



**Gilbert Colvin**  
Primary School



# NEWS

Headteacher: Ms Liz Cohen

17 October 2025

## Headteacher's Note



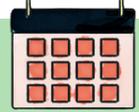
Our bake sale fundraiser for new library books was a great success - thank you to all parents and staff who generously donated cakes and helped. A special thank you goes to one of our parents, Mrs Katme, who reached out to the local businesses named below, resulting in an abundance of delicious contributions! - thank you to Tesco, Lidl, Asda, CVS Newsagents, and Cakes & Bakes for all of the donated cakes.

It was also lovely to welcome parents into school this week for our Reception and Nursery Stay & Play sessions, as well as the Year 6 Oak Class assembly. Thank you as always for your support.

Please find on the website, this month's 'Spotlight on Safeguarding' newsletter with a focus on AI and Roblox safety.

Finally, next week marks the first of this year's Parents' Evenings. Please remember to book your appointment via the Arbor app.

## Key Dates



**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October** | Year 6 Healthy Lifestyle assembly and Reception/Year 6 parent session

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October** | Book Fair

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October** | Year 4 Guildhall visit

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October** | Parent evenings

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October** | Year 5 Tower Bridge visit  
End of term, 3.25pm

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November** | Return to school

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November** | Parent Forum, 9.15-10.00am

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November** | Year 4 Hazel library visit

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November** | Year 3 Cedar library visit

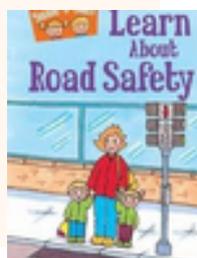
**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November** | Year 2 London Transport Museum visit; Year 3 Elm library visit

## Reading Recommendation



Today we celebrated Glow Day, and it was fantastic to see pupils arriving in bright, reflective clothing. With the darker evenings drawing in, this event helps raise awareness about the importance of staying safe and visible when out and about. Whether walking, cycling, or scooting, being seen by drivers is essential - especially during the autumn and winter months.

To support these messages at home, we recommend the picture book *Susie and Sam Learn About Road Safety* by Judy Hamilton. In this story, the twins go on a walk with their mum, who teaches them how to cross roads safely and follow the Green Cross Code. Younger siblings can listen to a simple road safety story on [The Toddler Club](#) - it's never early to start learning about road safety!



## Attendance



**Attendance w/b Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2025:**

Reception - 93.67%

Year 1 - 98.86%

Year 2 - 96.28%

Year 3 - 95.38%

Year 4 - 94.37%

Year 5 - 94.55%

Year 6 - 98.48%

Well done Years 1, 2 and 6 for achieving the school's target of **96%**. Whole school attendance: **96.1%**

Next week, we'll be sending out a general attendance report for each child. These reports are simply intended to keep parents informed about their child's attendance so far this term, and will be shared each half term. There's no need to book a follow-up appointment - this is just for your information and awareness.

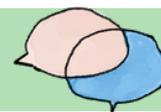


## Voluntary Donations



With increasing pressure on state school funding, we, like many schools across the country, have felt the pinch. At the same time, we recognise that many families are facing their own challenges. We are grateful that so many of you continue to ask how you can support the school, and we're proud to be part of such a generous and committed community. This year, we are inviting parents and carers to make a voluntary contribution of £15 per term (£7.50 per half term). These donations will help us fund additional learning resources and update curriculum and classroom equipment to enrich the children's experience. As we do not currently have an established PTA to organise fundraising events, voluntary contributions offer an alternative way to support the school. Further details of how to contribute can be found [here](#). Please be assured that there is absolutely no expectation for families to contribute - this is entirely optional, and no child will ever be treated differently based on whether a donation is made. We simply want to offer a way for those who wish to support the school in this way to do so. Thank you, as ever, for your support.

## Reception 2026 Tours



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 **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> 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.

## This Week in Pictures: Bake Sale and Reception Stay & Play

