

31st October 2025

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Worship Theme

This week, we have been remembering, celebrating and thanking those in history who have strived and succeeded in changing attitudes and lives from and for the black community, and for the benefit for everyone. One example is Nelson Mandela and the sacrifice he made to stand up for the rights of the black community and the difference his actions made to society – a true historical icon.

Forest School

On Thursday 6th November, Ash Class (Year 1/2 – Mr Voke) will be taking part in Forest School.



A message from Miss Harris

It has been lovely to welcome back everyone to school this week and we have all settled straight back into our learning.

Teachers are looking forward to seeing parents/carers at the consultations next week – to help us to keep to time, we will be trialling a bell system so that every 10 minutes it will ring to signify the start/end of the consultation. We hope that this will help us to maintain timings and would welcome your feedback on it following the consultations.

At the consultations, we would also like to gain your feedback about your views of children's use of mobile phones and the school's position in supporting safe use of this form of technology. To do this, we will be providing you with a questionnaire to complete so we can gather your responses. Thank you, in advance for your thoughts.

A plea for help: At the end of the day, as we release Year 3/4/5/6 children from the lower playground, it is becoming more difficult to see parents/carers and ensure children reach them safely as those collecting children are moving more closely up to where the children are dismissed. Could we ask that parents/carers wait at the lower part of the playground so that staff and children can more easily see everyone and can safely send children to you. Thank you for your support.

Upcoming Roadworks – Advance Notice

We have been notified that there will be roadworks happening on Powder Mill Lane between Yew Tree Road and Brokes Way from 10th November and estimating to last 2 days. The work will be undertaken between the hours of 9.30am and 3.30pm. We have been informed that it will be necessary to close the road completely so that the work can be carried out safely and therefore it will impact the school run. The pavements will remain open but, of course, this will impact us.



500 Words Competition – Final chance to enter

500 Words competition will soon close to entries – if your child has not yet entered and would like to, they have until Friday 7th November 2025 to write their story! Full details can be found at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words>

Do encourage your child to enter – the finalists will be invited to Windsor Castle to a ceremony hosted by Her Majesty Queen Camilla and the winning stories read out on television!



Attendance Ted

Here's this week's attendance data.

Year R Willow 91%	Year 1/2 Ash 98%	Year 1/2 Birch 93%	Year 1/2 Elm 95%			
Year 3/4 Chestnut 96%	Year 3/4 Hazel 97%	Year 3/4 Pine 95%	Year 5 Maple 83%	Year 5 Sycamore 88%	Year 6 Oak 95%	Year 6 Yew 89%



Attendance Guidance from Kent County Council: Punctuality

While we understand that sometimes there can be reasons why a child is late for school, the number of children arriving late for school on a regular basis is significant. Arriving late to school is unsettling for your child and means that they have missed the key introduction to learning for at the beginning of the lesson.

It is important that your child arrives on time. If your child arrives late, this will be marked in the register and, if very late, may be recorded as unauthorised absence for the whole morning.

The school gates open at 8.40am with the register being taken at 8.45am. If a child arrives after this time, they will be considered to be late.

If you are concerned about the punctuality of your child, please do contact our FLO, Miss Weaver, to discuss strategies that might help. Thank you for working with us to support the learning and progress of your child.

Minutes late per day	Equals days- worth of teaching lost per year
5 minutes	3.4 days
10 minutes	6.9 days
15 minutes	10.3 days
20 minutes	13.8 days

Dates for your Diary

Below are key dates for your diary (new events are coloured green):

Term 2:

- Tuesday 4th November @ 8.45am – Parent Prayer Meeting with Mrs Brierley
- Tuesday 4th November – Parent Consultations
- Thursday 6th November – Parent Consultations
- Friday 7th November – Fire and Rescue Service in to do workshops
- Monday 10th November – Scholastic Book Fair in school
- **Tuesday 11th November – Year 5 and 6 trip to Trinity Theatre**
- Friday 14th November – Children in Need
- Saturday 22nd November – PTA Christmas Market
- Tuesday 2nd December @ 8.45am – Parent Prayer Meeting with Mrs Brierley
- Thursday 4th December – PTA Discos
- Friday 5th December – PTA Christmas Jumper day (for donations for the wrapping event)
- Monday 15th December am – Nativity performance for parents (Reception and Years 1/2)
- Monday 15 December pm and evening – Carol Service in Church (Years 3/4/5/6)
- Tuesday 16th December pm – Nativity performance for parents (Reception and Years 1/2)
- Wednesday 17th December – Christmas Dinner
- Wednesday 17th December – PTA Christmas wrapping and Father Christmas
- Thursday 18th December – End of Term 2 for children
- Friday 19th December – INSET Day – School closed for children

Monday 22nd December – Friday 2nd January: Christmas Break – School closed for children