



**Gilbert Colvin**  
Primary School



# NEWS

Headteacher: Ms Liz Cohen

19 June 2026

## Headteacher's Note



It's been a lovely end to the week with the warmer weather finally arriving, but temperatures are set to rise even further next week. Please make sure your child comes to school dressed appropriately for the heat - a T-shirt or airtex shirt and shorts if possible. A sunhat (ideally with a wide brim) is recommended, and please apply a high-SPF sunscreen before school. Children may also bring SPF sunglasses for outdoor use.

We will do our best to keep classrooms cool and will limit strenuous physical activity on very hot days. Some pupils with additional needs have already found the heat challenging, so we will continue to work closely with families where needed.

Thank you, everyone - enjoy the sunshine, and I hope to see many of you at our bring & share event this afternoon.

## Key Dates



**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June** | Year 1 trip to Hainault Forest; Year 6 Oak trip to library; Nursery parents induction meeting @2pm

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June** | Year 6 transition visit to Beal High School; Year 2 Beech trip to library

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June** | Year 5 Chestnut class assembly, 9.15

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June** | Year 6 Space trip; West Hatch transition visit; Year 1 Willow trip to library

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July** | Year 5 Sycamore class assembly, 9.15

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July** | Reception & Year 2 trip to Southend seaside/aquarium

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July** | Parent evenings

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July** | Year 6 performance

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July** | Year 6 Prom

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July** | Last day of term, 1.30pm

## Reading Recommendation



This week, ahead of World Refugee Day on 20<sup>th</sup> June, we shared the picture book *Saving the Butterfly* by Helen Cooper in our assemblies. The story follows two siblings who arrive in a new country by small boat and must adapt to a very different life. The younger sibling settles quickly, while the older sibling struggles until she finds the courage to help a butterfly trapped in her room.

We talked with the children about what a refugee is, why people may be forced to leave their homes, and the dangerous journeys many must take. We also discussed how communities, including ours, can help people feel safe, welcomed and supported, and what we can do in school to show kindness to new arrivals. The children responded with great sensitivity and empathy, showing real thoughtfulness in their discussions.



## Attendance



**Attendance w/b Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2026:**

Reception - 95%

Year 1 - 94%

Year 2 - 92.4%

Year 3 - 94.1%

Year 4 - 94.8%

Year 5 - 94.6%

Year 6 - 94.4%

Attendance has been a little low overall this week, with no year groups meeting our 96% target. As we approach the summer holidays, I'd like to remind parents that school cannot authorise holidays during term time, so these absences will usually be recorded as unauthorised.