



WHITEHEATH JUNIOR SCHOOL

Opportunity, Confidence & Growth

Whole School Newsletter

Newsletter No: 4

Friday 25th September, 2026.

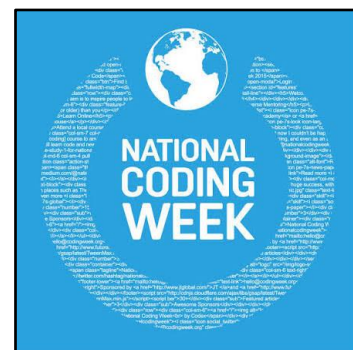
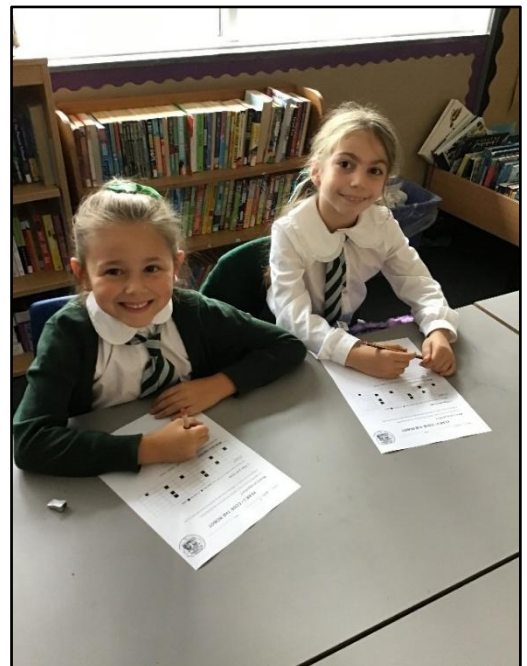
Welcome to our whole school newsletter. Our aim is to keep you informed of achievements, successes and general information regarding Whiteheath Junior School. These newsletters will be sent to you at the end of the week. You can also find this newsletter on the home page of the school **website** along with our '**year group pages**' (under the 'children' section on the website). Please check your emails regularly as this is our main form of communication with you.

NATIONAL CODING WEEK

This week, our children have been celebrating **National Coding Week** by exploring the exciting world of coding and computational thinking! 🖥️ ⚡

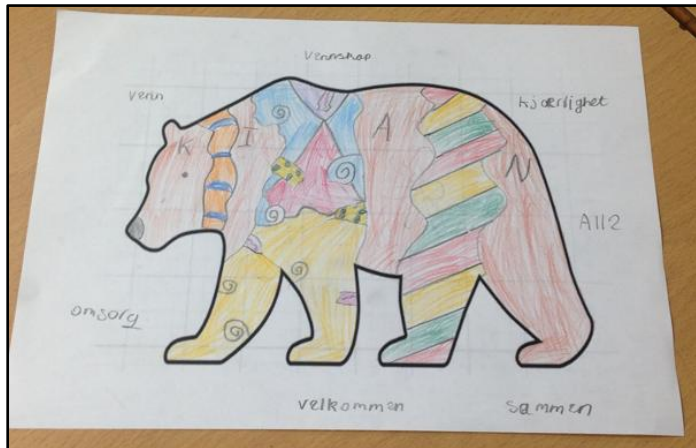
Across the school, pupils have enjoyed a range of hands-on activities using **Scratch** and **Micro:bits**, developing their understanding of algorithms, inputs and outputs, debugging and problem-solving. From creating their own programs to tackling coding challenges, it has been wonderful to see so much creativity, perseverance and teamwork in action.

We had a fantastic week of learning, experimenting and discovering what we can create with code. Miss Malone, Computing Lead.



EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES 2026

We had a wonderful afternoon on Thursday celebrating European Day of Languages 2026!



The afternoon began with an assembly, where children learned about the importance of languages and the rich cultural diversity across Europe.

Children then enjoyed a range of creative activities, including writing postcards in Spanish, exploring Bauhaus and Nordic art and learning about the traditional Scandinavian Dala horse. They had great fun creating their own artwork while discovering more about European languages, cultures and traditions.

It was a fantastic afternoon of learning, creativity and celebration, helping our children appreciate the many ways languages and cultures bring people together. Mrs Mendez.

LANGUAGE/ART COMPETITION

You are invited to create a piece of art that celebrates how languages bring people together.

Your artwork could show:

- * Children from different countries becoming friends
- * People communicating even when they speak different languages
- * A colourful collection of words from different European languages
- * How saying hello, friend, thank you or welcome can bring people together
- * A multilingual map of Europe
- * A creative representation of languages travelling across borders
- * An imaginary world where everyone speaks many languages

Every entry must include at least 3 different languages.

Choose your category

1. Art and illustration

Create a drawing, painting, collage or mixed-media artwork.

2. Words that unite

Create an artistic poster using words or short phrases in different European languages.

3. Story and illustration

Write a short story about children who use different languages to become friends, accompanied by an illustration.

4. 3D Languages Unite

Create a sculpture, model, paper craft or other 3D artwork.



Entries will be judged on:

- Creativity & imagination
- Use of different languages
- How well it expresses "Languages Unite"
- Artistic presentation
- Originality

Prizes will be awarded to the winners and runners up in Lower School and Upper School. Please submit your entry to Mrs Mendez in Maple Classroom by **Friday 24th October 2026**.

Good Luck!

STEVE BACKSHALL OCEAN LIVE

On Tuesday, 22nd September, our children had a great time taking part in Steve Backshall's Ocean Live lesson. We booked this as a Geography and Science enrichment opportunity to broaden their knowledge of our oceans, habitats, biodiversity, and the impact humans have on the natural world.



The lesson also provided a wonderful opportunity for the children to hear directly from a real-life explorer and make connections with their learning across the curriculum.

The children were thrilled when Steve gave our school a personal shout-out at the start of the session. He also answered a question submitted by our school about which area of the ocean he would protect to save the greatest number of marine species, describing it as "a wonderful question".

Steve chose seagrass meadows, explaining that they are often underrated but are incredibly important in tackling climate change. It was a fantastic opportunity for our children to learn more about our oceans, conservation, and the importance of protecting our natural world!

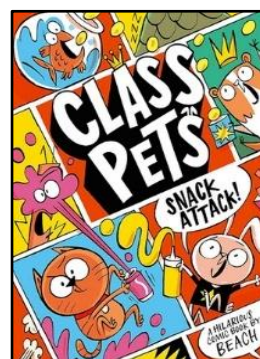
Mrs Kan, Geography Lead

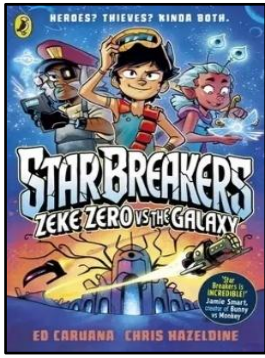
BOOKS THAT BOOK TRUST LOVE THIS MONTH

Each month, Book Trust reviews dozens of children's books. Below are some of their favourites for September 2026. We hope these are books that your child will enjoy but please check these are suitable for your child as these are only recommendations.

Class Pets: Snack Attack! by Beach

Meet the class pets of St Bernard's Academy in this entertaining graphic novel! There's Ken, the melodramatic stick insect; a cynical rabbit called Hutch; and Mrs Sprinkles, an excitable guinea pig who loves to cover everything in glitter. The animals are delighted when Phil the cat announces the arrival of a new pet to replace rodent Mikey, who had a fatal encounter with a javelin on sports day. Alarming, however, the newcomer is a fearsome snake with an insatiable appetite.



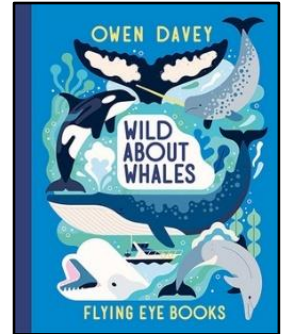


Star Breakers: Zeke Zero vs the Galaxy by Ed Caruana, illustrated by Chris Hazeldine

Thirteen-year-old Zeke Zero lives on planet Grimlax, where crime and pollution are rife. He survives by stealing, evading trigger-happy bounty hunters and trusting no one. When he steals a treasure map showing the location of a powerful, ancient relic, known as the Eye of the Cosmos, Zeke becomes a target for the ruthless Princess Grizelda Grim, who will do anything to get her hands on the Eye.

Wild About Whales by Owen Davey

You might have known that whales are mammals, but did you know that there are two main types – toothed whales (that eat using teeth) and baleen whales, who filter food from the sea using special baleen plates in their mouth? There are around 77 species of toothed whale on earth, including toothed beaked whales, orcas, beluga whales, and narwhals, and 15 species of baleen whales, including humpback whales, grey whales, and the mighty blue whale.



Sports News

FANTASTIC PRE-SEASON MATCHES KICK OFF THE SPORTING YEAR!

Last week, our Boys' Football and Girls' Netball teams took part in some fantastic pre-season fixtures to prepare for their upcoming opening matches in the weeks ahead. These friendly games provided a brilliant opportunity for the pupils to compete in a high-tempo match scenario, build team morale, and shake off any pre-season rust.

The Boys' A and B Football teams got things underway on Tuesday afternoon. We rotated both squads throughout the afternoon to help the players build match sharpness, tactically focus on their positioning, and bond as a team. It was a superb, high-energy spectacle with some great goals from Arthur, Romeo, Edie, Henry, Frankie, and Max keeping everyone highly entertained!

On Thursday afternoon, it was the turn of our Girls' A and B Netball teams to round off a great week of sport. In similar fashion to the boys, the girls showed excellent positional awareness, grew into their roles on the court, and developed a fantastic understanding with their teammates. Brilliant goals scored by Isla, Imogen, Connie, Grace, Sana, and Esme made it a thoroughly entertaining match to watch.

This has been a promising pre-season start for everyone, and we are eagerly looking forward to a huge year of sport across all of our teams. Well done to everyone who took part! Mr Newing.

GIRLS' FOOTBALL CLUSTER

This week, Whiteheath hosted a Girls' Football Cluster, welcoming Newnham, Deansfield, and Sacred Heart for the fixture.

Each school played against one another across two pitches. While it was organized as a friendly tournament, the competitive nature of the games quickly came out, which was fantastic to see. Both our Girls' A and B teams participated in what turned out to be a brilliant afternoon of football.



The B team performed brilliantly, keeping a clean sheet in two games and being incredibly unlucky not to find the back of the net. They played some excellent football, passing the ball around superbly and creating great goal-scoring opportunities. The girls finished the afternoon with two points and had a lot of fun in the process.



The A team won the tournament with eight points, winning two matches and drawing two. This meant they went completely unbeaten throughout the fixtures—an outstanding achievement made even better by the fact that they didn't concede a single goal! It truly shows how far the girls have come and how much they have improved. In a spectacular moment that amazed the crowd, Edie scored a goal from her own half to secure a 1-0 win over Newnham and clinch the top spot.

It was a wonderful afternoon for everyone, and a huge well done goes out to all involved! Mr Newing.

Reminders

CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

I am delighted to invite pupils to take part in this year's competition, either at school or at home. The theme this year is '**Christmas in Space**'. Whether it's designing an alien Christmas tree, animals in space suits or Father Christmas futuristic sleigh, children are encouraged to get creative. All entries should be sent to my constituency office at 10 Village Way, Pinner, HA5 5AF with the child's full name, age and school on the back of the design by **Friday 6 November**.

Kind regards, **David Simmonds CBE MP**

JEANS FOR GENES

So far, we have raised £316 – thank you. We would like to be able to raise £400, so if you haven't donated already and wish to do so, please log onto your School Money account to donate. Many, many thanks.



Merit Assembly

Class of the Week – Elm, Birch and Poplar



Class Merit Awards

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Millie, Ayra	Charlie, Lucy, Charlie	Willow, Anushka	Kian, Callista

House Points

Hampton	Windsor	London	Westminster
	40	20	30

Weekly Attendance

Class	% Attendance W/C – 21 st Sep 2026	% Attendance 03.09.26 – 25.09.26	Year Group Attendance % 03.09.26 – 25.09.26
Oak	99.3	99.5	
Willow	97.9	98.3	
Year 3	-	-	98.9
Beech	93.5	95.7	
Elm	100	96.8	
Maple	94	95.7	
Year 4	-	-	96.1
Birch	96	96.9	
Yew	94.6	93.9	
Year 5	-	-	95.4
Pine	92.1	94.7	
Poplar	94.3	94.05	
Year 6	-	-	94.4
Totals	95.7	96.1	96.1

Online Safety

Each week we are going to include a guide in this newsletter, covering different aspects, to help ensure children and young people are supported and protected online. We aim to reach and engage our entire school community, fostering a collaborative approach to promoting online safety and digital citizenship.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about DISCORD

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

A CHANNEL FOR EVERYTHING

While Discord is strongly associated with video games, it also hosts communities for almost anything you can imagine, such as books, music, influencers, cooking and sport. Some large servers focus on popular games like Minecraft or Fortnite, but many are private, invite-only spaces where friends or communities with shared interests can chat across phones, computers, and gaming consoles.

REAL-LIFE DISTRACTION

Like many social platforms, Discord can become a real time-sink. Although it does not rely on endless scrolling in the same way as some apps, constant messages, group chats, and voice channels can keep young people engaged for long periods, especially in larger servers. As Discord is closely linked to gaming, it may also increase the time they spend playing games.

STRANGER DANGER

Users can choose to stay within private servers with only people they know, but joining public servers will most likely bring them into contact with strangers. Many users are just friendly enthusiasts, yet others could have harmful intentions, including grooming, extortion, or radicalisation. In these types of environments, anyone can claim to be another teenager, which can make it harder for young people to judge who is safe to talk to.

A HARASSMENT RISK

There is also a risk from people a young person already knows in the real world. Bullying in the real world can continue online, and Discord servers can make this feel more intimidating, especially if someone uses anonymous or multiple accounts to carry out threatening behaviours. Because Discord works across computers, phones, and gaming consoles, unwanted contact can follow young people into online spaces that should feel safe and private.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

This huge amount of choice can help young people "find their tribe", especially when they have niche interests. However, because users can create servers around almost any topic, younger users may still encounter unsuitable or distressing content. Even in spaces linked to child-friendly games, Discord cannot directly control every conversation, image, or video shared by other users.

A MONEY DRAIN

Discord is free to use, but users can still spend real-world money on it. This may include Discord 'Nitro', a monthly subscription that unlocks customisation features and larger media uploads, or purchases through the 'Shop' for profile cosmetics and game-related items. Small purchases can add up quickly, especially if spending controls are not in place.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE FAMILY CENTRE

Parents and carers should make use of Discord's 'Family Centre', which gives an overview of a younger user's activity while respecting their privacy. Messages are not shared, but adults can view an activity feed and receive weekly email summaries. Discord says this is designed to support conversations about online behaviour, rather than be about constant monitoring.

CHECK, TALK, REPORT

Review Discord's privacy settings together, including who can send them friend requests or private messages. Use this as a chance to talk to them about strangers, privacy, and personal information, making sure young people know to question suspicious behaviour, such as requests to keep conversations secret. Show them how to block and report these kinds of users and reassure them that asking for help will not get them into trouble.

MANAGE TIME ONLINE

Agree clear expectations around when and how Discord can be used, especially during homework, bedtime, and family time. Encourage young people to turn off unnecessary notifications and leave servers that feel overwhelming. If Discord is mainly used alongside gaming, discuss healthy limits for both activities so that schoolwork, sleep, and offline friendships are not affected.

REVIEW SPENDING CONTROLS

Talk openly about paid features such as Discord Nitro, profile cosmetics, and in-game purchases. Make sure the young people in your care understand that digital items still cost real money. Check payment settings on the device they use, avoid storing card details where possible, and consider adding approval requirements for purchases, particularly for younger or more impulsive users.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, and The New Statesman.



The National College®

See full reference list on our website

X @wake_up_weds

f /www.thenationalcollege

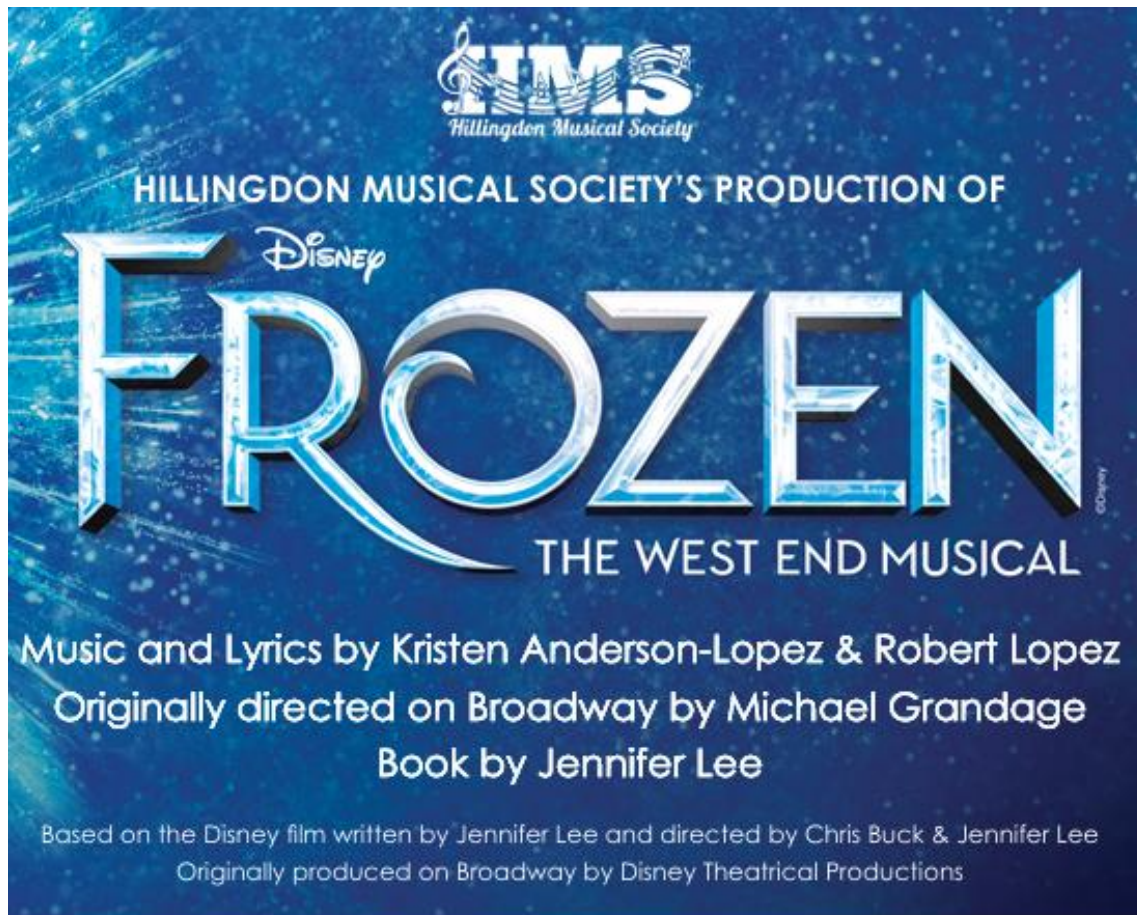
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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 23.09.2026

PTA/Community events/info

HILLINGDON MUSICAL SOCIETY



WINSTON CHURCHILL THEATRE RUISLIP - HA4 7QL

23rd - 26th SEPTEMBER 2026



BOX OFFICE

www.hillingdonmusicalsociety.co.uk
HMS tickets@outlook.com
07344312980

EVENING PERFORMANCES AT 7.30PM
SATURDAY MATINEE AT 2.30PM
TICKETS £18 - £20

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI)



SCAN HERE FOR TICKETS



OCTOBER HALF TERM CAMP



Mission Starlight Is Ready for Launch!

This **October half-term**, JAG's Holiday HQ camp is coming to our school with their Mission Starlight theme — a week of active games, creative activities, challenges and plenty of choice throughout the day.

 **26–30 October**

(Check our school page on the JAG website for full details.)

 **Ages 4–11**

 [See What's On This October Half-Term](#)

What this means for families

- ✓ Safe, structured days delivered by experienced, DBS-checked staff
- ✓ Ofsted-registered holiday childcare you can trust
- ✓ Book only the days you need
- ✓ Flexible cancellation if plans change — check our school page for details
- ✓ Tax-Free Childcare accepted

★ **Early Bird – Save 10%**

Use code **STARLIGHT10** when you book by **Sunday 4 October**.

Sibling discount – Save 10%

Automatically applied when booking more than one child

Multi-day booking discount – Save 4%

Applied when booking four days or more within the same week

All eligible discounts are combined automatically at checkout.

 [Find our school page](#)

 [Make a booking](#)

 0333 577 1533

 hello@junioradventuresgroup.co.uk



Payment/deadline Dates

OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS DUE

Payment
Year 5 Brazil Day
Jeans for Genes

UPCOMING PAYMENTS

Payment	Date due
Year 3 Stone Age workshops	28 th September
Year 4 Verulamium	29 th September
Year 6 Science Museum	9 th October

OTHER

Payment	Date due

Contacting us

Contacting class teachers	Willow Miss Atkinson willow@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk Oak Mrs Pedrick ash@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk Maple Mrs Mendez maple@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk Beech Miss Cook beech@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk Elm Miss Malone elm@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk Yew Ms Prioli yew@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk Birch Mr Goodchild birch@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk Poplar Miss Lawrence poplar@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk Pine Miss Bryant pine@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk Years 5 & 6 maths sets Miss Wells maths56@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk
General enquiries	office@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk
Welfare/reporting your child's absence	welfare@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk
Safeguarding concerns	dsl@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk
Whiteheath Junior School is a safe space for any child or adult to come to talk about issues affecting them. Ask the office to speak to a Designated Safeguarding Lead, (Mrs Padley or Ms Kenny), or the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (Miss Wells). Alternatively, you can email the address above dsl@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk - this is a confidential email address only read by the safeguarding leads. If you are concerned a child may be at risk, you can also contact the Stronger Families Hub on 01895 556006 (available all year round).	



Extra-curricular Clubs

We are very fortunate in being able to offer the children a wide variety of before, lunchtime and after school clubs. To see the full schedule, and for details of how to sign up for clubs, please visit: <https://www.whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk/extra-curricular-clubs/>

Autumn Term Dates

- **New dates in red**

Friday 2nd October
 Wednesday 7th October
 Friday 9th October
 Week Beginning 12th October
Week beginning 12th October
Tuesday 13th October
Wednesday 14th October
 Wednesday 21st October
 Wednesday 21st October
Thursday 22nd October
Friday 23rd October
Friday 23rd October
2:40pm
 Friday 23rd October

Year 5 Brazil Day
 Virtual Author visit for Years 5 and 6
 Year 5 Pedestrian Training
 Pennies for the PTA House Competition
Year 6 Bikeability Week
Parents Consultation Evening
Parents Consultation Evening
 Year 3 Stone Age Workshop
 Year 4 St Albans Trip
Nasal Flu vaccinations
Yr 5 Harvest Festival assembly to school am
Yr 5 Harvest Festival assembly to parents/carers

 Hillingdon Foodbank Collection

(Half term - Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October)

Monday 2nd November
 Monday 3rd November
 Friday 6th November
 Tuesday 10th November
 Tuesday 10th November
 Thursday 19th November
 Tuesday 17th – Friday 20th Nov
 Thursday 19th November
 Monday 30th November
 Friday 13th November
 Wednesday 25th November
 Monday 7th December
 Thursday 10th December
 Friday 11th December

Monday 14th December
 Monday 14th December

Training Day (no children)
 Children return to school
 Individual photographs
 Borough Girls' football Competition
 Borough Best Team Football Competition
 SportsHall Athletics Competition
 Travelling Book Fair Days
 Art Frames Exhibition
 Year 6 Trip to the Science Museum
 Children In Need Day
 Virtual Author visit for Years 5 and 6
 Choir visit to Poplars Care Home
 Year 6 Height and Weight Check
 Christmas lunch, Christmas Service and
 Christmas Jumper Day TBC
 Autumn term report cards out to parents/carers
 Year 3 Christmas performances dress rehearsal
 to the school



Tuesday 16th December

9:30am

Wednesday 16th December

5pm

Thursday 17th December

Friday 18th December

Year 3 Christmas Performance to parents/carers

Year 3 Christmas Performance to parents/carers

Christmas Parties

School term ends at 12:30pm

Have a relaxing weekend everyone,

Ms Kenny,
Headteacher

