Other adults can report anonymously through Fearless or Crimestoppers, and speak with other parents, the school, or local police through 101. If someone is in immediate danger, always call 999. These steps help protect children and the wider community.

### Meet Our Expert

The Ben Kinsella Trust is a UK anti-knife crime charity educating young people through immersive workshops, awareness campaigns, and community resources. Visit: [benkinsella.org.uk](https://benkinsella.org.uk)



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/youth-violence>



### Free Relationship Support Courses for Hertfordshire Parents and Carers

Disagreements are a normal part of life. How you approach them can make all the difference to you, your co-parent, and your children.

Learn skills to navigate changes in your relationships and develop positive communication skills.

Through a range of FREE online and group based courses:

**Stronger Relationships:** A 6-week group based course for co-parents living together or apart that focuses on managing stress and enhancing communication.

Multiple group sessions are available to select one that suits you [Register for a free account](#)

**Parenting When Separated:** A 6-week group based course for separated parents that focuses on the emotional impact of separation and supporting communication between co-parents.

[Parenting When Separated Referral Form \(hertfordshire.gov.uk\)](#)

**Co-Parenting with Care:** A 6-week group-based online course for parents and carers of neurodiverse children seeking guidance, support, and strategies for co-parenting more consistently.

Upcoming course dates:

- Every Wednesday between 15 Oct - 26 Nov 2025, 9:30-11:30am
- Every Thursday between 16 Oct - 27 Nov 2025, 7-9pm

[Co-Parenting with Care Referral Form](#)

**OnePlusOne's digital interventions:** 3 online courses aimed at new parents, intact parents and parents that are separated.

#### Arguing Better

For all parenting journeys  
Disagreements are a normal part of life. How you approach them can make all the difference to you, your partner, and your children.

#### Me, You and Baby Too

For new parenting journeys  
Learn how to navigate the changes that happen in a relationship when a baby arrives.

#### Getting It Right For Children

For all co-parenting journeys  
Learn how to develop positive communication skills that enable you to parent co-operatively and work out solutions together.

The course can be completed at your own pace independently or with support from staff at your local Family Centre or Local School Partnership.

You can get started with this digital course as soon as you [register for a free OnePlusOne account](#).

All courses and further support can be found on the [Relationship support for parents | Hertfordshire County Council](#)



# Join ParkPlay!

Make friends, have fun, get moving.  
FREE every Saturday morning.

## #MeetMovePlay



## Grundy ParkPlay

**Come and meet your PlayLeaders at Grundy Park  
Every Saturday from 10am**

Launching Saturday 26th July

ParkPlay welcomes everyone, so turn up for games, activities and fun with your local community.

**Register today!**  
[park-play.com/register](http://park-play.com/register)





## Church Farm Ardeley

is a not-for-profit farming, food, care & education enterprise. We aim to enhance the countryside through sustainable farming practises, provide vulnerable people with special needs the opportunity to learn and grow through a range of hands-on farming activities, conserve wildlife and farm ecologically.


We are open to the public everyday from 9.00am. A Farm Entry includes access to the farm, the Woodland Play Area, indoor Little Farmers Room and our Feed the Animals Farm Trail where you can see Cattle, Sheep, Pigs and Poultry, Rabbits & More.

Parking at the farm is completely free! Well behaved dogs are welcome at the farm, in the cafe, shop and at The Jolly Waggoner Pub. Enjoy fresh food from our Farm Store, the Farm Cafe and the Jolly Waggoner Pub or sign up to our regular Fruit, Veg & Meat Box delivery service.

Wild Camping, Wood Cabins, Egg Collecting and other Gift Experiences can be booked online or contact us for meetings & events, birthday parties and group camping.

[www.churchfarmardeley.co.uk](http://www.churchfarmardeley.co.uk)  
 01438 861 447 / [info@churchfarmardeley.co.uk](mailto:info@churchfarmardeley.co.uk)



  
**CHURCH FARM, ARDELEY**  
 A Free Range Experience

