



News on the Ninth

June 2025

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Welcome to the June edition of our school newsletter! As we move further into the summer term, we hope that the warmer weather returns to help make this term's events even more enjoyable.

Allergy Awareness

To keep all our children safe, please remember that nuts and nut products are not allowed in packed lunches. Some students have severe allergies, and even a small trace can be dangerous.

Thank you for helping us keep our school safe and inclusive for everyone!

Wellington Boot Donations

If you have any unwanted wellington boots which are in good condition, we would appreciate them to hold as spares for when classes visit the orchard.



Pirates – Wow Writing

For over a week now, the children have noticed some unusual things around the school. Pictures of pirate ships started appearing along the corridors and in classes. This was followed by large bottles which appeared to contain a map – possibly a treasure map!

On Monday, to kick start our 'Wow writing' week, each class spent some time trying to solve clues to locate the lost treasure buried deep within our orchard. There were compasses to use, magnifying glasses to examine things, spades for digging and maps to follow.

All the children had a great time and we'd like to share some of the photos from the day.

Nursery



Reception





Year 1





OUR SCHOOL HAS ACHIEVED THE

LPPA

Leading Parent Partnership Award

Developing positive relationships with parents

2024 - 2027

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Year 2





Year 3





OUR SCHOOL HAS ACHIEVED THE

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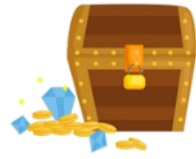
2024 - 2027



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Year 4





Year 5





OUR SCHOOL HAS ACHIEVED THE
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Year 6







Year 6 - SATs

We would like to congratulate all children in Year 6 for their hard work on the build up to SATs and their resilience throughout the week! Thank you also to the adults at home for your continued support.



A big thank you also to the staff who cooked and prepared breakfast all week for the hungry bunch.

Online Safety – Mental Health

For children in Years 5 and 6, despite having an age rating of 13+, the use of WhatsApp and other messaging apps are increasingly popular. Over the past couple of years, we have noticed a huge increase in the number of children who they are having a negative effect on - affecting their mental health, concentration and wellbeing.

The issues arise especially within large group chats. Common issue include: Children posting unpleasant messages about each other, removing / adding others to groups without their permission, excluding individuals from conversations. Sometimes, it is not individual messages that are unkind, but the frequency of non-positively phrased messages which children struggle to cope with.

Please help support your children by:

- Ensuring sufficient parental controls / privacy settings are in place.
- Monitoring their messages. Are they posting messages which are unkind? Are they receiving unpleasant messages?
- Ensure they know how to block individuals.
- Report more serious unpleasanties, or continued abuse to the police.
- Remove them from groups which have a large number of people.
- For inappropriate messages within games, check they know how to report this to the game company.



Online Safety Theme

For June, our theme is health, well-being and lifestyle.

For EYFS / KS1, please have some discussions around rules to stay safe when using devices and the importance of not having too much screen time.

For KS2, please have some discussions about:

- the positive and negative impact technology can have
- the pressures that technology can place on people - through adverts, wanting latest technology, wanting messages / comments to be 'liked'





Anti-abuse curriculum

In order to embed the Anti-Abuse Curriculum into our teaching, each half term we are focusing on one theme which we will discuss in our classrooms during snack and discussion time. This half term, we are focusing on Character and Personal Values. Some objectives link closely with our PSHE topics as well as our discussion on the Emotion of the Month.

Here are just some of the things we have been discussing across the school:

- I know that helping others can make me feel good about myself, but in helping others I should not put my own safety, wellbeing and future at risk.
- I know that my choices and behaviours have consequences and that I can change my behaviours and choices.
- I know the importance of a growth mind-set and approaching life with optimism to help me achieve my goals.
- I can reject pressure to join in with hurtful and immoral behaviour.
- I have confidence in my ability to decide when to be compassionate and when to challenge and confront.
- I have skills and strategies to help encourage understanding when friends fall out.
- I know that fulfilling my potential requires the development of judgement, morality and integrity.

At home, why not speak with your child about what important qualities they look for in a friend and why showing kindness and care to everyone is important. It would be useful to discuss 'peer pressure' and the importance of standing up for yourself and others in an appropriate way.

Think Pharmacy First

Did you know that Pharmacies can now offer NHS clinical appointments with medication available if required for four clinical conditions particularly relevant to school age children? Earache (Children aged 1-17) Sore Throat (over 5s) Infected Insect bites (Over 1s) Impetigo (Over 1s) Visit your local pharmacy for more information. To find a local pharmacy see: <https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/pharmacy/find-a-pharmacy>



Friend of Commonswood School

Another busy month for the Friends of Commonswood School team. A huge thank you to our committee of volunteers who help make events successful and make fund raising for our children and school possible.

- Our **preloved uniform sales are now available online**; items will be packaged and available for collection from the school office. You can browse the stock and purchase item via [PTA Events Shop](#)
- The **race night** held before half term was a total sell out and a huge success. The horses were named, and we saw races that included Ned Sheeren, Lava Chicken and Fifty Shades of Hay!! The noise in the room was incredible as the children (and adults!!) cheered their horses on. We shall run this event again, so make sure you book your ticket early to make sure you get a place.



- The **Krispy Kreme donut sale** is on **13th June** in both playgrounds after school, this event raises money for the year 6 leavers items, so make sure you pre-order to avoid missing out.



Summer Fair 2025

One of our biggest events in the calendar is coming up on Saturday 5th July, our annual Summer Fair, which promises to be bigger and better than last year. We have a mini market, traditional games, a performance arena, face painting, glitter art, go karting, bouncy castles, emergency service vehicles, ice creams, BBQ and bar a raffle and much much more.

However, the Summer Fair needs **YOU** as it won't happen without your help. We need the whole school community to pull together for the fair to go ahead as planned. Just one slot is all it takes! Let's make it an event to remember.

- No experience needed
- One-hour slots
- Option to volunteer on cashless token stalls
- Your choice of what area to volunteer in – can be set up if you aren't available on the day.
- Feel-good fun with a friend or your child

Link to volunteer [Friends of Commonswood PTA](#) or contact us at commonswoodpta@yahoo.com



School Diary

June	
2 nd – 13 th	Year 3 swimming each day
9 th – 13 th	WOW Writing Week
13 th	Menstruation talk – junior girls + parents at 2:30
13 th	PTA – Doughnut Sale – after school
23 rd – 27 th	Year 6 residential trip
27 th	Nursery Sports Day – Morning at 9:20
July	
1 st	KS2 Sports Day – Morning at 8:40
1 st	KS1 Sports Day – Afternoon at 12:55
2 nd	Reception 2025 parent meeting at 2pm

5 th	PTA Summer Fair at 12pm
10 th	Transition Day – year 6 pupils attend their secondary school – all children visit their new classrooms.
10 th	Opportunity for parents and children to visit new classroom and see work from current and next year group – after school 3:15pm – 4:30pm
18 th	Year 6 show 9am and 1:45pm
21 st	Year 6 – Bell ringing at 9am
22 nd	Year 6 - trip
22 nd	Year 6 – BBQ – 4pm – 6pm
23 rd	Children’s last day of term
September	
4 th	Term begins for the children at 8:30am



Commonswood Primary & Nursery School is a Safeguarding School

We are an Encompass School working with external agencies to support children who are victims of domestic abuse.

‘All schools have a clear responsibility placed on them by the Children Act 1989 and by guidance from the Department of Education to safeguard the welfare of all their pupils. In doing so schools are expected to consult with Social Services if they believe there is a possibility that a child may be suffering from abuse or neglect.’

If you have any concerns about children, please contact 0300 123 4043.

Mrs G Seymour (Designated Safeguarding Lead), Mr S Burt (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead), Mrs D Lindsay-Hill (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead), Miss K Dean (Designated Safeguarding Lead) Chair of Governors Mrs Julie Noakes



In partnership with Hertfordshire Council, British Cycling is excited to offer FREE Cycling City Hub and Academy sessions for children across Hertfordshire!

Held at both the Welwyn Gosling Track and St Albans Pump Track, these sessions are the perfect opportunity for students aged 7-14 to build BMX and velodrome cycling skills in a fun, safe environment.

What: Skill-building cycling sessions, BMX and Velodrome skills Who: Confident riders, ages 7-14 When & Where: St Albans Cycle Hub: Tuesdays, 4:30 PM – 5:30 PM, Welwyn Gosling Park: Wednesdays, 4:30 PM – 5:30 PM Cost: Free! (Bike rentals available at St Albans; Welwyn riders, please bring your own) New sessions will also be launching soon at The Sele School, Hertford and Edwinstree Middle School, Buntingford.

Don't miss this chance for students to enjoy professional coaching and foster a love for cycling! Sign Up via <https://group.spond.com/SMDKB> (or use code SMDKB if you're already on Spond). For more info, contact Iffat Tejani at cityacademyherts@britishcycling.org.uk