

EAST HUNSBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter

10th January 2025

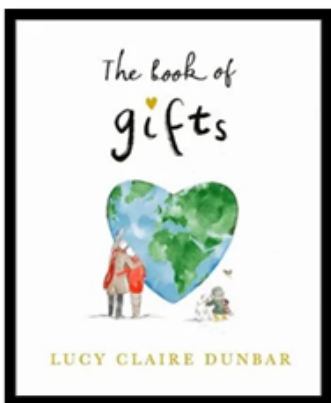
MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Families,

Welcome back everyone! It's 2025 and here at EHPS we are ready and raring to go. I hope you had a wonderful and restful Christmas time and thank you again for all of your kind words, cards and gifts. I know that my staff and I were very humbled by your generosity and we are excited for the year ahead.

Welcome Back Assembly

In the assembly on Monday, we held our traditional 'Welcome Back' assembly and reminded ourselves about our school values and expectations. During the assembly we met the Kindness Elves and also explored the Gift of Kindness from Ms Pennington's new favourite book: The book of Gifts.



As it says in the book:

Kindness is the greatest superpower any of us possesses. It is knowing the light you give will help someone glow. It is helping a stranger in need find their feet. It is giving without expecting in return. I believe kindness can change the world. I know the smallest act of kindness can truly save a life.

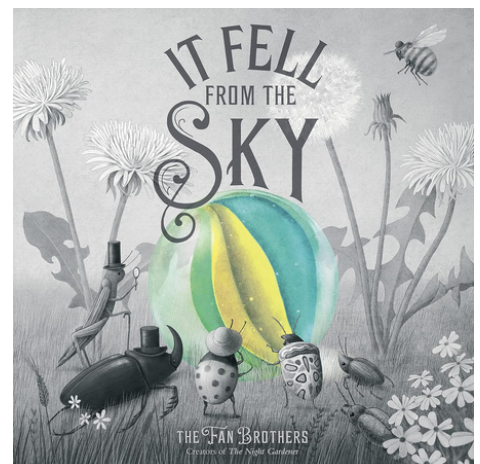
Children have been tasked with thinking about what could be in their kindness café and how they can sprinkle kindness during 2025. Maybe at home, you could talk about what kind things could be in their Kindness Café.



Surprisingly, at the end of the assembly, Mr Foster (our brilliant new Site Supervisor) came in to share that a 'large gold box had fallen from the sky!' which got us all very excited for our week of creativity.

It Fell from the Sky!

We have started the week with a creative BANG! As we have launched our writing invention week! We are all really excited about this as for the whole week the children have been developing their writerly skills based on the beautiful book: It Fell from the Sky by the Fan Brothers.



It has been a wonderful opportunity for the children to be the writer that they want to be and the outcomes have been phenomenal. It really gives our writing teaching purpose.

Mrs Robinson's class in Year 5 also started the week with a whole day of drama linked to their Shakespeare learning. It is wonderful for us to be able to provide the children with so many opportunities.

Looking Ahead

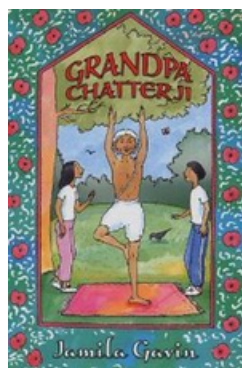
As we look ahead, we have lots to look forward to from our Year 4 history unit All about Northampton to Year 1 learning about Mary Seacole and Edith Cavell - please see your child's curriculum map for more information with regards to what they will be learning this term and if you ever want to know more, please do ask your child's class teacher.

Attendance

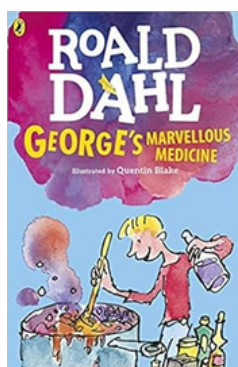
Your child's attendance is really important to their success at school – they need to be at school for us to teach them and absences can cause gaps in their learning. Please note, that a good attendance is 96%+ and please look out for our termly attendance newsletter coming out next week. Also, a gentle reminder that we cannot authorise holidays. If you want to talk more about your child's attendance, please contact Karen Keay (keayk@easthunsburyprimary.org), our Attendance Lead, and Lindsey York, Assistant Headteacher (yorkl@easthunsburyprimary.org).

Class Novels and reading!

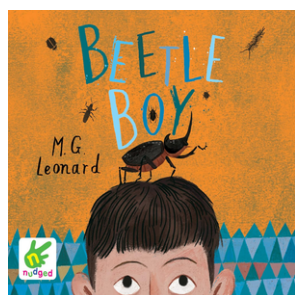
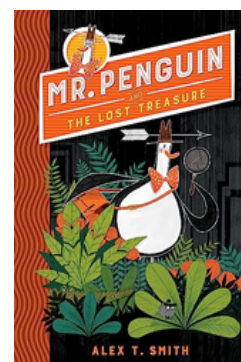
Reading continues to be a priority for us as a school – especially developing a love of reading. Did you know that each class is assigned a class novel? This term they are:



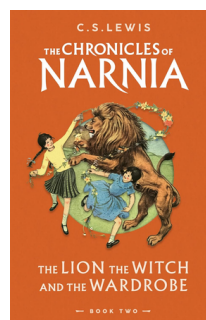
Year 1 **It's Grandpa Chatterji** by Jamila Gavin



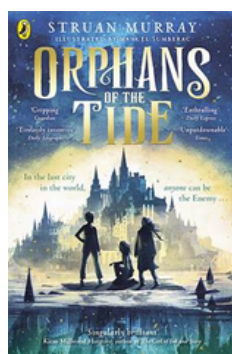
Year 2 **George's Marvellous Medicine** by Roald Dahl and **Mr Penguin and the Lost Treasure** by Alex T Smith



Year 3 **Beetle Boy** by M G Leonard



Year 4 **The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe** by C S Lewis



Year 6 **Orphans of the Tide** by Struan Murray.



Year 5 **The Boy at the Back of the Class** by Onjali Ralph

What a rich collection of literature!

Don't forget about our 100 Reads as well. Our class novels and 100 Reads are all there to ensure that your children get to experience a wide variety of rich and diverse literature. As Dr Seuss says: 'The more you read, the further you will go.' Please read with your child/ren and share books as much as possible at home. We have an amazing librarian, Ruth De Chastelain, who is also available to offer advice and guidance. Why not make 2025 your child's year of reading!

Census

Next week, it is census day on Thursday 16th January – these days affect our school budget so, if you are in EYFS or KS1 (mainstream or SU), please order a school dinner – even if you usually bring a packed lunch (thank you!)

Contacting us

As a school, we pride ourselves in our open-door policy and being available for you. Here are the email addresses of our most Senior Leaders as you will probably need them before you need me:

- **Lindsey York** (Assistant Head Teacher and SENCo) yorkl@easthunsburyprimary.org
- **Julia Fenton** (Assistant Head Teacher and Year 5/6 Leader) fentonj@easthunsburyprimary.org
- **Sarah Heavens** (Assistant Head Teacher and Year 3 & 4 Leader) sarah.heavens@easthunsburyprimary.org
- **Lucy Boswell** (Assistant Head Teacher, Head of the Specialist Unit, and Safeguarding Lead) boswelll@easthunsburyprimary.org
- **Kelly Roberts** (MHFA, Leader of the Nest) robertsk@easthunsburyprimary.org
- **Louise Whaites** (Chair of Governors) whaitesl@easthunsburyprimary.org
- **Me Kathryn Pennington** penningtonk@easthunsburyprimary.org

Your class teachers are also available via Class Dojo but I would ask that you contact them, whenever possible, between 7:30am-6pm, so as to respect and protect their time with their families at home.

Have a wonderful weekend everyone – see you on Monday.

Ms Pennington

Please order School Lunch on 16th January - KS1 children



To help our school, if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 in mainstream or the SU please order a school lunch for 16th January on School Grid even if your child usually has packed lunch and won't eat the school lunch. They can still bring in and eat packed lunch as usual. Part of our school budget is decided on how many infant lunches are ordered. School lunch for EYFS & KS1 children is free so you will not be charged. Our meal provider puts on an extra special menu on Census Day. This time it has an Australian Outback theme featuring Didgeridoo Dogs, Coral Reef Wrap and Canberra Chips.

EHPS HOUSE POINTS TOTALISER

| | Whittlewood | Harlestone | Everdon | Salcey |
|-------------|-------------|------------|---------|--------|
| This week | 128 | 135 | 122 | 141 |
| Grand total | 2295 | 1969 | 2200 | 2063 |

MINDFUL MEDITATION



Focus on the moment. A basic tip is to stop comparing the present with the past and focus on what is happening in the moment. It could be as simple as focusing your attention on the task you are doing.



Apply for a school place
Is your child's 4th birthday on or before 31 August 2025?



It's time to apply for a Reception place

Application Deadline:
15 January 2025

www.westnorthants.gov.uk/school-admissions

SCHOOL TRANSITION INFORMATION

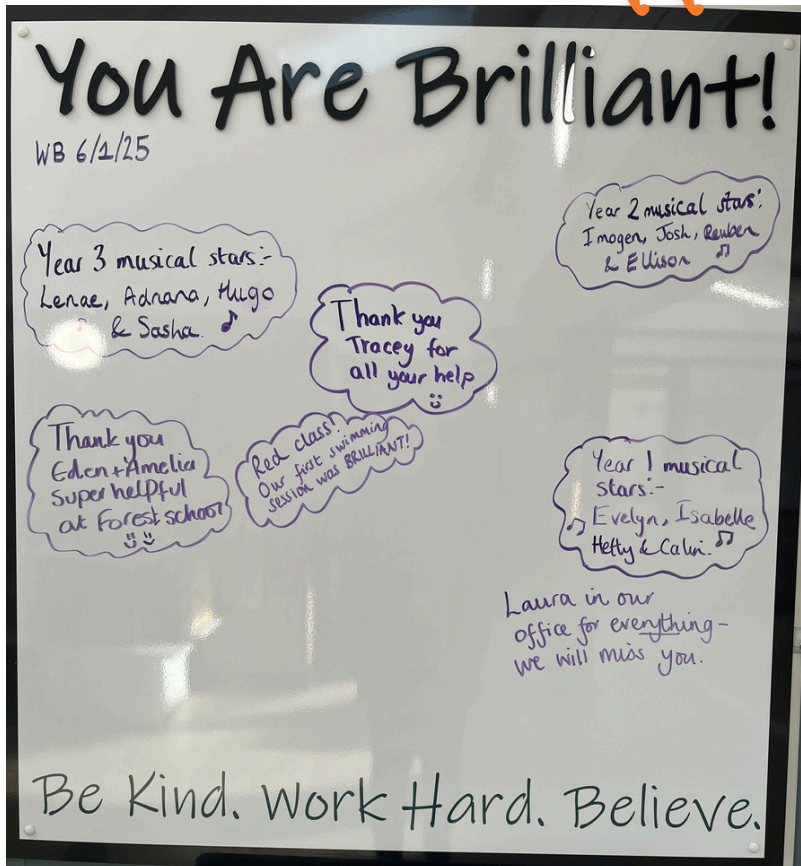
Reception Places September 2025

For children who turn 4 from 1st September 2024 - 31st August 2025

Online Applications close • 15th January 2025 - Midnight

National Offer Day • 16th April 2025

Who's been brilliant this week



DO NOT

walk across the car park or enter via the main gates (use the pedestrian ones) as these are for vehicles.

January Issue



This newsletter focuses on all the amazing events, clubs and groups that families, children and young people can access across the county that are free or affordable to attend.

[CLICK HERE FOR WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE'S NEWSLETTER](#)

Attendance News

Whole school average attendance this week was

94.58%

We are aiming to be at **96% +** every week.

| | Weekly Attendance | Year Group | Weekly Attendance |
|-----------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Reception | 94.86% | 1 | 95.58% |
| 2 | 93.40% | 3 | 94.97% |
| 4 | 93.30% | 5 | 93.83% |
| 6 | 95.90% | | |

Walk in Wednesday dates

| | | | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| 29.01.25 | Walk in Wednesday 3 - Reading | 08:30-9:00 | Classroom |
| 12.03.25 | Walk in Wednesday 4 - Easter Crafts | 08:30-9:00 | Classroom |
| 07.05.25 | Walk in Wednesday 5 - Reading | 08:30-9:00 | Classroom |
| 18.06.25 | Walk in Wednesday 6 - Science | 08:30-9:00 | Classroom |

BE KIND

WORK HARD

BELIEVE

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E-Safety & Wellbeing



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO RETURN TO ROUTINE

Most of us look forward to the school holidays as an opportunity to slow down and relax, stay up later, sleep in and generally approach life in a more leisurely fashion. However, this does mean that returning to normal school-day routines can feel like an uphill battle. Here are some practical tips to ease that transition, reduce stress and set children up for success.

- 1 START SMALL AND EARLY**
Begin reintroducing elements of the school routine a week before term starts. Gradually adjust bedtime, wake-up times and mealtimes to be more in line with school-day rhythms. Small changes can make a big difference in avoiding last-minute panic and helping children to readjust smoothly.
- 2 REVISIT THE SCHEDULE**
Involve your child in mapping out their daily routine to they understand what's going to change. Visual tools like charts or calendars can help keeping to that schedule feel more engaging. When children understand and anticipate their personal timetable, they feel more secure and in control.
- 3 CREATE A SLEEP PLAN**
Sleep can present one of the biggest challenges, as children can sometimes become night owls, prone to staying up late during the holidays. Limit screen time before bed and encourage wind-down activities like reading or listening to calming music. A restful night's sleep improves focus, mood and overall wellbeing, making mornings much smoother.
- 4 ENCOURAGE FRIENDSHIPS**
Help your child to reconnect with school friends by organising playdates, catch-ups or arranging to go to after-school clubs. Re-establishing social bonds can make the return to school more exciting and less daunting, allowing youngsters to focus on the positive aspects of the new term.
- 5 GRANT RESPONSIBILITY**
Give children control over some aspects of the morning routine. Maybe they could be in charge of waking everyone up, serving breakfast or choosing the outfit option that everyone balances to while getting ready. Something that gives them a sense of ownership over their morning schedule can help them view the task as one they're chosen to do, rather than being told to do it.
- 6 FOCUS ON NUTRITION**
Make sure children are receiving balanced meals (with regular healthy snacks to boost energy and concentration), putting them in the best possible state to return to education. A nutritious breakfast is particularly crucial for a positive start to the day. Involve children in meal planning to make it enjoyable and collaborative.
- 7 COMMUNICATE OPENLY**
Talk with your child about how they're feeling about returning to school, whether they're excited, nervous or a mix of both, validating their emotions helps them feel supported and understood. Try asking them about the things they're looking forward to at school, such as seeing their friends again. Focusing on the positives can be useful for children struggling with change.
- 8 RECONNECT WITH LEARNING**
Ease children back into a learning mindset by incorporating fun, educational activities into their home life. Reading a non-fiction book, playing games that involve maths or discussing an interesting topic can gently reawaken their focus and prime their minds to learn, which can have helpful impacts on their academic performance.
- 9 PREP TOGETHER**
Turn preparation into a shared activity. To shoulder the responsibility together and provide support where needed. Pick school bags, lay out uniforms and plan lunch the night before. This not only reduces early morning stress but also gives children a sense of ownership over being ready for school.
- 10 BE PATIENT AND FLEXIBLE**
Transitions take time, and every child adjusts differently. It's important to stay calm and supportive, especially if they're reacting adversely to the change in their daily life. Be ready to tweak routines as needed, and work with the child to make the return to education easier possible for them. Patience can go a long way to setting a positive tone for the new school year.

10 Top Tips



1 Create a sleep plan



2 Focus on nutrition



3 Reconnect with learning



4 Be Flexible & patient

[Click here for more information](#)

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[Click here for more information](#)



Online Safety Newsletter Jan 2025

Fortnite Battle Royale



Fortnite Battle Royale is rated PEGI 12 due to moderate violence, meaning it is not suitable for children under the age of 12.

What is Fortnite?

There are different versions of Fortnite, including Fortnite Battle Royale, which is free to play (although it contains in-app purchases). In Battle Royale, up to one hundred players compete against each other until one winner remains.

What do I need to be aware of?

- Chatting and inappropriate language:** Fortnite includes voice and text chat, which may mean your child encounters strangers and may hear inappropriate language. Ensure your child knows how to report/block any players that make them feel uncomfortable.
- In app purchases:** Players can purchase V-Bucks so make sure you restrict purchases and do not store your card details.

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE ONLINE SAFETY INFORMATION](#)

BE KIND

WORK HARD

BELIEVE

#weareEastHunsburyPrimarySchool #wearebrilliant

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

| Date | Activity | Time |
|------------------|---|-----------------|
| JANUARY | | |
| 16.01.25 | Census Day (Reception - Yr 2 please order school lunch) | |
| 28.01.25 | Yr 6 SATs Information meeting | 4.30pm - 5.30pm |
| 29.01.25 | Walk In Wednesday Reading | 8.30am - 9.00am |
| 29.01.25 | Yr 3 trip to Oxford Museum of Natural History | All day |
| FEBRUARY | | |
| 03.02 - 07.02.25 | Childrens' Mental Health Week | |
| 07.02.25 | FEHPS Family Bingo Night | 5.30pm - 7.30pm |
| 11 & 12.02.25 | Year 6 Parents' Evening | 3.50pm - 6.30pm |
| 14.02.25 | Year 3 & Purple Class Assembly | 9.30 - 10.30am |
| MARCH | | |
| 5 & 6.03.25 | Mainstream Parents' Evening (not Yr 6) | 3.50pm - 6.30pm |
| 05.03.25 | SU Parents' Evening | 3.50pm - 6.50pm |
| 05.03 - 07.03.25 | Bookfair | After school |
| 12.03.25 | Walk In Wednesday Easter Crafts | 8.30am - 9.00am |
| 17.03 - 21.03.25 | Neurodiversity Week | |
| 20.03.25 | Yr 4 to Hazard Alley | All day |
| 21.03.25 | Chocolate Mufti | All day |

| | | |
|------------------|---|-------------------|
| 21.03.25 | Odd Socks Day for World Down Syndrome Day | |
| 28.03.25 | Year 1 Class Assembly | 9.30am-10.30am |
| 29.03.25 | Easter Cafe | 11.00am-1.00pm |
| APRIL | | |
| 02.04.25 | Autism Awareness Day - Wear Blue (No Charge) | All Day |
| 02.04.25 | SU Show | 10.00am-11.00am |
| 03.04.25 | iRock Concert | 2.45 - 3.15pm |
| 22.04 & 23.04.25 | Earth Days | All Day |
| MAY | | |
| 07.05.25 | Walk In Wednesday Reading | 8.30am - 9.00am |
| 12 - 15.05.25 | Yr 6 SATS | Mornings |
| 15.05.25 | Endangered Species Census Day | |
| 22.05.25 | Year 4 Spring Assembly | 9.15am - 10.00am |
| 22.05.25 | Reception Sports Day | 10.15am - 11.45am |
| 22.05.25 | Year 6 Sports Day | 1.30pm - 3.00pm |
| 23.05.25 | Year 5 and Yellow Class Assembly | 9.30am - 10.30am |
| JUNE | | |
| 02.06 - 13.06.25 | Yr 4 Multiplication Check | |
| w/c 09.06.25 | Yr 1 Phonics Check | |
| 11.06.25 | SU Sports Morning | 9.30 - 11.30am |

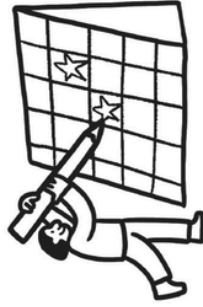
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|------------------|--|-----------------|
| 11.06.25 | Yr 6 Steam UoN | |
| 16.06.25 | Class photographs | All day |
| 18.06.25 | Walk In Wednesday Science | 8.30am - 9.00am |
| 25.06.25 | Yr 4 to National Gallery | All day |
| 26.06.25 | Sports Day Year 1 | 9.30 - 11am |
| 26.06.25 | Sports Day Year 2 | 1.30 - 3pm |
| 27.06.25 | Sports Day Year 3 | 9.30 - 11.00am |
| 27.06.25 | Sports Day Year 4 | 1.30 - 3.00pm |
| 28.06.25 | Whole School Summer Fayre (Country dancing & Maypole by Years 2, 5, Purple & Yellow) | 10.00 - 1.00pm |
| 30.06 - 03.07.25 | Yr 5 Bikeability | |
| 30.06 - 04.07.25 | Careers & Aspirations Week | |
| JULY | | |
| 04.07.25 | Reception & Blue Class Assembly | 9.30 - 10.30am |
| 04.07.25 | Brilliance Exhibition | TBC |
| 08.07.25 | Music Gala | 5.30pm - 7.00pm |
| 09 - 11.07.25 | Yr 3 Residential Everdon | |

| | | |
|----------|--|-----------------|
| 10.07.25 | Sports Day Year 5 | 9.30 - 11.00am |
| 15.07.25 | Yr 6 Leavers' Performance | 6.00pm - 7.30pm |
| 16.07.25 | Yr 6 Leavers' Performance for toddlers to attend | 5.00pm - 6.30pm |
| 17.07.25 | SU Yr 6 Leavers' Assembly | 9.30am-10.30am |
| 21.07.25 | Year 6 Leavers' Party | 7.00pm - 9.00pm |
| 22.07.25 | Mainstream Yr 6 Leavers' Assembly | 10.00 - 11.00am |

Happier January 2025



MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY



1 Find three things to look forward to this year

2 Make time today to do something kind for yourself

3 Do a kind act for someone else to help brighten their day

4 Write a list of things you feel grateful for and why

5 Look for the good in others and notice their strengths

6 Take five minutes to sit still and just breathe

7 Learn something new and share it with others

8 Say positive things to the people you meet today

9 Get moving. Do something active (ideally outdoors)

10 Thank someone you're grateful to and tell them why

11 Switch off all your tech at least an hour before bedtime

12 Connect with someone near you - share a smile or chat

13 Take a different route today and see what you notice

14 Eat healthy food which really nourishes you today

15 Get outside and notice five things that are beautiful

16 Contribute positively to your local community

17 Be gentle with yourself when you make mistakes

18 Get back in contact with an old friend

19 Focus on what's good, even if today feels tough

20 Go to bed in good time and allow yourself to recharge

21 Try out something new to get out of your comfort zone

22 Plan something fun and invite others to join you

23 Put away digital devices and focus on being in the moment

24 Take a small step towards an important goal

25 Decide to lift people up rather than put them down

26 Choose one of your strengths and find a way to use it today

27 Challenge your negative thoughts and look for the upside

28 Ask other people about things they've enjoyed recently

29 Say hello to a neighbour and get to know them better

30 See how many people you can smile at today

31 Write down your hopes or plans for the future



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together