

Broxbourne CE Primary School

Newsletter



Summer Term Issue 10

26th June 2026

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

It has been an enjoyable, though testing and extremely hot, week in school, featuring some memorable experiences, outstanding achievements and opportunities for our children to shine. I would like to begin by saying well done to all of our children and staff for coping with the exceptionally warm conditions. Despite the uncomfortable temperatures, our children have continued to learn with enthusiasm, resilience and smiles on their faces, and we are incredibly proud of them all. Next week is forecast to be cooler with normal service resumed in all areas of school.

The week began with great excitement as our Key Stage 2 children enjoyed a special premiere screening of a film from Bigfoot Education to mark Windrush Day. The film shared the story of the Windrush Generation and our children found it fascinating and absorbing. It provided an important opportunity to reflect upon a significant part of British history and encouraged thoughtful discussion across the school.

At the beginning of the week, it was also a privilege to travel to Nottingham with our school chess team to compete in the National Primary Schools Chess Finals. Mr Carroll and I were delighted to accompany Henry, Emilio, Joseph and Kelechi, alongside their supportive parents, for what was an unforgettable experience.

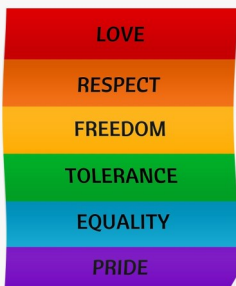
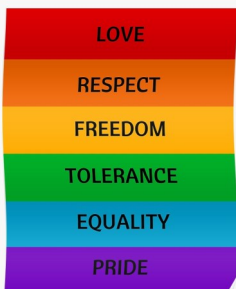
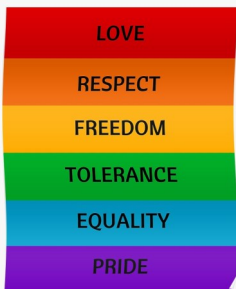
To qualify for the National Finals was an exceptional achievement in itself, and our team represented the school with tremendous skill, determination and sportsmanship. Competing against twenty of the strongest primary school teams from across the country, our children finished in an outstanding 14th place nationally.

We have also been blessed with not one, but two wonderful class assemblies this week.

On Tuesday, our youngest children in EY1 delighted us with a fantastic class assembly. To stand confidently before a hall full of parents and the whole school at just three and four years of age is no small achievement. Every child spoke beautifully and should feel proud of themselves.

Today, our EY2 children treated us to another wonderful assembly. It has been a joy to see how much confidence, personality and maturity the children have developed throughout the year. Every child played an important part in making the assembly such a success, and they should all be extremely proud of their contribution.

My congratulations go to every child in both EY1 and EY2, together with the staff who worked so hard to prepare the children so thoroughly. Thank you for providing such memorable occasions for our whole school community.



Dream, Believe and Achieve with God

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Broxbourne CE Primary School, Mill Lane, Broxbourne, EN10 7AY



A huge thank you to our fantastic PTA and to everyone who helped with or attended last Saturday's Summer Fair. It was a tremendous success and had such a warm, relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere. The number of families who stayed throughout the afternoon was a wonderful reflection of the strength and support of our school community.

One observation from the afternoon is that we may need to spend a little more time developing our throwing skills within the PE curriculum, as I was not directly hit by nearly as many sponges as I had anticipated!

Thanks to the incredible generosity, hard work and support of our community, an outstanding **£4,620** was raised. These funds will be used to improve our school and provide further opportunities and experiences for our children. A virtual PTA meeting will be taking place shortly to discuss fundraising priorities and future projects, and everybody is warmly encouraged to attend if they are able.

Finally, we are all looking forward to Sports Day on Monday. Children should come to school wearing their PE kit for the entire day, and children in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 are asked to wear a plain T-shirt in the colour of their house if possible. We are also hoping for some slightly cooler weather, which should make for a wonderful day of sporting competition. We hope that many of you will be able to join us for some or all of what promises to be a fantastic day, including our picnic lunch, weather permitting, and another wonderful opportunity to celebrate our school community together. Parents intending to take part in the races are kindly reminded to have a good stretch over the weekend and, most importantly, to bring trainers. Unfortunately, parents will not be permitted to race in bare feet (or spikes!!!)

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! Psalm 133:1

We hope that you all enjoy a relaxing and refreshing weekend with your families.

Best wishes Paul Miller





CHES NATIONAL FINALS 2026

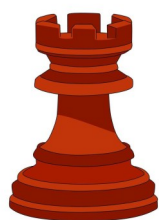
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The playing hall was an exciting and focused place to be, with electronic chess boards throughout the venue allowing every move to be tracked live, enabling parents outside the room to follow each match in real time. With just ten minutes each on the Swiss clock system, every game demanded quick thinking, concentration and composure stopping the clock each time to avoid running your time down.

There were also some excellent individual performances. Joseph and Kelechi finished in an impressive 23rd and 24th place respectively from the eighty competitors. Emilio also played exceptionally well throughout the competition, while Henry, playing on Board One against the strongest opponent in every round, showed remarkable resilience and determination, earning a valuable half point in his final game.

The children were an absolute delight to be with and were exemplary ambassadors for our school. I congratulate every one of them on their remarkable achievement. A well-earned McDonald's on the journey home was thoroughly enjoyed by the team, with McCrispys, milkshakes and wraps proving to be most popular in celebration of fantastic day together. Thank you to all parents for transporting the team and, in particular, to Mr Carroll for his outstanding service to our school. He has dedicated so much time to leading our chess club, and this first appearance at the National Finals is a fitting reward for his commitment. We are immensely proud of every member of the team.





CELEBRATING PRIDE MONTH

As part of our RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) and to mark Pride Month, our school has been discussing what love is. We have talked about different kinds of love; different types of relationships; who loves each other and what love looks like.

Our message, at Broxbourne, is that God has made us all special and unique and God loves each and every one of us - for who we are - unconditionally.

We place importance on being a strong ally and in ensuring every person has the freedom to be themselves and to love and value themselves and others as they choose.

We asked every child in the school to produce a heart to illustrate what love means to them. When you do next visit, please see the resulting display outside the hall entrance.

1 Corinthians 13

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.



PIC-COLLAGE



WINDRUSH DAY

This Monday, to mark Windrush Day, KS2 children took part in an online workshop provided by Bigfoot Arts Education. The workshop included a video that taught us about some of the people who travelled to Britain on HMT Windrush and why they did so.

We learned the story of Grace and Clinton- a mother and son who came from Jamaica to join their husband/father who has been part of the Armed Forces and was working in Britain. We thought about their journey and how they may have felt at different stages. As part of our workshop, we got to do some acting, singing and quizzes.

Bigfoot are a company inspired and guided by the African philosophy of 'Ubuntu' which translates to 'I am because you are' or 'a person is a person through other people'. We are all shaped by our shared and collective experiences within a community and they, and we, feel it very important to ensure children are able to learn from the experiences of others as well as their own.

This week, Miss Clifford also attended an anti-racism course delivered by Bigfoot and she and Mr Miller took part in 'How to be an anti-racist school' training delivered by Hertfordshire. We remain, as always, dedicated to working to ensure our school is inclusive and actively anti-discriminatory so that all members of our school community know they are valued and that they belong.



SMITHS SCHOOL UNIFORM POP UP SHOP

School Hall

Tuesday, 30th June at 8.15am



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.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

MANAGING DIGITAL BOUNDARIES FOR CHILDREN UNDER FIVE

Screens are part of everyday life, but they should not take over early childhood routines. For under-fives, healthy digital habits are built through simple, steady boundaries that protect sleep, play, connection, and development. Current UK guidance advises avoiding screen time for children under two – except for shared activities such as video calls – while children aged two to five should ideally have no more than one hour a day.

1 ASK A GROWN-UP FIRST

For under-fives, autonomy is important, but not when it comes to choosing digital content. Establish an 'ask a grown-up first' rule early, whether at home or in an early years setting. Adults should choose the video, app, or game, therefore helping children avoid unsuitable content and understand that devices are tools to be guided, not toys to control.

2 PROTECT SLEEP BUFFERS

Screens can make it harder for young children to wind down, especially when content is bright, noisy, or fast paced. Aim for a screen-free hour before sleep or start with 30 minutes if that feels more realistic. Use this time for calming routines such as stories, bath time, quiet play, or cuddles, helping children recognise that bedtime is approaching.

3 CO-VIEW AND CHAT

Screen time is safer and more meaningful when adults are involved. Sit with children, even briefly, and talk about what they're watching. Ask simple questions like, "What can you see?" or "How does that character feel?" This turns passive viewing into shared interaction, supports language development, and helps adults spot adverts, unsuitable content, or confusing messages.

4 KEEP DEVICES HIDDEN

Young children are more likely to ask for screens when they can see or reach them. Keep devices out of sight when they're not being used, and consider casting content to a shared screen instead of handing over a phone or tablet to a child. This reduces private scrolling, supports shared viewing, and helps adults stay in control of what appears next.

5 PLAN THE TRANSITION

The hardest part of screen time is often stopping. Before the screen goes off, tell the child what's coming next and offer two acceptable choices, such as blocks or drawing. This gives them a sense of agency without removing the boundary. A planned next activity prevents a sudden gap, which can quickly become frustration or distress.

6 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Children notice adult habits long before they understand adult explanations. If they're expected to put their screens away, they need to see adults doing the same thing during meals, play, and conversations. Create a shared 'phone home', such as a basket or shelf, to show that technology has a place in daily life but does not need constant attention.

7 MAKE SCREENS PREDICTABLE

Young children do not always understand minutes, but they quickly learn patterns. When screen time happens at a regular point in the day, it becomes a routine rather than a negotiation. Use the same start and finish signals each time, such as a timer, goodbye wave, or tidy-away moment, so children know what to expect next.

8 CREATE SCREEN ZONES

Physical boundaries help children understand digital boundaries. Keep screens out of bedrooms to protect their sleep and away from tables to preserve mealtime connections. Choose one agreed 'yes space', such as a shared living room area or supervised classroom corner. This makes limits feel less personal and more like a clear family or setting routine.

9 USE SIMPLE SCRIPTS

Transitions are easier when children hear the same calm language each time. Use short, repeatable phrases such as, "First tidy, then tablet," or "When the timer beeps, we stop." Avoid long explanations during emotional moments. Simple scripts reduce negotiation, help adults stay consistent, and give children clear expectations they can gradually understand and follow.

10 PRIORITISE SLOW CONTENT

Not all screen time feels the same to a young child's brain. Fast-paced clips, loud sounds, and rapid scene changes can make it harder for some children to settle down afterwards. Choose slower content with simple stories, gentle voices, and natural pauses. Think of digital content like food, with more calm, nourishing choices than fast-paced, digital 'sugar rushes'.

Meet Our Expert

Neha Agarwal is the founder of Cyber Ved Kids, an innovative educational initiative that transforms complex cybersecurity concepts into engaging, age-appropriate adventures for children aged 3-10. With her unique background leading cybersecurity services for corporates and serving as an expert panel advisor on Internet Matters, Neha brings corporate-grade cybersecurity expertise to the early years world.



The National College

See full reference list on our website



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BIKE HIRE OPPORTUNITY

Would you or your child be interested in hiring a bike over the Summer holidays? This could be a great opportunity for children to gain extra practise ahead of their Bikeability sessions in the Autumn term, while adults can also enjoy getting out and about on two wheels.

If you are interested in hiring either a child's or an adult's bike, please let the school office know by Friday, 3rd July. If there is sufficient interest from families, we will sign up to this exciting initiative and share further details with you.

Cycle Library

We're delighted to offer a free cycle loan service for families at our school. We have 10 bikes in a range of sizes, and each loan includes a helmet, lock and lights so your child can ride safely.

Bikes can be borrowed for 1 to 3 weeks, completely free of charge.

Whether your child wants to build confidence, try cycling to school, or enjoy some family rides, we're here to help.

If you'd like to book a bike or find out more, please get in touch with us.



A FANTASTIC PERFORMANCE FROM MAYHEM THEATRE & CREATIVE ARTS

A huge thank you to Mayhem Theatre & Creative Arts for their magnificent dance performance at our Summer Fair on Saturday. Their talented performers captivated the audience with an energetic and entertaining showcase, adding a wonderful atmosphere to the afternoon's celebrations.

Mayhem Theatre & Creative Arts offers a wide range of classes in dance, drama, and musical theatre, helping young people develop confidence, creativity, and performance skills in a fun and supportive environment.

We are incredibly grateful for their support and for helping to make our Summer Fair such a memorable event.

STUDIO HIRE

Mayhem supports the local arts by providing our studios to community groups throughout the week. Alongside our 300+ students, over 700 people use our facilities weekly.

Rayner Rooms: Ground floor room - Size: 9m x 4m
(Laminated floor, sound equipment, heating, tables, chairs, white board, air-con & water urn)

Taylor Studio: 1st floor studio - Size: 10m x 10m
Hardwood dance floor, mirrors, ballet barres, sound system, black box theatre space, heating & air conditioning, toilet & kitchen facilities.

Ross Studio: Detached Building - Size: 12m x 5m
Multi-purpose laminate floor, sound system, heating, mirrors, ballet barres, tables & chairs, kitchen & toilet facilities.

Meeting Room: 1st floor room - Small meeting room
Heating, sofa, tables & chairs

"Mayhem is located in the heart of Hoddesdon Town Centre, offering a convenient, easy-to-reach location for all."

Current External Groups

Multiple USA groups from Broxbourne, Hoddesdon & Lea Valley, Inspire Day Care, Uma Homecare, Pilates with Nicola, Sarah Jerrom Pilates, Qing Liu Karate, Krav Maga, Yoga Herts, Move with Shannon, Quilting Craft Group, Basking Babies... Plus many more, and we still have space to grow!

Mayhem Theatre & Creative Arts, 01992 465100
Unit 2-3 Brewery Yard, Brewery Road, Hoddesdon,
Herts, EN11 8HF | hello@mayhemgroup.co.uk
@mayhem_group www.mayhemgroup.co.uk

MAYHEM

THEATRE & CREATIVE ARTS

- CLASSES
- SHOWS & EVENTS
- THEATRE TRIPS
- HOLIDAY COURSES
- STUDIO HIRE
- CHARITY
- AGENCY

For creative, visual & performing arts tuition, studio hire, holiday courses, theatre trips, and workshops. Our Hoddesdon hub has something for everyone!

CLASSES

Ignite your passion and develop your skills! We offer a variety of classes for students aged 18 months to adults:

- AcroTrix Dance
- Acting
- Ballet
- Body Conditioning
- Commercial Street
- Lyrical
- Modern
- Musical Theatre
- Screen Acting
- Singing
- Tap

SHOWS & EVENTS

At Mayhem, students aged 4-18 gain real stage experience in professional theatres. We celebrate their progress at our Annual Awards and perform regularly at community events across Hertfordshire.

THEATRE TRIPS

We take care of everything! From return coach travel to securing some of the best seats in the house! All at an extremely fair price.

Want to stay in the loop?
Be the first to hear about upcoming trips by emailing: theatretips@mayhemgroup.co.uk

HOLIDAY COURSES

Join our holiday workshops and short courses in Dance, Musical Theatre, Filmmaking, and Crafts. From half-day tasters to 5-day experiences.

AGENCY

We're proud to nurture young talent, with students thriving through partnerships with Dreamtoys Events, leading companies, and our affiliation with Bijou Talent - a top London agency offering exciting theatre, film, and TV opportunities.

BIJOU TALENT
Odey Akai appeared in the National Ballet with Leonora Kopp, 2014



SEA CADETS VISIT

We were delighted to welcome the Sea Cadets into school recently to lead an engaging and informative assembly for our children. The assembly provided a fantastic insight into the wide range of activities, skills, and opportunities available through the Sea Cadets, and we hope it has inspired some of our children to find out more.

The Sea Cadets offer young people the chance to develop confidence, teamwork, leadership, and practical skills while taking part in exciting adventures both on and off the water.

Please see the flyer below for further information about joining your local Sea Cadets unit.



ADVENTURE

It's an amazing feeling. You tackle something completely different, a challenge that stretches you, cheered on by a whole new set of friends. And it changes everything...

Join Cheshunt Sea Cadets and those amazing moments are what it's all about.

Break out of your bedroom, leave your screen behind and dive into a hundred and one new experiences. Rowing, sailing, canoeing, kayaking, raft-building – you could even get to drive a powerboat!

There's also climbing, camping and survival skills, all kinds of sports and games, expeditions and Earthshot challenges too.

You'll learn stuff they don't teach you at school like knot tying, navigation and code breaking, and how to drill and lead a troop.

If you're aged 10-18, want to try something new, join Cheshunt Sea Cadets. You'll learn skills that will help you progress in life and set you up for even greater adventure.

T: 07860 608809
E: matthewtregoning@aol.com

[T.S. Intrepid](https://www.facebook.com/sea-cadets.org/cheshunt)
[sea-cadets.org/cheshunt](https://www.facebook.com/sea-cadets.org/cheshunt)



YEAR 4 CLASS ASSEMBLY

Friday, 3rd July at 10am

HOUSE POINT LEADERS

This week's winners are.....

Green Hedgehogs



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!