

NEWSLETTER

'Be strong and courageous'
Joshua 1:9

Colnbrook CofE Primary School | 16th October 2026

A Message from this week's Editor: Mrs Biddle

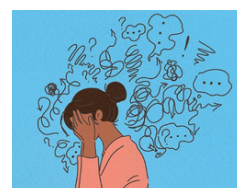


Our focus in English this term is helping children build positive reading and writing habits. We provide daily opportunities to practise these skills in school and encourage families to continue them at home. Children can develop their writing through simple activities such as practising letter formation, writing their name, creating sentences or writing stories. We would love to see any writing they complete at home shared in school. Reading regularly at home is equally important. Reading with an adult helps children build fluency, confidence, vocabulary, comprehension and a love of books, while also supporting their writing and spelling. By making reading and writing a regular, enjoyable part of family life, you can make a real difference to your child's progress. Thank you for your continued support.



Collective Worship:

This week we focused on the importance of keeping ourselves safe in different situations. We discussed everyday risks at home and in the community, such as staying safe around hot ovens and open water. The children also discussed online safety, exploring ways to stay safe when using the internet and what to do if something makes them feel uncomfortable or worried. A key message was the importance of talking to a trusted adult at home or school whenever they need help or support. By understanding how to stay safe and knowing who to turn to, we can all help create a safe and caring community.



Star of the week

Nursery - Hansel
Reception - Syed
Year 1 - Nella
Year 2 - Albie
Year 3 - Emilia
Year 4 - Dennis
Year 5 - Angadveer
Year 6 - Rovena

Top Attendance this week

1st - Year 4 - 97.80%
2nd - Year 2 - 97.62%
3rd - Year 5 - 97.05%

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO THIS WEEK?

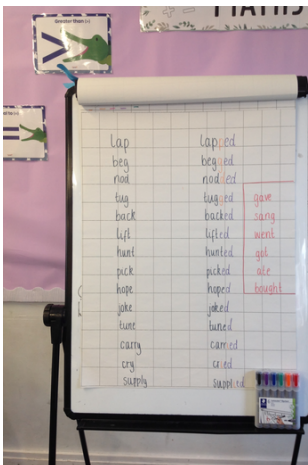
Explorers

Our Explorers have had a fantastic Pancake Day inspired by the Nikhil and Jay stories! The children carefully wrote their equipment and ingredient lists, followed a recipe, and then enjoyed making delicious pancakes with Helen, our school chef. They showed great enthusiasm, teamwork, and excellent writing skills throughout the activity. Well done, Explorers



Reception

This week in English, we have been exploring the story Leaf Man by Lois Ehlert. On Tuesday, we went on an autumn walk to observe the seasonal changes happening around us. We noticed leaves changing colour and falling from the trees, and discussed why this happens during autumn. The children enjoyed exploring the different colours, shapes and sizes of leaves, using their observations to make connections with the story and develop their vocabulary.



Year 2

'Year 2 have started looking at diary entries. We have gone through the features of a checklist and then focused on our past tense words. Amaris - "Past tense words are describing things that have already happened". We have been trying to understand the different rules we need to remember when changing words from present to past tense.'



WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO THIS WEEK?



Year 4

Year 4 visited the Viking Museum in Chertsey on Wednesday. The children really enjoyed looking at the artifacts and dressing up as Vikings.

Finley- "I got to dress up as a Viking with shield. It was very heavy!"

Ayla - "I really enjoyed learning about the Vikings and seeing a real Viking sword that was over a thousand years old hundreds of years old."



Year 6

This week, Year 6 have considered what it must have been like to be an evacuee. They have looked at historical sources, such as letters and photographs, from World War two and thought about the range of emotions the children must have felt. They then turned these emotions into an evacuee poem or letter home to their parents. In their poem or letter they described what they had experienced and how they felt.



Harvest Disco Brings Autumn Fun to School

Our Harvest Disco was a wonderful way to celebrate the Harvest season and enjoy time together as a school family. The hall was full of energy as children danced to their favourite songs, took part in fun activities, and enjoyed spending time with friends.



IMPORTANT DATES

Week 8

**22 October - 2.15-3.00
Harvest Church Service**

**23 October - end of
Autumn 1 - Half term
begins**



Poppy Appeal - Remembrance Day

As Remembrance Day approaches, children and families are invited to purchase a poppy in support of the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal. Wearing a poppy is a way of remembering and honouring the service and sacrifice of our Armed Forces, veterans and their families. Poppies will be available to buy at school from Monday 19th October for a suggested cash donation of 50p-£1.50. Thank you for your support in helping us remember those who have served and continue to serve our country.



Starting Secondary School in Slough 2027/28

Apply online at www.slough.gov.uk/school-admissions

It is important that you take time to read this information which outlines the application process for a year 7 school place.

Dear Parent/Carer,

If your child was born between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016, and you live in Slough, you can now apply online for a transfer from primary (Year 6) to secondary school (Year 7) for September 2027.

The Citizen Portal on the council website is now open to receive applications. There are clear and simple prompts to guide you through making your application.

You will also find the *Starting secondary school booklet* on the council website. The booklet contains a wealth of information to help you choose the right schools, make an application and understand how the application process works. It provides a profile of all of Slough secondary schools alongside information about admission arrangements.

Who should apply?

Current Year 6 pupils - children who will be transferring from primary (Year 6) school to secondary school (Year 7) in September 2027.

When do I need to apply?

You can apply anytime from 1 September 2026. **To receive an offer of a school place on national offer day, you must submit an application by 31 October 2026.**

Please note: In order to maximise your chances of being offered one of your preferred schools

- You **MUST** submit an application with any required documents/supplementary forms on time.
- Your child **MUST** meet the admissions criteria of the school to be offered a place.

and there is

- **NO** automatic transfer from a primary into a secondary school.
- **NO** automatic offer of a sibling place without making an application.

Apply online at
www.slough.gov.uk/school-admissions
 Closing date to apply 31 October 2026

Changing your preferences or changing the order after submitting an application

You can make any changes to your application before the closing date. However, if you wish to change your preferences after



the closing date or you wish to change the preference order, all your preferences would be considered as late applications and considered after all on-time applications.

It is possible to change your preferences after your application has been downloaded by the Admissions Team but you will need to complete an amendment form which you will find on the council's website.

What happens if I miss the closing date?

For the avoidance of doubt, all applications submitted and received after the closing date (31 October 2026) will be deemed as late applications. They will be considered after those that are received on time and after the first round of offers have been made.

How do I apply?

If you live in Slough you **MUST** apply through Slough Borough Council. The easiest way to apply is online.

Go to www.slough.gov.uk/school-admissions and follow the instructions on the screen.

If you do not have internet access at home you can still apply online at your local library or at the council offices.

Who can make the application?

Applications must be made by a parent or carer who holds legal parental responsibility for a child. Only one application should be made per child.

Contact the Admissions Team

If you would like more information about the school admissions process or the admission arrangements, please read the 'Starting secondary school' booklet

Or visit: www.slough.gov.uk/school-admissions

Email: _admissions.helpline@slough.gov.uk

Contact Centre:

Telephone: 01753 475111 (Monday to Friday)

Please note that the School Admissions lines open as and when needed around admissions time.

Best wishes,

Sabi Hothi

Head of Education Services

Slough Borough Council

Observatory House, 25 Windsor Road, Slough SL1 2EL




Scouts

Squirrels

Squirrels. The youngest branch of the Scouts' family tree. Where 4-6 year olds can join in too. This is an age when minds are fizzing, when energy and curiosity levels are sky high, when little lives are full of wow and wonder.

Set them climbing the tree. Who knows how far they'll reach?

Start your adventure today.

Contact Gary Rumble on 07957 422259 or via email on gary.rumble@sloughscouts.org.uk

**Wild
about the
outdoors?
So are we.**

[Scouts.org.uk/join](https://scouts.org.uk/join)

#SkillsForLife