



Gilbert Colvin
Primary School



NEWS

Headteacher: Ms Liz Cohen

26 September 2025

Headteacher's Note



Just a quick reminder about who to contact for different queries. We have a page on our website, [How to Raise a Concern](#), which outlines who to approach in the first instance and how concerns are managed. We always aim to respond to parent questions and concerns as promptly as possible; however we will provide further guidance soon on reasonable timeframes for responses as responses cannot be instant. I'm always happy to speak with parents at the gate, but if you've had a brief conversation with staff during a busy time, I strongly recommend following up in writing to ensure your query is properly recorded and addressed.

A reminder about reporting illness: please call the absence line and leave a clear message stating your child's first and last name, their class, and the specific reason for absence. Thank you for your continued support.

Key Dates



Friday 3rd October | World Teachers' Day - non-uniform fundraising event

Friday 10th October | Year 6 Elder class assembly 9.15-9.45am

Monday 13th October | Individual school photos

Tuesday 14th October | Year 5 library visit

Wednesday 15th October | Year 6 Oak library visit
Reception Stay & Play 9.00-9.45am

Thursday 16th October | Bake Sale at 3.30pm
Year 6 Elder library visit
Nursery Stay & Play 9.00-9.45am

Friday 17th October | Year 6 Oak class assembly 9.15-9.45am

Friday 17th October | Year 4 Guildhall visit

Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd October |
Parent evenings

Friday 24th October | Year 5 Tower Bridge visit
End of term @3.25pm

Reading Recommendation



In our Key Stage 1 phase assembly, children have been reflecting on positive behaviours in the playground. We've recognised that sometimes our feelings can spill over into playtime and affect how we interact with others. To support these conversations, I'm recommending a really lovely picture book: *The Grand Hotel of Feelings* by Caroline Magerl.

This story imagines feelings as guests arriving at a grand hotel - some stay briefly, others linger. In reading this story, children can learn that all emotions are welcome and valid. It's a good way to help younger pupils understand and talk about their feelings, and how they can manage them kindly and calmly.



Attendance



Attendance w/b Monday 22nd September 2025:

Reception - 90.97%

Year 1 - 95.64%

Year 2 - 98.14%

Year 3 - 96.84%

Year 4 - 96.84%

Year 5 - 95.81%

Year 6 - 96.43%

Well done Years 2, 3, 4 and 6 for achieving the school's target of 96%.

Whole school attendance: 96.09%



My Nametags



We're pleased to partner with [My Nametags](#), a company that creates durable, personalised name labels for clothing, lunchboxes, stationery, and more. These labels help reduce lost property - and even better, they support our school!

When you order through www.mynametags.com and enter our school ID 33628 at checkout, 24% of your total purchase will be donated back to our school.

Every little helps, and it's a great way to support the school while shopping for items online.

Look at ways you can support our school on our [fundraising website page](#).

Fundraising



We are always looking for simple, effective ways to raise extra funds to support our school and enhance the learning experiences of our pupils. One easy way you can help - at no cost to you - is by signing up to easyfundraising.org.

It's quick and free to use. When you shop online with thousands of popular retailers (including Amazon, M&S, Argos, and more), a small donation is made to the school every time you make a purchase - at no extra cost to you!

All you need to do is:

- Sign up using our unique school link [here](#).
- Start your shopping via the easyfundraising website or app.
- The school receives a donation automatically from the retailer!

Every little helps, and it's a great way to support the school while doing your usual online shopping. An easyfundraising poster is attached to this newsletter with more information and a QR code to make signing up even easier. Thank you!

School Admissions

A reminder to all families that applications are now open for Reception and Year 7 places for September 2026. If you have a child due to start school or transition to secondary 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 - the next one is on **Monday 6th October at 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.

Healthy Snacks



We encourage pupils in Years 3-6 to bring a healthy and nutritious snack for break time to help maintain their energy and focus throughout the school day. Chocolate, sweets, and crisps are not permitted - any of these items brought in will be sent home. Early Years and Key Stage 1 pupils are provided with free fruit at break time, so they do not need to bring a snack from home. Nursery and Reception children who are aged 3 and 4 are provided with free milk every day.

Healthy Snack Ideas:

- Fresh fruit (e.g. apples, bananas, grapes)
- Vegetable sticks (e.g. carrot, cucumber, pepper)
- Plain rice cakes or oatcakes
- Cheese cubes or a small portion of plain popcorn

Thank you for supporting our commitment to promoting healthy eating habits!