

Mandeville Primary School

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13th February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

It seems amazing that we are almost halfway through the academic year!

Children's Mental Health Week: This week, Mandeville Primary marked 'Children's Mental Health Week' and pupils engaged enthusiastically in a special assembly linked to the theme of 'Belonging'. Children also completed a pupil wellbeing activity, which we are currently analysing. These findings will be used to inform any subsequent school actions.

Maths Parent/Carer Workshop: Thank you for attending the maths information sessions this week. It was great to see parents join the workshops to find out more about how you can support your child's learning at home. My thanks also to Mrs Bishop (Deputy Headteacher/Maths Leader) for organising the event and to all teachers for their valuable contributions.

Parent/Teacher Consultation Sessions: As a reminder, these consultation sessions will take place on 2nd and 5th March. You will be able to book your slot once we return after the half-term week. In advance of the meeting, you will receive your child's mid-year report. At the consultation session, you will be able to explore how your child is progressing in relation to the standards expected, celebrate achievements and clarify what he/she needs to focus in order to improve. Your child is welcome to attend the meeting with you and you will also be able to view your child's books at the session.

World Book Day: World Book Day is 5th March and, as usual, we will be taking part in a Vocabulary Parade. The event provides a wonderful opportunity to learn new and unusual words, and enrich the children's use of language. Details were sent out earlier this week by Mrs Wilson, English Leader.

Application Deadline: The deadline for applying for a Nursery place for the next academic year is Friday 6th March 2026. Parents/carers will need to make an application by the closing date to ensure their application is considered on time. Parents should apply online at: <http://www.mandeville221.herts.sch.uk/admissions>

Vouchers: Since December 2020, the local authority has been able to provide supermarket vouchers to families, supported through government funding streams. From October 2021 onwards, this was funded through Household Support Fund. The government has now confirmed that the Household Support Fund will come to an end in 2025. Unfortunately, this means we will no longer be able to issue vouchers to children who are entitled to benefit-related free school meals for the holiday periods. We understand that this change may be difficult for some families, and we want to reassure you that support is still available. If we feel you may need additional help, we encourage you to visit the Hertfordshire County Council 'Cost of Living Support' pages on the council website, where you can find information about a range of services and assistance options.

Staffing: I am delighted to inform you that Mrs Little will be joining Mandeville after half term, taking on the role of Learning Support Assistant/HLTA. Mrs Little is an experienced LSA and will initially be supporting the learning of our Year 6 pupils. We are looking forward to welcoming her to the team.

Online Safety: Please find attached the latest 'Online Safety Newsletter' from HFL Education.

Health: Please see the following website, which may be of interest, in relation to supporting your child's health and wellbeing: <https://www.healthforkids.co.uk>

It certainly has been a busy and extremely successful start to 2026. I hope you have a wonderful half-term week with an opportunity to enjoy some quality family time.

Yours faithfully

Miss Kara Hales
Headteacher

