

Mandeville Primary School

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17th December 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

What a successful autumn term it has been! Our children continue to impress us with their enthusiasm for learning and staff continue to work with remarkable dedication to ensure that every child feels a sense of belonging and is provided with opportunities to thrive. As always, we have been grateful for your ongoing commitment and support.

Governing Board: Please see the following update from Mrs Champness, Chair of Governors:

"We hope you have all had a good start to the new academic year and that new parents/carers and pupils to the school have settled in well. We were very pleased to have completed our expansion to two classes in Key Stage 1. We are now more than half way in our transition to a two form entry school.

The governing board has been busy working closely with the school to ensure we have another outstanding year, both academically and in terms of experiences for the children.

We've been pleased to support the construction of the new Key Stage 2 play area. This was only able to go ahead thanks to the PTA who fully funded the project. This was made possible by parents/carers engaging so generously with school events, which is wonderful. The children benefit during the events as well as in their school life.

We were very proud to receive the Inspection Data Summary Report from Ofsted which confirmed that our Key Stage 2 pupils achieved above the national average on their SATs last academic year. This is a tremendous achievement and we are very proud of our staff and pupils, and very grateful to our parents/carers who support the school with attendance, homework, reading and other activities.

On behalf of the Governing Board, we'd like to wish you a wonderful Christmas break and a great start to 2026."

Christmas Performances: It was lovely to be able to welcome you into school to enjoy the EYFS performance of 'It's Christmas' and the KS1 performances of 'The Magical Christmas Jigsaw'. The acting, dancing and singing were amazing. It was wonderful seeing the children's teamwork, confidence and enthusiasm, as well as their absolute delight in sharing the experience with you. Thank you for all your help at home learning lines, practising songs and providing costumes. Also, a big thank you to all the school staff who gave up so much of their own time to make the performances happen. It is really appreciated. I am pleased to inform you that your very generous donations raised an impressive £398.87, which will be shared between Crisis At Christmas and replacing school props and scenery. Also, well done to our Year 3 pupils who sang at The Hailey Centre last week. We were told by attendees that they were a real credit to the school.

Musical Celebration: We look forward to seeing you for our Musical Celebration at Great St Mary's Church on Friday. As previously communicated, to ensure every child has the opportunity to have an adult join them in church, there will only be space for **one person per child** to attend each of the services. Both Reception and Year 1 classes, and Year 2 Topaz will attend the first service at 9.30am. Year 2 Pearl and all Key Stage 2 will attend the second at 10.30am. I know that the children are looking forward to sharing some special carols and songs with you.

Nursery Provision: I am pleased to inform you that we will be continuing to offer 15 and 30-hour a week provision in Nursery in September 2026. Applications are made directly to the school and this opens on Monday 12th January 2026 and closes Friday 6th March 2026. Places are offered by email on Monday 16th March 2026 and the deadline for parents/carers to accept is Friday 24th April 2026. Details about the admissions process can be found by clicking on the following link: <https://www.mandeville221.herts.sch.uk/admissions/>

It has been a remarkable term, with many things to celebrate, which is a direct result of the strong partnerships, hard work and care of so many. I am proud to be part of such a very special school community.

On behalf of all the staff and governors, I would like to wish all our children and their families a healthy, joyous and peaceful festive season, and much happiness for 2026. Please note that school finishes at 2:15pm on Friday 19th December and we look forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday 6th January.

Yours faithfully

Miss Kara Hales
Headteacher

