



NEWS & VIEWS

Achievement & Enjoyment

Headteacher Mr S Bowsher



Mr Bowsher's Headteacher Comment:

It has been another busy and exciting week in school, with lots of wonderful learning and experiences taking place. The atmosphere across the school has been calm and focused, with children showing real perseverance in their learning.

All of our reception children have completed their first full week and it has been lovely to see the children settling so well into their new classes. They are becoming familiar with their new routines, getting to know their teachers and classmates, and growing in confidence each day. We are very proud of how positively they have approached the start of the new school year.

This week our Year 5 children had a fantastic time exploring the Space Dome. They enjoyed an immersive journey through space and had the opportunity to develop their knowledge of our universe in a fun and memorable way.

Our school clubs start next week. A paper slip will be sent home with your child with further information. We hope the children enjoy taking part in the wide range of activities on offer.

We have had some lovely feedback about our 'Compliment of the Day' slips. The children really enjoy receiving their compliments on a piece of paper, and it means that they can take them home and share their achievements with you. We love being able to celebrate the children's positive choices, effort and behaviour in this way.

We are continuing to think carefully about our school values, and this week our focus has been on responsibility. We have been talking to the children about taking responsibility for their own behaviour, particularly in the dinner hall. We are encouraging everyone to use good table manners, sit nicely at the table and eat sensibly and independently.

You can help us reinforce this at home by encouraging your child to sit appropriately at the table and use a knife and fork when eating. These simple habits help children to develop independence, confidence and respect for others.

Our Favourites Day menu will be on 1st October. If your child hasn't tried a school dinner before, this would be a great day to give it a try! The menu can be found on the last page of this newsletter. We hope lots of children will enjoy joining us for this special menu.

Finally, the LPPA do a fantastic job raising money, providing fun opportunities for the children, and supporting the school in many different ways. The first event on the calendar is the AGM on 7 October, and looking further ahead, families can look forward to a wide range of events. If you are interested in helping, please get in touch or come along to the AGM.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us to promote our school values and encourage positive habits both in school and at home. We hope you have a lovely weekend and look forward to another busy week of learning and fun next week.



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Mr Bowsher's Superstar Award

Archie (6R) for demonstrating the value of Responsibility.



Stars of the Week

RA	RE	1B	1G	2IM	2P	3LC
Isabella	Maria	Ronnie	Layla-Mae	Hudson	Tyler	Lennon
3T	4C	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R
Jaxon	Eliza	Fearne	Rose	Millie	Diana	Nancy



Reading at Home

Well done to all children who read 4 or 5 times. We had 5 classes winning a certificate.

Class	Table shows numbers of children and percentages who read from Monday 14 September to Friday 18 September			Percentage Read 4 & 5 times %
	Less than 4	4	5	
RA	2 (4%)	5 (18%)	21 (75%)	26 (92%)
RE	5 ((19%)	6 (21%)	17 (60%)	23 (81%)
1B	9 (32%)	3 (11%)	16 (68%)	19 (68%)
1G	2 (8%)	6 (21%)	20 (71%)	26 (92%)
2IM	0 (0%)	4 (13%)	26 (87%)	30 (100%)
2P	0 (0%)	8 (31%)	18 (69%)	26 (100%)
3LC	5 (18%)	7 (25%)	16 (57%)	23 (82%)
3T	3 (10%)	4 (14%)	22 (76%)	26 (90%)
4C	5 (17%)	6 (21%)	18 (62%)	24 (83%)
4J	0 (0%)	10 (40%)	15 (60%)	25 (100%)
5L	1 (3%)	7 (24%)	21 (73%)	28 (97%)
5P	2 (6%)	3 (10%)	24 (84%)	27 (94%)
6R	0 (0%)	8 (27%)	22 (73%)	30 (100%)
6H	0 (0%)	1 (3%)	29 (97%)	30 (100%)
Total				91.3%



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Diary Dates

Monday 14 September	3T swimming starts
Tuesday 15 September	Year 5 Science Dome (rearranged date)
Thursday 17 September	3LC swimming starts
Tuesday 22 September	Junior Governor visit to parliament
Thursday 24 September	Year 1 phonics workshop 14.30
Wednesday 30 September	Flu immunisations
Wednesday 7 October	RE parent and child nursery rhyme workshop 14.30
Thursday 8 October	RA parent and child nursery rhyme workshop 14.30
Monday 12 October	Reception Don Rae dance workshop
Tuesday 13 October	Individual school photographs
Wednesday 14 October	Parent consultations 15.30 – 18.00
Thursday 15 October	Parent consultations 16.30 – 19.00
Friday 16 October	Break up for half term
Monday 2 November	Return to school



Weekly Attendance

Weekly Attendance – week commencing Monday 14 September 2026

Class	RA	RE	1B	1G	2IM	2P	3LC	Whole school
Attendance	96.6%	95.3%	96.7%	94.4%	94.3%	98.3%	93.8%	
Class	3T	4C	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R	
Attendance	99.0%	91.0%	91.6%	90.5%	91.5%	94.1%	98.0%	94.7%

1 st	2 nd	3 rd
3T	2P	6R



Yearly Attendance

Yearly Attendance – from 2 September 2026

Class	RA	RE	1B	1G	2IM	2P	3LC	Whole school
Attendance	96.8%	96.6%	97.1%	92.9%	95.2%	97.3%	92.9%	
Class	3T	4C	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R	
Attendance	98.7%	94.9%	94.3%	93.9%	92.5%	97.1%	97.5%	95.5%

1 st	2 nd	3 rd
3T	6R	2P



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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TOXIC GAMING

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

GAMING WITHOUT THE FUN

Toxic gaming takes many forms. In live, multiplayer games, players can be targeted by strangers bullying them over voice and text, or deliberately sabotaging their game. It can also be present in spaces outside of the game such as Discord and Reddit, with players gatekeeping their community and making it deliberately unwelcoming to newcomers. In extreme circumstances, it can lead to physical threats, stalking and doxing.

WIDESPREAD TOXICITY

The Anti-Defamation League's 2018 study numbers are stark. At that point, 74% of players had experienced some form of abuse, with 85% receiving physical threats, stalking or sustained harassment. Nearly a third of players surveyed found themselves doxed while playing online, which means private or personal information was shared against their will in an attempt to intimidate or silence.

BIGOTED TRASH TALK

Such toxic tactics are especially prevalent against girls, LGBTQ+ players and players from minority ethnic backgrounds. In all, 63% of respondents reported being targeted based on their race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability. Another survey revealed that 88% of openly LGBTQ+ players have been harassed by their communities, while over half of women report using a non-gendered or male username while playing to avoid harassment.

EXTREMIST IDEOLOGIES

Extremist groups have been known to target gaming communities and streaming platforms as a way of spreading propaganda and recruiting young players to their cause. Even in 2018, the ADL's research found that 23% of players had been exposed to white supremacist ideology, with a further 9% exposed to positive views about Islamic State. Disinformation is also a problem, with 13% hearing conspiracy theories about 9/11 and 8% exposed to Holocaust denial.

A SAFE SPACE MADE UNSAFE

This toxic environment can lead to the same feelings of fear, isolation and depression that offline bullying can. Children exposed to toxic gaming can become withdrawn, anxious or irritable. They can struggle with sleep and find it difficult to focus on schoolwork and other pursuits, even after the game has been switched off and they're no longer playing.

COPYING HARMFUL BEHAVIOUR

At the other end of the spectrum, children can mimic the toxic behaviour and language they've seen online in offline settings. If bullying or bigoted chat is normalised as a legitimate part of online gaming, children may end up emulating it offline with classmates, seeing it as harmless banter. This could make other children's lives miserable or leave them feeling isolated at school.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PLAY WITH FRIENDS

While some games rely on playing with strangers to make up the numbers, there are plenty of titles that can be played on a private server with vetted, trusted friends, sidestepping the toxic elements of the wider gaming community. If a child encounters toxic behaviour in others while playing larger games, encourage them to block and report the players responsible.

USE THE GAME'S TOOLS

Many online games provide ways to limit interaction with strangers, either through the global settings on PlayStation or Xbox, or within the game itself. Look at the options, and make it so children can only communicate with their friends. If you can't see this level of control, you can consider disabling chat completely and, where age-appropriate, using a suitable separate service for communication with friends.

TALK TO CHILDREN

Most importantly, if children are gaming online or want to start, talk to them about the risks and how to deal with toxic behaviour. Explain the kinds of behaviour they may encounter, encourage them to report and block, and let them know they can talk to you about any concerns. Where appropriate, you may even want to play alongside them to get a feel for the community yourself.

FIND THE RIGHT COMMUNITY

If your child is at an age where social media is permitted, friendly communities exist. There are online groups for LGBTQ+ players, players from minority backgrounds and girls, where they can chat and find people to play with in more welcoming environments. Not everyone is who they claim to be online, so be sure to discuss the risks of online friendships, and maintain an open dialogue with children to ensure their ongoing safety.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is a technology journalist who has written for publications including Wired, TechRadar, The Telegraph, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



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Special Menu Favourites Day

Thursday 1st October

✓ Boston BBQ Chicken Wrap

Margherita Pita Pizza

Served with Baked Wedges,
Baked Beans & Peas

Also Available

Jacket Potato with Baked Beans

Dessert

Chocolate Sponge with Chocolate Custard

BM1, BM2 & BM3

pabulum



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