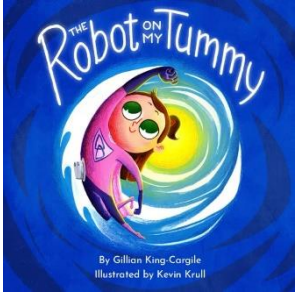




Friday 20th October 2023

Dear Families,

Diabetes Assembly



I had some helpers in assembly this week, as I spoke about Type 1 Diabetes. The children learnt that Type 1 Diabetes is a serious condition where the blood glucose (sugar) level is too high because the body cannot make a hormone called insulin. This happens when the body's immune system attacks the cells in the pancreas that make the insulin, meaning no insulin can be made. We all need insulin to live. It does an essential job. It allows the glucose in our blood to enter our cells and fuel our bodies. We read a story about a continuous glucose monitor – CGM - that many children begin to use to support their body being given the correct amount of insulin.

As a school, we have been asked to support an antibody screening programme to support understanding about Type 1 Diabetes. Every family that takes part in the study is helping us to understand more about Type 1 Diabetes for children at risk. Please read the email that was sent home to families on Monday. Miss Kneller and other members of staff are looking forward to meeting with children, after they've taken part, to thank them with a drink of squash and a biscuit.

I'd like to thank Bessey, Kacper and Poppy (excellent reading Pops!) for supporting me in assemblies, sharing their experiences and encouraging their friends to take part and potentially help other young people who have been diagnosed with diabetes. We look forward to hearing how many families of children in Years 1-6 are able to help us with this special project.

Attendance – for week ending 13th October

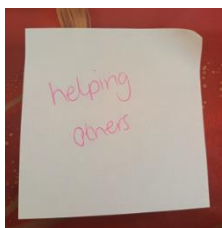
RPeterPan	RRosen	1Anning	1Donaldson	2Attenborough	2Johnson	3Rashford
94.2%	94.4%	97.7%	95%	96.7%	97%	95%
3Wicks	4Queen	4Thunberg	5Boseman	5Southgate	6Malala	6Obama
94.4%	95.3%	94.1%	94.8%	91.7%	93%	90%

Attendance has taken a hit with some illness last week, and we are hoping to see a huge improvement will all children rested after the half term. Who will be our next class with 100% attendance for a week?! Muffin Madness is when the class with the most weeks of 100% attendance for the term all get to enjoy a muffin in school, so let's keep going... 😊

Lunchtime Leader Vacancy

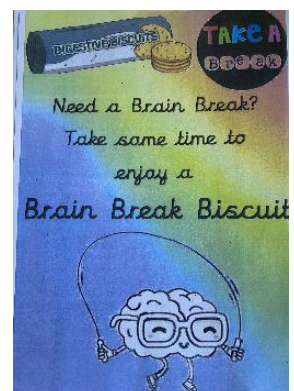
We currently have a vacancy for a Lunchtime Leader, so if this is something that you would be interested in, please apply using this link:- https://www.teachinherts.com/find-a-job/view,lunchtime-leader_88262.htm

World Mental Health Day



For World Mental Health Day, we asked children, parents and staff to tell us what sparks joy for you, and over the coming weeks we will share your "Glimmers".

We would like to say a huge thank you for all your generous donations of biscuits - biscuits give a slow energy release, so having a brain break biscuit in the afternoon helps the children to stay focussed on their learning .



Hive

Hive is hosted at Summerswood Primary School, and offers pupils access to a balanced academic and nurturing curriculum across their short-term schooling placement - supporting their behaviour development in order for them to return to their mainstream settings with greater self-esteem, social skills, confidence, and a more positive role within their school community. Over the next few months, Hive is having an update and therefore you may see some effects of this in the carpark and around the front side of the school building. They are looking forward to having their own new entrance, a calm room, and space for adults and children to learn. We are really excited to see this section of our school premises improve. We will be hosting the children from Hive in our current ICT suite until the work in their section of the school has been completed. We look forward to showing you some photographs of the site when it has been completed.

Donations

We are always grateful to receive donations of plain Digestive or Rich Tea biscuits and boxes of tissues throughout the year, to be used in all classes. Any donations can be brought directly to the school office, and we will ensure they are distributed appropriately.

Half Term Break

We've been back at school for a half term! Time has flown and there has been lots of new learning taking place. We're really pleased with how settled our Nursery and Reception students are and how focused many children are on their learning. Enjoy the half term break – rest, relax and be ready for more learning as we head towards Christmas!

Poppies

Poppies and other merchandise will be on sale in the new half term – if you want your child to purchase anything, please ensure that you send some small change in a named envelope, either in their bookbags or hand it to the class teacher. Starting on 1st November, our lovely Y6 ambassadors will be making their way round the classrooms in the afternoons, giving children the chance to purchase paper poppies (minimum 50p donation).

Kind regards,



Sarah Kneller
Headteacher

Interesting fact: 28 October 1971,
Britain launched its first satellite
into orbit.

Dates to Remember

Friday 20th October	School finishes at normal times for Half Term
Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October	HALF TERM
Monday 30th October	INSET Day – no children in school
Tuesday 31st October	Start of Autumn 2
Tuesday 31st October	Face painting in school – ONLY for those who have booked (email sent)
Tuesday 31st October	3.10pm: Nursery Parents' Evening – more info to follow
Wednesday 1st November	3.10pm: Nursery Parents' Evening – more info to follow
Wednesday 15th November	3.30-5.30pm - Parents' Evening - more info to follow
Thursday 16th November	4-7pm - Parents' Evening - more info to follow
Thursday 16th November	Photos – individual child & sibling photos in school
Friday 1st December	OCCASIONAL DAY – no children in school
Monday 18th December	Last day of term - for Nursery Children only
Tuesday 19th December	Last day of term – school finishes at 1.30pm
Wednesday 20th December	INSET Day – no children in school
Thursday 4th January 2024	Start of Spring Term 1
Friday 16th February	School finishes at normal times for Half Term
Monday 19th February – Friday 23rd February	HALF TERM
Monday 26th February	Start of Spring Term 2
Tuesday 26th March	Last day of term - for Nursery Children only
Wednesday 27th March	Last day of Term - school finishes at 1.30pm
Thursday 28th March	INSET DAY – no children in school
Monday 15th April	Start of Summer Term 1
Monday 6th May	BANK HOLIDAY
Thursday 23rd May	School finishes at normal times for Half Term
Friday 24th May	INSET Day – no children in school
Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May	HALF TERM
Monday 3rd June	Start of Summer Term 2
Friday 5th July	#WOODFEST 2024
Monday 22nd July	Last day of term - for Nursery Children only
Tuesday 23rd July	Last day of Term - school finishes at 1.30pm



ACTIVITY CAMP

Summerswood Primary School

Furzehill Rd, Borehamwood WD6 2DW

23rd October - 27th October

8:45AM - 3:30PM

SPOOKY
SPORTS
DAY

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FULL DAY

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AGE
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To find out more



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PREPARE FOR SUCCESS IN HERTS

FREE Half Term Family Workshops



Autumn Explorers

Help your child (aged 5-10) develop Literacy, Maths and other skills through making crafts with natural materials.

Waltham Cross
Tue 24th Oct
10am-12pm

Stevenage
Thu 26th Oct
10am-12pm



Story Sacks

Discover how to use 'found' materials to create a story sack/box with your child (aged 4-8).

Waltham Cross
Tue 24th Oct
1.30-3.30pm

Stevenage
Thu 26th Oct
1.30-3.30pm

Book your place:  step2skills.org.uk  01992 556194



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Library Adventure with Hertfordshire Libraries

This autumn Hertfordshire Libraries are encouraging all Reception class children to have their own library card. Our special 'My First Library Adventure' promotion gives your child the chance to win one of 50 personalised signed books by author / illustrator Alex Willmore ('I did see a Mammoth!' and 'Spyceratops'). Plus two children will win a library visit with Alex Willmore for their whole class!

It's easy for your child to take part. Just visit a Hertfordshire Library twice by 31 October 2023 with their special 'My First Library Adventure' bookmark. For each step of the Adventure they will collect a 'paw stamp' to celebrate their progress.

	<p>Complete your Library Adventure to enter the Prize Draw</p> <p>Win a visit from author/illustrator Alex Willmore for your class at school! Plus 50 lucky winners get a personalised signed Alex Willmore book</p> <p>Each time you complete a step of your adventure, add a paw to stamp your bookmark!</p> <p>1. Join up! Get your own My First Library card - ask your grown up for help. Proof of your name & address. Already have a library card? You can still take part!</p> <p>2. Search! Go to the library, choosing all the exciting books to borrow - there are 1000 to choose from!</p> <p>3. Take home! Take your chosen book(s) to the empty shelf by 31.10.23 to enter the prize draw!</p> <p>Find out more about the My First Library card & the Hertfordshire Children's Book Prize at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/libraries</p>	<p>Visit one:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • your child either joins the library, or shows us their library card. (For new members we will need to see proof of a parent/carer's name & address) • choose and borrow 1 or more books • ask library staff / volunteers for 'paw stamps' on your bookmark <p>At home: enjoy sharing the book(s) together</p> <p>Visit two:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • return the book(s) to the library • collect more 'paw stamps', tell us about your favourite book, and enter the prize draw
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Children love to choose their own books, and it's free to join and borrow books from the library – just remember to bring them back on time or renew them if you want them for longer. Using the library regularly can help save money as you are borrowing and not buying, which is environmentally friendly too.

In your local library you will find thousands of books to choose from:

- picture books – to enjoy together
- beginning to read titles - to build your child's confidence as they learn to read
- information books – to spark their interest for learning about the world
- eBooks and audio books online and via the BorrowBox app – www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/ebooks

With new books purchased every month, there is always something new to discover!

When you visit the library, please ask for a 'My First Day at School' certificate too. We look forward to presenting your child with theirs.

