

This week

- Tue 24 Nov: 9–10.30am Open morning for prospective parents
- Thu 26 Nov: Years 5 & 6 singing at St Albans Abbey
- Fri 27 Nov: Occasional day (school closed)

Dates further ahead

- Tue 1 Dec: 9–10.30am Open morning for prospective parents
- Sat 5 Dec: Friends of Thomas Coram Christmas Fair

[A full calendar is available on our website](#)

Notices and reminders

We warmly invite [all prospective parents/carers to our open mornings](#) on Tuesday 24 November and Tuesday 1 December. There will be a presentation by the Headteacher at 9.00am, followed by a tour to see our school in action, accompanied by pupil guides.

Our [Year 4 Speedstackers beat over 40 other schools](#) to come top in a competition held at Ashlyns School. They will now go through to a County final in March. Congratulations!

During the autumn term each year, we invite parents and carers to give us [valuable feedback on their opinions of our school](#) to enable us to focus on improving our school. Your child has brought home a paper copy of the questionnaire which we would appreciate you completing and returning via their class teacher before the end of term.

Last week [our Governing Body](#) welcomed two new members to the team: Richard Roscoe as a Parent Governor and Miss Bonilha as a Staff Governor. Richard was one of seven governors who came into school last week during the termly Governor Drop-in Week. He joined Year 6 pupils who were researching their ideas for a software app, saying: "They were diligently performing competitive analysis looking at features and cost, and were very confident and happy to explain their wonderful array of ideas." Other governors gave their impressions:

- Foundation Governor Vicky Harris: "I sat in on Year 6 collective worship and had a tour of the school by the Head Girl and Boy. I learnt more about the School ethos, culture and values, as well as getting to know the children and how proud they are of their school."
- Chair of Governors Nick Heath: "I participated in a Year 3 Maths lesson and was impressed by the engagement of the children. The variety of teaching techniques, including individual, pair and group working, all within one lesson, ensured that attention and attainment were maintained, and we all learnt a lot about fractions."
- English Link Governor Luisa Clarke: "One of our focuses was to look at writing across the curriculum. It was Big Write week, so I popped into a couple of classes - listening to how they set the scene by first discussing the topic, reviewing how to make language interesting, before settling down to create their newspaper article."

Recent letters

Last week we sent out these letters which are also available on our website:

- School Lunch Menu
- Parent Questionnaire

This week's attachments

Today we're attaching:

- None

[Our Children in Need collection](#) raised over £260.00. Thank you.

A reminder that registration starts at 8:55am (with a warning bell at 8:50am). [Pupils should be on site by 8:50am ready to be in registration at 8:55am](#). The pedestrian access onto the playground is closed at 8:55am. Pupils arriving after this time need to sign in at reception.

Now that the weather is colder, please make sure your [son/daughter has a coat](#), and (for older children) isn't walking home alone after school when it's starting to get dark so early.

The [competition to design the front cover](#) of the Christmas Fair programme was won by Charlotte in Year 3.

Last week your child was sent home with a [slip of paper with a named hamper item](#) on it. These donations will be used to make into hampers which will be raffled at our Christmas Fair. Please could you kindly send your child into school with their item by Thursday 26 November. Any bottles of wine should be sent straight to the school office rather than with your child. Many thanks in advance for your donations.

[This week is our Big Write](#). Look out for your Talk Homework, which will also be available to download from the school website.