

Dear Parents and Carers,

I was delighted to welcome 31 parents and carers to our reading celebration on Friday. Rather than tell you how brilliant it was, I thought I would share some of the actions that the learners who attended will try to carry out.

What the parents said:

- Let my child pick a book and see how they react to something they chose themselves.
- Make sure we keep reading and make it important.
- I will encourage the questioning and stress the 'red words.' Also, I will make sure children look at pictures.
- I tend to read the book without looking at the pictures or asking questions – I will do that now.
- Change some of our books.
- I will encourage my child to go more often to the library.
- Put a reading time in place before bedtime rather than hit and miss as it is now.
- Organise more time reading at home.
- Ask more questions.
- Make time each night before bed to read with my child.
- Make sure we set aside 'proper' reading time at home.
- Go home and read books with girls [in them] and ensure I make time for it every-day.
- Maybe start swapping books between friends.
- Make more time.
- Spend more time with children reading books. Encourage them. Make reading a routine.
- Ask more questions at the end.
- Try to approach reading so the children choose their books more often. Pause more to ask questions.
- Be more inventive with reading + making it more fun.
- Read more, ask more questions and make it more fun rather than a chore.
- Read more with the little one. Make it as a daily part of day.
- Not rush reading time so much.
- I will definitely take time [to consider the] type of questions and structures illustrated to break a story down.

Why not try some of these approaches yourself?

This Friday we warmly invite you to observe your child's class teacher sharing a story and sharing their own approaches to reading with children. Come and see what we get up to!

Yours sincerely

*Duncan Roberts*

Headteacher

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## Replying to Messages via SchoolComms

When replying to a message, please remember that this does NOT show up as a conversation in our system. Please ALWAYS say what your response is about. Thank you.

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## VERY IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR PARENTS OF YEAR 5 CHILDREN

Just one final reminder for parents registering for the South West Herts Schools Consortium Tests; this will close on Friday 16th June at midnight.

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### Letters Sent Home this Week

via the school office:

Year 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Family Outdoor Athletics – reply needed</li></ul>
Whole School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Sports Day details</li></ul>
Whole School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Emotion Coaching Workshop invitation – reply if attending</li></ul>
Years 1 to 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Parent Consultation Evening letter – via eldest sibling – reply needed</li></ul>
Year 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Sailing letter – reply needed</li></ul>
Years N to 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Annual Data Check – reply needed</li></ul>

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## NSPCC

This week all children from Reception to Year 6 took part in an assembly with the NSPCC. The children discussed how to keep themselves safe and the importance of always telling a trusted adult when they feel worried, unsafe or unhappy. More details on the school blog.

You child will have brought home an NSPCC sponsorship form. Please can the children raise money for the NSPCC by asking family and friends to sponsor our Whole School Zumba Session. On Wednesday 28th June all children will be taking part in our Whole School Zumba Session led by Miss Short.

Please put your money in the envelope and drop the envelope into the collection boxes in the front foyer.

Many thanks.

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## Responsibility for Your Child Each Morning

We open the school gates at 8:30am to make sure there is not a last minute crush and to allow space for friends to catch-up and play, but, you are still responsible for your children until they enter their classrooms.

We do not guarantee to have a member of staff on the playground until the bell rings and even when we do, they are not responsible for the well-being and safety of your children.

Please do not be affronted by the forcefulness of this reminder; the safety and well-being of your children is, as always, our prime concern.

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## Sports Day Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June

A letter was sent home with the children on Thursday giving full details. Please do note that it is a picnic lunch day. You are welcome to send your child in with a packed lunch from home or order a school one; ham, cheese or tuna.

Please do join your child for part or all of the day.

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## Watford Mencap – The Lego Challenge Intu Watford – Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July

Does your child love LEGO? Join 30 minute workshops where children will build a LEGO Wacky Racer. Sessions will be guided by E<sup>2</sup> Young Engineers. At the end of the session the children will have the chance to race the vehicle they build!

This event is perfect for any budding engineers and inventors. Saturday 15 July 2016, at intu Watford. £6.50 including a goody bag with a LEGO gift. Spaces are limited. This fun event will raise money for Watford Mencap, a local charity supporting over 800 people with a learning disability. Call 01923 713637 or email [ajenshil@watfordmencap.org.uk](mailto:ajenshil@watfordmencap.org.uk) to book your place.

## Mumps – Please note the following message from Public Health England

In recent weeks across the country there has been a significant increase in reported cases of mumps among adolescents and young adults.

Mumps is a viral illness that is spread by coughs and sneezes or close contact with someone who already has the infection.

Older children, teenagers and young adults who have never previously had MMR vaccine or have only had one dose of it, should contact their GP surgery to arrange to catch up with outstanding doses. Those who have already had one dose of MMR vaccine as a young child will only need one further dose, no matter how long ago a first dose was given.

It is never too late to have the vaccine if you haven't had two doses.

If you would like more information about MMR please visit  
[www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/pages/mmr-vaccine.aspx](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/pages/mmr-vaccine.aspx)

For free copies of the Measles, Mumps and Rubella booklet, visit: [www.orderline.dh.gov.uk](http://www.orderline.dh.gov.uk)

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## Hertfordshire Libraries – Summer Reading Challenge

Hertfordshire libraries are getting their magnifying glasses ready. Why? Animal Agents are coming, as part of the 2017 Summer Reading Challenge.

Research shows that the Summer Reading Challenge helps to tackle the problem of children getting out of the habit of reading during the school holidays, helping to improve children's confidence then sends them back to school fired up, ready to learn. It is the UK's biggest promotion of children reading-last year over 20,000 Hertfordshire children took part-and it's free.

The children are challenged to read six library books or eBooks of their choice during the holidays. For every two books they read, they are rewarded two stickers. When they have completed the challenge, they will receive a wristband and are invited to a presentation ceremony where they will be given their certificate and medal. In addition, participants will have the opportunity to win tickets to an exclusive author event. The Summer Reading Challenge materials are suitable for visually impaired children.

Animal Agents packs will be available in all Hertfordshire public libraries from Saturday 15 July while stocks last, finishing on Saturday 9 September.

Further information can be found at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/libraries).

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## DIARY DATES

### June

Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> June		Emotion Coaching for Parents
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	9:30pm or 7:00pm	Early Years – Welcome Workshop
<del>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup></del>		<del>Multi Skills Yrs 1-3 – Sarratt</del>
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup>	All day	Sports Day – Picnic Lunch – no cooked dinners

### July

Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	Brass Concert
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	All day	Year 4 indoor Gymnastics
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	9:15am	Nursery/Reception Little Red Riding Hood
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>		Nursery visit
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	3:30pm	Year 6 Leavers Disco
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Full week	Year 5 Sailing
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	1:00pm	Leavers Play
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	7:00pm	Leavers Play
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Lunch	Picnic Lunch – no cooked dinners
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>		last Day of Term – Please collect promptly at 1:30pm

New entries/changes in red.