

NEWSLETTER

'Be strong and courageous'
Joshua 1:9

Colnbrook CofE Primary School | 23rd October 2026

A Message from this week's Editor: Mrs Hanrahan

We've made it to the end of our first term of the year and what a busy week it has been. On Tuesday we celebrated our 'House Day' where children enjoyed spending time in their houses learning about courageous advocacy and taking part in team building activities. This week we also celebrated our Harvest service. This was a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together in gratitude and reflection. Through songs, prayers, readings and celebrations of the harvest, the children learned about the importance of being thankful to God for the food we have and the hard work of farmers and growers. I hope you all have a restful half term and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 2nd November.

SEBMAT
Slough and East Berkshire C of E Multi Academy Trust

Collective Worship

This week in collective worship, we focused on the Parable of the Sower. We learned about a farmer scattering seeds across four different types of ground: a hard path, rocky ground, among thorns, and into rich, good soil. Children reflected on: courage means trying new things, making mistakes, and choosing kindness on the playground—knowing they are always supported by our loving school community.



Star of the week

Nursery - Naila
Reception - Roan
Year 1 - Natalia
Year 2 - Hayley
Year 3 - Mayida
Year 4 - Katie
Year 5 - Harvey
Year 6 - Arianna

Top Attendance this week

1st - Year 6 - 99.14%
2nd - Year R - 98.33%
3rd - Year 5 - 97.22%

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO THIS WEEK?

Stronger together...

SCHOOL HOUSE DAY

Think Speak Take Action

Courageous Advocacy & Team Building

Big Question

"What do we stand for, and how can we use our voices to make a difference?"

PARKS HOUSE
Valour • Liberty Determination

On House Day, Parks House came together to re-establish our House values, share the songs that bring us together, and explore what courageous advocacy means to us. Through discussion, reflection and teamwork, we thought about how we can live out our values, support one another and use our voices courageously to make a positive difference.

ROWLING HOUSE
Read, imagine, grow



Rowling House were introduced to our new House Captains: Chisara & Robert! We enjoyed our house meeting and started with an ice breaker game: Would you rather? Then we decided which charity we wanted to support. We shared our ideas and voted. We decided to go for a Charity founded by J.K. Rowling called Lumos. Lumos helps children around the world grow up in safe, loving families. It works to keep families together and helps children find family-based care when they cannot live at home.

ATTENBOROUGH HOUSE
Our world, our responsibility



Attenbourough house had a wonderful time on House Day this week. We all welcomed each other and got to know our new House Captains Oliver and Alice. We did a team building activities and then decided on Eco-Active as our choosen charity. They help the community in Windsor and Maidenhead.
We also researched about David Attenbourogh and then created a poster about him. Including what values he stood for the most - which we as a house also stand for.
We think that looking after the environment, our world and animals is very important. We need to look after Earth and everything it.

VAN GOGH HOUSE
Together everyone achieves



It has been a busy and creative time in Van Gogh House! We began by learning about the fascinating history and life of Vincent van Gogh, discovering more about the artist and his incredible journey.
We then explored our charity, Busy Buttons, thinking about what our House values mean to us and how we can put them into action. We took part in a range of role-play activities focused on courageous advocacy, giving us the opportunity to practise speaking up, supporting others and making positive choices.
To finish our week, we worked together to create colourful Van Gogh House posters, celebrating our House, our values and what makes us proud to be part of the Van Gogh team!



PUPIL VOICE

"Our values in our house is creativity, enthusisam and peoples rights. Busy Buttons charity is very important to us becuase it helps others with express what they want. We believe nothing should stop anyone from achieving thier dreams."

Van Gogh: Muna & Ishaan

"We believe that our charity Lumos is unique. It focuses on getting rid of unfairness. It helps children specifically. This charity encourages us, because you can make a difference for others even in a small way. We can't wait to raise money for our charity."

Rowling: Chisara & Robert

"Our values focus on respect, care and determination. We all are very passionate about looking after our environment, our world and the animals. It is our duty to protect our Earth and the animals. Eco-active charity help with the environment and animals too. We want to do litter picking and raise money through a bake sale for them."

Attenborough: Oliver & Alice

"We stand for valor, courage and determination. That means we stand up for when things are not right, just like when Rosa Parks stood up for injustice on the bus. We love house days becuase everyone is included and togehter and we get to do something to support our charity."

Parks: Iustin & Rovena

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO THIS WEEK?

Discovery

This week in Discovery class we have been having fun, despite the weather. We have been working through play to develop our gross motor skills with scarf dancing, jumping and climbing up crate steps. We built a huge train track together using our fine motor skills to connect the pieces and push the small trains along.





Year 5

In English, Year 5 have been studying the book Cosmic. This is a science fiction novel about 12-year-old Liam Digby, an unusually tall boy who is frequently mistaken for an adult. We have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the characters and acting in role, especially when they got stuck in space with no responsible adult! Throughout this topic, we have been learning how to write to persuade. Our newest piece of writing is to write an engaging and informative newspaper report.

Year 6



Year 6 had a wonderful day at the Imperial War Museum last week. They enjoyed travelling on the train and underground and as soon as they arrived at the museum, took part in a documentary workshop where they created a film report about some of the artefacts at the museum. Year 6 loved exploring the World War 2 exhibitions and were able to go inside an Anderson shelter and study original uniforms and weapons. During the World War 1 exhibition they experienced what it was like in the trenches and were amazed by some of the facts they uncovered. Well done, Year 6 - you represented Colnbrook school brilliantly,



Harvest Service

We held our annual Harvest Service this week, and it was an absolute joy to bring our school community together. The children filled the hall with beautiful singing. Each year group contributed with readings from the bible, harvest poems and harvest prayers. Thank you to all the staff and children for their hard work in preparing for this service, as well as to our families for your support.





IMPORTANT DATES

Autumn 2

Week 1

3 November - 3.15 - PTA meeting
5 November - Y6 Height & Weight Checks
6 November - 9.00-9.30 Y6 Class Assembly

Week 2

10-11 November Y4 Parent's Evening
10-12 November - Book Fair
11 November - Rememberance - 1 Minute Silence
11-12 November - Parent's Evening - all other Year groups

Week 3

Anti-Bullying Week
16 November - Class Photos
16-18 November - Bikeability Levels 1 & 2
20 November - Children in Need
20 November - Year 5 Class Assembly

Week 4

Wellbeing Week
25 November - EYFS-Year 2 - The Hare & The Tortoise Performance in school; Y3-Y6 Pantomime - Windsor Theatre
27 November - PTA Tombola

Spirituality at Our School

As a Church of England school, we aim to nurture the spiritual development of all our children. Spirituality is about helping children explore **life's big questions**, **develop a sense of wonder**, **reflect on their experiences**, and **understand themselves**, **others**, **the world around them**, and **God**.

We recognise that spirituality is not something that can be taught as a separate subject. Instead, it is woven throughout school life and provides opportunities for children to **pause**, **reflect and grow**.

We often talk about spirituality using the language of **Windows**, **Mirrors** and **Doors**:



"Notice the world"

Take time to stop and look

Windows allows us to look out and see beyond our immediate surroundings. They offer us a glimpse into other worlds, other lives, and other perspectives. By looking through windows, we expand our understanding and empathy.

What are you curious about?
Have you had a 'wow' moment?
What brings you joy?
Are there things that challenge you?



"Thinking about ourselves "

Take time to relflect

Mirrors, on the other hand, reflect what is within us. They encourage self-awareness. When we look into a mirror, we see ourselves —our strengths, our weaknesses, and everything in between. This reflection helps us grow and improve.

Where and how do you do this?
What is my view on this?
How does this expereince make you feel?
What inspires you?



"Making choices"

Take action

Doors represent opportunities and choices. They can lead us into new experiences and challenges. Doors invite us to step into the unknown and embrace change.

What can you learn from this?
How have you been inspired to do good?
What can you do about this?
How can you help /serve others?

In life, we need all three—windows to broaden our **perspective**, mirrors to deepen our **self-understanding**, and doors to take **action and move forward**.



IN OTHER NEWS

Shellfish-Free Lunches Reminder

Please remember that shellfish and shellfish-containing products should not be included in packed lunches or snacks brought into school. We have pupils with allergies, and even small amounts of shellfish can pose a health risk.

Reminder - Lunch Bookings

Please book breakfast club and lunch through Teachers2Parents app





Christmas Card Competition

Jack Rankin the MP for Windsor has written to invite pupils to enter a Christmas Card Competition to design his official Chrstmas Card.

At the beginning of half term will be asking students to draw a design around the following themes:

"Tinsel on the Thames"/"Santa and Swans"/"The King's Christmas"



We are delighted to be hosting a **Scholastic Book Fair** once again from **Wednesday 11th November to Monday 16th November.**

You are welcome to visit the fair with your child after school on these days **until 4.00pm**, or during the **Parents' Evenings**. There will be a range of books available to purchase.

Please note that all payments must be made online using the QR code provided.

By purchasing books through the Book Fair, you will be helping to support literacy in our school, as Scholastic provides free books for schools based on sales made at the fair.

There is also a competition running over the half-term break, giving children the chance to win a £5 book voucher to spend at the fair.

If you have any questions, please speak to Mrs Biddle or the office.

Thank you for your support.

Poppies are still available to buy, for a cash contribution of between 50p-£1.50. Thank you for your support in helping us remember those who have served and continue to serve our country.

www.slough.gov.uk
Slough Borough Council

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?

CurrentYear 6pupils - 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 canmakeany changes to yourapplicationbeforetheclosing 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?

Forthe 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?

Ifyou livein 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?

Applicationsmustbemade byaparent orcarer who holds legal parental responsibility for a child. Only one application should be made per child.

Contact the Admissions Team

Ifyou would like more information aboutthe 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



Squirrels

Wild about the outdoors? So are we.

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

Scouts.org.uk/join

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