



Gilbert Colvin
Primary School



NEWS

Headteacher: Ms Liz Cohen

14 November 2025

Headteacher's Note



Thank you to all parents and carers who responded to our recent questionnaire. Your feedback and ongoing support are greatly appreciated. I'll be compiling the responses and sharing a summary with you next Friday.

On Tuesday 18th November at 9.15am, parents will be meeting in school to help plan the Christmas Fair, which will take place on 5th December. If you'd like to get involved, we'd love to see you there. If you're unable to make it, please do share your ideas with us. Reception hosted a wonderful Culture Day on Wednesday, with a fantastic turnout from parents and some truly delicious food contributions! Thank you to everyone who took part.

This term, our Key Stage 2 classes will be hosting Open Classrooms, offering parents the chance to join in with their child's learning. Dates can be found on the second page of this newsletter, and we hope to welcome many of you in.

Key Dates



Monday 17th November | Year 6 Claybury Woods visit

Tuesday 18th November | Flu vaccine catch up clinic; Panathlon event (selected children)

Thursday 20th November | Year 5 Science Museum

Tuesday 25th November | Year 2 Pine library visit

Wednesday 26th November | Year 1 Willow library visit

Thursday 27th November | Year 3 Synagogue visit; Year 2 Beech library visit

Friday 28th November | Year 1 Ash library visit

Friday 5th December | Christmas Fair 3.30-5.00pm

Monday 8th December | SEND coffee morning 9.15-10.15am; Rocksteady concert 1.30pm

Tuesday 9th December | Reception Christmas concert 9.15-9.45am

Wednesday 10th December | Nursery Christmas concert 9.15-9.45am

Reading Recommendation



In this week's 'Anti-Bullying Week' assemblies, we explored the theme of bullying and how we can all use our power for good. We read the picture book *Today I'm Strong* by Nadiya Hussain and Ella Bailey, which is a story about a young girl who feels small and unsure at school, especially when faced with unkindness from others. With the help of her imaginary tiger, she finds the courage to stand tall and speak up, discovering the strength she had inside all along.

We reflected on how we all have inner strength, and that sometimes it takes real bravery to face difficult situations. We also talked about who we can turn to if we're feeling worried, and how we can look out for others by offering support when we see something that doesn't feel right. www.kidscape.org.uk is a helpful website for both parents and children for further advice about bullying.



Attendance



Attendance w/b Monday 10th November 2025:

Reception - 93%

Year 1 - 96.59%

Year 2 - 99.09%

Year 3 - 95.36%

Year 4 - 97.54%

Year 5 - 97.57%

Year 6 - 98.5%

Well done Years 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 for achieving the school's target of **96%**. Whole school attendance: **97.11%**

Before the end of half term, we sent an attendance report to every child's parent, summarising attendance for the year so far. We hope you found it helpful.

If you did not receive the report, please let the office know.



Performance Dates Open Classrooms



As the festive season approaches, we have a number of exciting performances planned - here are some key dates for your diary.

Monday 8th December | Rocksteady Concert, 1.30pm

Tuesday 9th December | Reception Christmas Concert, 9.15-9.45am

Wednesday 10th December | Nursery Christmas Concert, 9.15-9.45am

Thursday 11th December | Rocksteady Concert, 9.30am

Wednesday 17th December | Year 1 & 2 Christmas Nativity, 9.15am (Year 2 parents/carers invited)

Thursday 18th December | Year 1 & 2 Christmas Nativity, 9.15am (Year 1 parents/carers invited)

Open Classroom dates for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 are as follows:

Friday 28th November | Year 3 Open Classroom, 9.15-10.00am

Monday 1st December | Year 6 Open Classroom, 2.25-3.10pm

Friday 5th December | Year 4 Open Classroom, 9.15-10.00am

Friday 12th December | Year 5 Open Classroom, 9.15-10.00am

Reception 2026 Tours



A reminder to all families that applications are now open for Reception places for September 2026. If you have a child due to start school next year, please ensure you submit your application by the published deadline.

For families considering Reception entry, we will be holding a series of open mornings this term which include a tour of the school. November dates are:

Monday 17th November, 9.30-10.15am

Friday 21st November, 9.30-10.15am

These are a great opportunity to visit the school, meet staff, and learn more about our Early Years provision. More dates and booking details will be posted on the school website.

If you have any questions about the admissions process, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

This Week in Pictures: Reception Culture Day

