



Message from Mrs Crouch

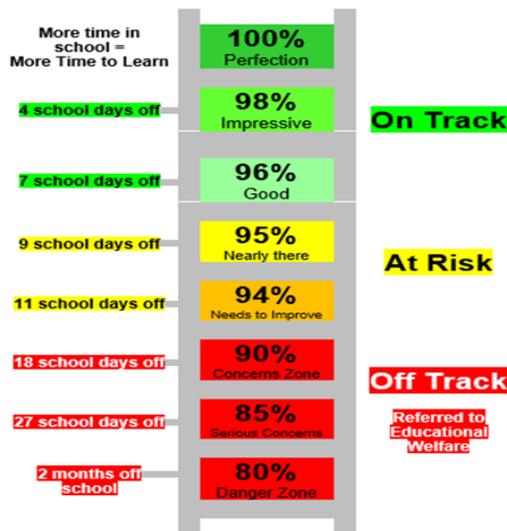
Thank you to all our families for prioritising school attendance. Last term, whole school attendance was **96.9%**, which places us in the **good** attendance category. Your commitment to getting children to school on time makes a real difference.

Regular attendance and punctuality are vital for children’s wellbeing and progress. If your child is unwell and needs to stay at home, please email the school office on the first day and provide a brief reason. If you are unsure whether they are well enough for school, the NHS offers helpful guidance: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Please remember that unauthorised absence or lateness:

- effects children’s wellbeing as they miss learning experiences,
- impacts negatively on a pupil’s attainment levels,
- disrupts school routines and the learning of others,
- can have long term effects on children’s life opportunities.

Thank you for your continued support.



Upcoming Events:

School council elections:

In order to prepare for the school council elections, children can prepare a short speech that provide the reasons why their class should vote for them. The elections will take place on Friday 6th February and we welcome all that are interested to take part.

Dates

- 29th Jan—Year 6 Netball Match at Home Vs Markyate 3.30pm
 - 29th Jan—Year 5/6 Football Match at Manland School 3.30pm
 - W/C 2nd Feb—School Council Elections
 - 2nd Feb—PTA Meeting—Online 7.30pm**
 - 3rd Feb—Year 5/6 Netball Match at Manland School 3.30pm**
 - 5th Feb—PTA Lunar New Year**
 - 5th Feb—Year 5/6 Football Match at Sir John Lawes playing Harpenden Academy 3.30pm**
 - 6th Feb—Sapphire Class Assembly 9.05am
 - W/C 9th Feb—Children’s Wellbeing Week
 - 10th Feb—Safer Internet Day
 - 10th & 12th Feb—Parent Consultations
 - 12th Feb—Topaz Class Assembly 9.05am
 - 13th Feb—PTA ‘Love Yourself Day’
 - 16th—20th Feb—Spring Half Term
 - 25th Feb—KS1 & KS2 Reading Workshop 9.05am**
 - 10th Mar—Emerald Class Visit Kew Gardens**
 - 6th Mar—PTA World Book Day**
 - 20th Mar—PTA Parent Event (Sapphire Class)**
- <https://www.stnicholasce.org/diary/grid/2025/01/>

Core Values



This half term we are learning about:

Perseverance



Garnet Class News:

This week in PSHE, the children explored the theme of perseverance. They discussed how it feels to try something new and what to do when they start to feel frustrated. Together, they practised using positive phrases to encourage themselves, such as *"I can stop, take a breath and keep trying."*

Using perseverance, they practised the practical skill of using a knife and fork to cut food, using playdough to help them develop confidence and control. The children enjoyed sharing ideas and learning strategies to help them stay calm, focused, and resilient when faced with challenges.



I'm



getting better



every

time I



try.



Mistakes



help



me



learn.



I won't



stop



just

because it's



hard.

Awards: Stars of the week:

Diamond: Blake and Elizabeth for their excellent writing for their Gothic horror story in English.



Sapphire: Cecilia and Nicholas for their perseverance in D & T and showing good sewing skills and accurate stitching.

Emerald: Emmy for her great effort in Swimming. Finley for his excellent sentence writing.

Topaz: Edward for his fantastic participation in 'hot seating' activity in RE. Rupert for his great comprehension and explanation skills in whole class reading.

Garnet: Lily B for contributing to class discussions and putting her hand up more. Theo for making good choices on our trip to the Library.

Good Citizen's Award:

Topaz: Adeline for showing Kindness to a younger child.



Prayer

Dear Lord,
Sometimes it's hard to keep trying.
It's hard when things are tough or when everything seems to be going wrong.
Please help us never to give up but always to persevere.
Please help us to be people who encourage others to keep trying as we all aim for different goals in life.
Thank you that you never give up on us.
Amen



PTA Love Yourself Day:

Message from Emily Gilroy who is kindly organising this - *parent attention needed*:

Dear Parents,

I am organising the yearly School Love Yourself for World Mental Health day, this year on Feb 13th 2026, and would love for you all to be involved for our children. This year, Parents are asked to do a simple design on a square piece of card / paper which measures 6cm by 6cm. (Please cut this out yourself)

Write or draw a special message to your child which they will see when they come to school on this special day.

Please try to keep this a surprise if possible, so if you're able to complete this without them

knowing it will make it extra special ✨

All messages will be collated onto a huge sheet of card which will be placed onto the School

gate waiting for your child to see their special message 😊

I'd be so grateful if you could hand these into me, the School office or your class rep by *Friday 30th January* at the very latest so that my little helper and I can get working on it.

If you'd like to arrange to hand this to me at School pick ups, you can contact me on 0741 5398633.

Thank you so much for your support with this. Best wishes, Emily Gilroy (Parent to Oliver Gilroy Hunt in Diamond class)

