



This term, the children returned to school full of excitement to discover a fantastic new addition to our playground – a huge sandpit! This wonderful project was made possible thanks to Mr Harper's expertise, along with the generosity of several parents who kindly gave up their time to help fill it. We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Frank Key, Arnold, who provided all the materials needed for the project. There is simply no way we could have gone ahead without such incredible support. Seeing the children enjoying their very own "beach" at playtime has been truly delightful. The sandpit has already become a favourite spot, sparking creativity, cooperation, and lots of happy memories!

Since its installation, the sandpit has been in constant use, with children building sandcastles, digging tunnels, and working together to create imaginative worlds. It has been particularly wonderful to see friendships developing as pupils collaborate and share ideas during their play. In addition to being great fun, the sandpit is also supporting the children's learning and development. Activities such as scooping, pouring, and shaping the sand help to build fine motor skills, while cooperative play encourages communication and teamwork.

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who contributed to making this project a reality. It is a shining example of what can be achieved when our school community works together. Thank you once again for your continued support!



Warm Weather Reminder

As the weather continues to improve, we would like to remind all families to help children come to school prepared for sunnier days. Please ensure your child brings a named water bottle to school each day so they can stay well hydrated. We also recommend that children have sun cream applied before arriving at school (ideally a long-lasting, once-a-day application). If needed, children may bring a named bottle of sun cream to reapply independently. In addition, a hat is strongly encouraged to help protect children from the sun during outdoor playtimes and learning activities. Thank you for your support in keeping everyone safe and comfortable during the warmer weather.



Exciting times! We have been informed of our new starters for September in F2. Mrs Henson, our Early Years Lead, has been reaching out to each family to say hello and provide a warm welcome. She is excited to get to know everyone and ensure that the transition is as smooth and enjoyable as possible. We have had a few calls from families still keen to look around who have not yet applied or not got the place of their choice - if you know any families keen to join us at Phoenix just ask them to call the school office for a visit.

Here is some useful information ready for the transition.

[Phoenix Infant and Nursery School - Starting School in September 2026](#)

[Phoenix Infant and Nursery School - School Uniform](#)

As we usher in new beginnings, we must also prepare to say goodbye to our Year 2 children, who will soon be embarking on their next adventure at Priory Junior School or other local schools. We are already working closely with their team to ensure a seamless transition. This collaboration aims to create a cohesive support system for your children as they move on to this new chapter. The children will also be visiting Priory - keep an eye out for an informative letter that will be sent out shortly, detailing important dates and key information about this transition. There will also be a transition plan in place for all year groups in school to prepare them for their next steps.

One important date to mark in your calendars is Thursday, 2nd July. On this day, all children will spend time in their new classes, getting to know their new teachers and classmates. Our Year 2 children will also have the opportunity to visit Priory Junior School for the morning. It's a wonderful chance for them to familiarise themselves with their new environment and what lies ahead. We will inform parents about the new class allocations on Monday, 30th June, so please stay tuned!



Last week in Foundation Stage the children celebrated World Earth Day, and spent time learning about the importance of taking care of our planet. They engaged in various activities that helped them understand how we can all contribute to a healthier environment. It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm and creativity as they explored nature and discussed ways to protect it.

As a school committed to sustainability, we are excited to announce our plan to plant more wildflowers around the school grounds as well as further 'wild' areas. Not only do wildflowers brighten up our surroundings, but they also provide vital habitats for bees, butterflies, and other pollinators. By cultivating these flowers, we can help support local wildlife and promote biodiversity in our area.

If you have any spare wildflower seeds at home, we would greatly appreciate your donations. Every little bit helps, and together, we can create a beautiful and environmentally-friendly space for our children to enjoy and learn in.

Thank you for your continued support in fostering a love for nature and caring for our planet.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



As we embark on this new term, our continued focus is to ensure that children are attending school every day. We are thrilled to share that across the school, we have witnessed a significant reduction in the number of children who have been persistently absent over the past year. This is a fantastic achievement, and it is down to the efforts we've made in working closely with families to promote the importance of school attendance.

Creating an environment where children feel happy and safe is crucial in encouraging regular attendance. We are proud to report that only 6% of our children have attendance below 90% and overall attendance is currently 95.9%

As we move forward, let's remember that this is a fresh start for everyone. We will again be giving out certificates for those who achieve an impressive attendance rate of above 97% at the end of each term. This is a great opportunity to celebrate their hard work and commitment.

Let's encourage the children to embrace this new term with enthusiasm and to come to school every day, ready to learn and grow. Remember, everyday counts, and we are here to support you every step of the way. Together, let's make this term a wonderful success in terms of attendance, enjoyment and achievement, ensuring every child feels valued and eager to come to school!

Mrs Harper and the Phoenix Team

Diary dates

Summer Term

- **The Nest- Visit to Wheelgate- Wednesday 29th April 2026**
- **Half Term - Monday, 25th May 2026 to Friday, 29th May 2026**
- **Foundation 2 Visit to Bestwood Education Centre -Tuesday 2nd June, 2026**
- **Year 1 Phonics Screening - Week commencing 8th June 2026**
- **Year 2 Residential Trip to Gulliver's Valley -Thursday, 11th June 2026**
- **KS1 Sports Day (Hummingbirds, Kingfishers/Woodpeckers) - Wednesday, 17th June 2026 - 9:30 AM**
- **F1/F2 Sports Day (Nursery, Finches, and Puffins) - Wednesday, 24th June 2026 (times: 9:30 AM and 10:30 AM)**
- **Parents informed of child's class for next year -Monday 29th June, 2026**
- **KS1 visit to the Sealife Centre - Wednesday 1st July, 2026**
- **Moving up Morning - all children in new classes - Thursday 2nd July, 2026**
- **Carnival (after school fundraiser for children) - Thursday, 2nd July 2026**
- **INSET Day - Friday, 3rd July 2026**
- **End of Year reports to parents - Friday 10th July 2026**
- **Year 2 Leavers Assembly - Thursday, 23rd July 2026 at 2:00 PM**
- **Last Day of Term - Friday, 24th July 2026 - End of Academic Year**

