



Our Value this month is Fairness
"Value everyone, Value every chance, Value
everyday"

Newsletter

26th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you've all had time to read the letters from both Miss Sarah Woodham, Head Teacher and Mrs Kirsty Whitehead, Chair of Governors.

I'm sure you'll all join me in wishing Miss Woodham good luck for her future and new adventure.

We are sure you will join us in congratulating Mrs Hanlon and her husband who are expecting their first baby in February 2026. Arrangements for maternity cover will be made later this term.



National Poetry Day Thursday 2nd October 2025

This years National Poetry Day theme is 'Play' To help raise the profile of Reading within school we will be joining Valeria Bloom MBE online to enjoy some Poetry performances.

Upcoming Open Days

If you, or anyone you know, are looking for a Reception year place or are planning an in-year move please come and join us at one of our open days on Tuesday 4th November 9.30am-10.30am and Thursday 6th November 1.30pm-2.30pm.

Contact Mrs Woodward in the school office for more details.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY MATTERS

Penalty Notice Fines for absence from school are changing

From 19th August 2024 Penalty Notice fines increase to £160 for each parent, for each child.



You can be fined if your child has a total of 5 days of unauthorised absences in 10 school weeks, for things like:

- being late after the register has closed
- truancy
- taking a holiday without permission from the school
- or if a headteacher isn't satisfied for the reason for missing school

Over a rolling 3-year period the sanctions are:

- 1st offence - £160 reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days
- 2nd offence - £160
- 3rd offence - Court hearing and up to £2,500 fine, or up to 3 months in prison and a criminal record

For more information go to:
www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/missing-school



STOP PRESS

We are delighted to announce we raised over £225 for Macmillan Cancer Support at our Coffee Morning today. Thank you to everyone who attended, donated cakes and treats and Rev Jenna and her wonderful team of volunteers from

All Saints Church.

We are very much looking forward to our next coffee morning—watch this space.

Diary Dates

Date	Event
Tuesday 30th September 2025	Individual & sibling school photographs
Thursday 2nd October 2025	National Poetry Day
Thursday 9th October 2025	Afterschool Club Special Event <i>Make your own pizza</i>

Term Dates 2025– 2026

Autumn Term

Wednesday 3rd September—Friday 19th December

(Half Term Monday 27th October—Friday 31st October)

* Inset Day Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd September

Spring Term

Tuesday 6th January—Friday 27th March

(Half Term Monday 16th February—Friday 20th February)

* Inset Day Monday 5th January

Summer Term

Tuesday 14th April—Friday 17th July

(Half Term Monday 25th May—Friday 29th May)

*Inset Day Monday 13th April



Pixies

In Pixies, we have been busy looking at our topic All About Me. The children shared family photographs from home with their friends and told us about the people who live at their houses with them.

We had an exciting trip to the school library. The children read wonderful stories and even took a book home to share with their grown ups.



In p.e we completed a tricky obstacle course. We had to use our muscles to climb, run, jump and roll over different objects.



We have continued to look at our literacy book, The Colour Monster. The children have been focussing on their own feelings and what makes us feel happy, sad and angry.



Hedgehogs



This week in Hedgehogs Class we enjoyed an Autumn Walk around the village! We found lots of conkers and different coloured leaves and look forward to use them to support our learning. We also had a

look in the Church and practiced our Harvest Festival song which we cannot wait to share with you.

In phonics we have tried very hard to remember and write our new sounds: i, n, m, d. The children have loved mark making this week using the interactive board and whiteboards to create lots of different patterns.

In maths we have been exploring sorting techniques and have sorted different objects into groups. We had a go at sorting farm animals and zoo animals as well as different



types of pasta.



Squirrels

In maths, Year 1 have been counting forward and backwards from 0-10. As part of this we made rockets and had our own blast off, counting from 10 all the way back to 0.



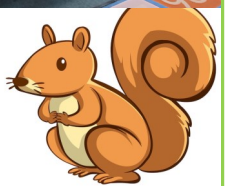
This week, in science, we have been learning about changing materials. We thought about how we could change materials by twisting, bending, ripping and squishing. We talked about useful it is for some materials to be able to do this. Then, we made our

own models out of clay and thought about what other materials we could have made out models from.

In writing, we have been writing our own version of 'Frog and the Stranger' and are very excited to bring them home to share with you!



Everyone has been working very hard in spellings and phonics learning new sounds and spelling rules.



Rabbits

In science, over the past few weeks we have been learning about the 3 different types of rocks. This week we have been learning about the process of how sedimentary rocks are formed. We have talked about the different parts of the process and the scientific terms of weathering and erosion.

This term we are really lucky to have a music teacher from Inspire music coming in to teach us music weekly. The children have been learning some new songs and about the different parts of the song, including the chorus and verses.

In history we have started our topic of Stone Age to Iron Age, this week we looked at how long ago the Stone Age was on the timeline and introduced the 3 different periods of the Stone Age. The children then placed Stone Age, Iron Age and Bronze Age on to the timeline themselves.



Barn Owls

In Barn Owls we have been learning about Graphic Novels, we know they have a beginning, middle and end, illustrations are used to tell the story and how to use speech bubbles effectively. We have now started to create our own graphic novel and can't wait to share them with Hedgehog class.

In maths we have been mastering place value. We have learnt to partition numbers to 1,000 including flexible partitioning, find 1, 10, 100, 1,000 more or less, compare and order numbers to 10,000. We have worked so hard and really have a good understanding of this area of maths.

We have been really focusing on online safety, from talking to strangers, giving personal details on the internet, to uploading images and videos. The children have learnt how to keep themselves safe, what to do if they feel unsafe and is beginning to understand that when something is shared on the internet you can't take it back.

We have started learning the Ukulele. It is so much fun and the children are learning so quickly.

In science we are continuing our 'states of matter' unit. This week we converted a liquid into a solid. We used movement energy and heat energy to cause a chemical reaction which made butter.



Afterschool Club

UPCOMING EVENTS

3:30PM - 5:00PM

**9th
OCTOBER**

**MAKE YOUR
OWN PIZZA**

**DECORATE A TRICK
OR TREAT BUCKET
FOR HALLOWEEN**

**23rd
OCTOBER**

**5th
NOVEMBER**

**HOT DOG AND A
MOVIE**

**INDOOR
OBSTACLE
COURSE**

**20th
NOVEMBER**

**11th
DECEMBER**

**MAKE A SOCK
PUPPET
SNOWMAN**

**PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE TO PREBOOK
YOUR CHILDS SPACE**

WE CAN'T WAIT!!!

Are your children eligible for benefits-based free school meals?

Central
Bedfordshire

great
prospects

All children in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 are entitled to free school meals referred to as 'Universal Infant Free School Meals' (UIFSM).

But any child in Reception through to Year 11 that meets the Government criteria listed below is entitled to benefits based free school meals. By claiming this, there are also other benefits available to the child and family such as access to the Holiday Activities and Food programme, providing free activities during the Easter, Summer and Christmas school holidays.

Do you receive one of the following benefits?

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

If so, your children may be entitled to benefits based free school meals. Turn over to find out how to apply.

Find us online



www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals

How to apply for free school meals



If you think you meet the free school meals eligibility criteria, please call us on 0300 300 8306. When you call to apply for free school meals, please have the following information ready:

- National Insurance numbers and dates of birth for you and your partner
- dates of birth for your children
- your NASS number, if you receive support from the National Asylum Support Service

If your child is aged 16-18 and attends a further education or sixth form college, please contact the college for information about free school meals. If your child attends a school sixth form, please contact us to apply.

As soon as we have confirmed that you qualify, we will tell your child's school that their free school meals can start from the date you apply.

Need some more advice or support? Head to your local Children's Centre for help.

Find your local centre by visiting  bit.ly/familyinfodirectory

Find us online



www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals

