



I am sorry to start the newsletter with a moan but there has been a deterioration of the wearing of the school uniform. Some children/parents think that a **black hoodie/ jumper** is part of the school uniform—it **isn't**, not for PE and not for day to day wear. Children will be asked to remove them if they are wearing them in school. Shoes—these should be black. Trainers are acceptable. I have spoken to some children this week, but appreciate they are not the ones buying the footwear. As parents, please make sure that you are following the schools uniform code. High top trainers are not acceptable footwear.

I have also sent out a text this week reminding that there should be no chewing gum/bubble gum on the school premises or taken on school trips.

It was very pleasing to see a message that had been posted on social media stating how well behaved a group of year 4 Mission Grove children were on the underground this week. It is always lovely to hear positive comments about the children in school.

If you have changed address, email or telephone number, please make sure you inform the office.

Apologies, on last weeks newsletter it stated that Reception were going to visit the pumphouse. This trip has now been cancelled.

The PTA met this week and discussed plans for this years Easter Egg Hunt. There will be another meeting on Thursday 26th February at 9am on North site.

If you have had your child's parents evening you will have targets for your children to work on at home to help support their learning. If you haven't made an appointment yet please check the app as there are more evenings the week beginning the 9th February.

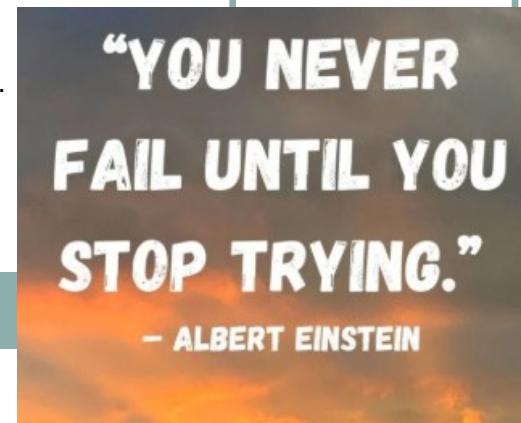
I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.



SETTING UP OR JOINING GROUPS

Thank you to Miss Dar and Chiff Chaff for their POWER assembly today. It was great to see so many parents coming along in support.

Next week we have 2 class assemblies, Wren and Waxwing.



SPECIAL DATES

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FOOD, CLOTHING,
A SAFE HOME

ATTENDANCE PERCENTAGE BY CLASS

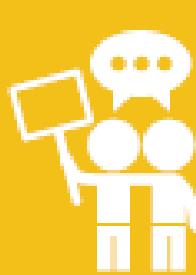
Thank you to the parents who have checked their child's certificates and informed us of medicals and other errors.

Form	%
Nursery North AM	79.36%
Nursery North PM	82.65%
2yr North PM	83.72%
R Grouse	84.43%
R Goose	84.90%
2yr North AM	85.12%
Nursery North Full Time	87.25%
2 Mallard	88.81%
Nursery South AM	90.81%
R Goldfinch	91.07%
5 Swan	91.15%
4 Wagtail	91.19%
1 Chaffinch	91.23%
4 Woodpecker	91.58%
3 Kittiwake	92.19%
4 Wren	92.25%
2 Merlin	92.44%
1 Chiff Chaff	92.45%
5 Sparrow	92.82%
2 Magpie	92.85%
4 Waxwing	93.01%
6 Barn Owl	93.03%
1 Crow	93.11%
R Goldcrest	93.40%
5 Swallow	93.75%
1 Cuckoo	94.19%
3 Kingfisher	94.27%
5 Skylark	94.42%
6 Blackbird	94.46%
6 Buzzard	94.61%
Nursery South PM	94.65%
3 Kestrel	94.84%
3 Kinglet	95.48%
Nursery South Full Time	96.14%
2 Moorhen	96.31%

February 2026 Article 15—to meet with friends & join groups/clubs

2nd year 6 cycling starts
Step counting week
3rd Year 6 energy Garden workshop
Year 5 visiting British Museum
Goose & Goldcrest @ transport museum
YEAR 6 COME DINE WITH ME
5th Year 4 energy Garden workshop
Full Governors
Nurse drop in sessions
6th Wren Class Assembly
Waxwing Class Assembly
Dodgeball festival year 5 & 6
9th Goose class stay & Play
Last week of clubs
10th Goldcrest stay & play
11th Goose stay and play
12th Parent Evening
13th Chaffinch @ Young V & A
16th—20th Half term Holidays
23rd Children back to school
23rd School dentist in
24th Girls football competition
26th 9am PTA North

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SETTING UP OR
JOINING GROUPS

Half Term Holiday Club

This will be running for the full week. The application form is on the website.

The half term is from Monday 16th to Friday 20th February.

The club is held on the North site.

Please visit the website to complete the application form for a place.

[Mission Grove Primary School - Holiday Club](#)



At Mission Grove, everyone aims high, everyone is included, and creativity is valued.

We live our motto: *Respect yourself, respect others.*

Our values guide us—respect, inclusion, life-long learning, high aspirations, resilience, and integrity.

Dates for our NHS drop-in n
the North Site, 9.30am start:

5 February 2026

19 March 2026

23 April 2026

7 May 2026

11 June 2026

9 July 2026



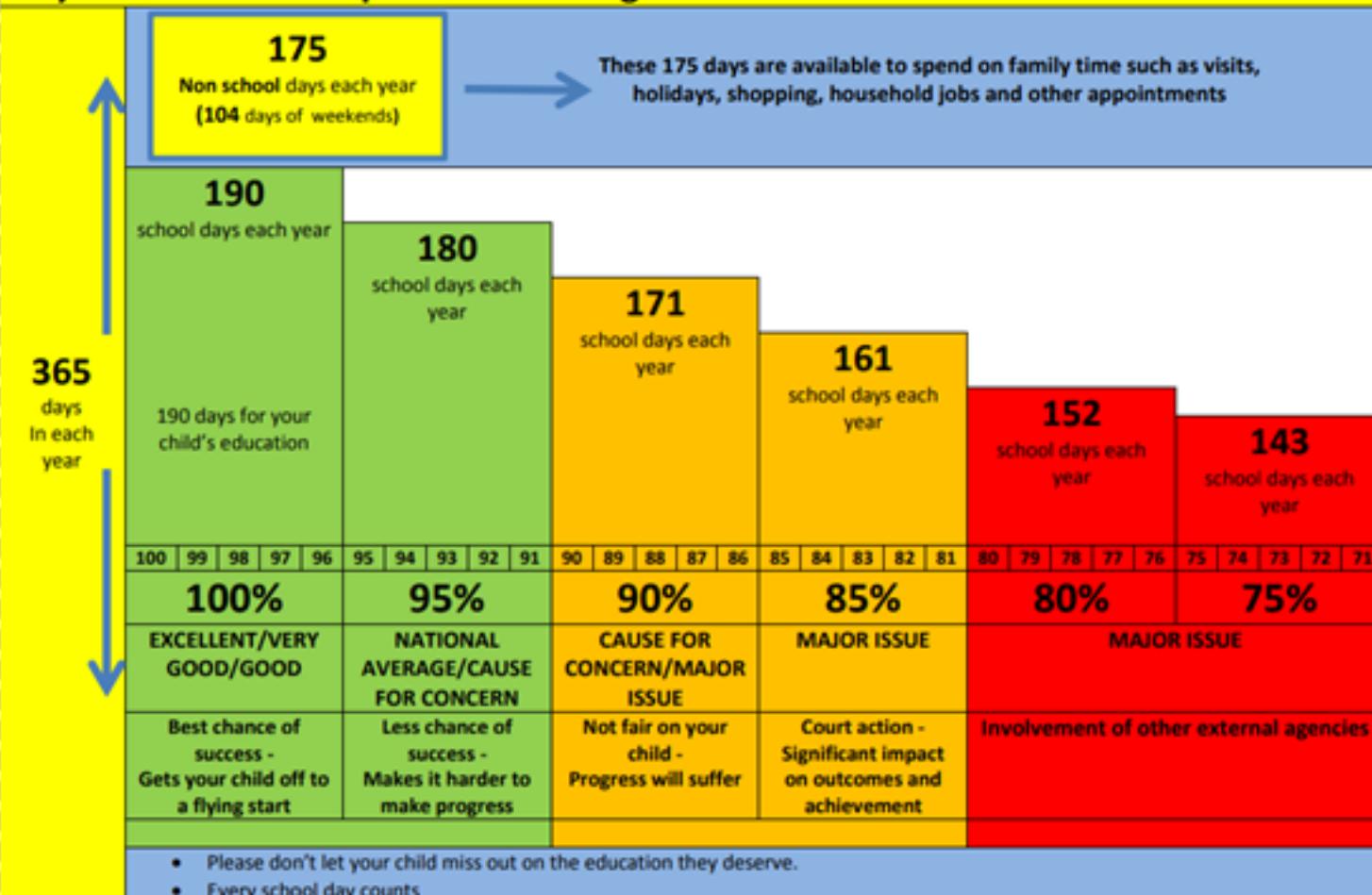
GYMNASTICS Zahra Kazi Sparrow: There were three routines, one on a bench, one on a mat and one with a hula hoop. If you pass all with a couple of mistakes you get gold! You can also achieve silver (what I got) and a bronze. I enjoyed doing the activities, I was a bit scared but my team mates made me feel confident again. I am so happy I got chosen to attend the gymnastics competition.

Junyao Skylark: Our first routine was with the hula hoop. Second was on the bench and the third was a floor routine. The coaches were from year 9 and they were really supportive, I had a great day and enjoyed attending the competition.

Tehzeeb Blackbird: The gymnastics festival was a really fun experience. We were judged by secondary school children and one of the best parts was when we got to do some of our favourite positions, for example, I loved using the hoops and something that was hard was the frog balance.



Days off school add up to lost learning!



Here are some basic reminders about attendance.

- We all feel in our comfort zone if our child is achieving a high percentage in tests and examinations. 80% in a test is generally excellent news! The danger is that we may feel the same way about attendance until it is explained.
- If a child has an attendance percentage of 80% then this is equivalent to **missing a whole day every single week**.
- If a child has an attendance percentage of 80% from **Year 7 to Year 11** then this is equivalent to **missing an entire year of school**.

One year in school is equivalent to 950 1 hour long lessons
 Five years in school is equivalent to 4750 1 hour long lessons
 Eleven years in school is equivalent to 10450 1 hour long lessons
 And all of this comes down to set of grades on a sheet of paper in an envelope

Attendance %	Missed Days	Missed weeks	Over 5 years	Annually	Impact over 5 years
100%	0	0	0	Excellent	
99%	1.9	0.38	9.5	Very Good	
98%	3.8	0.76	19	Very Good	
97% ¹	5.7	1.14	28.5	Very Good	
96%	7.6	1.52	38	Good	
95% ²	9.5	1.9	47.5	National average	Quarter Year missed
94%	11.4	2.28	57	Below Nat. average	
93%	13.3	2.66	66.5	Below Nat. average	Approx. Third year missed
92%	13.3	2.66	66.5	Requires improvement	
				Requires immediate improvement/worrying	
91%	17.1	3.42	85.5	8	
90% ³	19	3.8	95	Cause for concern	Half year missed
89%	20.9	4.18	104.5	Serious concern	
85% ⁴	28.5	5.7	142.5	Major issue	
80% ⁵	38	7.6	190	Major issue	1 Year missed

The world is full of kind If you can't find one,
people. be one.



Shouting & swearing will not be tolerated anywhere in school.

Help us create a safe and happy environment for everyone. Think before you shout or get angry with staff.
RESPECT YOURSELF, RESPECT OTHERS!

Year 3 had an exciting and memorable trip to the Natural History Museum this term. The children explored the fascinating Mary Anning exhibition, where they learned about her important discoveries and how fossils help us understand life from millions of years ago. They also took part in a practical, hands-on dinosaur dig workshop, working like real palaeontologists to uncover clues from the past. The visit linked perfectly with our science unit on rocks and soils, helping to bring classroom learning to life and sparking lots of curiosity and enthusiasm.





**Year 6
12.30 pm**

Save the date
**Come dine
with us**

Tuesday 3rd February 2026

Eat well. live better.

Come and join your child for lunch at 12.30
on 3rd February Cost £4.00

Half Term at the Hive

Monday 16 February
The Owl who was Afraid of
the Dark Woodland Storytime

Wednesday 18 February
Hoo-Dunnit: Owl Pellet
Dissection

Friday 20 February
Brilliant Birds



Conversation Clubs



Practise Speaking English
All welcome -
no booking needed

We run **FREE** English conversation clubs in small friendly groups in a relaxed environment.



Scan the QR code to see the timetable
In-person and zoom sessions available

Website: lbwadultlearning.co.uk/conversation-clubs

Email: conversationclub.als@walthamforest.gov.uk

Telephone: 020 8496 2974

Join The Hive this February!

The Hive is an environmental education hub nestled in the heart of Epping Forest, offering enriching day and residential visits all year round.

To support your outdoor learning, The Hive has created a fun and educational bird spotting activity. See the worksheet attached and try them out on your next outdoor adventure!

Woodland Storytime

Join The Hive on one of their popular Storytime events in Epping Forest; based on the beloved classic **The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark**.

Monday 16 February 2026 | 10am to 12pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-owl-who-was-afraid-of-the-dark-woodland-storytime-tickets-1980090056662?aff=oddtctcreator>

Hoo-Dunnit: Owl Pellet Dissection

Calling all animal detectives! Come and investigate what bony treasures can be found in the pellets of British owls.

Wednesday 18 February 2026 | 10am to 12pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hoo-dunnit-owl-pellet-dissection-tickets-1980094544084?aff=oddtctcreator>

Brilliant Birds

Celebrate spring & the arrival of birdsong with our family friendly bird-themed bonanza. Make feeders, play games and cook chocolate nests!

Friday 20 February 2026 | 10am to 12pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/brilliant-birds-tickets-1980096190007?aff=oddtctcreator>



thehive@walthamforest.gov.uk



Basketball opportunities

We're pleased to share access to **specially discounted tickets (50% off)** for the upcoming **Super League Basketball Playoff Finals**.

The Finals will see the two top teams from the Men's and Women's Super League Basketball battle it out to become the last teams standing in the 2025/2026 season, earning the ultimate bragging rights, and waltzing off into the summer with the Playoff title to show for their efforts.

With both the women's and men's Playoff Finals taking place in a spectacular double bill, a capacity crowd of over 16,000 is expected to, once again, pack out the O2 and witness some of the best ballers in the country do battle, as well as enjoying first-class entertainment from some of the biggest artists in the world.

You can find out more on the event, including our promotional video, by visiting <https://www.superleaguebasketballm.co.uk/2026playoffs/>

Ticket Offer & Booking

Our school has secured tickets for just **£10 per person** — a saving of at least 50% (normal prices: £28 Adult/ £20 Child).

Book your tickets here: <https://www.britishbasketballshop.com/products/2026playoffprimary>

Simply click **"Add to Cart"** and adjust the quantity as needed. Tickets will be dispatched directly by Super League Basketball.



**SUPER
LEAGUE
BASKETBALL**

WHY 'KINDNESS MATTERS' & HOW DOING GOOD DOES YOU GOOD

'WE MAKE A LIVING BY WHAT WE GET. WE MAKE A LIFE BY WHAT WE GIVE.'

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL

THE FOCUS FOR THIS YEAR'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK IS 'KINDNESS MATTERS'. IT IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO LOOK INTO THE BENEFIT OF HELPING OTHERS WHICH IS GOOD FOR IMPROVING OUR OWN MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING. HERE ARE SOME IDEAS TO GET YOU THINKING!

ALTRUISM

Altruism is acting in someone else's best interests in order to improve their welfare. When we feel compelled to donate money, shop for someone, call a relative in need or help a neighbour, we are considering the needs of others even when we may not know them. Showing kindness like this, often motivated by empathy, creates a sense of purpose, making us feel good and developing our wellbeing. Children and young people can take part in altruistic activities at home or school. They could create a video for those in isolation, fundraise for a local cause, bake cakes for neighbours or write letters to older members of the community who may feel isolated.



GIVE TO GIVE, NOT TO RECEIVE

Sometimes when we are kind there is no payback, which can make it more difficult to keep being kind. Our natural reaction is to shrink back and withdraw our kind act, feeling frustrated that it has either not been reciprocated or that it has not been valued. This is probably one of the most difficult concepts for children to understand and where the 'random acts of kindness' approach is helpful. If it is a random act then it is 'just because' and for no other reason than a one-off act for someone.



COMMUNITY

When we help others in our community, it improves our wellbeing by helping us to feel less isolated as we connect with others. When we show kindness, it is something which we feel we can control, particularly when things may feel a bit chaotic and unusual. Helping others can often give us a different perspective on our own challenges and our own problems. Peer support, for example, is often overlooked as an important part of improving wellbeing. Older students can often greatly benefit from sharing similar, shared experiences and can offer a level of empathy and understanding that adults may not be able to.



'KINDNESS IS A SILENT SMILE, A FRIENDLY WORD, A nod OF ENCOURAGEMENT. KINDNESS IS THE SINGLE MOST POWERFUL THING WE CAN TEACH CHILDREN.'

RA KIVIST

The
National
College®

This guide has been written by Anna Bateman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school, integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture and systems. She is also a member of the advisory group for the Department for Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



For further info, check out these online resources:

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/blog/random-acts-kindness>

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/mental-health-awareness-week/get-involved>