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NEWSLETTER – January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back to the Spring 2026 term. I hope that you had an enjoyable break with your children. We are looking forward to a busy term of exciting learning and enrichment opportunities, which we very much hope you will share with us, through parent consultation meetings and Welcome Wednesdays.

With regards

Mrs Sally Dreckmann

Christmas Fair

We would like to say a big thank you to all those who came and supported our Christmas Fair last month. The majority of the stalls are made up of donated items and I know at times it seems like we are constantly asking for things, but it does mean that most of what we make on the night is profit and can go directly towards school projects to benefit the children. So, thank you for the tombola gifts, the bottles, the sweets, the toys and cakes and anything else you were kind enough to donate.



A lot of work goes into organising and running the Fair and we couldn't do it without all the helpers we get both in the run up to the event and on the night, running the stalls. A huge thank you to the team of staff, students, parents and other relatives for all the time they gave. In particular, a big thank you to Tash, Shereen, Ash and Amy and their band of helpers from the PTA for making the event such a success. We would also like to thank Mr Chisnell for his special "appearance" on the night!



Congratulations to the following children for their winning entries in the Christmas Cracker competition:

Joshua from Poppy Class with Elva from Bluebell as runner up; Kodie from Butterfly Class with Olivia from Butterfly as runner up; and Yasmin from Oak Class with Ryder from Willow as runner up.

The PTA have confirmed that £3,400 was raised which is an incredible amount of money. This will go towards funding our curriculum and enrichment opportunities for your children.

Christmas Shop

Thank you to those parents who helped at the Christmas Shop on Tuesday 16th

December. The children loved buying their gifts and an amazing £240.85 was raised. Please look on our website as there are a number of photographs of the children enjoying the Christmas festivities including a visit by a 'special person' on the last day of term!



Christmas Concert Collections

A big thank you to everyone who gave so generously to our Christmas concert collections. We raised £223.96 which we have sent to The Cat and Rabbit Rescue Centre in Sidlesham.

Christmas Jumper Day

We had a lovely day on Thursday 11th December wearing our Christmas jumpers to school. We raised £185.02 which we have sent to the "Save the Children Fund" appeal.



Before/After School Clubs

Just a reminder that all clubs will be starting back during the week commencing 5th January. Further information is available from the school office.

Transfer to Juniors and Starting School Forms

Thursday 15th January is the deadline for applications for transfer to Junior School and also Starting School Admissions for the September 2026 Reception intake. Please ensure you have completed this on-line application if relevant to you.

Parent Consultations

We are planning to hold parent consultation appointments during the weeks commencing 9th and 23rd February. Sign-up sheets will be displayed outside classrooms nearer the time.

Henry Adams Christmas Competition

Many congratulations to the two winners of the Henry Adams 'design a Christmas character that moves' competition. Dee from Henry Adams had the difficult job of choosing the winning entries at a special assembly on Monday 8th December. Well done to everyone who took part in the competition - we were blown away with the high number of entries and the lovely designs. They all looked amazing. The winners

each received a lego set and everyone who took part received a candy cane.



Books for Africa

We are going to send 12 boxes of our previous reading scheme books to the charity 'Books 2 Africa'. We are planning to hold a special non-uniform day on Friday 30 January to hopefully raise enough money to cover the cost of postage. If every child could donate 50p on Friday 30 January for the privilege of wearing non uniform, we would really appreciate it.

Parking at School

Another gentle reminder - please do not drive into Hawkins Close at drop off and pick up times unless you have permission to use the disabled spaces on site. Last year we had the gates closed because things had got so dangerous. We have gone back to keeping them open but if we feel people are at risk of harm from the traffic, we will have to return to having the gates shut at these times. Thank you.

Staffing News

We would like to welcome Mrs Davies, Mrs Cooper and Mrs Smith who have recently joined us as Teaching Assistants in Reception and Year 2. We would like to also say a fond farewell to Mrs Kerrie Haynes who left us just before Christmas. Miss Dingwall will soon be joining us, working in Reception and Year 1.

Dates for your Diary - more details to follow (New dates in **Red**)

Event	Date	Time
Christmas holidays	22 nd December - 2 nd January	
Inset Day	Monday 5 th January	
Start of Spring Term	Tuesday 6 th January	
Non uniform day to raise postage money for sending books to Africa	Friday 30 th January	
Parent Consultation Week	w/c 9 th February and 23 rd February (more details to follow)	
Welcome Wednesday	Wednesday 11 th February	2.30 pm
Bookfest - visit by Simon Philip, Author	Thursday 12 th February	
Inset Day	Friday 13 th February	
Half Term	16 th - 21 st February	
Creative Week	w/c 2 nd March	
Red Nose Day (non uniform day)	Friday 20 th March	All day
Welcome Wednesday	Wednesday 25 th March	2.30 pm
Easter holidays	30 th March - 10 th April	
Start of Summer Term	Monday 13 th April	
Class Photos	Thursday 23 rd April	All morning
Bank Holiday	Monday 4 th May	
Welcome Wednesday	Wednesday 13 th May	2.30 pm
Walk to School Week	w/c 18 th May	
Reception Sports Afternoon	Monday 18 th May	2.00 - 3.00 pm
Year 1 Sports Afternoon	Wednesday 20 th May	1.30 - 3.00 pm
Year 2 Sports Afternoon	Thursday 21 st May	1.30 - 3.00 pm
Half Term	25 th - 30 th May	
Inset Day	Monday 1 st June	
Phonics Testing Week	w/c 8 th June	
Sports Week	w/c 15 th June	
Reserve Reception Sports Afternoon	Monday 22 nd June	2.00 - 3.00 pm
Reserve Year 1 Sports Afternoon	Wednesday 24 th June	1.30 - 3.00 pm
Reserve Year 2 Sports Afternoon	Thursday 25 th June	1.30 - 3.00 pm
Transition Day	Wednesday 1 st July	All day
School Reports to go home	Friday 10 th July	
Maths Week	w/c 6 th July	
Summer Fair	tbc	
Open Afternoon	Tuesday 14 th July	2.15 - 3.15 pm
Year 2 Concert for parents	Wednesday 15 th July	2.00 pm
Year 2 Concert for parents (no babies or pre-school children)	Thursday 16 th July	9.00 am
Year 2 Leaver's Disco	Thursday 16 th July	4.00 - 5.15 pm
Outside Playday	Friday 17 th July	All day
Year 2 Leaver's Assembly (for parents)	Wednesday 22 nd July	9.00 am
Last day of Term	Wednesday 22 nd July	

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CHAT & CHILL

Do you have a child with SEND? Come along to chat with other parent carers. Take a break and share your experiences and enjoy a hot drink - the first one is on us!

JOIN US:

Tuesday 13th January
9.00am - 11am



NO NEED TO BOOK - JOIN US AT:

Arun West Family Hub
Laburnum Grove
Bersted, PO22 9HT